

## COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**APPROVED**

Via Hybrid

Member Shawn Nalepa  
Attendance: Tina Lounsbury  
Keith Nichols, MD  
Porshea Moore  
Bob Williams  
Fran Bialy  
Christine Schweitzer  
Carolyn Galatzan  
William Standing, III  
Guests: Brian Coleman, St. John's Community Services  
Mental Hygiene Sarah Begeal, Interim Director of Community Services  
Attendance: Susan Graves, Secretary to the Director of Community Services  
Meeting called to order at 9:33am

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Category: Meeting Minutes

Topic: Review of minutes from January 2026 – Approved as written

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Topic: Presentation – Brian Coleman, St. John's Community Services

Discussion: Brian gave an overview of St. John's Community Services program.

- Introduction of who they are
- Looking to understand the needs & gaps of services in Tioga County
- Not interested in competing with services the county already has
- Focusing on opportunities to assist with what Tioga County needs
- Currently working in region 2 with OPWDD Services
- Homeless Services discussed
- Family Housing program in Ithaca
- Serenity House in Ithaca – Certified Community Residence Program
- Working on a congregate & scatter site re-integration program
- St. John's is a service provider, not a developer of properties
- Q & A session ensued
  - Topics included the homeless situation, housing and various other possible assistance for Tioga County

The group found the discussion very informative and thanked Brian for presenting.

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Interim Director Report – Sarah Begeal

Discussion: Updates:

- Staff
  - Certified Peer Specialist for Mobile Crisis wasn't retained
  - Leila Squicciarini, CASAC, resigned
  - Brean Schaffer, LMSW starting 2/23/26
  - Clinician for Tioga Central Schools in background check process
  - Currently have 5 vacancies in the clinic
- RFP - Opioid Abatement Settlement Funding
  - Contracts are in process at the county level
- Mobile Crisis
  - Interim designation is for adults only
    - Request sent out on 2/10 to serve children as well
  - Katie Mikulski doing a lot of trainings and attending meetings
- AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) & EVA (Enhanced Voluntary Agreements)
  - State funding received to support an AOT/EVA position
    - Individual will be dedicated to all AOT/EVA matters
- Tioga County Jail
  - Current jail social worker put notice in there
  - Social Worker wants to work for the county
  - Seeking a social worker from Mental Health
- OASAS call
  - IOCC (Inter-office Coordinating Council) Request Received
  - Concerns about CASA Trinity moving from Tioga County to Chemung County
    - They are still connected with the ASAP Coalition, ASA Subcommittee, in schools, and will continue to provide services
- DFC Grant
  - Given to Public Health for oversight
  - Public health chairing the coalition
  - Everything remains the same
  - Grants are expiring
- 2025 Trend Review
  - Data discussed
  - Update needed
  - Information to be resent after revision

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Chair Report – Fran Bialy

Discussion: Updates:

- Process reviewed regarding DCS replacement
  - Subgroup met
  - Position has been posted
  - Subgroup meeting again next week
  - County will send applications for qualified individuals
  - Interviews to take place 3/13 or 3/16
  - Recommendations will be brought back to the Community Services Board
  - Final decision on 3/19

*\*Noted: There will be an executive session during the March meeting. All members must be present in-person to vote.*

- Board re-education
  - Fran would like to take time to review the Board's responsibilities at each meeting
  - Bi-laws and other documents to be reviewed starting next month

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic New Business

Discussion: OPWDD – Casey O'Reilly

- Brian Coleman is working with Casey on the Arise program in Central New York

A New Hope Center – Fran Bialy

- Celebrating A New Hope Center's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Dinner planned for June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Status: Informational – Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:02am. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 9:30am.