

**TIOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

September 6th, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Hybrid

- **Review and approve June & August 2024 meeting minutes**

- **Director's Report**

- **Other Business**

- **Conferences/Workshops**

Next regular meeting: Friday, October 4th, 2024

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

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

Pending Approval

Subcommittee meeting date: June 7th, 2024

Via Hybrid

Member John Bezirgianian, MD

Attendance: Carolyn Galatzan
Tina Lounsbury
Sue Medina
Larissa Brower
Fran Bialy

Guest Amanda Howlett

Attendance:

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

Category: Minutes for May 2024 – Approved as written

Topic: Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Waverly Site
 - Concrete being poured and sheet rock up
 - Plumbing repairs completed
- Tioga Central School District Contract
 - No movement to date
 - State to reach out to Superintendent
 - Licensed site but no services
 - Site shut down is a possibility
- New County Administrator
 - Jackson Bailey hired and will be starting his new role in July
- State Plan
 - No feedback received to date
 - Amendments to plan are due June 30th, 2024

- **Mobile Crisis**
 - Plan approved yesterday (6/6/24)
 - Moving forward with hiring a Peer and Senior Clinical Social Worker
 - Resolution to be done for additional headcount
 - Purchasing an additional vehicle
 - Program funded for two years
- **Resolution regarding 730's**
 - Formulated at the Counsel level
 - Asked legislature to pass
 - Reso being done in all counties
 - Tompkins county seeing a surge in cases
 - Peter DeWind, County Attorney attending the Magistrate meetings to explain what 730's are as well as their purpose
 - Lori agreed to attend as well

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Deputy Director - Sarah Begeal

Discussion: **Updates:**

- Lori & Sarah attended the 3-day TAM (Threat Assessment Management) trainings
- Program explained
- Fran Bialy also attended along with Public Health, Law Enforcement, Probation, Schools & other surrounding county representatives
- Very comprehensive program

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Clinical Program Director – Cathy Healy

Discussion: **Updates:**

- Staffing
 - Potential new hire for Spencer Schools in the final stages of the background check process
 - Looking for additional therapists
- OMH site review scheduled for this summer

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Other Business

Discussion: Public Health Updates – Sue Medina

- Public Health Educator for DFC & Coalition starting June 17th
- Labeling with the Coalition at the Strawberry Festival
- Connected with STAP for a mobile unit in Tioga County
 - Connected with David from the Open Door Mission
 - Van will be located outside the Red Door in Waverly
 - Cathy requested referrals be directed to the clinic
- Ban on flavored vapes but are still being sold
 - No legislation in order to enforce
- Reality Check Program
 - Still in Owego Schools
 - Program promotes the reasons not to use tobacco products
 - Group reports to Albany

RSS Updates – Larissa Brower

- Current openings
 - 1 at the Community Residence
 - 2 in the Apartment Program
- Working on getting another apartment certified
- Referrals accepted from other counties

Amanda shared they have 4 Tioga County residents at the Cortland halfway house. Lori stated she would love to have a halfway house here in Tioga County as she has tried to get one here in the past. It is still on the Plan.

SOS Program Updates – Amanda Howlett

- Stakeholder meeting held yesterday (6/6/24)
- Have 2½ staff in Cortland with the ½ becoming fulltime in July
- Posting a LMSW position
- EHR not approved by the state yet
- No phone number for referrals to date
- Moved into a new building after Memorial Day
 - A lot of technical issues
- Daily afternoon trainings with the State
- Waiting for the State to offer SOS Training for new hires
- Met with Pastor Jay at the foundry location

Lori shared there are health concerns regarding the homeless staying at that location as it is a brownfield. More to come on this issue

Tioga County Suicide Prevention Coalition Updates – Fran Bialy

- **Huge group for the first meeting**
- **Set up three sub-groups**
 - **Met with the QPR group yesterday**
 - **Meeting with the other two soon**
- **Getting people to take ownership of the coalition**
- **Next meeting in July**
- **Fran & Wendy Arnold pulling it together with Wendy phasing out in the fall**

Hea Hea Updates – Lori Morgan

- **Hea Hea is working with OMH and getting help finding grants**
- **Working with SUNY Binghamton for an outpatient program for college age individuals**
- **Trying to credential with insurance companies**
 - **Not a lot of disorder or partial hospitalization clinics**
 - **Insurance companies do not pay a lot for these types of services**

Upcoming Events – Group Input

- **Tioga County Government Expo**
 - **June 21st from 10a-2p at the County Car Wash Building on Delphine Street**
- **Tioga County Veterans PTSD Fair**
 - **June 27th at the Newark Valley Trout Ponds**
- **Strawberry Festival**
 - **June 15th downtown Owego**
- **Tioga County Fair**
 - **August 7th – 10th at Marvin Park, Owego**
- **Health Fair – Office of the Aging**
 - **August or September**

Status:

Informational - Complete

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59pm. There will not be a meeting held in July.

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

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

Pending Approval

Subcommittee meeting date: August 2nd, 2024

Via Hybrid

Member Attendance: John Bezirgianian, MD
Carolyn Galatzan
Tina Lounsbury
Larissa Brower

Guest Attendance: Nadia Constant

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

Category: Minutes for June 2024 – No Quorum

Topic: Director’s Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- **Waverly Site**
 - Ceilings, painting, floors are in. Carpet being installed
 - Employee parking lot has been paved
 - May be in by October/November 2024
 - Furniture being purchased with the Mental Hygiene portion of the Abatement money
 - Grand Opening at some point
- **Tioga Central School District Contract**
 - Lori met with Josh Roe
 - Several discussions took place with the State
 - State said the school could not hire directly
 - School currently has no Social Worker staff
 - Mental Hygiene is aggressively advertising to fill those positions
- **State Plan**
 - Plan submitted with no changes
- **Mobile Crisis**
 - Increased the headcount by two in July

- Senior Clinical Social Worker & Mental Health Peer
 - Plan submitted with no response
 - April – could move forward with program but couldn't bill
 - Plan approved six weeks ago
 - Deadline given during quarterly call of year end to use \$600,000
 - Lori asked and was given an extension to use funding by the end of 2025
 - Program must be self-sustaining by the end of the grant
 - If found to not be self-sustaining, employees hired for the program will be absorbed into the clinic
 - Would like the ability to do virtual crisis
- OMH Audit
 - Overall, the Mental Health clinic did a great job
 - Auditors impressed with the paperwork
 - Waiting on correction action plan from OMH
 - Lori & Sarah held a lunch for staff
- Spencer School Support Program
 - Lara Rogan was hired on 7/15/24 and has started
- SOS Meetings
 - Lori has been attending
 - Larissa shared RSS has hired two Care Managers and a Peer
 - A clinician interview scheduled for Monday
 - Treatment plans to be done every 90 days once individual is housed
- Hea Hea
 - Permission granted by the Legislature to pass thru \$100,000 to assist in restarting their program

Status:

Informational – Complete

Topic:

Hea Hea – Nadia Constant

Discussion:

Updates:

- Very grateful for all the support they have received
- Anticipating the first quarter of 2025 to start, but could be as early as November 2024
- In-network with insurance companies
- Recruiting taking place
- Grant awarded for staff training

- Partnering with Binghamton University to develop a program for their students
 - Virtual and on-site
 - Contracting with Carelton (insurance company)
- May apply for an Article 31 to treat eating disorder individuals
- Partial Hospitalization
 - Two tracts – AM group and PM group 3-4 hours per day

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: RSS – Larissa Brower

Discussion: Updates:

- Hiring for a Management position for the Apartment Program
- Currently 18 EPT beds in Tompkins County and looking for a supervisor to oversee that
- Reviewed all the services RSS provides to individuals including the Social Club

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:41am. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 6th, 2024, at 9:00am.