

**Greene County
OASAS Sub Committee
February 2, 2008**

Present: Susan Owens, Jane Doris, Cathy Start, Jackie Franks-Novine,

Review of Minutes: The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Twin County Update:

- The committee discussed the unfortunate closing of TCRS's satellite at GCMHC. Although this program works very well for the consumers attending the mental health clinic and the mental health clinicians located there, it has been difficult for TCRS to maintain the clinic financially. At this time, it is generally individuals with a severe mental illness who are utilizing this service. The clinician currently located at GCMHC has a full caseload, though she has many "no-shows" and the groups are extremely difficult to fill as many of the consumers are not able to attend, or do not show up on a regular basis. The mental health center also does not have the software program used by TCRS, which means that all required paperwork has to be done by hand and when needed at TCRS, must be transported by vehicle to and from Cairo. This uses up staff time as well as making it extremely difficult to remain fiscally viable. The group discussed Peter's letter to OASAS and brainstormed about ways to assist this program's ability to continue operating. At this time, this program is scheduled to cease operating and the clinician will be absorbed by the TCRS clinic located in Catskill. Those being served consistently will have to attend appointments in there.
- TCRS has a new clinician starting next week. They are also reconfiguring their operations so that all clinicians can once again complete evaluations.
- Rick Vedder, a consultant from OASAS has assisted TCRS in looking at policies and procedures and has assisted in reconfiguring the forms that they are using. He will return to complete a mock audit in the near future.
- The physical audit at TCRS was completed and passed at the end of January 2009.
- Effective March 31, 2009 the MATS program in both counties will be discontinued. TCRS is working on moving staff members around in order to continue serving everyone efficiently. There is a possibility that they will be able to create a case manager position to serve participants in both counties who need case management services. This program will be different from MATS in that the state Medicaid office will not be determining who will be served. TCRS will be able to determine who will be served according to need.
- TCRS is strongly considering opening their clinic on Saturdays. This will allow them to provide additional needed services without duplicating services, while also serving those who work during the week and cannot attend daytime appointments.

Committee Discussion:

- Rev. Anne Curtain has arranged to have someone from the City Mission in Albany to attend the OASAS subcommittee in April. They will be discussing services that they provide, as often homeless individuals often have a substance abuse problem and are in need of assistance. As Greene County is part of the Capital District and at times homeless individuals from our area end up at the Mission, the committee felt that it would be a good idea to have a guest speaker present. This presentation will be on **April 6, 2009 @ 3pm at the TCRS building in Catskill.**
- The committee asked Susie will find out how many subcommittee meeting are required each year. Jill notified us that we have to meet at least 7 times per year. As the committee requested, and due to poor attendance, **we will cancel the meeting scheduled for March, and will be meeting again in April.**
- **The next committee meeting will be held MONDAY April 6, 2009 @ 3pm at the TCRS building in Catskill.**