

**Children and Families Subcommittee  
Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

**Present:** Jackie Jackson (Glens Falls Hospital Care Coordination), Katherine Chambers (CWI Foothills Clinic), Jason McLaughlin (WAIT House), Shaun Etu (Washington Co. Youth Bureau & Alternative Sentencing), Janet Pratt (Warren Co. DSS), Kelly Havens (Northern Rivers), Angela Tracy (ASCEND Mental Wellness), Raquel Speers (Glens Falls Hospital Care Coordination)

**Staff:** Tracy Terry (Children’s SPOA Coordinator)

Agenda Item	Outcome	Action
<b>Introductions:</b>	Meeting commenced at 10am with welcome and introductions of committee members and presenters.	No Action Required
<b>Presentation(s):</b>  <b>Ken Tangel – President of the Board of Directors for Camp Get-A-Way</b>	Camp Get-A-Way is an overnight family mental health camp designed to support children with behavioral, emotional, and/or mental health challenges. Camp Get-A-Way offers the opportunity for families to attend a camp without facing stigma or judgement for their child’s unique challenges. Camp offers 4-day sessions which include meals, lodging, respite, and nursing services (if needed). It provides an opportunity to connect to other children and families with similar challenges and includes youth activities, family activities, and parent training & support. It is staffed by family peer supports and mental health professionals. The camp accepts children in foster care and/or in a residential placement. Parents/caregivers and siblings are able to attend. New this year, they are offering a camp session in Albany at Camp Scully from May 8 <sup>th</sup> to May 11 <sup>th</sup> . There is a \$25 registration fee to secure a spot (10 families total) and the total cost to attend is \$450. Scholarships are available and the camp does collaborate with other agencies to cover the cost to families experiencing financial hardship. Registration for the Camp Scully session is due two weeks prior to the session.	Flyer w/QR code will be shared with the meeting minutes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tracy Terry

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<p><b>Kelly Morrison – Nurse Navigator Upstate Golisano Center for Special Needs; Biobehavioral Health Inpatient Unit</b></p>	<p>Planned intensive treatment for severe and challenging behaviors Accepts referrals for children 5-17 yrs. old with dual diagnoses (MH &amp; I/DD). Referring provider needs to have a National Provider Identifier (NPI) Planned admissions, not based on crisis/acuity. Admission decisions take several weeks (families will receive a letter of decision). The family may receive very short notice for admission and if unable to accept the bed the referral will be closed (can always be added back on the admission list). Can admit children/youth already in a residential placement. 11 beds total: number of admissions based on staffing Inpatient stay is typically 7 weeks; inpatient discharge to step-down the next day for approximately 2 weeks (not required but highly recommended). Outpatient/Step Down Clinic is located across the street. Crystal House – housing for step-down program available for OPWDD eligible youth &amp; HCBS waiver. Ronald McDonald House – available for parents/caregivers Family participation is required, can be done virtually or in-person. BBHU is able to complete FMLA paperwork if needed. Treatment includes ABA Therapy (A-B-C model); positive reinforcement BBHU Staff includes 1:1 or 1:2 Mental Health Therapy Aides (MHTAs) for all youth. Referrals will not be accepted unless all necessary documentation is provided. Once referral is accepted, the parents/caregivers will be emailed to complete the intake/screen process which can take approximately 1-2 hours.</p>	<p>Slide deck will be shared with meeting minutes.</p> <p><b>PLEASE NOTE: This is a presentation used for organizations/facilities and it is not to be shared with the public.</b></p>
<p><b>Informational Items: NYS OMH Hospital &amp; Community Connections Initiative</b></p>	<p>Tracy provided the committee with background information on the initiative and update on the recent action planning meeting and next steps. Discussion was had in regard to challenges &amp; barriers unique to local communities within Warren &amp; Washington Counties.</p>	<p>Tracy will continue to provide updates on the initiative to the committee.</p>

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<b>OMH RFP Announcements</b>	Tracy provided information on recent RFP announcements; Community Mental Health Loan Repayment (CMHLRP) & Youth Safe Space. Tracy highlighted that the CMHLRP requires participating professionals to complete a 3-year service commitment to the agency which could aid in staff retention.	Current RFP announcements can be found at <a href="https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/rfp">https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/rfp</a>  Flyer for CMHLRP will be shared in the meeting minutes.
<b>Committee Feedback for Future C&amp; F meetings:</b>	Suggestions included focus on services for older youth (18+) including presentations from ACCES-VR, Job Corp, SUNY Adirondack, & East Side Center.  HHHN – presentation on children & families services offered.	Will reach out to suggested service providers/agencies to inquire about presenting at an upcoming Children & Families Subcommittee meeting.
<b>Agency Updates:</b>	No updates shared	No Action Required
<b>Additional Information:</b> <b>Save the Dates for Brainstorm</b>	Chalk the Walk – Wednesday, May 27 <sup>th</sup> 10-1pm at Glens Falls City Park  WWC Brainstorm – Friday, October 16 <sup>th</sup> 10-1pm at Salvation Army, Glens Falls	Save the dates flyer will be shared with meeting minutes.
<b>Adjournment &amp; next meeting date:</b>	Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13 <sup>th</sup> from 10-11:30 am at Office of Community Services	Meeting reminder and upcoming agenda will be emailed to committee members prior.