

## COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**APPROVED**

Via Hybrid

Member Tina Lounsbury  
Attendance: Larissa Brower  
John Bezirganian, MD  
Fran Bialy  
Carolyn Galatzan  
Porshea Moore  
Bob Williams  
Pat Gillule

Guests: Casie O'Reilly, OPWDD

Mental Hygiene Attendance: Lori Morgan, Director of Community Services  
Susan Graves, Secretary to the Director of Community Services  
Meeting called to order at 9:34am

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Category: Meeting Minutes

Topic: Review of minutes from October 2024 – Approved as written

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Topic: Director's Report – Lori Morgan

Discussion: Updates:

- Policy for OASAS – Dual Service
  - Approved unanimously
  - Signed by Chair & Director of Community Services
- Waverly
  - Grand Opening 12/4/24 at Noon
  - Press release on the Monday, 12/2/24
  - Waiting on OASAS licensure
  - Mental Health will move in on 12/9
  - ADS to follow once license is received
  - Open for business on 12/9
  - Office will operate Monday – Friday
  - Porshea will split her time between both locations

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Chair Report – John Bezirganian, MD

Discussion: Subcommittee Updates

- OPWDD

- Lori attended a Hospital Collaboration meeting
- OPWDD wasn't at the table, and they need to be
- Brief discussion ensued
- Casie shared of agencies that were shut down due to lack of workers
- Dr. Bezirgianian sees a real back up for OPWDD individuals with mostly kids and young people
- Lori shared of new legislation coming down which would allow LCSW to do 730's without a psychiatrist signing off.
- Lori is hoping they will pass thru the LGU's
- Should it pass, it will become a law
- Discussion ensued

Status: Informational – Complete

Topic: Committee Reports

Discussion: Updates

- TAM Committee – Bob Williams
  - Will have monthly meetings
    - Sending poll to determine meeting times
  - More schools are getting involved
  - Policies & procedures being developed to keep all on the same page
  - Struggling with confidentiality due to the different people/organizations represented within the group
  - Much to be sorted out
- OES
  - Setting up warming stations with Pastor Jay
  - Bob will be getting all involved to the table to insure everyone is on the same page
  - Need to find out who is involved in the County
  - Plan needs to be developed
- Coroner Report
  - Gunshot suicide this past Friday
- Tioga County Suicide Coalition – Fran Bialy
  - Kate Wait agreed to chair
  - Groups created
    - Prevention
    - Intervention
    - Postvention
      - Proposal submitted by a member for LOSS Teams
      - Process being developed
  - Lori sent a letter of support
  - Wendy Arnold has established funding sources
- A New Hope Center – Fran Bialy
  - COVID funding has expired
    - Funding helped people with financial resources

- 30 people helped in 2024 with monies received
  - Down two staff people
  - Issue - have had people show up at the confidential house
    - Location was shared on social media by someone
    - Currently two women and eight kids residing there
  
- SOS Outreach – Larissa Brower
  - SOS Team housed at RSS
    - Team split between Tioga County and Cortland County
    - Homeless issue remains
    - Renewal Ranch is a warming station
      - No overnight stays
      - 4-hour time limit
      - Showers and such available
    - Overnight shelters needed in Tioga County
    - Men’s housing in Apalachin full as well as the women’s in Newark Valley
  
- Camp Badger – Pat Gillule
  - Hiring for upcoming camping season
  - Registration opens in January
  - A lot of building projects underway
  - Targeting Tioga County for family camp
    - Activities for parents and kids
    - Age a non-issue
  - 2024 season saw 130 campers
    - Had the best staff with most returning for the 2025 season
    - In need of male counselors
    - Have a lot of international staff
      - All go through extensive training in their home countries
      - Training continues when they arrive at camp
      - 8 different countries were represented last year

Status: Informational - Complete

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:29am. There will not be a meeting in December. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 9:30am.

