

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

**APPROVED**

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Via: Hybrid

Member	Katie Wait	Laura Smith
Attendance:	Nadia Constant	Gabriella Ayers
	Kylie Holochak	Tricia Tomm
	Sarah DiNunzio	Anne Seepersaud
	John Crosby	Gayle Pado
	Bob Williams	
Guest	Kari Nichols	
Attendance:	Brian Coleman, Director of St. John’s Community Services	
	Richard Bennett, St. John’s Community Services	
Mental Hygiene	Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services	
Staff Attendance:	Sarah Begeal, Deputy Director of Community Services	
	Danielle Fabregas, Clinical Program Director	
	Porshea Moore, Certified Recovery Peer Advocate	
	Angelica Deyo-Cruz, Corporate Compliance Officer/CSPOA	
	Sue Graves, Secretary to the Director	

Meeting called to order at: 9:33am

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Topic: Review November 2025 Minutes – Approved with changes

Topic: Director’s Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Retirement
  - Lori retiring on 1/30/26
  - Sarah Begeal interim DCS
  - Board to determine next DCS
  - Lori expressed her pleasure and gratitude with serving the people of Tioga County
  - All will be missed
- Staffing
  - New Hires:
    - Hunter Buchmann, CSW – Owego
    - Amber Swawola, CSW – Owego
    - Steven Carter, Certified Peer Specialist, Mobile Crisis
    - Leila Squicciarini, ADS - Owego starting 1/25/26
- RFP
  - Awards have been completed
  - Resolutions presented and passed
  - Announcement after Legislature meeting

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Deputy Director's Report – Sarah Begeal

Discussion: Updates:

- Open positions
  - Sr. Clinical Social Workers
  - Social Worker for CAC
  - Sr. Clinical Social Worker - Tioga Center School
- Mobile Crisis
  - Starting soon
  - Currently taking inside crisis calls

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Clinical Program Director Report – Danielle Fabregas

Discussion: Updates:

- Census
  - Mental Health - 560 clients
  - ADS - 84 clients & 34 continued care

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Presentation – Brian Coleman & Richard Bennett – St. John's Community Services

Discussion: Brian & Richard gave an overview of St. John's housing program.

- OASAS Certified Residential Provider
- Apartment based model
- Offering residential supports
- Reintegrating level of care in Tompkins County
- Obtaining certification for other sites
- Residential supports
- Seeking to work with providers, develop partnerships to assist in filling gaps in the community

Lori stated this need has been part of the county plan for 14 years and she is excited about the possible opportunity in Tioga County.

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: OPWDD Subcommittee – John Crosby

Discussion: DDSO/DDRO Report – Renee Nuzak – via email - attached

Achieve – Shannon Westbrook – via email - attached

#### FFS Report – Gayle Pado

- Statewide Family Supports met in December
- RFP Status – Recycled dollars
  - Unable to discuss currently
  - Should have sharable information in February
- Document Revisions
  - Site visit protocols
    - Changes made, check list revision
- Conflict of Interest discussions
- Language updated in FSS brochure
- Statewide committee bylaws on website
- Peer Support Program
  - Family struggles heard (Hudson Region) regarding reimbursements
  - Success stories shared
- 2026 FSS meeting dates shared

#### CCO Reports

- Prime Care – Tricia Tomm
  - Fully staffed
  - New enrollments being accepted
  - Mental Health First Aid Training for the Southern Tier Region  
January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026
- Life Plan – Anne Seepersaud
  - Provider education via web today at 3pm
  - Nick Covaletti presenting 2025 year in review & 2026 upcoming highlights
  - Community Provider Networking event in June
    - Tabling opportunity
    - Looking for all services in Tompkins, Tioga & Broome Counties

#### Rackers Report – Gayle Pado

- Self-Direction accepting new referrals with no wait list
- Traditional Program enrollment on hold
- January events shared (see attached)

#### Catholic Charities – Gabby Ayers

- Open Mic in January
- Not accepting Community Hab referrals
- Focusing on building employment services
- Approved to provide services in Chemung County as well
- PIT Count
  - Taking place January 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Seeking volunteers to count and complete surveys
  - Surveys to be sent to HUD to provide people with services

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: ASA Subcommittee – Kylie Holochak

Discussion: Trinity Report – Laura Smith

- Programs continue in Waverly & Spencer VanEtten schools
  - Josh in Waverly with all middle school, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades and lunch groups
  - Kim is in Spencer VanEtten Middle School with 5 participating in Teen Intervene
  - Christine in Spencer Elementary with a small group
  - Newark Valley has 2 in Teen Intervene
  - Meeting with Newark Valley Elementary & High School
  - Meet with Owego and Tioga Central Schools
    - No further response from either school

EMS – Bob Williams

- EMS classes starting this month
- Scott Gurney is the new EMS Coordinator
- More trainings scheduled for 2026
- Updating plans
- Open House scheduled for May
- LEPC meeting Wednesday, 1/7, 9:00am at the Public Safety Building
  - CPA speaker
  - 211 from Broome United way
- TAM
  - 2 active (school) cases
  - TAM training in May

Coroner – Bob Williams

- One Benadryl death in October 2025 – unintentional
- Tioga County sponsoring the State Association event at Tioga Downs March 21<sup>st</sup>
- IT is looking into records management software

Sheriff's Office – Trevor Yaeger – not present

Certified Recovery Peer Advocate – Porshea Moore

- Focusing on the unhoused community
- Seeing a rise in substance misuse
- Large increase in Teen Intervene with teens of parents being seen at the clinic
- Continuing to make community connections and finding resources for those in need

ASAP Coalition – Kylie Holochak

- CLYDE Survey is closed
  - Distributed to each perspective school districts (6)
  - Difficult survey to obtain this year
  - Survey results at the end of the week
  - Goal: Review each school's individual data with them

- Results to be released to the community in March
- Narcan trainings
  - 33 Public Works employees trained
- Advertising with different streaming platforms
  - Superbowl commercial to air as well
- Continuing applications for the STOP ACT and DFC Grants
- New Narcan box at the Berkshire Fire Station
- Attending the CADCA leadership forum in Washington DC in February

Public Health – Katie Wait

- Community Health Assessment submitted for 2025-2030 (on website)
- Community Health Improvement Plan being submitted in June 2026
- Credible Minds Website
  - 2,827 users YTD (May – December 2025)
  - Younger demographic

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: MH Subcommittee

Discussion: A new subcommittee chair is needed for the MH Subcommittee. Angel Deyo-Cruz stated interest in the open chair position. All approved unanimously.

A New Hope Center – Sarah DiNunzio

- Received notice of funding
  - Hiring for an Advocate position
- January is “Human Trafficking Awareness Month”
  - Sarah writing an article for the Pennysaver regarding Human Trafficking Awareness
  - Outreach started
  - January 11<sup>th</sup> – Wear Blue Day
  - Reminders being sent this week
  - Share photos with Sarah
- 2026 is A New Hope Center’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - Gala & Open House being planned
- Hotline Volunteer Training in February
  - 5 weeks/2 virtual sessions per week
  - Notices being sent

RSS Report – Not present

Hea Hea – Nadia Constant

- 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. 2026 – Focusing on recruitment
  - Numerous positions vacant
  - Requirements listed
- Admission screenings started
- Started screening for substance misuse – SAMSHA supported
- Implementing Electronic Health Records (EHR) technology
- Website updates – narrowed objectives to include (co-occurring) opioid

therapy.

Status: Informational – Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:29am. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026<sup>h</sup>, at 9:30am

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