

Tioga Department of Mental Hygiene Annual Report 2024

Tioga County Mental Hygiene continues to offer a comprehensive continuum of care for citizens of Tioga County who have needs related to Mental Health, Substance Misuse, and/or Developmental Disabilities. The Department provided nearly 19,340 services to Tioga County residents in 2024, an increase of over 2000 visits. The Department was able to obtain a new satellite location to provide much needed services for the western end of Tioga County. This was a project that had cooperation and support of Legislatures', County Departments, and the Village of Waverly. We continue to see an increase in requests for services by consumers not previously known to the department. We provide tele-health to residents, which increases access to care. The department provides quality and timely care thanks a to tireless, dedicated and resilient workforce, despite the continued workforce shortages.

The Community Services Board continues to review and approve policies for the department as well as participate in planning. NYS requires the Director of Community Services to submit each year (New York State Mental Hygiene Law § 41.16). The plan outlines goals and objectives for the county as a guide to and facilitation of local service planning. The plan is developed with stakeholders in the county, many of whom are on our three Subcommittees.

The Director of Community Services is charged with oversight, planning and passing through funding to providers in Tioga County that are part of a continuum of care. Please see the list of providers below that the department provides state aid, apart from Developmental Disabilities which is provided directly from the state.

Tioga County Mental Health Clinic

Tioga County Alcohol and Drug Services

Aspire Hope NY

Rehabilitation Support Services

A New Hope Center

Tioga County Veterans

Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

Trinity, CASA

Glove House

Franziska Racker Centers

Achieve

The Department would also like to mention some of our successes and highlights:

- The Department Head supported OMH /NYS DEPT ED grant that allowed for the expansion of school-based services at Spencer VanEtten and Tioga Center and continue to operate.
- Newark Valley School position became Full-Time from Part-Time.
- Received State Aid to continue Medicated Assisted Treatment Program in the Tioga County Jail.
- The Department was able to purchase two new vehicles, for Mental Health Mobile Crisis Services.
- The Director provided increased support needed by NYS OMH to approve a state-of-the-art eating disorder clinic for adolescents'/teens in Tioga County that is slated to re-open on 2/24/25. The Healing and Health Retreat (HeaHea).
- Offer free Narcan Kits and Training to anyone who requests.
- We are very proud of our two coalitions that provide a valuable service to Tioga County. Tioga County Advocacy, Support and Prevention Coalition (Tioga ASAP) and Tioga County Suicide Prevention Coalition. Both coalitions bring new interest, awareness, trainings, ideas and support to the community through hosted and planned community events as well as media campaigns.
- Completion and opening of Waverly Satellite Clinic.

Finally, we are always looking to improve and address needs for the population we serve. Below please find a list of goals for 2025:

Goal 1: Increase Workforce of experienced and trained workforce.

Goal 2: Increase affordable housing for all populations in Tioga County

Goal 3: Access to Public Transportation in Tioga County

Goal 4 (Optional): Crisis System for OPWDD

Goal 5 (Optional): Increased Prevention Services in Tioga County School Districts

Goal 6 (Optional): Increase Residential treatment services for OMH and OPWDD

Goal 7 (Optional): Increase Transitional Age Services for OPWDD

Goal 8 (Optional): Increase non-clinical supports for OPWDD.

Goal 9 Operationalize a Mobile Crisis System

Annual and intermediate plans for addiction services:

Plan is to continue to address lack of funding for additional OASAS prevention services needed throughout Tioga County School Districts. Continue to advocate for a transportation that addresses the need in our community. Continue to advocate for affordable housing in Tioga County, as well as a supportive living congregate care II. Continue to offer any incentive possible to retain and recruit workforce. Continue Anti-Stigma Campaign.

Annual and intermediate plans for developmental disability services:

Continue to advocate for a transportation that addresses the need in our community. Continue to advocate for affordable housing in Tioga County. Continue to offer any incentive possible to retain and recruit workforce throughout the region. Continue to advocate for replication

successful semi-independent living options. Provide funding to grassroots task forces that are working to increase social/recreational opportunities for people and their caregivers.

Annual and intermediate plans for mental health services:

Continue to offer any incentive possible to retain and recruit workforce. Continue to advocate for a transportation that addresses the need in our community. Continue to advocate for affordable housing in Tioga County, continue to advocate for increased access to residential treatment services for youth. Continue Anti-Stigma Campaign. Operationalize a Mobile Crisis Program.

Respectfully submitted,
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Director of Community Services Tioga County
Tioga County Department of Mental Hygiene