

Tioga County Drug & Alcohol Planning Council
August 8, 2025
1:30 PM

Attendance: Samantha Brion, Roger Bunn, Anne McNeal, John Newell, Commissioner Shane Nickerson, Mellissa Parsons, Commissioner Marc Rice, Sara Rice, Laurie Roof, Mike Spencer, Diane Weed, Tiffany Welch, Colleen Wilber, Justin Wolford, Joelle Young

Call to Order- Diane called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Secretary's Report- Diane asked the members to review the July meeting minutes. No questions, concerns or comments. Meeting minutes approved.

Business:

Opioid Settlement Dollars: A request was received from Harbor Counseling for use of funds to assist with their Overdose Awareness Event scheduled for August 31, 2025, in the amount of \$3,420.00. See attached proposal. A concern was raised using helium balloons for the remembrance balloon launch. Harbor Counseling assured that in the past they have used biodegradable balloons; however, they may reconsider doing this part of the event. No further questions or concerns. This proposal will be sent to the County Commissioners for final approval.

Diane informed the council that she would like to set aside \$3000-\$5000 for individuals who are on medically assisted treatment (MAT), that are waiting for their medical assistance to become active. The Single County Authority has recently had two individuals come to the office that needed assistance with funding their MAT until their medical assistance kicked in. Question- how much does this cost? Methadone is \$190 for two weeks. Suboxone is less expensive. Diane informed the board that she will begin trying to get contractual agreements with Clean Slate and Williamsport Family Medical Center.

The Single County Authority (SCA) has been expanding our prevention efforts by partnering with other stakeholders. We recently partnered with the Tioga County Children and Youth Specialized Services Department. They are starting an evidence-based life skills curriculum in their department and have requested \$1,200 to pay for the training and curriculum for staff training for this program.

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The Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (NPRC) offers ten development courses and nine "Work Ready" certificates. We have been in discussion with NPRC and are considering allocating funding for scholarships to individuals that are in early recovery. Examples of "Work Ready" certificates include; accounting/bookkeeping, human resources, marketing, and small business entrepreneurship and consist of 9-10 credits. Should the individual choose to continue their education, those credits can be applied to a degree. NPRC would need this to be a successful partnership and make sure individuals follow through with their courses. More discussion to come regarding this opportunity.

Justin Wolford, Chief Operating Officer from the Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania (BHARP) joined today's meeting. He introduced BHARP's Behavioral Health Higher Education Plan to the council. This plan provides two opportunities for college students - paid internship and tuition assistance, which may be pursued independently or together. Qualified students begin a paid internship at a behavioral health provider during their senior year which is designed to help build practical skills and a strong foundation for future employment. Students interested in tuition assistance must also agree to a two-year post-graduate employment commitment with the same provider. They may receive up to \$20,000 for a bachelor's-level program or up to \$40,000 for a master's-level program.

Treatment updates:

Single County Authority July 2024-June 2025

People:

# assessed	Female	Male	12-17	18-25	26-59	60+
161	41 25%	120 74%	11 6%	18 11%	131 81%	1 >1%

Drug of Choice:

Alcohol	Heroin	Meth	Cocaine/crack	Marijuana	Other Opiates	Other amphetamines	Benzodiazepine
57 35%	8 4%	62 38%	3 1%	16 9%	4 2%	0	0

Referred to-Level of Care:

0.5 EI	1.0 OP	2.1 IOP	3.7 WM	3.7 IP	3.1 HWH
4 2%	24 15%	27 16%	4 2%	52 32%	0

Priority Populations:

Pregnant Women	Women w/ children	Person who injects drugs	Overdose Survivor	Active Duty	Veteran
0	9 5%	28 17%	28 17%	0	1 >1%

Screen outs: 36
22%

Joelle made a motion to close the meeting, Commissioner Marc Rice seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Roger C. Bunn

Roger C. Bunn
Secretary

/s/ ~~mk~~ mk#

Diane Weed
D&A Assistant Administrator

HARBOR COUNSELING

7095 ROUTE 287
WELLSBORO, PA 16901

570-724-5272

July 24, 2025

Melissa Parsons
Tioga County Department of Human Services
1873 Shumway Hill Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901

Re: Opiate Settlement Funds Request - Sponsorship of Overdose Awareness event – 8/31/25

Dear Melissa,

With this letter we are requesting Opiate Settlement Funds to sponsor our community Overdose Awareness Event. The following is a breakdown of our budget for the event:

Item	Cost	Explanation
Advertising/Promotion	\$ 200.00	Posters, postcards, postage
Food	\$ 1,200.00	Pork barbecue, rolls, salads, chips, drinks, desserts, ice for approximately 120 people
Supplies for Narcan demo/giveaway	\$ 650.00	CPR face shields, pouches to hold Narcan (Narcan is available to Harbor from another source)
Supplies for balloon launch & remembrance table	\$ 320.00	Balloons, helium, decorations
Lawn maintenance & party preparation & cleanup	\$ 350.00	Mulch, plants, yardwork, help arranging chairs, setup, cleanup (staff & clients will volunteer the bulk of the time)
Tent Rental	\$ 500.00	For sun / rain protection
Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00	Thank-you gifts for volunteers, prizes
Total	\$ 3,420.00	

This will be our 7th Annual Overdose Awareness event. The event has become something the recovery community in our area has come to look forward to. It is a time when we can gather for a picnic, listen to special speakers tell their recovery story, and launch balloons over Nessmuk Lake in memory of those we have lost to addiction. In addition, our CRS staff members demonstrate the use of Narcan, and we offer a pouch with a dose of Narcan and a CPR face shield for attendees to take with them. Expanding training and distribution of Narcan to community support groups and families is one of the core abatement strategies which is to be given priority under Exhibit E, Schedule A of the Opiate Settlement Agreement, and every year we are able to distribute many doses of Narcan.

Even though it rained during our event last year, we had about 100 people in attendance, and we are hoping to promote the event enough to increase attendance to at least 120 people this year. We intend to continue this event annually to observe International Overdose Awareness Day which is “the world’s annual campaign to end overdose, remember without stigma those who have died, and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind.” It is our hope that our event will continue to grow each year.

We offer solutions for substance abuse problems.

We plan to solicit donations as well as do some fundraising activities through sales of T-shirts to secure additional funding for this and future events. Any donations received will be used in this way - to further the message that addiction impacts people in all walks of life, but treatment works, and recovery is not only possible, but probable.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie S. Roof". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "L" and "R".

Laurie S. Roof
Project Director