

## **AGENDA**

**Tioga County Community Services Board**

**PWDD Subcommittee**

**September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Hybrid**

**9:00- 10:00am**

### **AGENDA TOPICS**

**Review and approve minutes**

**John Crosby**

**DDSO/DDRO Report**

**Vickie Fergus**

**Director's Report**

**Lori Morgan, LCSW-R**

**Achieve Report**

**Shannon Westbrook/  
Carlana Hoover**

**FSS Report**

**Gayle Pado**

**CCO Reports**

**Racker Report**

**Gayle Pado**

**Catholic Charities**

**Gabriella Ayres**

**Self-Advocacy Report**

**Other Business**

***Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00am***

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE  
**PWDD SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
OF THE TIOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

**PENDING APPROVAL**

Subcommittee meeting date: August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Via Hybrid

Member Attendance: Vickie Fergus  
Kim Bailey-Poreda  
Gabiella Ayers  
Evelyn Vavra  
Shannon Westbrook  
Gayle Pado

Guest Attendance: Tina Lounsbury  
Anne Seepersaud  
Karen Warfle  
Denise Brennan  
Tricia Tomm  
Emily Jackson

Mental Hygiene Staff Attendance: Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services  
Sue Graves, Secretary to the Director

Meeting called to order at: 9:06am

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Topic: Review of June 2024 Minutes – Approved as written

Topic: DDSO/DDRO Report – Vickie Fergus

Discussion: Updates:

- Regional Service Provider Virtual Forum
  - Hosted by OPWDD Georgetown University National Center for Cultural Competence Partnership for Systems Change Project.
  - Today from 12:30 – 2:00pm
  - Cultural Competence
  - Gathering Data – DEI activities
  - Email with link attached
- Care Management – Care Coordination Project
  - A lot of data collected
  - 35 families & individuals interviewed
  - Completion date moved to Spring of 2025

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Budget
  - Came in budget neutral

- Waverly Site
  - Site will be ready the beginning of 2025 at the latest
- Bed decrease in Racker IRA
  - Received notification beds decreasing from 4 to 3
  - Racker submitted a decrease of IRA letter
    - Gaskill relocating a bed to Dryden
  - Vickie asked for questions regarding the decrease to be forwarded to her and she would pass along to the appropriate person

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Achieve Report – Shannon Westbrook

Discussion: Updates:

- Things are going well
- Grand Reopening planned for the end of September
- Day Hab Without Walls is facing challenges
- Looking at revamping another area
- Lost two individuals who passed away
- Out in the community doing things

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: FSS Report – Gayle Pado

Discussion: Updates:

- Group met in July
- Gayle shared the changes to the allowable list for reimbursements
  - Some of the additions:
    - Noise cancelling ear covers
    - Sensory activities for clients diagnosis
    - Replace/repair eyeglasses & hearing aids
    - Necessary clothing
    - Mattresses, box springs & covers
  - Non-Allowables added:
    - Food – routine expense
    - Wheelchair batteries covered by insurance
- Next meeting is September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: CCO Reports

Discussion: Updates:

Prime Care – Tricia Tomm

- New position in Binghamton
- Focused on the health component with individuals

**Southern Tier Connect – Emily Jackson**

- Fully staffed in Tioga County
- Focused on the health component with individuals
- Summitt last month

**Lifepan – Anne Seepersaud**

- Clinical supports with Care Managers
  - Resources provided
- Networking event for IDD Providers & Care Managers in September
  - Expand knowledge
  - Members to gain more services
- Fully staffed
- Enrolling new members

**Status:** Informational - Complete

**Topic:** Racker Report – Gayle Pado

**Discussion:** Updates:

- Independence Workshops for August
  - Finance – August 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Sensory 411 – August 20<sup>th</sup> via Zoom
  - Horsing Around – August 24<sup>th</sup> – horses being brought to the office
- Workshops
  - Community Partnerships – September
  - Relationships – October
  - Community Safety (2-part) – November & December

**Status:** Informational - Complete

**Topic:** Catholic Charities – Gabby Ayers

**Discussion:** Updates:

- Fully staffed in Tioga County
- Building services in Broome County
- Halloween Dance in October

**Status:** Informational - Complete

**Topic:** Self-Advocacy – Karen Warfle

**Discussion:** Karen Warfle shared her struggles along with many others finding dentists and anesthesiologists for sedation dental procedures to provide services to the OPWDD community.

- Specialty dental care needed for New York Residents
- No dentist in Broome/Tioga Counties or within the Guthrie System
- Wait list is enormous (back to 2021)
- Wait list in Rochester is a year
- Eastern Pennsylvania – not taking new patients

- Karen's son is currently on two wait lists which includes Strong Memorial in Rochester
- Anne Seepersaud gave the following suggestions:
  - Tioga County Dental Van will assist those with special needs.
  - Call ahead and ask for assistance
  - From 12-1pm today Life Plan will be hosting an information seminar for members & families. An attorney will be speaking about how to gain dental care for those facing this challenge. Email link included with the minutes.
  - Legal Aid could possibly help
  - Robert Packer had helped in the past.
- Emily Jackson has a list of providers who do sedation services. The list is attached to the minutes.

Status:

Adjournment: Informational – Complete

The meeting adjourned at 9:38am. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00am.

DRAFT

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# SEPTEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 	2	3 	4 Board Game Night 	5 Book Club  	6	7
8	9 	10	11 Board Game Night 	12 Book Club  	13	14
15  	16 	17 	18 Board Game Night 	19 Book Club  	20	21
22	23	24	25 Board Game Night  Way2Go	26 Book Club  	27	28
29	30 PREPARING FOR CSE MEETINGS 					

More information about these events can be found below:



**3226 WILKINS RD ITHACA, NY**

**AUGUST 18TH**

**SEPT. 1ST**

**SEPT 15TH**

**JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SENSORY PLAY  
AT RACKER'S ITHACA  
LENDING LIBRARY & SENSORY ROOM  
HOT WHEELS CARS & TRACKS WILL BE  
PROVIDED FROM 9AM-1PM**



No registration needed, cars and tracks provided.

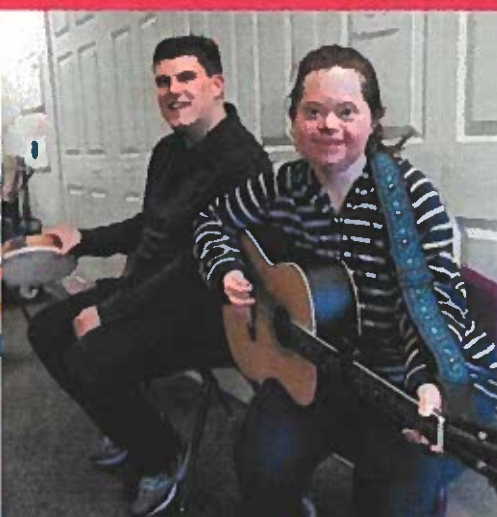
# Discovering Belonging through Music



A partnership with  
**ALL TOGETHER NOW**  
Music

**In-Person Interactive Instruments!**

**Monday  
September 16th**  
6-8pm



This is an in-person interactive experience, where attendees can try out a variety of instruments and make music with new friends.  
This event is 14+

3226 Wilkins Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850 - [racker.org/events](https://racker.org/events)

Scan to register:



[forms.office.com/r/WrdMzrAfGf](https://forms.office.com/r/WrdMzrAfGf)

**Questions or for help registering, contact:  
LendingLibrary@racker.org (607) 529-0142 Chris**

Events & Trainings are made possible by Family Support Services grant funding from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

To register for Music event, click here: <https://forms.office.com/r/WrdMzrAfGf>



Racker 



Autism & Sensory  
Lending Library

PARENT NETWORK & CORNELL CO-OP PRESENT:

Way2Go  
WEDNESDAY



WITH RJ ISLEY

# CREATING ACCESSIBLE TRANSIT FOR ALL



4-6  
PM

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**AT 3226 WILKINS RD  
ITHACA NY 14850**

JOIN US AND WAY2GO'S TRANSPORTATION EDUCATOR & LEARN MORE  
ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY & TRANSIT OPTIONS IN TOMPKINS COUNTY



**EVENT IS FREE & OPEN TO ALL.  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED.**

FOR HELP REGISTERING OR FOR  
QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT

**LENDINGLIBRARY@RACKER.ORG  
OR LYNDSEY AT (607) 529-0224**



EVENTS & TRAININGS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT  
FUNDING FROM THE OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

Click here to register for Way2Go: <https://forms.office.com/r/J628VQyDJv>

# Preparing for CSE Meetings

with Attorney Lisa Krizman

Monday  
**September 30**  
4pm - 6pm



Join us and attorney Lisa Krizman,  
as she discusses how to plan for  
education meetings, family rights,  
& education advocacy

**Registration Required:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/2jfUDHGLQN>



For questions or help registering, please contact  
LendingLibrary@racker.org or Chris at (607)529-0142

**ZOOM**  
Virtual Meeting

Events & Trainings are made possible by Family Support Services grant  
funding from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

Click here to register for Krizman: <https://forms.office.com/r/2jfUDHGLQN>



Adaptive  
**BOOK**

**CLUB**

**Thursdays 5-6pm**

**882 NY-13, Cortland, NY 13045 & Zoom**

[LendingLibrary@racker.org](mailto:LendingLibrary@racker.org)

Join us as we explore the world of books  
& how they can be adapted for all to enjoy.  
Book club is an excellent way to experience new topics  
together and make friends.



- \*OPWDD Diagnosis
- \*FSS Eligible
- \*Enrolled in the Lending Library

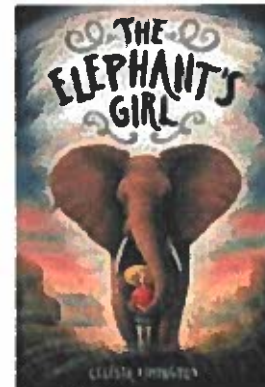


Scan to Register:

This program is made possible through Family Support Services grant from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities



September 19th starts "The Elephant's Girl" by Celesta Rimington. Join us on this new whirlwind adventure. Free copies of the book are available for VIPS & each week will include a casual paced reading for those who want to listen along.





# Family Board Game Night



An adaptive board game night where we will learn about adapting rules to address feelings of anxiety or struggles with engagement to encourage family unity and situational flexibility all while practicing fine motor skills. Light refreshments will be served

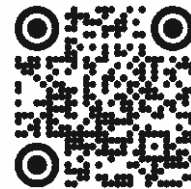
## Wednesdays 5-7pm

3226 Wilkins Road Ithaca, NY 14850



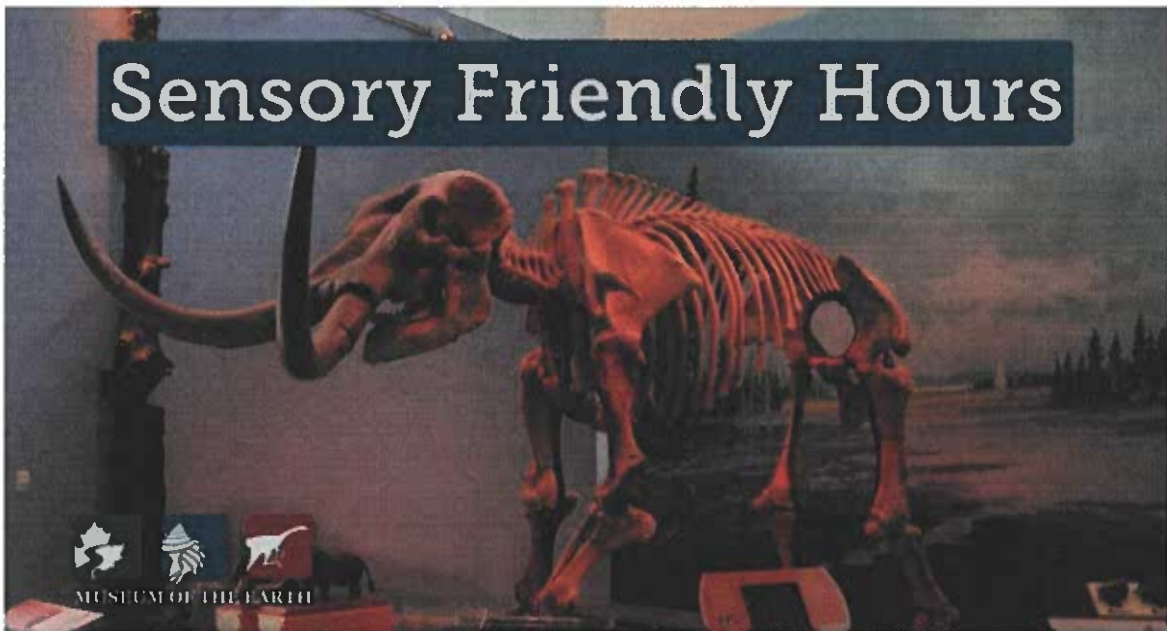
- \*OPWDD Diagnosis
- \*FSS Eligible
- \*Enrolled in the Lending Library

Scan to Register:



This program is made possible through Family Support Services grant from the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

Click here to sign up for Game Night: <https://forms.office.com/r/6TMC6e2Qzk>



**Sensory Friendly Hour @  
Ithaca's Museum of the Earth**

In partnership with Racker's  
 **Autism & Sensory  
Lending Library**

VIP's will build and take home their own  
free dinosaur fidget!

**1259 Trumansburg Rd, Ithaca NY  
Sunday September 15th  
8:30-10 AM**

**Free Admission!**

More information about the Museum of the Earth can be found on their website: <https://www.priweb.org/event/sensory-friendly-hours>





PARENT NETWORK

# CAREGIVER GROUP

CAREGIVERS OF THOSE WITH DEVELOPEMENTAL  
DISABILITIES (OF ALL AGES) ARE INVITED TO JOIN  
THIS MONTHLY PEER-DRIVEN GROUP,  
WHERE YOU CAN MEET OTHER CAREGIVERS, SHARE  
RESOURCES, OFFER ADVICE, & FIND KINDNESS.

COME ONCE, COME OFTEN,  
STAY FOR A MINUTE OR STAY FOR MANY,

**1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH**

**5:00-6:30PM VIA ZOOM**

TO SIGN UP: CONTACT (607) 529-0224 OR  
LYNDSEYP@RACKER.ORG



EVENTS & TRAININGS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT  
FUNDING FROM THE OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

Click here to sign up for Caregiver Group: <https://forms.office.com/r/nxpACG3bD7>



**Biweekly TUESDAYS, 4-6pm**

Join us on ZOOM every other Tuesday from 4-6pm to learn more about different sensory needs and what is available in the library to help meet them.



[tinyurl.com/bdeuaphu](https://tinyurl.com/bdeuaphu)

Questions?  
Contact: [LendingLibrary@racker.org](mailto:LendingLibrary@racker.org)  
(607) 529-0142

Beginning 04/02/2024  
No registration necessary



OTHER  
VOICES  
607



# Other Voices in the 607 is welcoming new members!

If you are an neurodivergent adult with a passion for  
advocating for those with disabilities, you're invited  
to join **OVIT607's** weekly meeting via TEAMS

**6-7pm**

Every  
Thursday

SCAN  
ME



To learn more, scan the QR code,  
or contact [LendingLibrary@racker.org](mailto:LendingLibrary@racker.org)