



Office of Addiction
Services and Supports

Office of
Mental Health

Office for People With
Developmental Disabilities

2023 Goals and Plans Form

Chenango County Mental Hygiene Services

Goal 1: Increase safe and affordable housing options in Chenango County for individuals with a mental illness and/or substance use disorder and/or developmental disability

Goal 2: In collaboration with OMH, OASAS, OPWDD and local partners, improve the response to crisis in effort to prevent and intervene at the community level to avoid unnecessary ER/CPEP visits, inpatient level of care or involvement with the criminal justice system.

Goal 3: Increase and also retain qualified workforce to serve individuals in the OMH, OPWDD and OASAS programs.

Annual and intermediate plans for addiction services:

Annual: Increase and expand services for individuals with substance use disorder. This will require ongoing collaboration and coordination with state level partners and local agencies. Specific focus this year will be on expanding access to life saving Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services, both within our local jail system but also broader within our community. We will continue to work on collaborating and exploring with community partners on ways to meet the needs in the community as it relates to housing issues. We will continue explore ways to increase crisis services for individuals with SUD diagnoses. Ongoing attention and focus will need to be put into exploring ways to both increase and retain qualified workforce to serve individuals who experience a Substance Use Disorder.

Intermediate: Coordinate and develop programming in conjunction with our local jail system to ensure that individuals experiencing addiction have access to appropriate clinical and medical services, including MAT. We recently expanded our jail services to now include a full-time social worker who will be integral in being able to assist in ensuring that individuals are having their SUD treatment needs met. Additionally, we are actively working on expanding access to MAT within the community. Our outpatient SUD clinic is actively exploring ways to meet this requirement and have worked to add on additional staff that would be necessary to make this successful, such as recently hiring another Registered Nurse. Regarding housing issues, we will continue to work collaboratively work with the local homeless workgroup that has been in place for the last year. There has been additional discussion on how to best navigate the Continuum of Care and exploring ways that this could be improved to specifically benefit individuals in Chenango County. As it relates to crisis services a recent letter of support was submitted for one of the regional supportive stabilization centers that will serve

individuals in Chenango County. If this plan is approved, there will be a need for close collaboration and encouraged linkage for individuals who have SUD with additional support services, such as SPOA. Ongoing efforts this year with regards to workforce development and workforce retention will need to continue. Our local county operated SUD clinic was able to utilize the OASAS workforce grant funding to support evidenced based training as well as have benefitted from the NYS Healthcare Workforce Bonus. There will be continued exploration and collaboration with local colleges (both bachelor's level and master's level) to increase opportunities for growing the workforce.

Annual and intermediate plans for developmental disability services:

Annual: Increase and expand services for individuals with a developmental disability, more specifically as it relates to both crisis services and housing issues. Local OPWDD community providers have continued to explore housing options through application of federal and state level grants to increase options in the community. Ongoing development of crisis plans and ensuring that adequate crisis services are in place will be essential in meeting the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. Ongoing attention and focus will need to be put into exploring ways to both expand and retain qualified workforce to serve individuals with developmental disabilities.

Intermediate: Ongoing coordination and collaboration will need to occur with community partners to ensure that there is infrastructure in place to support meeting the needs of individuals with developmental disability who are experiencing a crisis or are in need of additional housing options. There will be continued participation and collaboration with the local homelessness workgroup and exploration of ways to better work with the Continuum of Care to ensure that individuals housing needs are being addressed. As it relates to crisis services a recent letter of support was submitted for one of the regional supportive stabilization centers that will serve individuals in Chenango County. If this plan is approved, there will be a need for close collaboration and encouraged linkage for individuals who have developmental disabilities with additional support services, such as CCO's and SPOA where appropriate. Ongoing partnership with local agencies that are implementing services for individuals with developmental disabilities and identifying ways to expand and retain workforce will be a continued effort this year.

Annual and intermediate plans for mental health services:

Annual: Continued effort will be made to both expand and enhance mental health services within the community. Focus on housing related issues and ways to increase housing options for individuals with mental health needs will be explored. Ongoing exploration of ways to improve crisis services will need to be worked on so that adequate level of crisis services is available within the community for individuals who are in imminent need. Ongoing efforts to both retain and increase qualified workforce to serve individuals with mental health needs will need to be a continued focus as this impacts all areas of service.

Intermediate: ongoing efforts will be made to retain and increase workforce so that Open Access in our county operated clinic can resume. Continued collaboration and coordination with local community partners will be required to explore ways to improve

housing related issues. Ongoing participation and collaboration with the local homelessness workgroup as well as better coordination with the Continuum of Care will be necessary to truly improve housing options. There will be continued collaboration and continuation of services through ensuring that there is linkage between individuals with mental health challenges and either the CSPOA or ASPOA. Expansion of crisis services will be explored through the potential development of the proposed stabilization center that will serve Chenango County residents. There will be an ongoing effort among staff at our county operated clinic to implement the use of 988 and to encourage this to be utilized among consumers. Our outpatient mental health clinic was able to take advantage of the OMH workforce grants to be utilized towards evidenced based trainings. Additionally, they have been able to utilize the NYS Healthcare Workforce bonus funding as well. Continued efforts to explore ways to improve the workforce will need to be a focus this year as this impacts all levels of service provided to individuals with mental health needs from the outpatient level to inpatient level as well as crisis services.

LGU Representative Name: Elizabeth Warneck

LGU Representative Title: Director of Community Services

Submitted for: Chenango County Mental Hygiene Services



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2023 Needs Assessment Form

Chenango County Mental Hygiene Services

Crisis Services Yes

Applies to OASAS? Yes

Applies to OMH? Yes

Applies to OPWDD? Yes

Need Applies to: Both Youth and Adults

Need description (Optional): Ongoing crisis services are needed, workforce issues have significantly impacted crisis services being provided in our community. At this time the primary modality in which crisis services are being delivered is by phone and telehealth and more in person options are needed.

Housing Yes

Applies to OASAS? Yes

Applies to OMH? Yes

Applies to OPWDD? Yes

Need Applies to: Both Youth and Adults

Need description (Optional): Safe and affordable housing is an ongoing need for individuals who are apart of the OMH, OASAS and OPWDD programs.

Workforce Yes

Applies to OASAS? Yes

Applies to OMH? Yes

Applies to OPWDD? Yes

Need Applies to: Both Youth and Adults

Need description (Optional): Our community has experienced significant workforce related issues over the last 12 months and are struggling to find both professional and non-professional staff to serve individuals in our programming.

LGU Representative: Elizabeth Warneck

Submitted for: Chenango County Mental Hygiene Services