

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

**MH SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE TIOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

APPROVED

Subcommittee meeting date: November 4th, 2022

Via Hybrid

Member Tina Lounsbury
Attendance: Donna Corbin
Fran Bialy
Carolyn Galatzan
Heather Vroman
Guest Erica Robinson
Attendance:

Mental Hygiene Staff Attendance: Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services
Sarah Begeal, Deputy Director of Community Services
Sue Graves (minutes)

Category: Minutes for October 2022 approved as written

Topic: Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- 2023 County Plan was submitted to the State
- Applied for the OASAS Grant
 - Funds for two new SUV's
 - Therapeutic tools
 - Passed Regional Offices
 - Application is moving up the ladder
- Received a 3 year OASAS license once again
- Staffing
 - No new hires
 - Alex Powers in in Tioga Central Schools two days/week
 - Received four candidates for open positions
 - All accepted other offers
 - Have one interview today
 - Currently have two vacancies
- Waverly Site
 - Working with Steve Olmstead to renew lease to keep current space
- Village Offices in Waverly

- At a standstill currently
- Outside party and county responsible for renovations

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Deputy Director Report – Sarah Begeal

Discussion: Updates:

- Additional Staffing Information
 - Kristin Oliver is in the Newark Valley Schools
 - Erinne Gibs3on is in the Spencer VanEtten Middle School
 - Spencer High School position remains open
- OASAS Regulation Updates
 - Overdose Safety Plan added
 - Clinician Trained and will be using
- Open Access
 - Going well – sharing coverage
- Anxiety group
 - Jess Bennett will be starting
- Jess will be offering Telehealth Services to Spencer through a grant they received
 - Families can use after hours
 - Process is being worked out

Status:

Informational – Complete

Topic:

Other Business

Discussion:

Chair Discussion

- Heather is stepping down as Chair as of 1/1/23
- Chair Term – 1 year
- Fran Bialy agreed to be the new chair for the term

Tapping Therapy

- Carolyn discussed the benefits of Tapping Therapy for clients
- Lori will look into to ensure it is a certified therapy

Articles

- Seasonal Affective Disorder for the holiday season
 - Tina will look for in her files
 - Sue to bring article folder to next meeting

Public Health – Heather Vroman

- COVID discussed briefly

- Home testing is not counted in numbers, only office PCR tests making it difficult to obtain actual real numbers
- Flu & RSV are the new hot topics
 - Kids being hit hardest
 - People going to Walk-ins & ERs because they cannot get into see their regular doctors.
 - They are experiencing staffing issues like everyone else
 - Public Health is using a medical reserve core to assist with vaccinations and such.
 - Working on contract details with the Core
 - Dr. Bezirgianian has offered to assist Public Health in the interim.

A New Hope Center – Fran Bialy

- Fran has hired several people
 - One position remains to be filled
- Subcontracting with DSS to do the CAC

DSS – Tina Lounsbury

- Four new people started in November in Services
- Housing
 - Still a huge issue in the county
 - Deep Well is advertising rooms for the homeless
 - Still have people living in tents
 - Fran is seeing the issue as well
 - Rooms are being occupied for longer periods of time
 - Housing discussed in detail

Other

- Fran will be participating in a PIT Count in January & February
 - Going to places outside of shelters to try and obtain a count of the homeless

Status:

Informational – Complete

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17am. There will not be a meeting in December. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 6th, 2023 at 9:00am.

