

**TIOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD  
MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Hybrid**

- **Review and approve May 2022 meeting minutes**
  
- **Director's Report**
  
- **Other Business**
  - July Meeting?
  
- **Conferences/Workshops**

*Next regular meeting: To Be Determined*

TIOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE

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

**Pending Approval**

**Subcommittee meeting date: May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

***Via Hybrid***

**Member Attendance:** Heather Vroman  
Carolyn Galatzan  
John Bezirganian, MD  
Larissa Brower  
Tina Lounsbury

**Guest 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 March & April 2022 approved as written

**Topic:** Director's Report – Lori Morgan

**Discussion:** Updates:

- Budget is tracking well
- Criminal Psych
  - Bill received for over \$39,000
  - Individual discharged on March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Resolution for Workforce funding being presented to the Legislature
- Resolution completed for CSB re-appointments
- Proclamation done for Mental Health Awareness Month and Children's Mental Health Week
- Article submitted to Pennysaver for May
  - Topic "Suicide Awareness & Resources"
- Attended Safety Meeting on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022
- ACT Team closed to new referrals until further notice
  - No prescriber
  - Currently covering 11 counties

- **Staffing**
  - Danielle Fabregas starting 5/9/22 as the new Supervising Social Worker in the Owego clinic
  - Betty Chilson retiring at the end of June
  - Jodi Sampey retiring at the end of July
  - Anthony Hill, CASAC starting in July
- **Directors Spring Conference – Saratoga**
  - Lori & Sarah attended
  - A lot of funding for Kids services
  - Pilot program for Kids ACT but not in Tioga County
    - Similar to Adult ACT program
    - Care Coordination, Case Management & Staffing
  - OPWDD restructuring – Crisis Solution
    - Lori will go after any funding and services for Tioga County
  - APG's extended through 2027
- **Call received from Tioga Central School system.**
  - Seeking collaboration between OMH/Department of Education to have a clinician in the school.
  - Receiving a lot of referrals from that area

**Status:** Informational – Complete

**Topic:** Chair Report – Heather Vroman

**Discussion:** Articles for Pennysaver

- **June – Trauma & PTSD**
  - Article to focus on Veterans
  - Will seek help from Mike Middaugh
- **July & August – Mental Health & College**
  - Starting/Returning to College
  - Resources on Campus
  - Sarah to write
- **Additional places to publish articles**
  - Facebook Page
  - The Evening Times
    - Lori to call for information

**Status:** Informational - Complete

**Topic:** Other Business

**Discussion:** None

**Status:** Informational – Complete

**Adjournment:** There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:29am.  
The next scheduled meeting is Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 9:00am.

DRAFT

## Guest column: May is Mental Health Awareness month

by Wendy Arnold,  
Tioga County  
Suicide Coalition Chair

Many people of all ages in our community have been touched by challenges related to Mental Health, from anxiety to depression and even thoughts of suicide. According to (NAMI) National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in six youth in the US, aged 6-17, experience a mental health disorder each year.

There is no weakness or shame in reaching out for support as mental health professionals understand and are here to help.

If you are concerned about a family member, friend, or neighbor, or if you need to reach

out for support for yourself, there are several private providers as well as the supports below that serve our community.

- Tioga County Department of Mental Hygiene does not have a waiting list for services; Individuals can call 607-687-4000 for an appointment or walk-in to the Owego Clinic located at 1062 State Route 38 Owego, NY. Open Access hours are available daily (times may vary); please call ahead to verify. Services can be provided via Telehealth or In-person.
- Tioga County Phone Crisis Services are also available 24/7 by calling 607-687-4000 between 9am and 5pm on weekdays

asking to speak to the Suicide Prevention Chair.

## Alzheimer walk to raise funds, awareness

TO THE EDITOR

All too often, many of us hear of a friend or family member having to deal with the devastating effects of Alzheimer's or dementia on their loved ones. My family now understands these struggles as we begin the walk down this path with my mother-in-law.

The Alzheimer's Association® is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Pursuing their vision of a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia by providing critical care, support, and education to all those affected by Alzheimer's and dementia in our community.

the Town of Owego will host the Alzheimer Association's Southern Tier Walk to End Alzheimer's at Hickories Park, Owego on Sept. 18, 2022.

Taking place in more than 600 communities across the nation, Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support, and research.

I am humbly asking that you support this event, financially, by volunteering to help make the event a success, or by spreading the word in the community.

In the 30 years I have lived in Owego, I have found it to be a caring, giving community. No matter how big or small the cause, our residents always demonstrate their generosity and care for others. I am confident this event will not be an exception.

For more information, or to get involved, please contact Kirsten Johnson, Walk Manager, at [kijohnsonalz.orci](mailto:kijohnsonalz.orci) or (315) 612.2747.

Respectfully,

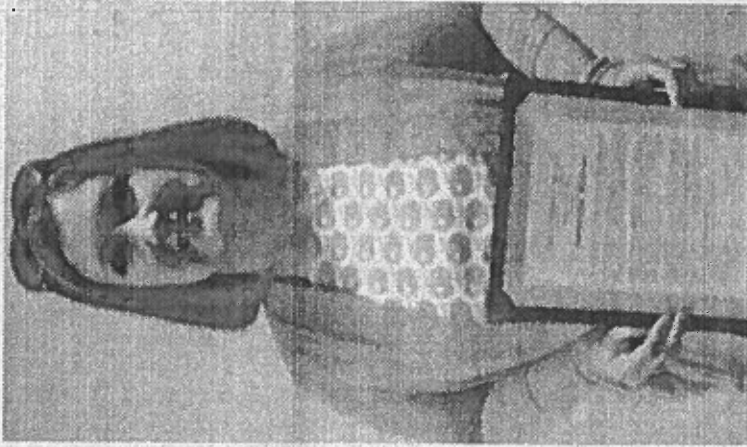
DONALD CASTELLUCCI, JR.  
OWEGO TOWN SUPERVISOR

## County DSS awards Employee of the Quarter to Webster

The DSS Employee of the Quarter award is given in recognition of Samantha Webster's outstanding work and contributions to the Tioga County Department of Social Services. Samantha Webster started working for Tioga County DSS on July 15, 2008, as a Social Welfare Examiner in the Medicaid/Snap Unit. She transferred to the Support Collection Unit in August 2014, when she was promoted to Support Investigator where she is still employed. In February 2021 she was promoted to Senior Support Investigator in the Unit.

Samantha assists custodial parents (and sometimes non-custodial parents) in establishing, modifying, and/or enforcing child support orders. Officials note that she also works diligently to locate absent parents and establish paternity for the children. She utilizes all the tools available to her to perform her job successfully. Administrators add that she is determined and dedicated, and many times, goes the extra mile to accomplish what needs to be done. Her petitions are always well written, and she does a great job preparing for and testifying in court.

Samantha is characterized as this award. - Brenda Holt



Samantha Webster

She helps train new staff and is patient and understanding. Samantha seeks out trainings for herself to increase her knowledge of the Child Support program and improve leadership skills so that she can become the best worker possible. Samantha is very deserving of this award. - Brenda Holt