MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES TRENTON PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Trenton Psychiatric Hospital was held on **Thursday, November 16, 2023,** pursuant to notice duly given. In conformance with the Public Open Meetings Law, notice of the meeting has been sent to The Trenton Times, The Trentonian, Newark Star-Ledger and the Secretary of State and a notice placed on the bulletin board of Trenton Psychiatric Hospital.

Present:	Excused:
***Carolyn Torre - RN, MA, APN Chairperson	Susan Rubino, MD
***Patricia Carr-Vice Chairperson	
***Neil Weisfeld, Esq.	
***Maureen Lebel – MSW, PhD.	
***Dr. Mark Rosenberg – DO, MBA, FACEP,	
FAAHPM	
***Timothy Gallagher – Director of HSP Law	
Enforcement	
Representative	
***Thomas Pyle – MBA, MS (PSYR),	
NAMI Board Member (Past	
President)	
·	

TPH Staff Attendance:

Maria Christensen, CEO; James Hollen, Deputy Chief Executive Officer -Operations (DCEO); Faith Johnson – Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Clinical); Julie Van Houten, Chief Nursing Officer; Margaret VanMater – Acting QI Director; Michelle Senni – Executive Assistant to the CEO; Sheila Kwoka – Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Guest:

Mary Jean Weston, MSW, DMHAS-Regional Coordinator, Office of Community Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, NJ Department of Human Services; Justin Kurczeski – Human Service Police Captain; Chief Brain Lee, Human Service Police; Monica Kelly – Travers Complex Administrator

Excused:

Towana Wilkins, Business Manager; Intikhab Ahmad, M.D.; Clinical Director

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER/MINUTES APPROVAL:

Roll call was conducted in-person. The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Minutes from the October 19, 2023, meeting were approved with a change to the Therapeutic Environment report, adding that Ms. Carr and Dr. Lebel made an onsite visit, led by Dr. Christiansen.

Human Services Police Presentation (components of the presentation are attached to these minutes).

September Monthly Report:

- Ms. Carr noted that the assaults are higher for the month of October. Ms. Carr requested that going forward, a simple explanation in the reports about what triggered the assaults, would be helpful. Ms. Torre mentioned that Dr. Ahmad had alerted the Board at the last meeting that the October assault rate would be higher re. behavior of one female patient.
- Ms. Carr enjoyed reading about the work of Pastoral Services. Ms. Carr would like to see the number of patients attending pastoral service groups here at TPH, included in the report.
- Ms. Carr asked about the RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at Thomas Edison State University and its involvement with TPH; a description of the affiliation and its intention to expand mental health nursing opportunities in NJ, is included in the Board packet today.
- Ms. Carr asked for clarification about the dates on the COVID status chart; the
 first column indicates the date the complex/unit went on isolation status and the
 second column, the date the complex/unit went off isolation.
- Mr. Pyle asked about the Assaults. Staff assaults were up 50% in October. More assaults are instigated by women than men.
- Mr. Gallagher: A lengthy discussion between Mr. Gallagher and staff ensued re. violence prevention, staff anxiety about violence and administrative support around violence to staff. Dr. Lebel encouraged Board members to review the 2024 Violence Prevention Plan included in the packet.
- Mr. Pyle requests demographics re. religious affiliation of TPH patients.
- Dr. Rosenberg asked for the average time and duration patients are in restraints.
 Dr. Ahmad will be adding those figures to the November monthly report.
- Dr. Lebel positively noted the tricycles available for the patients to use. They were a big hit at the Fall Fest this year.
- Mr. Weisfeld asked if the increase in assaults and restraints are related. Ms.
 VanMater will check with Kimberly Stroman for details.
- Mr. Weisfeld was especially impressed with evening and weekend programming for the patients and appreciated the detail re. offerings.
- Ms. Torre concurred with the concerns/issues addressed by other Board members; she and Mr. Pyle both requested clarification about acronyms.

Note: All Board members were actively engaged in the discussion re. increased staff assaults, staff anxiety re. potential violence, and violence prevention.

AUXILIARY REPORT:

 The Auxiliary is currently accepting donations and purchasing gifts for the holidays. There is now an outdoor movie theater for the patients. There was a Fall Festival for the patients. The fall festival included a hayride, movies, petting zoo, and large 5 wheeled tricycles for the patients to ride.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Incident Committee – Dr. Maureen Lebel

At the October 31 Violence Prevention Committee meeting two documents (<u>2024</u> <u>Workplace Violence Prevention Plan AND Policy & Procedure, Personal Safety Plan (PSP); Sensory Items; Comfort Rooms)</u> were distributed. Both are attached.

"The Workplace Violence Prevention Plan identifies goals, assigns responsible staff, identifies data collection and monitoring parameters, authority, and budgetary resources."

"The **Personal Safety Plan** (PSP) is a document driven by individuals in treatment. It is meant to identify triggers, early warning signs of distress and soothing strategies, to facilitate self-regulation and to minimize triggering individuals to feel unsafe or threatened. Individuals who feel safe are less likely to become self-injurious or assaultive. Creating a Personal Safety Plan is a means of increasing individuals' involvement in their own treatment at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. "

While violence is abhorrent, outbursts and frustration happen among patients with mental illnesses. Throughout the October 31 meeting Dr. Ahmad made it clear that mayhem is not the norm on patient units. Overall incident frequencies are stable or heading downward and can most often be traced to a few outlier patients.

During September 2023 assaults continued a downward trend from 145 in June to 95 in September. Of the 95 assaults in September 34 resulted in minor injuries, 2 in moderate injuries and with the remaining 59 assaults having resulted in no injury. Four patients were found to be responsible for 46 percent of all assaults during September. During October 2023 the frequency of assaults increased to 126 with 39 resulting in minor injuries and 2 resulting in moderate injuries.

During the first three quarters of 2023 female patients committed 53 percent of assaults, and during September 2023 female patients committed 55 percent of assaults.

During the first three quarters of 2023, 45 percent of assaults occurred during the day shift, 47 percent during the evening shift and 8 percent overnight. During September 55 percent of assaults occurred during the day shift and 45 percent during the evening shift and none overnight.

The number of patients on one-to-one observation reached the lowest of the year thus far in September (22 patients).

Of 36 patients requiring restraints during September, 56 percent were housed in the Lincoln complex and 47 percent in Kennedy. During the first quarter of 2023 patients needed to be in restraints for a total of 278 hours while during the third quarter the number of hours dropped to 172. Five outliers accounted for three or more instances of restraint each in September.

During October the incidences of patients requiring restraint increased to 65, from 36 in September. The number of hours during which patients required restraint increased in October to 96 from 55 in September. Eight outlier patients required restraints three or more times during October.

Frequency of use of Long-Acting Injectable drugs and Clozaril remained constant.



2024 workplace violence prevention



personal safety plan.pdf

• Legislative Committee - Mr. Neil Weisfeld

I. BILLS AFFECTING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Committee continues to monitor the following bills. Ordinarily, actions taken since the Committee's last report appear in boldface **(thus)**, but none of these bills have moved since September.

A5096/S3511:

Corrects terminology regarding alcohol use and substance use disorder.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Benjie E. Wimberly (D), Verlina Reynolds-Jackson (D), Anthony S. Verrelli (D); Senators Vin Gopal (D), Brian D. Stack (D) Approved by Assembly Health Committee 11-0 on March 9. Passed by the Assembly 71-2 on May 25. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee June 1.

Approved by Senate Health Committee 8-0 on June 15. Passed by the Senate 37-0 on June 20. Amended version passed by the Assembly 76-2 on June 30.

A2764/S1068:

Increases Medicaid reimbursement for certain evidence-based mental health services.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Sterley S. Stanley (D), Sadaf F. Jaffer (D), Daniel R. Benson (D); Senators Joseph F. Vitale (D), Vin Gopal (D).

Approved by Assembly Human Services Committee 9-0 on February 9, referred to Assembly Health Committee. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee January 31 (2022).

A4275/S3461:

Establishes ombudsman for mental health and addiction services Sponsors: Assembly reps. Angela V. McKnight (D), Benjie E. Wimberly (D), Daniel R. Benson (D); Senator James Beach (D).

Approved by Assembly Health Committee 12-0 on February 13, referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee January 12.

A4615/S3591:

Requires state to help develop graduate medical education programs in behavioral health care.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Louis D. Greenwald (D), Verlina Reynolds-Jackson (D), Ellen J. Park (D); Senator Andrew Zwicker (D).

Approved by Assembly Higher Education Committee 12-0 on February 13, approved by Assembly Appropriations Committee 10-0 on February 23, passed by the Assembly 78-0 on February 27. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee February 28. Approved by the Senate committee 8-0 on May 11.

A4755/S3261:

Permits behavioral and mental health providers to operate in homeless shelters Sponsors: Assembly reps. Yvonne Lopez (D), William F. Moen (D), Shanique Speight (D); Senator Renee C. Burgess (D).

Approved by Assembly Housing Committee 6-0 on October 13, approved by Assembly Human Services Committee 9-0 on December 8, passed by the Assembly 77-0 on December 15. Approved by the Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee 8-0 on January 19.

Amended version passed by the Senate 36-0 on March 20. Amended version passed by the Assembly 74-0 on March 30. Signed by the Governor May 15, P.L. 2023, ch. 62.

A3514/S704:

Prohibits mental health professionals from disclosing mental health notes to health insurers

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Clinton Calabrese (D), Angelica M. Jimenez (D), Reginald W. Atkins (D); Senators Richard J. Codey (D), Anthony M. Bucco (R)

Approved by Senate Commerce Committee 4-0 on May 16 (2022), passed by the Senate 38-0 on June 16 (2022). Referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee June 16 (2022).

A508/S2668:

Establishes annual cost-of-living adjustment for mental health, substance use disorder, and developmental disability services

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Daniel R. Benson (D), Carol A. Murphy (D); Senators Linda R. Greenstein (D), Joseph F. Vitale (D), Vin Gopal (D). Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee January 11 (2022).

Approved by Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee 7-0 on October 6, referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

A1700/S524 ScsSca (SCS/1R):

Creates mental health diversion program to divert eligible persons from criminal justice system.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Annette Quijano (D), Raj Mukherji (D), Reginald W. Atkins (D); Senators M. Teresa Ruiz (D), Sandra B. Cunningham (D)

Approved by Assembly Judiciary Committee 4-0 on September 29, referred to Assembly Human Services Committee. Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee January 11 (2022).

Approved by Senate Judiciary Committee 7-0 and referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on June 12. Transferred to Assembly Judiciary Committee and approved by it 3-0 and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee on June 15.

Approved by Assembly Appropriations Committee 7-3 on June 22. Passed by the Senate 21-15 on June 30. Passed by the Assembly 45-28 on June 30.

A1924/S3031:

Mandates reimbursement of mental health treatment for domestic violence by health insurers.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Lisa Swain (D), Daniel R. Benson (D); Senators Vin Gopal (D), M. Teresa Ruiz (D)

Referred to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee January 11 (2022). Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee: September 22.

A4604/S682:

Mandates suicide prevention training for mental health practitioners.

Sponsors: Assembly rep. Kevin J. Rooney (R); Senators Anthony M. Bucco (R), Vin Gopal (D)

Referred to Assembly Health Committee September 22. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee January 11 (2022).

A4540/S1153:

Mandates mental health evaluation of all adult and juvenile animal cruelty offenders ("Shyanne's Law").

Sponsors: Assembly rep. Angelica M. Jimenez (D); Senator Joseph F. Vitale (D)

Referred to Assembly Agriculture and Food Security Committee September 22. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee January 31 (2022).

A4618/S3122:

Creates online job portal for behavioral health care workers and online externship and internship portal for health care students.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Roy Freiman (D), Carol A. Murphy (D), Louis D. Greenwald (D); Senator Andrew Zwicker (D)

Approved by Assembly Labor Committee 9-0 on December 8, approved by Assembly Appropriations Committee 10-0 on February 23, passed by the Assembly 78-0 on February 27. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee February 28. Approved by the Senate committee 8-0 on May 11.

A1336/S1965:

Creates Behavioral Mental Health Advisory Board in Department of Human Services.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Gabriela M. Mosquera (D), Gary S. Schaer (D), Pamela R. Lampitt (D); Senator Kristin M. Corrado (R).

Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee January 11 (2022). Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee March 3 (2022).

A2286/S1522:

Eases practice restrictions for advanced practice nurses.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Nancy F. Munoz (R), Mila M. Jasey (D), William W. Spearman (D); Senators Joseph F. Vitale (D), Troy Singleton (D) Referred to Assembly Health Committee February 7 (2022).

Approved by Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee 7-0 on December 15.

A2875/S528:

Creates Behavioral Health Services Task Force,

Sponsors: Assembly rep. Daniel R. Benson (D); Senator Joseph F. Vitale (D) Referred to Assembly Health Committee February 28 (2022).

Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee January 31 (2022).

A1847/S255:

Allows diversion from criminal prosecution of some people affected by mental illness Sponsors: Assembly rep. Ellen J. Park (D); Senators Shirley K. Turner (D), Brian P. Stack (D).

Referred to Assembly Community Development and Affairs Committee January 11 (2022).

Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee January 11 (2022).

Includes substance use disorder among conditions sometimes justifying involuntary commitment.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Raj Mukherji (D), Gabriela M. Mosquera (D), Angelica M. Jimenez (D); Senator Nilsa I. Cruz-Perez (D)

Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee January 11 (2022). Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee March 3 (2022).

A3675/S3574:

Creates START pilot program for people with dual diagnoses:

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Anthony S. Verrelli (D), Raj Mukherji (D), Daniel R. Benson (D); Senator Jean Stanfield (R).

Approved by Assembly Human Services Committee 9-0 on June 9, referred to Assembly Health Committee. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee February 9.

A3750/S143:

Enhances suicide prevention and treatment.

Sponsors: Assembly reps. Kim Eulner (R), Marilyn Piperno (R); Senators Patrick J. Diegnan, Jr. (D), Linda R. Greenstein (D).

Referred to Assembly Health Committee May 2. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee January 11 (2022).

A4604/S682:

Mandates suicide prevention training for mental health practitioners.

Sponsors: Assembly rep. Kevin J. Rooney (R); Senators Anthony M. Bucco (R), Vin Gopal (D)

Referred to Assembly Health Committee September 22. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee January 11 (2022). A5283/S3939: Requires professional licensing boards to adhere to national averages in processing licensure applications.

Sponsors: Assembly representatives P. Christopher Tully (D), Gabriela M. Mosquera (D), and Louis D. Greenwald (D); Senator Joseph A. Lagana (D).

Referred to Assembly Labor Committee March 9, approved by the Committee 9-0 on March 23. Referred to Senate Commerce Committee June 8.

A4619/S3596:

Makes temporary health profession licenses, as established during the COVID pandemic, a permanent option.

Sponsors: Assembly representatives Herb Conaway, Jr. (D), Sterley S. Stanley (D), and Louis D. Greenwald (D); Senator Fred H. Madden, Jr. (D).

Referred to Assembly Regulated Professions Committee September 22 (2022), approved by the Committee 5-0 on January 12. Referred to Senate Commerce Committee February 13.

A5182/S3929:

Revises requirements for involuntary commitment for mental health treatment, allowing for court orders to extend the commitment period beyond 72 hours.

Sponsors: Assembly representatives Pamela R. Lampitt (D) and Raj Mukherji (D) and Senators Joseph F. Vitale (D), Nicholas P. Scutari (D), Reginald W. Atkins (D), and John F. McKeon (D).

Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee February 13. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee June 5. Transferred to Assembly Judiciary Committee and approved by it 5-0 and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee June 15.

Approved by Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee 7-1 on June 15. Transferred to Assembly Oversight, Reform and Federal Relations Committee and approved by it 5-0 on June 22. Approved by Assembly Budget Committee 14-0 on June 27. Approved by Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee 12-0 on June 27. Passed by the Senate 36-1 on June 30. Passed by the Assembly 76-1 on June 30. Signed by the Governor August 16, P.L. 2023, c. 139.

A5600/S4007:

Establishes right to mental health care for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Sponsors: Assembly representatives Pamela R, Lampitt (D), Carol A. Murphy (D), and Angela V. McKnight (D) and Senator Linda R. Greenstein (D)

Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee June 15. Referred to Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee June 26.

II. NOTE ON OTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

Elections to all seats in the state Legislature took place November 7. Democrats maintained their 25-15 majority in the Senate. They expanded their majority by five seats in the 80-seat Assembly, where they will hold 51 seats. The results defied expectations, because the opposition usually gains seats after six years of a governor's tenure.

During the campaign, Republicans focused on social issues, especially "parental choice," which involves parents' desire to be informed of their child's gender preferences expressed in school. Issues of mental health were not prominent during the campaign and are not a major aspect of division between the two parties.

However, analysts have predicted that mental health issues may figure prominently in public policy discussions during the next several years.

• Schulley Trading Post – Mr. Rosenberg:

- Will report more information at the December Board of Trustees Meeting.
- Mr. Hollen reported to the Board that with the opening of the Schulley Trading Post, the past month's revenue increased to nearly \$8,000. Mr. Hollen predicts that Schulley Trading Post (STP) income will average at least \$7,000/month going forward. The staff and patients love the new Schulley Trading Post.
- Mr. Hollen is working on a point-of-sale mechanism for patients.

• Therapeutic Environment Committee – Ms. Patricia Carr

Recent Accomplishments:

Successful Autumn Festival Activities included hayrides, corn maze, petting zoo, games, and music

Currently in Progress:

Holiday Decorations outdoor and indoor. Paving: driveways, roads, curbs (Off' waiting in the wings').

Waiting in the Wings:

Outdoor awnings for Lincoln.

Wish List:

No Changes from October on these items: potting shed roof, panels for greenhouse four, additional greenhouse, classroom.

Recommendations:

Attention to the library is needed, including educational texts (ESL, GED), podcasts, a materials organizer, and a clear method for lending materials.

The Board lacks information regarding the INDOOR therapeutic environment and could benefit from learning about positive examples of a therapeutic environment, as well as current therapeutic environment needs within the various complexes.

Note: Mr. Pyle expressed an interest in the Therapeutic Environment as well as in the history of TPH; he may be able to recruit a library organizer from members of NAMI. Ms. Torre appointed him to the Therapeutic Environment Committee, forthwith.

• Welfare Fund - Ms. Torre

The Schulley Trading Post has donated to the Welfare Fund, as has been done in the past when the STP income is robust; this will continue to happen until the balance in the Welfare Fund becomes more stable. Mr. Hollen will discuss Welfare Fund budgetary needs and the possibility of expanding the budget at the beginning of the new year, if expected expenditures are likely to exceed the current budget. Note: At the June 2023 meeting, the Board had cut the Welfare Budget in half based on the needs of the previous year; this requires reassessment since the pandemic is receding and recreational/entertainment activities have expanded for patients; for example: 85 patients recently visited the aquarium.

Report from Ms. Mary Jean Weston, MSW, Regional Coordinator Office of Community Services, Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS) (November 16, 2023)

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Booklets for Opioid Treatment -FREE

Opioid Addiction Treatment - A Guide for Patients, Families and Friends, provides information and facts for those seeking help and explains the needed steps to recovery. It contains a treatment overview and covers topics on withdrawal, medications to treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and outlines how each medication works. The Guide is available in many languages. Here is a link for the booklet:

http://eguideline.guidelinecentral.com/i/1302283-asam-opioid-patient-piece-2020-for-new-jersey. Email MHAS.ASAMBooklet@dhs.nj.gov to order copies.

2. Zero Suicide Academy Programs in December

These are two-day trainings for senior leaders of organizations that seek to prevent deaths by suicide among patients in their care. The Zero Suicide faculty will provide both interactive presentations and small group sessions, collaborating with participants to develop organization-specific action plans. For more information, please contact Allison.Kusznikow@dhs.nj.gov.

3. NJ 211 Brings Holiday Cheer

Every year, NJ 211 looks for holiday resources to help families struggling to make ends meet. Individuals seeking assistance can visit www.nj211.org or call 211 to learn more about these programs, their offerings, and how to participate. Our online social service directory contains various holiday assistance programs, including meals, baskets, and gifts. For those who wish to donate gifts or food, our list also offers opportunities for you to express goodwill. Visit our holiday assistance page for information on where to give and get help.

4. Human Services (DHS) Virtual Budget Listening Session – Wednesday, November 29th As the Department undertakes planning for the next budget, we want to hear from members of the public, stakeholders, clients, families, providers, and organizations. This is your opportunity to present to the Department's full senior leadership team on your priorities. All are welcome to attend or testify in this public listening session. Click here for information and registration.

5. Awards from DMHAS

a. Outpatient Services for Older Adults

Awards were made to Legacy Treatment Services (Burlington) and Bridgeway Behavioral Health Services (Sussex and Union) to provide outpatient services for older adults.

6. RFPs from DMHAS

a. Implementation of Coordinated Specialty Care & Community Integration Services for Early Serious Mental Illness

More Information on these funding opportunities and other RFPs is available at: https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmhas/provider/funding/

COMMUNICATIONS: – There were no communications this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

In response to a question about a resource book for families, a copy of one that was updated in 2022 will be sent to Board members; a copy is attached to these minutes; see: Family Resource Handbook, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

None currently

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., in person at TPH.

Respectfully submitted,	
	_
Sheila Kwoka	Carolyn Torre RN, MA, APN, FAANP
Assistant Secretarial 3	Chairperson
Secretary to the Board of Trustees	•

CT/sk

Monica Kelly - Travers Complex Administrator a report of the Travers Complex:

Over 50% of our census are those who fall under SSPRC review. Despite the challenges presented by our census population, the Complex has seen an increase in discharges in the past several months making it difficult to increase our census in spite of incoming transfers.

The complex is looking to open another cottage specifically for women. This will offer additional opportunities for women to transition to the least restrictive environment available in the hospital.

In effort to engage patients and encourage transfers to the complex, the Complex Administrator will visit with patients who have expressed apprehension about moving to Travers. The goal is to identify concerns, dispel myths, and initiate a connection to the complex however small.

In addition to working on increasing the number of transfers, in collaboration with other complexes, we've employed a process whereby we work to "retain" patients who may show signs of decline. Unofficially named "respite care", patients return to a "locked unit" to ensure safety and provide an opportunity to adjust medications while remaining under the care of the Travers Complex Treatment Team. If the patient stabilizes within a week or so, the patient would return to the complex.

Stepping Stone clinic continues to provide treatment and support to those patients with a history of substance use. In May approximately 10 new graduates were honored along with 8 patients who'd demonstrated continued abstinence. To honor their achievements, graduates were given a coin, certificate, and a night out at the movies.

Travers patients are able to take part in all of the community outings. Typically, we have as many as 30 or more patients. Outings enjoyed by the patients include but not limited to the following: a trip to the Cape May Zoo, 2 trips to the local movie theater, Trenton Museum, a Trenton Thunder baseball game.

Our patients have requested additional Adirondack chairs and new holiday ornaments for the Complex. Both requests are being addressed. One big wish for the Complex is the replacement of the basement staircases in the Cottages.

Human Service Police Presentation on The History of the Human Service Police.







Family Resource Book



Family resource handbook 2022.pdf