

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

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

**APPROVED**

**Subcommittee meeting date: October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
*Via Hybrid***

Member: John Bezirganian, MD  
Attendance: Fran Bialy  
Carolyn Galatzan  
Sue Medina  
Larissa Brower  
Donna Corbin  
Tina Lounsbury

Guest: Nadia Constant  
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 September – Approved with changes

Topic: Director’s Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Waverly Site
  - Goal is to open in November
  - Furniture & computers ordered, and locks being installed
  - Two offices reserved for State workers
  - Lori will have an office there too
  - Space will be made available for DSS as well
  - Date for ribbon cutting is pending
  - Ribbon cutting Looking to hopefully open in November
- Mobile Crisis
  - Still recruiting for positions
    - May have a lead on a Peer
    - No applications to date for a Social Worker
  - Hours & crisis coverage discussed

- Presenting resolution for car purchase
- Police to have iPads for virtual visits during the night and on weekends
- Staff
  - Resignations:
    - Diane Obregon – PT Clerical
    - Jeff Caris – Sr. CSW – Spencer High School
    - Christa Anderson – Account Clerk Typist transferring to Personnel
  - Hires:
    - Danielle Bellis - Sr. Clinical Social Worker Tioga Central Schools
    - Jessica Murphy – Sr. Clinical Social Worker – Waverly Clinic
    - Jamison Colegrove – Clinical Social Worker – Owego Office

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Clinical Program Director – Cathy Healy

Discussion: Updates:
 

- Staff Wellness Day held 9/27/24

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: RSS – Larissa Brower

Discussion: Updates:
 

- SOS Program
  - Missing a clinician – need to hire
  - Soft launch of program in Owego- 3 days per week
  - Great work with the homeless encampment
    - Most housed by DSS
    - Some went into inpatient
    - Some to other areas
    - A lot went to the Ranch
    - All departments were there to assist.
  - Fran stated A New Hope Center was not involved but should have been due to sexual & domestic violence issues.
  - A New Hope Center has funding that is paying rents for people for an entire year.

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Hea Hea – Nadia Constant

Discussion: Updates:

- Focusing on recruiting
  - Experiencing some issues with candidates thru a certain employment site

Status: • Going to employment events

Topic:

- Interviewed a Biller
- Found a Program Director
- Lori & Nadia met with OMH and discussed realistic time frames & goals

Discussion:

- Partial Hospitalization is very complicated and very different than other OMH programs.
- Hea Hea has been granted the time needed to open successfully.
- Lori shared this has been a very heavy lift and Nadia has done a remarkable job

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: ASAP Coalition/ Health Department – Sue Medina

Discussion: Updates:

- Coalition meeting scheduled for 10/15/24
  - “Shawna Has a Secret” training
- Drug Take Back Day
  - Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024
    - HHS Building – taking meds and sharps
    - Waverly Site – meds
- Wellness Day 10/24 for all county employees
  - Meditation, EAP, therapy dogs, Narcan training

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: A New Hope Center – Fran Bialy

Discussion: Updates:

- Picnic last week at Hickories
  - Various support groups recognized
  - Funds received from the family of a passed board member for employment empowerment & education

- Housing Support funding foundation was huge
- October is Domestic Violence Awareness month
- Smash Brothers gaming event at the Elks October 27<sup>th</sup>
- Staffing
  - May consolidate staff instead of hiring.
  - Losing another advocate

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: DSS – Donna Corbin

Discussion: Updates:

- NYS is waiving application fees for colleges
  - Higher education website lists all participating New York Colleges
  - 5 schools per request

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:03am. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at 9:00am.

