

Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board

MINUTES	JANUARY 25, 2021	7:00 P.M.	724 PHILLIPS STREET STROUDSBURG, PA 18360
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A meeting of the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board was convened on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the MH & DS Administrative Conference Room at 724 Phillips Street, Suite 202, Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania and via GoToMeeting/conference call.

MEETING CALLED BY	Dr. Samuel Dolgopol, Chair & Tina L. Clymer, Administrator
CHAIR	Dr. Samuel Dolgopol
RECORDING SECRETARY	Beth Bingaman-Lutz
PRESENTERS	Mary Ann Stefko, Special Instructor - Hearing
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Ms. Susan Barradale, Mr. Tom Carasiti, Dr. Laurene Clossey, Dr. Samuel Dolgopol, Ms. Nellie Gordon, Commissioner Guccini, Ms. Amy Kirkwood Albert, Commissioner Lukasevich, Ms. Suzanne McCool, Commissioner Moyer, Mr. Eugene Pelletreau, and Ms. Elizabeth Torkildsen
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Ms. Dorothy Eberts
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Kathleen Peterson, Ellen Erb, and Beth Bingaman-Lutz

AGENDA TOPICS

PRESENTATION	Newborn Hearing Screenings	Mary Ann Stefko, Special Instructor -Hearing
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Ms. Stefko serves as a hearing therapist for Carbon, Monroe, and Pike Counties in addition to working at The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children as a teacher and certified interpreter. She shared the efforts to improve services in the Northeast Region for deaf and hard of hearing children. The presentation outlined some of the initiatives taking place through the Department of Health. Information from the following slides was highlighted:

- Newborn Infant Hearing Screening
- 1-3-6 Guidelines
 - screening completed by one month
 - audiology diagnosis by three months
 - enrollment in early intervention by six months
 - CMP EI Services
 - Supporting the Family –
 - Coaching through Teleintervention
 - Family Connections for Language and Learning

- Giving Families Options
- Technology Use
 - Communication Options (and the option to change)
 - Providing families with information and opportunities

Ms. Stefko ended by mentioning the YouTube Video - #projectlisten which features a family's journey and their experiences, and the final two slides listed resources and websites. She provided her contact information and welcomed any questions. The PowerPoint presentation material was forwarded to the board prior to the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes	Motion by Elizabeth Torkildsen, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, to amend the minutes of October 20, 2020 by adding: "Ms. McCool attempted to join the virtual meeting several times but was unsuccessful". Motion by Eugene Pelletreau, seconded by Commissioner Lukasevich, and carried unanimously to accept the amended minutes of October 20, 2020.
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Agency Reports	<p>Ms. Clymer added a few remarks related to the programs. They are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Referrals have increased across Mental Health, Early Intervention, and Developmental Services Departments. ● Developmental Services added six additional Community Living Waivers which will allow individuals to move into funding streams so that Person/Family Directed Support Waiver (PFDS) slots will be available for this year's graduates. ● Progress is being made with Residential Treatment Facility for Adults which is planned to open at the end of June. ● The First Episode Psychosis Program is up and running. ● Many CMP staff recently attended the Urgency of Awareness Training taught by Jodi Pfarr. <p>Additionally, she highlighted the status reports from HealthChoices, Mental Health, and Developmental Services Departments. No motion required.</p>
Financial Report for HealthChoices	Motion by Dr. Laurene Clossey, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, and carried unanimously to accept the unaudited financial statement as of December 31, 2020.
Financial Report for MH, DS, and EI	Motion by Eugene Pelletreau, seconded by Elizabeth Torkildsen, and carried unanimously to accept the unaudited financial statement as of December 31, 2020.
Carbon-Monroe-Pike Fiscal Year 2019-20 Annual Income & Expenditure Report with Supplemental Schedules for MH, DS & EI	Motion by Suzanne McCool, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, and carried unanimously to accept the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Annual Income & Expenditure Report with Supplemental Schedules for MH, DS & EI period ending June 30, 2020.
Advisory Board Meeting Dates - 2021	Motion by Eugene Pelletreau, seconded by Elizabeth Torkildsen, and carried unanimously to accept the 2021 meeting schedule.
OLD BUSINESS	
County Human Service Plan	<p>Ms. Clymer reported that there has been good attendance and involvement by participants using the virtual meeting model. Progress towards goals has stalled because in-person events are on hold due to the pandemic, but the group continues making headway toward issues relating to transportation and housing. Meetings have been providing much needed support to discuss ideas which, in turn, are being shared throughout other Human Service fields. Everyone was invited to attend the next meeting on March 4, 2021 at 2:00 PM. All were reminded that the schedule for 2021, link, and instructions for joining the meeting was provided previously.</p>
State Budget Status	<p>On February 2, 2021, a briefing is scheduled with Governor Wolf on how he will lay out his budget plan. Ms. Clymer explained the united front among CCAP, provider associates, and other counties to advocate that the state commit to increasing budget funding over the next three years. The expectation of this forward planning will allow agencies to better assess how to spend money by viewing the budget over a longer term.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	
CMP Virtual Work and Vaccine Update	<p>Ms. Clymer stated the agency is seeing an increasing number of consumers in need of more social interaction. People are really feeling the loneliness and social isolation caused by the pandemic. The agency is trying to meet needs by having more in-person meetings which are taking place safely where there is adequate social distancing.</p>

	<p>So far, the agency seems to be doing well with employees staying healthy. Our work environment remains staggered by keeping a limited number of people in the office. For now, we will continue working virtually.</p> <p>Ms. Clymer explained how the vaccine is being rolled out in a formative manner to staff. Not all employees have wanted to get the vaccine but so far about 68% are taking advantage of the opportunity. Most staff choosing not to get vaccinated are individuals with medical issues, are pregnant, or those who are considering getting pregnant.</p>
<p>BY-LAWS ARTICLE VI Meetings of the Advisory Board</p>	<p>Ms. Clymer reviewed the current by-laws under ARTICLE VI Meetings of the Advisory Board and stated she wanted to update the by-laws to match the current practices. Dr. Dolgopol requested the revision statement be brought to the board for a motion at the next meeting.</p>
<p>OTHER</p>	
<p>2021 Board Member List – Review/Update</p>	<p>The 2021 Board Member List was distributed for review and board members were asked to provide any updates to Beth Bingaman-Lutz.</p>
<p>Valentine's Day Sing-A-Long Flyer</p>	<p>The audience was provided a copy of the flyer advertising the next Sing-A-Long hosted by the CMP Regional Collaborative. Ms. Clymer mentioned the great turn out at these events. She invited everyone to attend and asked to please share this flyer with families, consumers, and provider networks.</p>
<p>“Thank You”</p>	<p>Ms. Elizabeth Torkildsen expressed a big “Thank You” for the token of appreciation gift given to board members.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Monday, February 22, 2021</p>
<p>VISITORS</p>	<p>Mary Ann Stefko</p>
<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>	<p>Motion by Dr. Laurene Clossey, seconded by Eugene Pelletreau, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.</p>
<p>APPROVED BY</p>	<p><i>Tina L. Clymer, MS, LPC</i></p> 