

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

**APPROVED**

Subcommittee meeting date: November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Via Hybrid

Member Evelyn Vavra  
Attendance: Gabriella Ayers  
John Crosby  
Vicki Fergus  
Kim Bailey-Poreda  
Tina Lounsbury  
Gayle Pado  
Shannon Westbrook

Guest Karen Warfle  
Attendance: Emily Jackson  
Tricia Tomm

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

Meeting called to order at: 9:07am

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Topic: Review of October 2023 Minutes – Approved with changes

Category: Reports

Topic DDSO/DDRO Report – Vicki Fergus

Discussion: Updates:

- Information on employability for businesses shared
  - Benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities
  - Offered to businesses who sign OPWDD pledge
  - 144 businesses have attended training
  - Toolkit for businesses online
  - Toolkit discussed briefly
- Front Door
  - Two new staff starting November 30<sup>th</sup>
    - Serving all counties in Region 2
  - Currently 13 Front Door facilitators in Region 2
- No updates for American Institute Research

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Director’s Report – Lori Morgan

- Discussion: Updates:
- Staff
    - Two starting November 20<sup>th</sup>
    - One starting December 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Mobile Crisis Program
    - Plan submitted
      - Smaller scale
      - 9:00am – 5:00pm
      - Possibly obtaining iPads to police to facilitate face-to-face via Telehealth
      - Purchase of one car
      - Additional two staff (Social Worker & Peer)
    - Receiving \$ 600,000 over eight quarters; \$150,000 received to date
    - Waiting for State approval

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Achieve Report – Shannon Westbrook

- Discussion: Updates:
- 16 individuals in the program with 1 intake in process
  - Restructuring program
  - Working with the Mission, Nursing Homes & Tioga Opportunities

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: FSS Report – Gayle Pado

- Discussion: Updates:
- Regional Family Support Services Council
    - Next meeting is November 30<sup>th</sup>
    - Subcommittees:
      - Needs Assessment Tool
      - Reimbursement Committee
        - Identifying non- allowables list
      - Stakeholder Engagement
        - Working on new membership recruitment brochures

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: CCO Reports

- Discussion: Updates:
- Prime Care – Tricia Tomm
- Focusing on the health component of CCOs
  - Currently have 1 opening in the Binghamton office
  - Several enrollments; 1 for Tioga County

ST Connects – Emily Jackson

- Focusing on the health component
- Working on outreach to hospitals
- 2 new Care Managers in the Binghamton office
- 1 opening posted due to expansion in Broome County

Life Plan – Not Present

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Racker Report – Gayle Pado

Discussion:

Updates:

- Resource Fair (Trunk or Treat) event very successful
  - Hosted 450 people
  - Will be holding event again next year
- Upcoming Events (flyers attached)
  - Sensory Friendly Hour at Ithaca’s Museum of Earth
    - Sunday, 11/19 from 8:30-10:00am
    - Free event
  - Play Therapy Lego Night in Cortland & Zoom
    - Wednesday, 12/20 at 6:00pm
    - Open to the public
- Sensory Libraries are open and fully staffed
- Self-Direction is accepting referrals for enrollment
- Owego Neighborhood Depot
  - Located on Central Avenue across from Home Central
  - Groundbreaking ceremony took place
  - Board meeting is scheduled there October 2024
  - Objective is to get services in one building
  - Will also serve as an emergency center capable of holding 100 people

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Catholic Charities – Gabby Ayers

Topic: Updates:

- Had 1 Prevoc referral in October
- Fully staffed
- Approve to start serving Chenango County
- 60 people attended the Halloween Dance

Status: Informational - Complete

Topic: Self-Advocacy – Not Present

Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:32am. There will not be a December meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 9:00am.

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