



REGIONAL PLANNING CONSORTIUM
Tug Hill Region – 2020, 1st Quarter Board Meeting
March 12, 2020 – 10:00a-12:00p
TLS NNY – Woodruff Board Room
482 Black River Pkwy, Watertown NY 13601

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Jennifer Earl at 10:13AM

2. Introductions (Name, stakeholder group, agency/organization)

Board members introduced themselves, see attached attendance list.

3. Confirmed Quorum by Tug Hill Coordinator, Beth Solar

4. Approved Meeting Minutes from December 11, 2019

Previous minutes were attached to the calendar invite for review prior to today's meeting.

1st – Ray Babowicz

2nd – Kathy Connor

No discussion and minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Key Partner Election

Beth Solar had emailed the packet of Key Partner nominees/bios to the board (Attached). Five of the six Key Partner seats had a nominee. Jennifer Earl (co-chair) asked for a motion to approve/elect nominees:

1st – Brad Smith

2nd – Kathy Connor

No discussion, all nominees elected to a key partner seat unanimously.

6. SUD Bed Finder pilot program – Presentation by Beth White (Attached)

Overview of Finger Lakes SUD Bed Finder program and the expansion of the pilot to joint Tug Hill-North Country RPC. Q&A included:

Q: How will providers use website? A: There is no registration and no cost to use. There will be distribution of the URL to providers.

Q: How do Open & Hold beds on site work? A: Hold beds are taken out of the Open pool and designated as a hold.

Q: If we're expanding the pilot, can patients from other regions be given beds? A: At this time, the pilot will be unique to the North Country/Tug Hill Region. Once the pilot time period is complete, we will look at linkage button on website for other regions.

Q: Are the Drug Courts/forensics in Finger Lakes using? A: Finger Lakes pilot is not formally open to courts/jails. The Finger Lakes pilot goal is not to be restrictive, but also don't want to give access to general public.

Q: How do providers get Google account/email? A: Providers need to work with their IT departments for their own security process. Setting up and how to use and navigate the program will be training provided by the RPC.

Q: Are there any fees for providers? A: No, website cost is being underwritten by North Country Behavior Health Network.

Q: Who is involved? At this time, a planning committee has been formed with Jayme Smith and Jim Scordo representing the Tug Hill region and have been involved since the launch. Others are welcome to join the pilot workgroup.

Q: Is there restricted user access for SUD only or can primary care/integrated/MAT services use also? A: Access will not be restricted, however, the referral and/or eligibility process for each location must be followed as requested.

7. Workgroup and Subcommittee Reports

Children and Families Subcommittee – Voluntary Foster Care/Medicaid Managed Care transition date is July 1, 2020. CYES/CSPOA meeting set for March 23, 2020. Long Island’s CYES/CSPOA meeting was receptive and engaging – the biggest concern discussed was foster care transition re: consent biological parent vs foster parent. Question that OCFS has provided guidance re: consent/permission. Laura Zocco, OMH, will follow-up if there is guidance. In an effort to maximize participation, TH RPC was hosting two separate C&F subcommittee meetings as there are unique issues in St. Lawrence County v Jefferson & Lewis Counties. Unfortunately, no one attended the St. Lawrence C&F. Appeal was made that other RPC C&F are robust so encouragement to attend. CSPOA forms – the Conference is confirming the legal/consent coverage. Beth Solar will send out confirmed referral form from DOH once she receives it. Concern that DOH does not understand the CSPOA process and forms. Brief discussion on lack of providers and de-designation. **Next C&F Subcommittee meetings: May 13 and May 20.**

HARP/Health Home/HCBS Workgroup – Workflow is a priority for group. Adult HCBS presentation by OMH is next week in Gouverneur. Note, event after Adult HCBS: Know Your MCOs with TH RPC MCOs – Fidelis, MVP, and United Healthcare – will be in attendance.

HHH workgroup focus on workforce – Beth Solar spoke with Katherine Morris, Allied Health, Jefferson Community College regarding the care coordination (allied health) program. Program was formerly managed by FDRHPO. This program currently accepts both current and new to care management field students. A syllabus will be sent to Beth and shared with workgroup. In the discussion with Katherine about the needs in workforce, she shared that there are opportunities in other trades for specialized funding specific to apprentice titles. Katherine would like to have future discussions to evaluate the possibility of working with the RPC and our members in re-branding the CM/CC titles to fall under apprentice guidelines. Workgroup will develop a survey for BH/SUD externship opportunities and will be shared with JCC and other allied health education programs to help increase awareness to different career opportunities and provide “real” experience.

Note, all meetings are posted on the RPC calendar – http://www.clmhd.org/rpc/RPC-Calendar_211_pg.htm

8. OMH Update – Laura Zocco

RPC data request form for county level data has not been feasible. Moving forward, the form will be in an effort to formalize and/or reduce the requests as the division is down-staffing and the dashboard content will be enhanced. PSYCKES webinar on April 8, 2020, 2-3:30p – PSYCKES for BH HCBS programs with live Q&A. There are two new filter options for transitioning Medicaid/NYS DOH (not DSS). Jennifer Earl shared regulation changes instead of DOH commissioner waiver for

integrated care will not be resolved prior to 3/31/20 DSRIP end. Guidance will be coming but not until after 3/31.

9. OASAS update – Allie MacPherson

SUD Providers are receiving guidance on telepractice and switching to attestation. Same applies for OMH. Allie will send out email link on MAT webinar (condensed version). Link will also be posted on the RPC website.

10. Announcements/Open Discussion

Beth Solar encouraged everyone to use the RPC website as documents, minutes, etc. are being posted as well as other resources. North Country Behavior Health Network conference will be held May 6, 2020 in Lake Placid. Flyer included with meeting materials. Southern Tier Transportation Workgroup survey for feedback from providers due March 16, 2020 and will be shared with DOH. Have a new MAS contact for Tug Hill region. Please send issues with transportation to Beth Solar (no PHI.) Beth Solar will be collaborating with the Southern Tier Coordinator, Emily Childress, on the Transportation topic. Barry Brogan mentioned there will be a NYS Rural Health Association meeting held in Oswego in September and suggested to have RPC in attendance as Transportation is the topic/focus.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 12:07pm

1st – Ray Babowicz

2nd – Matthew Bradley

Tug Hill 2020 Board Meetings – all located at TLS from 10am-12pm

- June 11
- September 10
- December 10

Attendance:

Jim Scordo	CBO
Molly Ormsby	CBO
Karen Boliver	CBO
Maureen Cean	CBO
Brad Smith	CBO
Ed Thomas	CBO
Jayme Smith	HHS
David Nelson	HHS
Travis Bulluck	HHS
Jennifer Barlow-Gagnon	HHS
Felicia Parker	HHS
Ray Babowicz	HHS
Kathy Connor	PYF
Mathew Bradley	PYF
Tammy Bush	PYF
Angelica Durham	PYF
Stephanie Pestillo	MCO
Angela Vidile	MCO
Jennifer Earl	MCO/Chair
Patricia Fralick	DCS/Chair
Tim Ruetten	DCS
Jay Ulrich	DCS
Laura Zocco	State
Allie MacPherson	State
Doug Sitterly	State

Gallery Attendees: Lori Kicinski (RPC Project Director), Karen Rappleyea (RPC North Country Coordinator), Jessica Gonyou (HHH workgroup lead), Alicia Ruperd (LGU lead C&F subcommittee), Lindsay Newvine (C&F subcommittee), Barry Brogan (Key Partner nominee – NCBHN), Beth White (RPC Finger Lakes Coordinator via teleconference).

Accepted and Approved by Tug Hill RPC Board of Directors on September 14, 2020