

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

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

**APPROVED**

**Subcommittee meeting date: September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
*Via Hybrid***

Member: John Bezirganian, MD  
Attendance: Fran Bialy  
Carolyn Galatzan  
Sue Medina  
Larissa Brower

Guest: Angelica Deyo-Cruz  
Attendance:

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

Category: Minutes for June & August – Approved as written

Topic: Director’s Report – Sarah Begeal for Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Waverly Site
  - Working with a furniture company
  - Looking to hopefully open in November
  - ADS services to be available in Waverly again
- Tioga Central School District Contract
  - Sr. Clinical Social Worker starting 9/10/24
  - Position is full time
- Mobile Crisis
  - Increased head count approved
  - Have two tentative candidates
    - Sr. Clinical Social Worker
    - MH Peer
  - Two cars to be purchased for this program
- Staff
  - Sr. Clinical Social Worker (Waverly) & Clinical Social Worker (Owego) are in the background check process

- Hea Hea
  - Lori is assisting in getting this program up and running

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: RSS – Larissa Brower

Discussion: Updates:

- SOS Program
  - Hired 2 Care Managers and 1 Peer
  - Seeking a Licensed Social Worker
    - Staff will have office space
    - 90% of the time out in the field
  - Hoping program will be up in running in a couple of months
  - Referral info to be distributed closer to the opening
  - Already have staff in Cortland
  - Catholic Charities has a Peer & Team Lead
    - They are busy in Cortland County
    - Some in Tompkins County
    - Tioga County will be running eventually
    - Grant funded - not billable
  - Porshea placed 5-7 individuals in treatment a couple of weeks ago

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: ASAP Coalition – Sue Medina

Discussion: Updates:

- Organizing “Save a Life Day” in September
- Looking at ways to engage youth
- Sponsoring server training for alcohol
  - Fran suggested possibly incorporate trafficking into the training

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: LEPC – Sue Medina

Discussion: Updates:

- Threat Assessment Team met
- Should be starting soon

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: TC Suicide Coalition – Fran Bialy

Discussion: Updates:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Suicide Race Dedication Saturday 9/7 at Tioga Downs
  - Coalition will be tabling at this event
- Coalition structure needs to be developed
  - Wendy will be done at the end of October
  - Getting people to help with coalition after Wendy leaves
- QPR Training Team boosted again
  - Developing training protocol
- Post-Vention
  - Brett Bright from DSS is applying for a LOSS Grant
    - Support for development of post-vention teams

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: A New Hope Center – Fran Bialy

Discussion: Updates:

- Hiring a person for the Child Advocacy Center & Safe Harbor Program
  - Advertising avenues discussed
- Recognition Picnic on 9/19/24, 1:00pm at the Hickories
  - Register thru website: [anewhopecenter.org](http://anewhopecenter.org)
- Domestic Violence Vigil in October
  - Seeing a horrific spike in domestic violence in the region
  - Mental Health clinic here is also seeing a huge influx of individuals seeking Mental Health services.

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:04am. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 9:00am.

