

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

APPROVED

Subcommittee meeting date: August 13th, 2024

Via Hybrid

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

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

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

Meeting called to order at: 9:06am

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 25th, 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

Lifeplan – 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 20th
 - Sensory 411 – August 20th via Zoom
 - Horsing Around – August 24th – 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
- Article 16 wait list is enormous (back to 2021)
- Wait list in Rochester is a year
- Easton, 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 10th, at 9:00am.
