



TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

PLEASE RSVP TO 607-687-8630

IF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

TO: Members of the Board of Health

FROM: A. Reigelman

DATE: October 8, 2026

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, October 15, 2026,
7:30 a.m., **Conference Room B**, 2nd Floor of Health and Human Services
Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes- September 2026
2. Presentation- Community Health Improvement Plan (K. Russell)
3. Old Business
4. Director's Report
 - Agency Updates- September (D. McCann)
5. New Business
 - Enforcements
6. Additional Items
 - None
7. Next Meeting Information
 - Next Meeting: November 19, 2026

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES September 23, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS' PRESENT:

W. Simmons, Vice President
T. Hills, DVM
W. Standinger III, Legislator
T. Leary, FNP
J. Raftis, DO, FACEP

ABSENT:

T. Nytch, DVM, President

OTHER(S) PRESENT:

H. Vroman, Public Health Director
A. Reigelman, Secretary
P. DeWind, Esq., Tioga County Attorney
S. Medina, Deputy Public Health Director

CALL TO ORDER: at 6:31 p.m. by Jim Simmons.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve July 2026 meeting minutes made by Ms. Leary, seconded by Dr. Hills. All were in favor of approving the minutes, none opposed, motion approved.

PRESENTATION: Measles Response Overview-

Ms. Vroman and Ms. Medina summarized Tioga County Public Health's measles response, covering timeline of events, investigations, partner highlights, strengths and challenges, and future direction. A PowerPoint presentation was shared and a written report distributed.

Q&A and discussion followed regarding process of issuing quarantine orders, out of pocket costs to the department, staff vaccination requirements/safety measures, and feedback received on disseminated material. Board members noted that a great job was done in response efforts.

Ms. Vroman noted a change in notification process going forward regarding testing efforts. Board members agreed to this change.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Ms. Vroman distributed and shared her Director's Report.

Public Health Information:

- Federal funding: remains stable, no new updates.
- Rural Health Transformation funding update: UHS applications for rural health funding were not awarded, but three other awards will support Tioga County, including \$500,000 from Care Compass Network. Ms. Vroman will serve on the advisory council.
- Tick-borne Illness: Cases are decreasing, but testing rates have also dropped significantly.
- Respiratory Illness: Flu tracking has begun, with 31 cases as of September 23, 55% in individuals under 19.
- To date, The U.S. has seen roughly 3,500 measles cases across 47 jurisdictions this year, with 62 cases in New York.

Staffing:

- An Office Specialist II was hired in August. Two new part-time Early Intervention Physical Therapist and Occupational Therapist positions are being developed.

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Accomplished Activities:

- Great month for naloxone distribution; over 500 naloxone boxes distributed countywide.
- Through our Helmet Distribution Program 255 helmets have been distributed so far.
- In the Early Intervention Annual Performance Report issued by New York State Department of Health, we achieved 100% compliance for timely IFSP completion and transition discussions.
- As of August 26, 277 animal bite investigations had been completed, compared to 238 in 2024 and 237 in 2025. 41 individuals have required post exposure prophylaxis YTD, compared to 51 (2024) and 39 (2025) respectively.

In-Progress Tasks:

- A new strategic plan is in development, focusing on communication, collaboration, training, and education, with a goal of finalization by December. Workgroups have been created to develop goals and objectives, followed by interventions.
- Wrapped up influenza immunizations for staff this week.
- We have been inundated recently with calls scheduling immunization visits for children who are facing exclusion from schools.
- We are gearing up for community influenza clinics in late September/early October partnering with Tioga Opportunities, Rural Ministry and Catholic Charities.
- We officially launched a new county website tab for Weights and Measures which includes program information and an electronic consumer complaint form. Additionally, 376 devices have been inspected this year and we will be adding timing devices as well as petroleum quality.

Additional Information: Ms. Vroman shared that a supplemental form is included with the Director's Report which includes links to more information for topics discussed (Rural Health Transformation funding information and NYS data dashboard for measles cases) and detailed descriptions of current Quality Improvement Projects. Ms. Vroman noted that the Quality Assurance/ Improvement Plan for Tioga County Public Health is currently undergoing its three-year review.

NEW BUSINESS:

- TCPH Audit Summary, Second Quarter 2026 (shared by Ms. Medina)
 - Record Audit: A quarterly audit of 132 records identified areas for improvement in policies and audit tools for animal bites, update to food service audit tools, update in electronic form used in mobile home park inspections, and Communicable Disease audit tool update.
 - Satisfaction Surveys: 19 satisfaction surveys were received.
 - QI Projects:
 - The Preschool Transportation electronic consent form is complete and actively in use. Ongoing communication with school districts to ensure families receive information. Project is complete.
 - The Rabies Post-Exposure Payment/ Billing project was abandoned due to billing contract issues. Have gained new contacts in this process, which has improved conditions.
 - Food Safety Course project- The department plans to switch from an in-house food safety course to a national one like ServSafe in January.
 - (New) Client/Patient Feedback process- Team is looking at current process and proposing a new approach.
 - No Patient complaints or sharps injuries occurred.
- Membership Reappointment Recommendation for Teresea Leary- Motion to recommend reappointment for Ms. Leary for another six-year Board of Health term made by Dr. Hills, seconded by Dr. Raftis. All were in favor, none opposed, motion approved. Ms. Reigelman noted that a resolution for Ms. Leary's reappointment will be submitted for Legislative approval in October.

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

- Slate of Officers (2027-2028)- It was proposed that the current Vice President move into the role of President; accordingly, Mr. Simmons was suggested for President. Dr. Raftis volunteered to serve as Vice President. The slate will be presented at the November meeting for a final vote.
- Board of Health Member Vacancy Discussion- A vacancy left by Dr. Kapur-Pado must be filled by a medical professional (physician, NP, or PA), per By-Laws and Public Health Law. The Board will post the vacancy and form a three-person committee—Dr. Nytch, Legislator Standing, and Dr. Raftis—along with the Public Health Director, to review applications and interview candidates, with the goal of a January start date.
- Enforcements: Discussion/explanation of Doug's Fish Fry Mobile Food Unit stipulations from July and August, Sunshine Lemonade barred from operating in Tioga County until stipulation fine is paid, Sunrise Motel inspection occurred following fire in Broome County, and notation of violations from MJ's and Kalash Kitchen.
 - Ms. Vroman noted that all violations found during inspections are available online for public viewing.
- Recognition of Dr. Kapur-Pado- A resolution recognizing Dr. Kapur-Pado's service was passed by the legislature and mailed to her this month. A copy of the resolution was distributed for members to review.

Next Meeting is October 15th. Ms. Vroman will be out of office. In her place, McCann will be attending the meeting.

Adjournment of meeting called 8:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Reigelman

Thomas Nytch, DVM, President

Abigail Reigelman; Secretary

Minutes approved October 15, 2026



October 2026 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Repeat Violation(s) within 12 Month Period</u>
Tess Kellogg Doug's Fish Fry 206 West Rd. Cortland, NY	Food	\$400.00 9/21/2026	Yes
Margaret Soprano Soprano's Family Deli 607 Cayuta Ave. Waverly, NY	Food	\$225.00 9/28/2026	No



Tioga County Public Health

Health & Human Services Building | 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827

Phone: 607-687-8600 | Fax: 607-223-7030 | ph.tiogacountyny.gov

Heather Vroman, MPH, MSEd., Public Health Director



AGENCY REPORT

August 27-September 23, 2026

Highlights

- Our team has been actively engaged in ongoing measles response efforts; including investigations of suspect cases. We are also administering vaccinations to vulnerable populations and sharing, educating and providing outreach.
- Our team was recognized by the NYSDOH Regional Office for our work vaccinating Amish communities and was publicly thanked at the Candor Board of Education meeting for supporting back-to-school immunization requirements, assisting with a potential illness concern, and maintaining strong collaboration with district nurses.
- We hosted a virtual school nurse meeting at the start of the school year to review vaccine requirements, updated guidelines and effective conversational strategies for addressing vaccine hesitancy with parents and guardians.
- In recognition of Emergency Preparedness Month, the PHEP Coordinator facilitated mini tabletop exercises across Public Health program areas, giving staff an opportunity to talk through how they would respond to various emergency scenarios.
- We held a successful Child Safety Event in partnership with the Waverly Police Department, completing 18 car seat checks and 48 helmet fittings. Attendance was strong and community feedback was positive.

Health Education

- We held a successful Helmet First, Ride Second event at the Cady Library in Nichols, and a Health Educator also delivered train safety education and completed bicycle helmet fittings at the Waverly and Nichols Family Resource Centers.
- A Health Educator/Chair of the Suicide Prevention Coalition attended Race Dedication Night for Suicide Prevention at Tioga Downs, where a “Locks Save Lives” message was shared through a video during the race, and lock boxes and trigger locks were distributed.
- A Health Educator delivered outreach kits to ten Tioga County bars and restaurants, containing TIPS training information, fraud-fighter flashlights, signage, and pens.
- Team members met with CASA-Trinity to identify collaborative opportunities for increasing substance use prevention messaging within schools during the upcoming year.
- Senior Health Educator met with Guthrie 5th Ave. Owego staff to share information about TCPH’s Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and review the office’s lead testing rates.

Environmental Health

- A media release was distributed alerting the community about a potential rabid coyote in Tioga County.
- Our Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) team completed tobacco sales compliance checks; one violation was issued for selling tobacco products to an individual under age 21.
- The Richford Rabies Vaccine Clinic – relocated to the Berkshire Fire Station due to weather – went very well, with over 130 vaccines administered!
- Director of Environmental Health and PHEP Coordinator have been meeting with both new and established partners as planning begins for the 2027 rabies clinic schedule.

Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)

- We administered second-dose MMR vaccines for community members vaccinated earlier in August and provided seven Tdap vaccines to interested individuals.
- Nursing staff have been actively reviewing vaccine records for students at risk of school exclusion, vaccinating eligible children through our program, and assisting families of ineligible children with obtaining vaccines elsewhere.
- We held an employee flu clinic for Public Health staff and community flu clinic.
- Early Intervention secured a part-time Physical Therapist who is using our Therapy Room, reducing the PT waitlist. Our part-time Speech Therapist continues serving several children; however, seven children remain on the speech waitlist. The EI team continues working together to identify solutions to address provider shortages.
- The Dental Van returned to Waverly High/Middle School to begin the new year. Back-to-school radio ads and boosted Facebook posts targeted to the Waverly School District were highly successful.

Administration

- The Public Health Director, Deputy, and representatives from other Central New York health departments met in Syracuse with NYSDOH Commissioner Dr. McDonald to discuss measles response efforts, vaccination activities, and challenges in meeting community dental needs due to limited referral sources. A Tioga Smiles Program handout was shared (attached).
- The Strategic Plan Implementation Team, now including the County Administrator, reviewed survey findings and identified three priority areas: Communication, Education/Training, and Collaboration. Workgroups will be formed for each priority to develop goals and objectives.
- The Quality Improvement Project team for client/patient feedback reviewed current procedures and provided input on the revised satisfaction survey, including ideas for improving survey distribution and accessibility across all TCPH services.
- A recognition resolution honoring Dr. Kapur-Pado for her years of service on the Tioga County Board of Health and as Medical Consultant was submitted and read at the September Legislative meeting.

- The Public Health Director served on subcommittee for Housing Coalition to create mission and vision.

Workforce Development

- At this month's All Staff Meeting, a Health Educator presented on Maternal and Child Health programs as part of strategic plan efforts to increase staff understanding of inter-agency services.
- Health Educator attended continuing education webinars related to lactation (CLC certification requirements) and car seat safety.
- Health Educator completed Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor certification.
- The Environmental Health Director attended the NYS Environmental Health Conference in Hamilton County.
- The Public Health Project Coordinator attended Fox 40's seminar on maximizing marketing return on investment.
- During the Board of Health meeting, the Public Health Director and Deputy presented our measles response, and the Deputy Director provided the Quarter Two record audit summary.

Ongoing Support/Partnerships

TCPH team members actively serve in leadership roles or participate in the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| - Advocacy, Support & Prevention (ASAP) Coalition | - Team Tioga |
| - Child Fatality Review Team | - Tioga County Board of Health |
| - Family Enrichment Network (Head Start) | - Tioga County Commissioner's Advisory Council |
| - Lourdes PACT Advisory Board | - Tioga County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) |
| - Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network | - Tioga County Council of Governments |
| - New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) | - Tioga County Housing Coalition |
| - New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH) | - Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) |
| - New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) | - Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee |
| - Racker Center | - Tioga Opportunities, Inc. |
| - Rural Health Network | - Tioga County Suicide Prevention Coalition |
| - S2AY Pivotal Public Health Partnership Early Childhood Committee | - Tioga County Threat Assessment Management Team |
| | - Tioga County Water Quality Committee |
| | - Tioga County Youth Bureau |

Attachments:

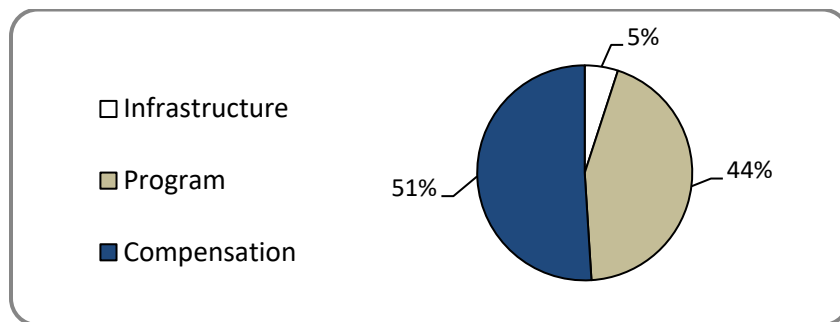
1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru August 2026.
2. Outreach Photographs: Owego Middle School Open House Tabling; Helmet Fitting Outreach at Cady Library, Nichols; Child Safety Event at Waverly Police Station, September 2026.
3. Article: "Officials team up to keep children safe on the road," Morning Times, September 3, 2026
4. Article: "Floyd Hooker looks to expand its reach," Morning Times, September 4, 2026.
5. Flyer (2pgs): "Tioga County Public Health Snapshot of Oral Health Efforts," Distributed to NYSDOH Commissioner, September 2026.
6. Flyer: "What the Health!?", September 2026.
7. Bulletin Board: "Every Child Deserves to be Healthy!," "Back to School," HHS Building, Owego, NY, September 2026.
8. Bulletin Board: "Keep off the Tracks!" 56 Main St., Owego, NY, September 2026.
9. Data Spreadsheet August 27-September 23, 2026.

Financial Snapshot
Year-to-date through August 2026^{*1,2,3}

	Budget 2026	Actual YTD 2026	Percentage of 2026 Budget
REVENUES			
Fees	912,673	363,129	40 %
State/Federal	3,669,567	2,128,373	58 %
Local	3,868,709	1,238,269	32 %
TOTAL	8,450,949	3,729,771	44 %

EXPENSES			
Compensation	3,476,616	1,882,429	54 %
Program Expense	4,515,320	1,656,314	37 %
Core Infrastructure	459,013	191,028	43 %
TOTAL	8,450,949	3,729,771	44 %

Allocation of Expenses
Year-to-date through August 2026



***Notes:**

1. These figures represent the most recent 'closed out' month by the Treasurer, which is August 2026.
2. Most of January & February revenue are adjusted back to prior year as payments during this time are for services performed in the prior year. State Aid reimbursement is reported a couple months after each quarter ends.
3. Additional funds not including in the reported numbers above are JUUL Settlement Funds & ASAP Coalition grants. These are excluded as they are outside of our County approved budgets and would skew the figures to not being accurate reflections of financial status.



J. Inderwies, OSII, & A. Knapp, Public Health Technician, Tabling at Owego Middle School Open House, September 2026



C. Hickey, Public Health Educator, Helmet Fitting Outreach, Cady Library, Nichols, NY, September 2026



Various Staff, Child Safety Event, Waverly, NY, September 17, 2026



WAVERLY

Officials team up to keep children safe on the road



Julia Laude/Staff Writer

Tioga County Public Health staff measure children to ensure they are fitted with properly sized bicycle helmets.

By JULIA LAUDE
Staff Writer

WAVERLY – The Waverly Police Department and Tioga County Public Health partnered Wednesday to provide free bicycle helmets and car seat checks to community members.

Police Clerk Nicole Nichols said the goal behind the joint child safety event was to “promote public safety and give back to the Village of Waverly.”

Officials with the Waverly Police Department said

they’ve had some issues with resident children not wearing helmets when they’re out riding their bikes, so they wanted to provide a free resource to families.

“We know (helmets) are expensive,” Nichols said.

With grants from the Floyd

See Safe, page A8

Julia Laude/Staff Writer

Right | Tioga County Public Health staff conduct car seat safety checks to ensure children are properly secured.



Safe

From Page A1

Hooker Foundation and the Community Foundation of South Central New York, Tioga County Public Health has been able to supply children with free helmets.

Cristin Hickey with Tioga County Public Health said that throughout the summer, the organization has so far given away 260 helmets.

They’re expecting to exceed their goal of 300 helmets.

Michelle Stark brought her grandchildren to the event, who were all fitted for bike helmets.

“It’s an important thing they’re doing,” Stark said. “It keeps kids safe.”

Connect with Julia: 570-888-9643, Ext. 1503 or julial@morning-times.com

Article: “Officials team up to keep children safe on the road,”
Morning Times, September 3, 2026

TIOGA COUNTY

Floyd Hooker Foundation looks to expand its reach



Julia Laude/Staff Writer

With grants from the Floyd Hooker Foundation and the Community Foundation of South Central New York, Tioga County Public Health has been able to supply children with free bike helmets.

By Matt Freeze
Senior Staff Writer

The Floyd Hooker Foundation is looking to raise its profile and expand its work for Tioga County children as the organization enters a new chapter with an executive director and newly formed board of directors.

"What are the dreams for the kids of Tioga County that we can help make

come true?" Executive Director Erica Lilly said.

The foundation's story began with Floyd "Vic" Hooker, a lifelong Tioga County resident and one of 11 children born to Albert and Myrtle "Stanton" Hooker.

In 1999, Hooker was living in a small apartment above his favorite restaurant and pub when he struck it rich, winning \$45 million in the New York State

Lottery. At the time, lottery officials said it was one of the largest prizes awarded in state history.

Hooker died in 2007, leaving 30% of his estate to assist children throughout Tioga County. His bequest became the basis for a foundation that has since distributed more than \$5.5 million for the benefit of local children.

See Reach, page A8

Reach

From Page A1

This year, the foundation has incorporated and formed a board of directors. Lilly said one of her goals as executive director is to make residents more aware of the foundation and the projects it can support.

"I'd like to really have a big presence in the county," she said. "I think that the story behind Vic, and his desire to specifically focus his foundation on the youth, is just a really cool concept. I'm hoping to spark people's passion so that they're thinking about the children in their county and the things that would inspire young adults to be more involved in their community."

Lilly said residents and community organizations with ideas for projects benefiting children can seek foundation grants,

including awards of up to \$50,000.

One project the foundation has supported is Community Fire and Rescue's "Become a Firefighter" summer workshop in Van Etten.

"We've been helping fund that for the last several summers," Lilly said. "We're super proud of what they do. It doesn't cost them hardly anything, because we pay for it."

Lilly said she hopes residents will think creatively about projects that could give children more opportunities in their communities, from walking and biking trails to other recreational improvements.

The foundation is also helping children on a much smaller and more personal scale through Vic's Closet, an initiative that works

primarily through local school districts to provide items to students who otherwise might go without.

"We want kids to be on an even playing field," Lilly said. "This is a smaller-level situation where a teacher or trusted adult within the school can reach out and say, 'Hey, I've got this kid; they're struggling.'"

Requests can include clothing, hygiene products, sports equipment and other relatively inexpensive items that can make a significant difference for a student.

Board President George Bowen said requests are handled anonymously through the schools. When the foundation receives a request, it determines whether the need qualifies and, if approved, purchases the item and delivers it to the school.

Former Executive Director Mark Dixon, who oversaw the foundation's operations for 25 years before moving to Alaska, developed the idea for Vic's Closet.

"We've bought our first pair of football cleats last September for a kid that couldn't go out for football — now, he can," Dixon said. "We bought towels for a kid that used his gym clothes to dry himself off after a shower. Hygiene products, yearbooks for kids that can't afford them, (etc.)."

Lilly said the guiding question is whether fulfilling a request could meaningfully affect a child's life.

She offered the example of a student arriving in a new school after difficult family circumstances and wanting to join a soccer team but being unable to afford cleats.

"You can say, 'What if he drops soccer?'" Lilly said. "Well, he may. What if he

hates soccer and doesn't even go past the first day? He may. But what if he stays, and what if he makes new friends on the soccer team? What if this is life-changing for him because he learned how to be a team player?"

Dixon said the program is intended to remove basic obstacles that can interfere with a child's education.

"It's a place where kids can get all of those things so they can concentrate on school — not on surviving," he said.

He recalled hearing from someone at the Boys and Girls Club who was spending her own money to provide menstrual products to girls who could not afford them.

"I'm looking at her saying she's spent most of her paycheck on this stuff and I've got \$4.5 million dollars," Dixon said. "Why am I not buying this stuff?"

Lilly said Vic's Closet currently works primarily with school districts serving

students in kindergarten through 12th grade. The foundation is considering other community organizations it could work through while avoiding duplication of services already available.

"There could be a situation where a parent comes to a coach, teacher or nurse, and says I can't afford a new coat for my kid this year," she said. "Some schools are going to say they have a great selection of coats in our back closet. If they don't, they can go to the next level and give me a buzz and see if we can get them a coat."

"This isn't thousands of dollars; it's \$100 — we can do this," Lilly added. "That's the concept behind Vic's Closet."

The foundation's grants have also supported larger organizations and programs. Dixon said the foundation provided funding to the Boys and Girls Club during the COVID-19 pandemic when the organization was unable to hold its usual fundraisers and faced financial difficulties.

"We've been able to fix things," Dixon said. "We've given out over \$5.5 million to benefit the children of Tioga County, and we have about \$4.5 million in the bank right now."

Connect with Matt: 570-888-9643, Ext. 1504; mattf@

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS:

Due to the Labor Day Holiday, we will have the following early deadlines:

PUBLICATION DATE	DISPLAY AD* DEADLINE	CLASSIFIED LINE & LEGAL AD DEADLINE
Sat., Sept. 5	Thurs., Sept. 3	Fri., Sept. 4...2 pm
Tues., Sept. 8	Thurs., Sept. 3	Fri., Sept. 4...3 pm
Wed., Sept. 9	Fri., Sept. 4	Tues., Sept. 8...4 pm

*Display ads are business ads (Classified & R.O.P.). Happy ads, Thank You ads and Memorials.

The Daily Review & Morning Times business offices will be closed Monday, September 7th

Article: "Floyd Hooker looks to expand its reach," Morning Times, September 4, 2026.

Tioga County Public Health *Snapshot of Oral Health Efforts*

Why focus on oral health?

- Tioga County, NY, was first designated an HRSA Dental Health Professional Shortage Area in 1998. This designation reinforced what Tioga County Public Health dental staff were experiencing in the field. While providing preventive services such as dental sealants and administering the fluoride tablet program, staff routinely saw children with unmet dental needs.
- When staff attempted to link children and families with dental homes, they struggled to find dentists who would accept state-funded insurance or who could accept children and new patients into their practices.
- Tioga County consistently has one of the worst population-to-dentist ratio in New York State, which is currently at 5,960:1.

How does Tioga County Public Health address oral health?

- Tioga Smiles Mobile Dental Program provides both preventative and restorative oral health care through a mobile unit, dental hygienists, and a dentist.
- Traveling throughout the county, the program is designed to reduce transportation barriers.
- While other providers decline certain dental insurances, we say “yes” and bill all forms of dental insurance.
- Operating the unit as a school-based and Article 28 dental clinic addresses barriers to oral health care for Tioga County school students, young children, and adults.
- Education! We have focused educational efforts on promoting oral hygiene. We do programming at local Family Resource Centers, Head Starts, and school districts. Plus, we use paid media, including billboards, print ads, and social media, to reinforce the importance of oral health.



What makes this successful?

One word: Collaborations!

- **History:** 22 years of trusted service!
- **Local School Districts:** The school-based program wouldn't be possible without buy-in from local school districts. Tioga Smiles serves all 6 Tioga County school districts, visiting 16 school buildings.
- **Tioga County Legislature:** Our local government has consistently shown support for the program since its inception.
- **Funding Sources:** Monetary support has been provided by the Community Development Block Grant, Appalachian Regional Commission, Floyd Hooker Foundation, Excellus BCBS, New York State School Based Healthcare Foundation, and many more.
- **Community Support:** Community members and human service agencies value the program and its services. It is not uncommon for agencies in neighboring counties to reach out to learn how to replicate a similar program in their communities.



Flyer (2pgs): “Tioga County Public Health Snapshot of Oral Health Efforts,” September 2026.

Our Work by the Numbers...

Indicator	2024	2025	2026 (Thru August)
New Patients	325	383	270
School Based Dental Clinic Visits	914	984	544
Article 28 Clinic Visits	782	999	752
Dental Prophylaxis	1149	1262	878
Dental Sealants	548	404	282
Restorations	689	814	537
Extractions	170	205	141

What keeps us up at night?

- Zero referral sources, particularly for patients with Medicaid, for more complex treatments, including root canals, dentures, restorative treatment under sedation, and behavioral management.
- The lack of dentists in our region, especially those interested in working in a mobile unit that serves predominantly children.
- The eventual loss of our long-time dentist, who has committed 22 years to the Tioga Smiles Dental Program.
- The never-ending stream of requests for new patients who typically need extensive care.

What do we wish for?

- Legislation that would create a mid-level dental provider, such as a Dental Therapist, to practice in New York State, expanding the workforce and improving access.
- Changes to Medicaid reimbursement structures to increase provider participation.
- Provider incentives to participate in Medicaid, Medicaid-Managed Care, and to work in rural communities.

Thank you for your continued support!

Heather Vroman, MPH, MEd.

Public Health Director

Tioga County Public Health

VromanH@tiogacountyny.gov

607-687-8637





What the Health!?

September 2026

MARIJUANA FACTS

FROM THE 2025 TIOGA COUNTY CLYDE SURVEY

9.4% of students reported that they have used marijuana in their lifetime.

The risk of developing cannabis use disorder is even greater for people who begin to use it **before** age 18.

45.9% of students reported that they don't think people risk harming themselves from using marijuana

CAR SEAT TRIVIA!

1. In NYS, children are required to ride rear-facing until they are at least _____.
a. 1 year c. 2 years
b. 18 months d. 35 years
2. **True or False:** Puffy winter jackets can negatively impact harness fit by creating hidden slack.
3. In NYS, children must ride in a car seat or booster seat until they are at least _____.
a. 5 years c. 8 years
b. 6 years d. 10 years
4. **True or False:** When installing a forward-facing car seat, you should always use the top tether to limit forward movement in the event of a crash.
5. Which vehicle seat is generally considered the safest?
a. Rear Middle c. Roof
b. Rear Driver's-Side d. Driver's
6. Before installing or using a car seat you should always...
a. Spill juice on it c. Cry
b. Remove the straps d. Read the manual

10/2. True/3.C/4. True/5.A/6.D

Aware **Prepared!**

Text your County or Borough to
333111 to Receive Real-Time
Emergency + Weather Alerts

**Suicide
Prevention
Month**



988
SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

Child Safety Seat Check Event!

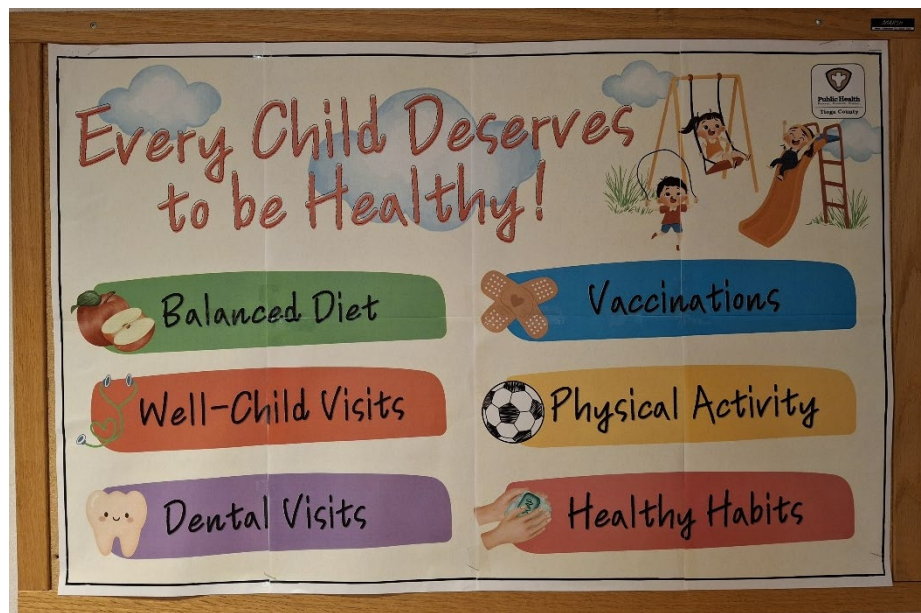


153 Main St. (The Old Walgreens Parking Lot)
Owego, NY 13827

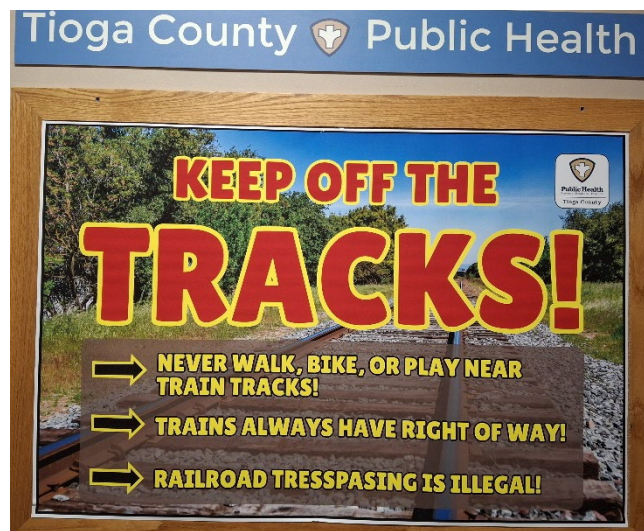
Thursday September 24, 2026
3:00pm - 6:00pm

No appointment needed. Replacement seats available.

Flyer: "What the Health!?", September 2026.



Bulletin Boards: HHS Building, Owego, NY September 2026



Bulletin Boards: 56 Main St., Owego, NY, September 2026

DATA SPREADSHEET

August 27-September 23, 2026

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>Y-E 2024</u>	<u>Y-E 2025</u>	<u>Aug-26</u>	<u>Sep-26</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Community Health					
Communicable Disease	3082	2643	90	80	1738
- General Infectious Diseases (Campylobacteriosis, Salmonellosis, etc.)	330	363	17	5	274
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc.)	352	474	58	21	358
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID-19, Influenza, etc.)	2281	1710	13	52	972
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	49	39	10	17	40
- Child Seats PASS Inspection	9	10	0	5	5
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	40	29	10	12	32
- Child Seats Distributed	62	47	10	12	37
CredibleMind Users	N/A	2857	52	177	1657
Immunizations: Total children and adults	87	54	51	55	115
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	10	13	2	0	11
Environmental Health Assessments due to Child with EBLL	8	9	3	1	9
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	N/A	N/A	20	21	N/A
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	298	433	68	34	351
Lactation Consultant Requests	N/A	N/A	2	4	20
Lactation Consultant Current Caseload	N/A	N/A	5	5	N/A
Individuals Naloxone Trained (Opioid Overdose Prevention Program)	96	72	0	0	48
Dental					
New Clients	325	383	38	31	301
Dental Screenings	1227	1359	122	123	1036
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	461	287	13	22	185
-Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	274	445	61	43	386
- Clients with High Decay Risk	493	619	48	58	463
Extractions	170	205	30	24	165
Children Services					
Referrals for Services (ChildFind & EI)	N/A	N/A	15	7	129
Referrals forwarded to Early Intervention (Prev. Early Intervention Referrals)	195	138	12	6	98
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload *Monthly total	N/A	N/A	42	36	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	N/A	9	7	N/A
- Active EI Providers	N/A	N/A	10	10	N/A

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Preschool					
- Children in a tuition-based program	N/A	N/A	25	30	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under the Serafini contract	N/A	N/A	15	20	N/A
- Children receiving transportation from their parents	N/A	N/A	10	10	N/A
Child Find					
- Current Children being served	N/A	N/A	22	22	N/A
Environmental Health					
Animal bite investigations	238	237	60	27	254
- Individuals requiring Rabies Series (N)	51	39	9	3	45
Rabies Clinics	9	8	0	2	7
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1377	1140	0	285	960
Food Establishment Inspections	228	240	6	29	169
Food Course Certificates Issued	N/A	N/A	37	25	196
Temporary Food Inspections	62	64	23	1	79
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	1	5	0	0	1
Mobile Home Park Inspections (MHPS, Campgrounds, RVs)	35	35	4	3	36
Swimming Pool Inspections	11	20	1	0	14
Tanning Inspections	2	2	0	0	1
Children's Camp Inspections	13	14	0	0	14
Agriculture Fairground Inspections	3	2	2	0	2
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	116	157	0	16	66
Enforcement Actions	45	64	5	4	43
Weights & Measures					
Inspection Sites	201	141	16	14	89
-Devices Inspected	448	257	52	122	498
-Devices PASS Inspection	N/A	N/A	48	110	468
-Devices FAIL Inspection	N/A	N/A	4	12	29
Fiscal-Electronic Payments & Applications					
Total Number of Electronic Payments (All Programs)	N/A	133	18	26	167
Total Dollar Amount of Electronic Payments Received (All Programs)	N/A	\$25,876	\$4,416	\$7,099	\$31,969
Number of Electronic Applications Received	N/A	47	17	18	121