

# Gloucester County Mental Health

March 21, 2023

<b><u>Members Present</u></b> Katie Doyle JoAnn Dunagan Chief Thomas Ryan Dr. George Scott Suzanne Smith Shane Stevenson Carol Weinhardt <b><u>Guest:</u></b> Nicole Moore Sharon Veneziaie Danielle Desiderio	<b><u>Non-Voting Members &amp; Liaisons Present</u></b> Dr. Becky DiLiscandro Lisa Cerny Ron Roebuck
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## **Welcome and call to order/public record act:**

### **Introductions:**

- Roll call introductions

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- A motion was made by Suzanne Smith to approve the minutes for February 21, 2023; Dr. George Scott seconded.

## **Gloucester County Adult Systems Review Committee (SRC): Hampton Behavioral Health Danielle Desiderio, BA, Community Liaison**

- Danielle sits on SRC as Hampton Behavioral Health Community Liaison reports diversionary data
- Hampton Behavioral Health is an acute care psychiatric Hospital in Burlington. 120 inpatient beds serving ages 12 and older. There are five different units (serving adolescents, older adults, dual diagnosis).
- Outpatient and Inpatient are also offered
- There is a Cherry Hill location also
- Danielle also noted several programs and community events that Hampton participates in, in Gloucester County with some examples being: This week for CIT they sponsored breakfast and lunch also Anne Marie Green (Business Development Director) presented, Anne Marie also teaches classes for Prosecutors Office, Merryville Galla, and sponsored a golf outing for Paws Healing Hero's.
- SRC-there is a subcommittee prior to SRC that is addressing long wait times in ER, barriers with placing patients over 24 hours.
- We discuss what we can develop and implement to decrease those wait times.
- Currently tracking barriers such as legal issues, intellectual developmental disabilities, and medical compromised.
- JoAnn Dunagan asked how high or what the rate of long wait times during /after covid? Danielle said there was a dip in wait times during Covid but the issue has now resurfaced.
- Suzanne Smith asked how many participants are on the sub-committee? Danielle said 5 and currently actively working with Jefferson for a representative.

## **Mental Health Professional Advisory Committee: Nicole Moore**

- The Purpose of PAC: The purpose of the Mental Health Professional Advisory Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Gloucester County Mental Health Board to include recommendations on specific issues of concern to the Mental Health Board and on planning and priorities for mental health matters, per the rules and

regulations governing state aid under the Community Mental Health Services Act. Additionally, the MHPAC is to act, and to perform such other duties as may be necessary or proper to carry out the purposes of N.J.S.A. 30:9A-5

- Last meeting discussion on the impact of 988 on crisis volume was discussed. The following does not include Jefferson:
  - ER Inspira (Behavioral Health patients): 2814  
Jan-June 54.54 %  
July-Nov :45.45 %
  - PESS: 1597
  - Jan June 54.6 %  
July-Dec 45.39%
- MHPAC were examined housing options in an effort to advocate for different options
- During pandemic conversations regarding the need for salary increases to help with recruitment and retention of mental health professionals started. These conversations also have been discussed in SRC.
- Becky gave a description on how PAC was established and accomplishments that have been made over the years. Mental Health professionals originally met in a group along with drug and alcohol (GCPACADA). In those meetings mental health concerns were arising which created the formation of Mental Health Professional Advisory Committee in 2016.
  - In addition to what Nicole has mentioned MHPAC was involved with the development of the Stigma Free Campaign (2018), and also has had several discussions regarding the request from Law Enforcement/Prosecutor's Office for continued training in the community. Over the years members would add discussion topics. Becky stated that she appreciates and values all the providers that attend and contribute to our meetings.
- Nicole asked board members if there was any topics that the PAC should look into or if more information is needed, please reach out. Examples could be services you are looking for and unsure of where to go or to refer someone.

### **Psychiatric Screening Waiver**

- We were not able to vote on psychiatric screening waiver. Acenda will need to present waiver for board allowing a 30 days review. If Acenda can present waiver in April we should be able to vote in June

### **Acenda: Sharon Veneziale**

- PESS- 96.8% LOS for January 2023. We have 1 part time position open for recruitment. We have received funds to employ a Peer Champion with the PESS Team to complete WRAP, and assist with reducing inpatient hospitalizations through face-to-face follow up and engagement.
- IOTSS- Census has increased to 16 with 4 referrals from EISS. IOTSS is at capacity with a current rolling admission and five groups per week. We are also recruiting for a part-time Co-Occurring Therapist.
- EISS- We have completed 44 intakes with showed a 22% increase from January. We linked 40 individuals to appropriate services. Our primary referral sources are Inspira Emergency Room, Rowan, PESS, and community influence. We are recruiting for a part time Co-occurring Therapist.
- Outpatient- We are currently accepting referrals for outpatient level of care, and we are continuing the recruiting process for Clinicians.
- Bridge- Clients are being referred to other case management with 2nd employment support. We are recruiting for 2 case managers

- ICMS- We are taking new referrals, as well as open to community referrals. Our census continues to increase from last month. We are currently at the EISS program twice per week to immediately sign on individuals coming to the EISS program with ICMS needs.
- PATH- We have hired 1 case manager and still recruiting for 1 case manager. PATH continues to accept referrals.
- IOC- We are recruiting for two full time case managers, and we are accepting new referrals.
- Open discussion regarding EISS
- Jo-Ann Dunagan asked if they were still accepting referrals for outpatient and what is time frame to get an appointment? Sharon responded that it would be 6 weeks to see a therapist. If they are in immediate need of medication, they are being referred to EISS where they can see an APN for medication needs with therapy. The patient will not lose their place on waitlist for an outpatient therapist while receiving med treatment.
- Jo-Ann Dunagan asked about in person and virtual practice. Sharon responded that currently 60-65% of treatment is still virtual and they are also utilizing ICOMM Well which is strictly virtual.
- Question regarding psychiatrist wait list was asked. Sharon responded once patient sees therapist, they will see psychiatry within a month.
- Sharon reiterated that they want to avoid someone going off meds while waiting for outpatient treatment.

**NAMI: Suzanne Smith**

- Nothing new to report
- Meeting on 3/29 6:30 – 8:30pm Pitman Methodist Church. Suzanne will provide more information at next meeting

**New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addictions Services (DMHAS) –Ron Roebuck**

**Notice of Funding Availability:**

**Program Name: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (system) Managing Entity**

Available Funding Amount: Anticipated award to single agency with total annualized funding of \$2,000,000

- Under REVIEW

**Program Name: Open Access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Homeless Shelters**

Purpose: This RFP is issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to increase access to buprenorphine and other ancillary services for individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD) through current programming available at homeless shelters that are licensed by New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Bureau of Rooming and Boarding House Standards and outlined in state regulation NJAC 5:15. These providers will develop the capacity to provide medication and support services for individuals who reside or drop in at homeless shelters. The intent of the program is to provide low threshold medication services to individuals with a SUD who present in these settings.

The bidder must be a homeless shelter with a commitment to providing medication and support to individuals with an SUD

Total annualized funding: Up to five (5) awards of up to \$425,000 each - for a total of \$2,125,000

Submission Deadline: March 31, 2023.

Notification Date to Bidders: on or before April 28, 2023

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**Program Name: Residential Services for Individuals Discharged from Nursing Facilities**

Purpose and Intent: for Level A+ residential program for those with a mental illness and co-existing medical needs and medical needs from a nursing facility. individuals who are residing in a nursing facility but are able to live in the community with the services provided to meet their needs, and continue to have medical needs, shall be given priority.

Total annualized funding is \$377,000, DMHAS anticipates making one award to provide services to five (5) individuals.

Additionally, up to \$600,000 in one-time capital funding may be requested for the purchase of a single-story home with sufficient bedroom and bathroom accommodations for 5 individual residents and the requisite staff. OR, up to \$100,000 in one-time capital funding may be made available for physical modifications to a home to be purchased or long-term leased, or for physical modifications to a home already owned by the bidder

- Announcement imminent
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**RFP: Recovery Management Check-up for Individuals experiencing Substance Use Challenges:** for individuals experiencing substance use challenges to ensure success of recovery, and to offer services to discharged clients in support of independent living and successful recovery  
Total annualized funding: is \$1,500,000.00. DMHAS anticipates awarding 3 regional awards each for \$500,000.00.

- Announcement imminent

More Information on these funding opportunities and the RFP/RLI documents is available at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/>

### **Free Training for Hospital Providers (Prescribers Specifically)**

Registration is available for our Center of Excellence training course on hospital-based addiction care in ED and inpatient settings. The course is an in-person, full day didactic, and 8 AOA Category 1–A and 8 AMA PRA Category 1™ credits and certificates of completion will be offered to all licensees who successfully complete the content activity and content evaluation materials. The course will take place on Friday, March 31, from 8:30am to 5pm at Cooper University Hospital. Content overview and registration information is available at [bit.ly/coe033123](http://bit.ly/coe033123) or click on flyer below.



SNJMATCOE CME  
Didactic 03312023 Fly

- Ron announced they have Air Conditioners to be handed out. He said they will need for names and the need. Lisa asked if clients are linked with LIHEAP for low-income utility assistance.
- Lisa Cerny asked who is the lead for ARRIVE? Ron responded Attorney General office with collaboration from Division. Lisa wanted to clarify that the money/contracts will be through Division of Mental Health and Addiction Service not the AG's office.

### **Mental Health Administrator: Dr. Becky DiLiscandro**

#### **CIT Program:**

- Becky announced that we were live in CIT week at Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine in Sewell
- 35 students; dozens of trainers
- This year we developed evaluations for every module. This will give us a lot of insight and also an idea of who in community would like to contribute to future classes. We lack trainers on the Law Enforcement side so any contribution will help.
- Sharon is also a member in this year's class and actively participating in discussions
- Overall class is going really well and we look forward to the rest of the week

### **Old Business**

### **OTHER Announcements**

- **Next Meeting:** 04/18/2023 4:30pm via zoom

A motion to adjourn meeting was made by Jo-Ann Dunagan; Dr. George Scott seconded.