

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

APPROVED

October 7th, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Via: Hybrid

Member	Katie Wait	Kimberly Bailey-Poreda
Attendance:	Renee Nuzak	Gabriella Ayers
	Karen Warfle	Shannon Westbrook
	Sarah DiNunzio	Gayle Pado
	Nadia Constant	
	Carolyn Galatzan	
Guest	Tricia Tomm	
Attendance:	Emily Jackson	
	Kristin Russell	
	Georges Oswald	
Mental Hygiene	Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services	
Staff Attendance:	Sarah Begeal, Deputy Director of Community Services	
	Danielle Fabregas, Clinical Program Director	
	Porshea Moore, Peer Advocate	
	Sue Graves, Secretary to the Director	

Meeting called to order at: 9:36am

Review September 2025 Minutes – Approved with changes

Topic:

Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Topic

Updates:

Discussion:

- Budget
 - Budget on track
- Mental Health Clinic
 - On a pause for October – no intakes
 - Still taking crisis & hospital discharge appointments
 - Scheduling November appointments
- RFP – Opiate Funds received
 - At attorney's office for review
 - Legislature appointing committee to approve funding awards
 - Both restricted and unrestricted funding available
 - Restricted must go toward opioid treatment
 - Several one-time awards will be given
 - Looking to announcing awards in November
 - Every agency would be eligible to qualify
 - Lori can answer questions before the RFP comes out.

Status:

Informational - Complete

Topic: Deputy Director's Report – Sarah Begeal

Discussion: Updates:

- Staff
 - Finding staff continues to be challenging
 - Looking for four Social Workers
 - Brief discussion regarding hiring challenges
 - New Part-time Nurse Practitioner October 14th
 - Offer made to a CSW this morning

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Clinical Program Director Report – Danielle Fabregas

Discussion: Updates:

- Census
 - 556 clients – Mental Health
 - 135 clients – Alcohol & Drug Services

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: MH Subcommittee – Larissa Brower, Chair

Discussion: A New Hope Center – Sarah DiNunzio

- Lost two Advocate positions on October 1st
 - How services will be affected is to be determined
- October is Domestic Violence Awareness month
 - Court House is lit in purple at night
 - Statewide event
- Let's Ghost DV" event held on October 4th
 - Great response – great mix of people
- October 16th is Wear Purple Day
 - Send photos to Sarah DiNunzio

RSS Report – Not present

Public Health Report – Katie Wait

- Suicide Prevention Coalition
 - Strategic planning meeting last Thursday
 - Aligning goals & objectives
- Credible Minds
 - Focusing on one topic per month
 - Press release for Seasonal Effective Disorder
 - Meeting held with Credible Minds Rep
 - Social media beat out google ads
- Community Health Assessment & Survey
 - Wrapped up with interesting data
 - Data coming out in early 2026

Hea Hea – Nadia Constant & Georges Oswald

- Getting closer to treating people
- In-network with Medicaid
 - Waiting on Fidelis
- More clients on the wait list
- Creating community relationships
 - Lunch & Learn events
 - School events
 - Parent/Teacher interface in schools
- Struggling with obtaining CSWs and MSWs with experience

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: OPWDD Subcommittee – John Crosby, Chair

Discussion: DDSO/DDRO Report – Renee Nuzak

- No updates

Achieve – Shannon Westbrook

- Recertifying for capacity
- Revisiting plans for the building
- Referrals for 3-4 site-based & Day Hab

FFS Report – Gayle Pado

- Statewide Family Supports meeting held September 8th
 - Capacity Management discussed
- 8 formal recommendations for self-direction
- Family Advocacy page on OPWDD website
- Pathways to Employment Dream Symposium October 28th
- Housing updated on website
- FFS bylaws on website
- RFP updates
 - Several proposals need to be scored
 - Awards to be given in the next few weeks

CCO Reports

- Prime Care – Tricia Tomm
 - Celebrating Care Manager appreciation week
 - Fully staffed
 - Training Care Managers in Mental Health First Aid

Rackers – Gayle Pado

- Events calendar being emailed to the group
 - 2025 CORTACA baseball game October 12th, 11:00am Wallace Field – Cortland
 - Movie Series
 - “The Path Forward” October 10th, 2:00-4:00pm at 3226 Wilkins Rd, Ithaca

- October 17th, 2:00-4:00pm at Cortland Preschool, 882 NYS Rt 13
 - “Restoring Joy” October 10th – 2:30-3:30 (virtual)
 - October 24th – 8:30-9:30am at 3226 Wilkins Rd, Ithaca
 - Rooted In Purpose staff celebration October 23rd, 5:00-8:00pm, Ithaca
 - Trunk or Treat Resource Fair in Cortland October 21st & Candor October 28th – both from 3:00-5:30pm
- Accepting referrals for traditional ComHab & self-direction

Catholic Charities – Gabby Ayers

- Talent Show December 9th
- Craft Show November 15th at the office
- Accepting referrals for services

Self-Advocacy – Karen Warfle

- Went for a trail walk using track chairs
- Action Club meets today
- Dental wait list continues to be over a year or not accepting new patients
 - Dentist found in Dansville but doesn’t take Medicaid
- October is AAC Awareness Month
 - 50% off assisted work apps through October 15th

Status:

Informational – Complete

Topic:

ASA Subcommittee – Kylie Holochak, Chair

Discussion:

Trinity Report (via email) – Laura Smith – Not Present

- CASA programming starting in Waverly & Spencer VanEtten schools soon
 - Josh will be running the Too Good Social perspectives program in Waverly for grades 4-8
 - Continuing to work with his attendance & academics
 - Running a small lunch group & restorative circle
 - New SEL program coming soon
 - Kim Kavulich will be working with Spencer VanEtten Middle & High schools’ grades 5-9
 - Will be running the Too Good program
 - Programming in Spencer Elementary
 - Restorative Justice Program in Spencer Middle
 - Training in Tiers 1 & 2 restorative circles
 - Seeing interest in Tier 3 as well
 - Training to be offered to the Elementary school as well
 - Owego showing some interest in programming
 - Newark Valley running Second Step using their teachers
 - CASA reaching out to Elementary & High School regarding interest
 - Parenting workshops being offered virtually monthly
 - Can join one or three different workshops

ASAP Coalition – Kristin Russell

- Received notice of Awards for two grants
- Wrapping up annual reports (STOP ACT & DFC)
- Working on Sector Rep agreements
- Hosting tabling events
 - SVE vs NV football game October 17th
 - Owego vs Waverly football game October 18th
- Drug Take Back Day
 - October 25th, 10:00am – 2:00pm, HHS Building
- Parent Education October 21st – Candor
 - National speaker attending
 - Panel afterward
 - Childcare provided
 - Raffles
- CLYDE survey through October 28th
 - All schools on board
 - Results by December 2025

Coroner/EMS – Bob Williams – Not Present

Sheriff's Office – Trevor Yaeger – Not Present

- OD Spreadsheet reviewed with group

Peer Advocate Report – Porshea Moore

- Tabled at the Veterans event
- Tabling at the Owego Community Appreciation night
- Narcan kits given out numbers have tripled since last year
- Attended a conference
- A lot of work in the community

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:14am. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4th, at 9:30am
