



County of Onondaga
Department of Children & Family Services

Child Welfare • Mental Health Services • Juvenile Justice • Youth Bureau • School Based Initiatives

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Amy Cunningham
Commissioner

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Community Services Board
May 5th 2025
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Monica Bacote, Marla Bymes, Lisa Coggi, Lashae Coleman, Lynn Hopkins, Paul Joslyn, Elizabeth Nolan, Jennifer Parmalee, Novelette Pierce, Amy Savant, Vince Schmidt

Welcome/Agenda Review

Jennifer Parmalee presented the agenda and opened the meeting.

Community Services Board Roster and Membership

Jenn briefly discussed ByLaws for Communities Board Chair and Membership and stated that the CSB is currently accepting Nominations for Interim Chair of Community Services Board and new Members.

Update on School Based Threat Assessment Countywide System

Jenn provided the following updated on the county's efforts on creating a Behavioral School Based Threat Assessment System.

- Selected School Administrators, School Psychologists, SROs and School Counselors from all School Districts in Onondaga County were trained in Threat Assessment Tool and System, which included:
 - Explanation of Threat Assessment Protocol and Process
 - Review of Level 1 Threat Assessment Instrument
- New York State provided a 3-Day Threat Assessment Training in early spring of this year
 - Onondaga County is trying to have the state return so that more personnel from county school districts can be provided the training.
- County TAMS Policy Committee is currently looking into ways to expand county's Threat Assessment capacity.

Complex Case Meeting Series

Jenn stated a portion of the Threat Assessment cases have been moved over to our Complex Case Meeting Series because the Complex Case Meeting Series offers a more appropriate level of intervention for these cases. This series of meetings is more focused on connecting individuals in need with mental health services and resources.

Housing Opportunities and New Initiatives (Lashae)

Lashae presented on the county's efforts to expand housing capacity and promote new initiatives.

- AccessCNY has set a goal of 90% utilization to increase occupancy in their Supported Housing and Transitional Housing for Young Adults programs, which has led to a steady increase.
- The same organization has also been able to acquire new units to fulfill their need and new housing unit will be opened up.
- The Salvation Army is also increasing their housing capacity in the State Street program.
 - They have been able to increase capacity by separating HUB and Supportive Housing Funding.
 - They are collaborating with Onondaga County SPOA to revise and revamp their internal and external processes.
 - New Housing Protections are being offered for tenets to expand opportunities.
- Trust Training for Providers will be offered by OMH for those in Supportive Housing.
- Lisa Coggi informed everyone that OMH will offer a Mental Health Supportive Housing Credential Training on May 21st.
- New SOS Support (Outreach) Team has begun to work with individuals that are street homeless with have chronic mental issues.
 - There is also a housing first unit attached to this team so that an apartment is ready for them.
 - Requirements include visit once a month to apartment so that the individuals are more likely to stay housed.

Integrated Mental Health and Development Disability System of Care Funding

Jenn presented information about this topic. The grant has been written to train a team of 3 people in collaboration with the University of New Hampshire to implement the START Wrap Around Model for Outpatient and Individuals in Youth Act. It has been found that many mental health providers have not been trained to treat an individual with a development disability with a mental health diagnosis. The funding for this initiative has been approved for 4 years. The SAMSA grant is not currently changing and is in the beginning stages.

System of Care Grant

A Subcommittee will be created under CSB similar to Stakeholder's group. A meeting has not been scheduled yet.

Update on Peer Services

The county is considering bringing in a facilitator to promote collaboration amongst the different peer groups and discuss the direction peers is headed in Onondaga County. Hard work has been done to integrate peers into care system, but more focus is needed. The county can be supportive in providing training and supervision.

- Proposals for Potential Facilitators
 - Ruth Redick or Theresa Knorr from InUnity Alliance
 - Rita Cronise from Peer Tech
 - Brandy May from Peer Support Networks
 - The Peer Deputy Commissioner from the Office of Mental Health

Federal Funding Impact

There have been agencies that have been affected by federal funds being frozen. However, Onondaga County Mental Health Funding has not been affected currently.

Next Meeting will be held on 09/08/2025 at 12:00 pm in OCM BOCES Elwood Davis Road.