



County of Onondaga  
**Department of Children & Family Services**

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

**J. Ryan McMahon II**  
*County Executive*

John H. Mulroy Civic Center  
421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, NY 13202  
Phone: 315-435-2884 Fax: 315-435-3814  
[www.ongov.net](http://www.ongov.net)

**Amy Cunningham**  
*Commissioner*

**Community Services Board**  
**December 1, 2025**  
**12:00 pm – 1:30 pm**  
**OCM BOCES**  
**110 Elwood Drive Road**  
**Liverpool, NY 13088**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Monica Bacote, Ellen Block, Marla Burnes, Felicia Castricone, Lisa Coggi, Lashae Coleman, Amy Cunningham, Scott Herron, Lynn Hopkins, Paul Joslyn, Stephen Luce, Lisa Mancini, Sipho Mbuqe, James McKenna, Mike Melara, Jennifer Parmalee, Novelette Pierce, Vince Schmidt, Mariah Senecal-Reilly,

**Welcome / Agenda Review**

Jennifer Parmalee, Chair of the CSB, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

**Introductions**

All attendees introduced themselves, stating their job titles and affiliated organizations.

**Presentation: “Catholic Charities Refugee Services” by Mike Melara (CEO) and Felicia Castricone (Program Officer)**

- Catholic Charities Refugee Services presented on available services for refugee population.

**Discussion Highlights:**

- Collaboration with OPWDD
- Collaboration with Upstate
- Peer Navigation Qualifications

**Discussion: “Upstate Mental Health Urgent Care” by Sipho Mbuqe (Chief Diversity Officer, Upstate Hospital)**

- The program, “Urgent Care After Hours,” will be located at the Nappi Wellness Institute.

- **Soft launch:** June 2026 (Upstate patients only)
- **Hard launch:** August 2026 (broader access)
- Initially for children, with future expansion to adults.
- Hours of operation will depend on staffing.

## **Roundtable Updates**

- **Mariah Senecal-Reilly (DCFS):** Substance Abuse Division launched a Case Management Program for adults with substance use issues who can set personal goals.
- **Andrea Morgia (Adult Mental Health & Crisis Services):**
  - Outreach and Navigation Team is fully staffed—referrals welcome.
  - Mobile Crisis Units will begin using Pulsara for coordination and tracking.
- **Paul Joslyn (AccessCNY):** Developing adult and children's programs using the Critical Time Intervention model for individuals transitioning from hospital to home. Programs will include residential components. Awaiting hospital MOUs.
- **Lisa Coggi (School-Based Initiatives):** Monthly School-Based Mental Health Steering Committee meetings. Contact Lisa to present or contribute.
- **Andrew Lunetta (A Tiny Home for Good):** Transitional housing for lead poisoning program under construction. Available for 8-week stays starting February.
- **Sipho Mbuqe (Upstate):** Hiring a Training Coordinator and a Senior Social Worker for school-based programs.
- **Monica Bacote (Professional Development Initiatives):** Certified to provide Youth Mental Health First Aid training. SCORES program recognized by OMH.
- **James McKenna (Sheriff's Office):** A full-time deputy has been hired for TAMS, starting tomorrow.
- **Vince Schmidt (OPWDD):** CSIDD is on hold in Central New York. A capacity management study is underway.
- **Lisa Mancini (Helio Health):** Helio Health and CirCare merger expected to complete by January. Programs will continue as normal. Forensic ACT Team launching next year.
- **Scott Herron (NAMI):** New program for first responders launching. Fundraising raffle ongoing until December 9.

## **Action Items**

- Next Meeting will be held on 03/02/2026 at 12:00 pm in OCM BOCES Elwood Davis Road.