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## Quality of Life (QOL) Committee

### FY-2023 2nd Quarter Report (January - March)

#### **PURPOSE**

The Quality of Life Committee is standing committee of the Oneida Business Committee that will have oversight of health, wellness, and social issues of the following areas of the Nation: Language, Culture, Health, Environmental Issues, Housing and Food Security and Sovereignty.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Councilwoman Marie Cornelius, Quality of Life Committee Chair  
Councilman Daniel Guzman-King, Quality of Life Committee Vice Chair  
Vice-Chairman Brandon Stevens, Quality of Life Committee Member  
Chairman Tehassi Hill, Quality of Life Committee Member

Other partners include General Manager, Oneida Police Department, Division Directors, other senior leaders, and their staff.

#### **MEETINGS**

Quality of Life Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month starting at 9:00 a.m. Meetings in the 1st quarter were held in January, February, and March.

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### *ACTIVITIES SUMMARY*

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#### **1. Tribal Action Plan (TAP)**

TAP continue to hold community events geared to youth and adults such as Maple Ceremony education and Park Olympics. They continue to provide Narcan training and distribute Narcan kits at various Oneida One Stop locations.

TAP is working on a Culture is Prevention initiative in collaboration with Cultural Heritage and Comprehensive Housing where they are providing an overview of ceremonies in English to encourage more community members to participate in the Longhouse. The program was regarding the Maple Ceremony.

TAP's upcoming Tetwatatehsnye' Conference is scheduled on March 29th at the Radisson. Tetwatatehsnye' means "we all take care of each other." Keynote speakers include Tatanka Means and Lenny Hayes

Next steps: 1. Staff is working with COIPP Grant personnel and accounting for Behavioral

Health to utilize MAT funds. 2. Continue to collaborate with other departments to promote prevention and harm reduction programming

## **2. Recreation Integration**

Staff worked with Tsyosha'aht Delgado for cultural education development. Staff have implemented cultural and traditional games, education, and converted 6 Pillars of character development to our Core Values. They use the Core Values with all education and programming.

Next steps include: 1. They would like to find a different way of dealing with youth that are disruptive or violating policy vs. membership suspension or revocation. Funds were identified through CCDF for this position, so they are working on a job description, then they will follow the request to post.

## **3. Zero Suicide**

Safe Care Pathway (SCP) currently has 25 active clients. Since the program started in January of 2021, SCP has served 173 clients who had moderate to severe risk for suicide. 134 clients out of 173 have exited the program, having met all exit criteria. They have had zero suicides and zero suicide attempts for those clients who are active in the program. When they look at success rates, it needs to be studied further as people are leaving the program voluntarily when they feel better.

Integration with Primary Care - As of January 1, 2023, the BHC provided services to 241 unique patients at OCHC. Patients are being provided short-term targeted services and receiving referrals to specialized mental health therapy and other services as needed.

Challenges: It continues to be the case that the biggest challenge is staffing the program. There would be a much greater number of referrals if the program could serve more clients. When better staffed, they can add internal referrals which would increase the number of clients who can benefit. Another challenge is getting better and more meaningful statistics for monitoring client progress.

Next steps include: 1. Continue to refine the workflow with integration of BH into primary care with assessing and making referrals to BH Safe Care Pathway. 2. Hire and train additional SCP therapist(s) to be able to work with more clients who need services. At this time they cannot take internal referrals due to high demands from Intakes and post hospitalization. Will probably need 2 more, then assess numbers being served.

## **4. Cultural Heritage**

All budgeted positions have either been hired or posted. The 1<sup>st</sup> of 5 all staff workshops were held February 21-23, 2023, with Mike Myers.

Next steps include: 1. Have all employees complete an Oneida Cultural Self-assessment and develop a learning plan. 2. Training to implement Clan System in Cultural Heritage.

## **5. Wellness Council**

They will be meeting in January to discuss further recruitments as a group, now they will have representation from the school including youth from the Clan Council, Risk Management and HRD. They will be reporting to the Quality of Life Committee on a quarterly basis in November, February, May, and August.

### **REQUESTED ACTION:**

Accept the Quality of Life Committee FY-2023 2nd quarter report.