

**Meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee  
May 2, 2023**

**Present:** Adele Potter, Julie Beebe, Jason Enser, Belinda Bradley, April Boucher, Keane Jones, Stephanie Raney, Sue Mowrey, Maureen Mitchell  
**Staff:** Rob York, Harry Carlson, Carrie Wright

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action
<b>Introductions</b>	Attendees introduced themselves. The group welcomed April Boucher, VP/COO, CWI and Jason Enser, Executive Director, Liberty House. April has been in her role for almost a year now and Jason is new to his role at Liberty House.	
<b>Workforce Updates</b>	H. Carlson led a discussion regarding workforce updates. A. Boucher indicated they have approximately 35% vacancy rate in residential staffing and 20% in day program staffing. They have increased starting wages and offered sign-on bonuses to help with recruitment. J. Beebe stated Liberty House is fully staffed. S. Raney discussed staffing vacancies in the NY CONNECTS call center and challenges associated with filling civil service vacancies.	
<b>2023 – 2024 NYS Budget</b>	R. York discussed NYS budget updates. It is expected the legislature will pass the 2023-24 budget today, approximately one month late. The Governor had proposed a 2.5% COLA for the “O” agencies, but each house of the legislature included an 8.5% COLA. We will see what percentage COLA is included in the final budget. Also expected is a minimum wage increase, although less than the Governor had proposed. R. York reviewed some additional Mental Hygiene budget items including multi-year mental health investments totaling over \$1 billion, for increased inpatient capacity, capital funding for outpatient services, 3,500 units of supportive housing and \$30 million for children’s services. More information to follow as details are learned.	
<b>2024 Local Services Planning Cycle</b>	C. Wright provided an overview of the 2024 Local Services Planning process. The state has decided to convert to a 3-year plan, with annual updates. They are in the process of releasing guidelines and surveys for the current planning cycle. C. Wright reviewed the current five priority areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen opportunities to prevent mental health and substance use disorders;</li> <li>2. Increase access to flexible services;</li> <li>3. Explore workforce shortage solutions;</li> <li>4. Focus on prevention of ACE’s;</li> <li>5. Continued focus on housing and residential needs</li> </ol> <p>The 2024-27 Local Services Plan will be posted to the County websites later this year.</p>	

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<b>CON Requests/Approvals</b>	H. Carlson reviewed several CON requests received since the last meeting. All were approved.	
<b>Agenda Planning</b>	R. York led a discussion regarding future meeting agenda planning. There was consensus that developing a schedule for agencies to present an overview of their programs and services would be beneficial. K. Jones suggested having a presentation on Y-ReCONNECTS. R. York suggested having OPWDD staff provide an update on the current status of Crisis Services for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CSIDD). J. Enser inquired regarding in-person meetings. The group agreed with this. S. Raney suggested a hybrid option, to allow those further away to still participate. The September 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in-person at 230 Maple St., Glens Falls.	
<b>Agency Updates</b>	The agencies were offered opportunity to provide any general updates. A. Boucher stated that CWI entered into a management services agreement with Behavioral Health Services North (BHSN) for CEO and CFO roles, with Mark Lukens serving as CEO and David LePage as CEO. She states this has been working out well.	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The next meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee of the Warren and Washington County Community Services Boards is scheduled for <b>Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 1p-2:30p, at 230 Maple St., Glens Falls.</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 1:40p.

Minutes respectively submitted by R. York, Director of Community Services.