

**TIOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**  
**MH – ASA – OPWDD Subcommittee Meeting**

**APPROVED**

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Via: Hybrid

Member	Katie Wait	Colleen Arnold	Shannon Westbrook
Attendance:	Nadia Constant	Georges Oswald	Kylie Holochak
	Sarah DiNunzio	Anne Seepersaud	Laura Smith
	John Crosby	Karen Warfle	Bob Williams
	Renee Nuzak	Tina Lounsbury	
	Kim Bailey-Poreda	Emily Jackson	
	Tricia Tomm	Gayle Pado	

Guest                      Keri Nichols

Attendance:

Mental Hygiene        Sarah Begeal, Interim Director of Community Services

Staff Attendance:     Danielle Fabregas, Clinical Program Director

                                 Angelica Deyo-Cruz, Corporate Compliance Officer/CSPOA

                                 Porshea Moore, Certified Recovery Peer Advocate

                                 Sue Graves, Secretary to the Director

Meeting called to order at: 9:35am

---

Topic:                      Review February 2026 Minutes

- Interim Director’s Report – Approved with changes
- MH Subcommittee – Approved as written
- OPWDD Subcommittee – Approved as written
- ASA Subcommittee – January & February – Approved as written

Topic                      Interim Director’s Report – Sarah Begeal

Discussion:              Updates:

- Budget
  - Remains neutral
- RFP
  - Contracts are with the County Attorney
  - Reached out to awardees regarding payment structure
  - Hoping to send contracts out soon
- AOT/EVA (Enhanced Voluntary Agreement)
  - Developing a plan
  - Proposal sent to OMH to fund a full-time position
  - Looking at technology platforms to track more efficiently
    - Proposal to be submitted
  - Brief review of received and future funding
- Mobile Crisis
  - Starting with the adult population

- Working on children's portion

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Clinical Program Director Report – Danielle Fabregas

Discussion: Updates:

- Census
  - Mental Health - 568 clients
  - ADS - 84 clients
- Mobile Crisis
  - Ready to deploy – adults only currently
  - Reaching out to other agencies
- Staff
  - Clinical Social Worker hired
  - Position open in ADS
- All staff training held last week

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: ASA Subcommittee – Kylie Holochak, Chair

Discussion: CASA Trinity – Laura Smith

- School programs reviewed
- Report forthcoming

ASAP Coalition – Kylie Holochak

- CADCA Leadership Forum – Washington DC
  - Kylie & Porshea attended
  - Brief overview given
- CLYDE Surveys
  - Results are in
  - Meeting with schools in March & April
  - Media release soon
- Drug Take Back
  - Tabling for where drop boxes are; Detera bags given out
- Black Balloon Day 2026
  - Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Window clings being given out
  - Virtual black balloon on social media as well

EMS – Bob Williams

- Scott Gurney - New EMS Coordinator
- Open House
  - Holding in the Spring – more information forthcoming
  - All county agencies will be invited to participate

Coroner Report – Bob Williams

- Electronic records system coming
- Hosting the Spring Conference for the Coroners & Medical Examiners of

New York State

- March 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> at Tioga Downs

Certified Recovery Peer Advocate – Porshea Moore

- Seeing an uptick in opioid pills with newer clients
- Narcan & testing strips being handed out
- Meth use down
- Doing Teen Intervene Youth Outreach
- Working with Continued Care clients
  - Employment & Education goals

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: MH Subcommittee – Angelica Deyo-Cruz, Chair

Discussion:

A New Hope Center – Sarah DiNunzio

- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month & Child Abuse Prevention Month
  - Chalk the Walk event April 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>
- Hosting Super Smash Bro's Tournament
  - Partnering with the Boys & Girls Club
  - Tournament at the Boys & Girls Club
  - Registration: Boys & Girls Club & A New Hope Center web pages
- Sexual Assault Awareness
  - Wear Denim Day – April 29th
- A New Hope Center's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - Gala on June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Club
  - More information to come
  - Looking for sponsors for the program book (ads)
  - Information on website
- Opiate Abatement Funding
  - All staff training by the Family Justice Centers

Rehabilitation Support Services – Colleen Arold

- Currently have 4 positions open
- Housing
  - 2 opening in the CR
  - 2 openings in the TAP program
  - 4 openings in Supported Housing

Public Health – Katie Wait

- CHIP group met with another meeting at the end of next week
  - Updates in April
- Suicide Prevention Coalition
  - QPR training March 4<sup>th</sup> at the LEPC meeting

Hea Hea – Nadia Constant & Georges Oswald

- Open and treating clients
  - First client & parent meeting last Friday (2/27)

- All clients & parents are motivated for recovery
- Process from the beginning explained briefly
- CSW onboarding
  - Experienced working with the population enrolling
- IOP in the works
- Opioid Prevention & Substance Use
  - In development

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: OPWDD Subcommittee – John Crosby

Discussion: DDSO/DDRO Report – Renee Nuzak

- 8 Tioga County residence referred to eligibility in January 2026
- Currently looking into Karen’s housing issue
  - Housing person was unavailable to meet
  - Information needed from Karen
    - Issue – families not notified of missing information until a denial is received.
    - Lack of communication between applicant & OPWDD
    - Families left out of communication

*Karen stated her issue from last month had been resolved.*

Achieve – Shannon Westbrook – via email

- Day Hab
  - Two individuals in process who are waiting on paperwork to begin services
  - Three additional referrals under review but program is at capacity currently
- Continued improvements being made on Day Hab space
  - Flooring replaced
  - Environment brighter, cleaner and more welcoming
- State Audit
  - Completed with zero deficiencies
- Participants remain busy in the community
  - Various outings & volunteer opportunities
    - Bowling, art studio classes, park visits, visits to local community centers
- Maintaining strong volunteer partnerships with Waterman’s Conservation Center, The Courier, and the Open Door Mission
  - Providing participants with meaningful roles that support skill building and community engagement
- Shannon overseeing the DHWOW programs in all three counties as well
  - Programming continues to thrive
  - Active referrals in each county
- Staff & participants remain actively engaged in activities that promote independence, confidence and personal growth

#### FFS Report –Gayle Pado

- Statewide FFS meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Local statewide meeting held virtually the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month
  - Meeting format will change to closed starting in June
- RFP in restricted period
- Issues with reimbursement & eligibility
  - Please reach out to Gayle
- Working with OPWDD on a Statewide Directory of Services website

#### CCO Reports

##### Pirme Care - Tricia Tomm

- Taking new enrollments
- Working with 75 families in Tioga County
- Fully Staffed
- Working on preventative care with all clients
- Caseload: Average of 30-34 cases per Case Manager

##### LifePlan – Anne Seepersaud

- All welcome to the Summit March 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Link will be sent out
- Regional networking event June 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Open to the community
  - Tabeing welcome
  - Registration link being sent

##### ST Connects – Emily Jackson

- Few staff openings – Broome/Tioga Supervisor
- Information sessions held
- Updating informational sessions on website

##### Rackers – Gayle Pado

- Self-direction open – no waiting list
- Racker is looking for a Residential Director
- Events
  - Rackers Racers – March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Neighborhood Depot in Owego
  - March calendar being sent out
- OMIG Audit
  - First full audit – going well

##### Catholic Charities – Gabby Ayers – not present

##### Self- Advocate – Karen Warfle

- Wait list for Comm Hab services
  - Looking for length of time for traditional Com Hab

*Gayle shared Racker has wait lists in all three counties – approximately 19 in Cortland, 12+ in Tioga and 20 in Tompkins. Not enough staff to serve is the*

*reason for the wait list.*

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Other Business

Discussion: Micro-credentialing

- Currently TC3, Corning & BCC offer
- Renee will send information

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:26am. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 9:30am

---