

## Tioga County Drug & Alcohol Planning Council

April 12, 2023

1:30 PM

---

**Board Attendance:** Robin Adams, Saira Olson, Mark Scafidi, Diane Weed, Lisa Wood

**Guest Attendance:** Samantha Brion, Commissioner Mark Hamilton, Ashley Kohler, Mellissa Parsons, Sara Rice, Laurie Roof, Michael Spencer, Colleen Wilbur

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

**Secretary's Report-** Saira asked the board to review the minutes as presented for the March 15, 2023 meeting. No discussion or questions. Lisa made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mark seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Carried.

### **Business:**

Diane began the meeting by informing the Planning Council that the information regarding the Opioid Settlement Dollars is now posted on the Tioga County website and how individuals can apply/request those funds. We've already received a proposal from Harbor Counseling for a Certified Recovery Specialist in the Tioga County Homeless Shelter. This proposal request was sent to all the board members. Diane called upon the Planning Council regarding this proposal and if they had any questions. Questions- What is the CCBH reimbursement rate for those services, what are the staffing requirements, and would this be for just the homeless shelter? Laurie Roof responded \$84.00 per hour for individuals and \$28.00 per hour for groups. The staff would need to take a CRS class. We have four individuals and any of them would be qualified. This proposal is just for the homeless shelter. These services would not have to be conducted at Harbor. Question- What is the capacity of the homeless shelter? Prior to COVID the capacity is believed to be 14 however with the new facility, that number will increase. Question- This proposal request is for one year, what is the sustainability plan after that? Michael Spencer states that this is strictly start-up costs and that there will be likely enough clients to fund this by billing CCBH.

Diane asked the Planning Council how they felt about the virtual meetings and if we should have all the meetings in-person. Colleen and Saira agreed that the virtual meetings have been beneficial. No other concerns or complaints.

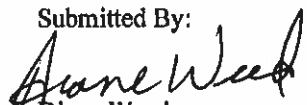
Diane introduced Ashley Kohler, MSW. Ashley manages the Northern Tier School District Student Addiction Counseling Program. Ashley presents to the Planning Council the program and what she has been doing within the school district with a slideshow. Question- Which grant is this funded by, and can you bill insurance for this? It is the Rural Communities Opioid Program federal grant (RCORP) and it is a 4-year grant however, we can extend past the four years if we don't use all the funding in that timeframe. This program began in September 2022. This program is not billed through insurances, it is strictly through the grant. Question- how would you describe the responses from each school? Ashley explains that she is an alumni at Williamson School and that has helped because there was already a relationship in place there. Once she started receiving referrals for services and the youth began the program, they referred their friends to reach out to me. We are also hoping to continue this program during the summer months when school is not in session. Laurie from Harbor states that they would like to open this service up to Wellsboro and Southern Tioga School Districts.

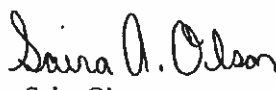
Diane informs the planning council that there is Narcan available on Mansfield Universities campus. Diane calls upon the planning council to hear their thoughts regarding fentanyl testing strips. Do we need them in our area? Colleen from BHARP mentions that the testing strips are for more of the targeting overdose survivors and they are controversial and aren't as openly accepted in more rural counties. Saira questions the accuracy of the testing strips because in the probation department they have noticed inaccuracies. Question—do these strips test for just fentanyl and not methamphetamine or xylazine? That is correct, there isn't one strip that tests everything. Lisa questioned whether it would stop the user from using based on the results of the fentanyl test strip.

Diane asked the planning council if they had anything they would like to add to next month's meeting agenda. No comments.

Saira motioned to close the Planning Council meeting; Lisa seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Submitted By:

  
Diane Weed  
D&A Assistant Administrator

  
Saira Olson  
Secretary