



# COALITION MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2023

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

In-person Meeting

**COALITION MEMBERS:** Larry Calkins, Becca Ames, Chelsea Dodd, Bill Bowman, Kyrsha Angus, Melerena Back, April Beamer-Breen, Emma Brackett, Tina Buckley, Natalie Burnham, Tina Clark, John Coppolla, Jake Coulombe, Krystal Crooker, Jennifer Elliott, Randi Forbes, Tracy Gravell, Tracy Hart, Denis King, Lisa Lawrence-Boyer, Tracy Leonard, Emily Marquart, Nicole Pierce, Traci Ploufe, Janet Price-Kurta, Ken Provost, Heather Rich, Margarita Santana, Liz Stevens, Connie Thompson, Connie Wille, Bud Ziolkowski

**AGENCIES PRESENT:** Seaway Valley Prevention Council, Champlain Valley Family Center, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Credo Community Center, Rockland Council on Alcoholism, St. Lawrence Health, SPAN, The Prevention Team, Citizens Advocates, St. Lawrence County, North Country Freedom Homes, ASAP, Lake Placid Wilmington Connecting Youth & Communi., St. Joseph's Addiction Treatment & Recovery Center

## 1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by Bill Bowman at 10:42 am.

## 2. A motion was made by Connie Wille, seconded by Denis King, to approve the September 2023 minutes.

**Motion carried**

## 3. Treasures Report

- *Treasure Updates: Will be working on getting monies*
- *A motion was made by Jennifer Elliott, seconded by Tina Buckley to approve the treasures report.*

*Motion Carried*

## 4. Action Items:

- *No action items*

## 5. Old Business:

- *1115 Waiver update*
  - *Hoping for more updates in January*
- *Wellness letter to Commissioner update*
  - *Bill Bowman has sent the letter to numerous people in hopes of it getting to the Commissioner but has not heard anything yet. Will send it to Commissioner directly and copying in Heather Rich.*
- *Issues facing the North Country*
  - *Workforce*
    - *Discussion on struggle with hiring amongst different agencies.*
    - *Struggle with interns and staff being prepared and the value of the CASAC.*
    - *Struggle with salary at the Not-for-Profit agencies*
    - *John Coppola discusses the issues within the state regarding budgets and funding. Suggestion on having a Summit with local legislatures.*
  - *Managing new programs*
    - *Coordination*
      - i. *Struggle with managing staff.*
      - ii. *Larry Calkins discusses struggle with delays in budgets from the state.*
      - iii. *Larry Calkins states the learning curve with small agencies.*
      - iv. *Tracy Leonard discusses issues with data reporting.*

## 2024 COALITION MEETINGS

January 16	July 16
March 19	Sept. 17
May 21	Nov. 5

(Note: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, except November at the Conference)

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- Communication
- Other

### 6. New Business:

- Refinancing of Addiction Services
  - Bill Bowman discusses the OASAS 5-year plan discussed in the Town Hall Meeting last week.
  - John Coppola states there will be a workgroup established
  - John Coppola suggests sending a letter to Consultants, congratulating them and offering if they would like to meet in the area.
  - Tracy Leonard mentions the concern with the 5-years and suggests a mid-point.
- Larry Calkins mentions the separation of state and agency. Connie Wille notes separation with the County as well.

### 7. Updates

- **North Country Regional Network of Care**
  - Revisiting purpose and frequency
    - Discussion about frequency and coordination of meetings with each program.
    - Prevention
      - i. Referral and Coordination
      - ii. Range of Services
    - Treatment
      - i. Referral and Coordination
      - ii. Range of Services
    - Recovery
      - i. Referral and Coordination
      - ii. Range of Services
- **Committee Updates:**
  - Committee reboot (Wellness, Advocacy, Education, Sustainability) – add to NTPC agenda.
  - The Wellness Committee will be working on a draft of wellness plans for agencies.
- **Conference:**
  - November 5-7, 2024, 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel, Clayton, NY
- **OASAS:**
  -
- **ASAP Update:**
  - InUnity Alliance will be the name of the new agency of the two merged agencies.
  - John Coppola goes over the membership benefits.
  - John mentions keeping advocacy simple.
- **Providers:**
  - Champlain Valley Family Center
    - i.
  - Credo Community Center
    - i.
  - St. Lawrence County Addiction Services
    - i.
  - St. Lawrence Health System
    - i.
  - North Country Freedom Homes
    - i.

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- St. Joseph's
  - i.
- St. Regis Mohawk Health Services
  - i.
- Citizens Advocates
  - i.
- Prevention Team
  - i.
- Seaway Valley Prevention Council
  - i.
- Pivot
  - i.
- Grace House
  - i.
- Prevention Network of CNY
  - i.

### 8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Larry Calkins, seconded by Connie Wille to adjourn the meeting. Adjourned at 12:21 am.

### 9. Leadership Meeting – North Country Regional Network of Care

#### Membership Dues Paid:

Carolyn White, Credo Community Center for Treatment of Addictions, Inc., Janet Price-Kurta, Joyce Nebush, Mountain View Prevention Services, Seaway Valley Prevention Services, St. Lawrence Health, Substance Abuse Prevention Team of Essex County, Inc., Pivot, St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center, North Country Freedom Homes, Champlain Valley Family Center

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