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TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Youth & Family Services

Board of Directors' Meeting May 2, 2022

Present: Board Members Martha Simon, Marilyn Langley, Melissa Interest, Chais DiMaggio, Linda Collins, Karen Di/Rienzo, Becky Norum, Christine Shruhan; Executive Director and Jennifer Priest; BYFS Administrative Secretary

Absent: Roberta Mills

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. MINUTES: The board voted to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting. Roll call: Marilyn Langley, Chais Dimaggio, Melissa Interest, Linda Collins, Martha Simon members voting to approve. Karen Di/Rienzo, Becky Norum abstained. 5-2-0

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. Agency Update:

- a.** Fees collected since the January 2022 meeting \$7,539.00
- b.** ARPA funds: The request to use ARPA funds to add 16 hours to the 19-hour a week position has been approved. In addition, the department has petitioned for a one year 19 hour a week position. Christine is waiting for final approval. We currently have only two intern positions filled for next year. Approval of the temporary position will help offset the reduced number of interns as well as reducing the number of residents on the waitlist. Martha asked about the new hire in January being full and how many interns this year? Christine explained that David Lankford who started in January will be at capacity once the interns this year leave as their cases are passed on to the staff. This year we have 4 interns.
- c.** Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 5/1/22-5/7/22: Christine appeared before the Select board who granted approval to display green lights in the Common during this week.
- d.** Referrals: This waitlist is currently at 30. With the increase in Danielle's hours and the additional hours funded through ARPA, the department hopes to reduce the number significantly.

IV. COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- A. SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council):** Becky updated the board on SEPAC. Elections are coming up. Most of the board is resigning.
- B. Schools:** Martha updated the board in regards to the schools. Not much to add since the last meeting the schools are looking to finalize some counselor and social worker hires. Martha asked Christine if the schools spaces we had back in January and will we be able to pick up cases from the schools moving forward. Christine explained that we are getting



full and she believes that with the additional ARPA position that we should be able to manage. Martha asked about how many interns we had for next year. Christine explained that we currently have 2 interns for next year. Martha asked if there were difficulties finding qualified candidates. Christine explained that they have made offers to other candidates however they accepted other internships. Also that she has a 2nd interview set up for next week and that the interview process is ongoing.

Martha asked about the liaison meeting with the school staff. Christine explained that the clinical staff met with Ray Porch, Chrissy Conceison, and Kerri Lamprey. There was a scheduling conflict for Jennifer Knight for this meeting. However, Jennifer arranged to come at another time to talk with the staff about her role and what she has been doing. Christine is looking to schedule a diversity training with Ray. Wellness Committee Christine asked Martha if the Wellness Committee has been reinstated. Martha stated that the committee did not meet this year however, Matt Jackling had sent out an email looking to edit/ update some of the YRBS question. Christine will follow up with Matt.

- C. Burlington Police Department Mental Health Services:** Karen and the Recovery Coach Hannah Hazlett met with Chrissy Concession and all of the guidance counselors at the schools via zoom. This meeting has helped with Collaborating. Guidance counselors will reach out if they have a family that Karen is involved with. The Burlington Police department is hosting a Crisis intervention training all week. Karen is one of the speakers at the training. This training is a step up from the basic first aid and mental health the officers have to complete. Currently the state requires 25% of the department to have this training. Burlington would like to surpass this goal and get as close to 100% as possible. Typically each department can send 5 officers. Since Burlington is hosting 15 officers are able to attend. Karen attended and completed the FBI Crisis negotiator training. Her class had 26 officers and 4 mental health clinician who work in police departments. The majority of Karen's referrals are from the police department; however the fire department has recently been referring residents who appear to have mental health issues when responding to a call.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Remote Participation Policy. A motion was made by Chais and seconded by Linda. Roll call: Marilyn Langley, Chais Dimaggio, Melissa Interest, Linda Collins, Martha Simon. Karen Di/Rienzo, and Becky Norum voted to approve 7-0-0
- B.** The board discussed that the remote participation policy is lacking the needs of some of the members of the group. Melissa shared what Lexington had put out and will forward the info to Christine. Lexington didn't have a reason required for being remote and Chairs had to be in person. Christine express that with this being a board that services families and youth that having remote access give more individuals access to having an input on the work the department is doing within the community. Becky shared that we are not the only board who looking for a more fluid hybrid option. After the discussion the board agreed that Christine talking with Paul Sagarino about this would be the best course of action.
- C.** Marilyn shared that after 35 years on the board that she will be resigning. She and her husband have had 2 homes and decided to sell their Burlington home. Board members thanked Marilyn for her years of service. She will email an official letter to Christine.

VI. NEXT MEETING: June 13 2022 6:00 pm

- A. VII. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. Roll call Roll call: Marilyn Langley, Chais DiMaggio, Melissa Interest, Linda Collins, Martha Simon. Karen Di/Rienzo, and Becky Norum voted to approve 7-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Shruhan, LMHC
Executive Director