



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: September 11, 2025

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, September 18, 2025,
7:30 a.m., **Conference Room B**, 2nd Floor of Health and Human Services
Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

AGENDA

Introduction of Guests

- Sue Medina, Deputy Director of Public Health

Presentation

- None

Old Business

- Meeting Minutes (July)
- Enforcements

New Business

- TCPH Audit Summary, Quarter 2 2025 (Medina)

Director's Report

- Agency Updates – July & August

Additional Items

- None

Next Meeting Information

- Next Meeting: October 16, 2025

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES July 17, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (Attended In Person):

T. Nytech, DVM, President
W. Simmons, Vice President
T. Hills, DVM
R. Kapur-Pado, DO
W. Standinger III, Legislator

ABSENT:

J. Raftis, DO, FACEP
T. Leary, FNP

OTHER(S) PRESENT:

H. Vroman, Public Health Director
D. McCann, Director of Administrative Services
P. DeWind, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:33 a.m. by Dr. Nytech.

PRESENTATION: N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meeting Minutes (June 2025): Motion to approve prior minutes made by Mr. Simmons; seconded by T. Hills, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- Enforcements: Brief discussion of establishment and reason for enforcement.

NEW BUSINESS: N/A

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

Public Health Information:

Ms. Vroman shared the following:

- Funding update: recently informed that the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant will be funded at 78% of current amount. This will not impact us much.
- American Public Health Association (APHA) is suing Health & Human Services and RFK over new ACIP recommendations.
- Avian Flu: CDC ended their emergency response but surveillance continues.
- Tick-borne illnesses increasing, with Tioga County's 2025 totals 232 with 184 of them Lyme. CDC reports the largest hospitalizations at this time (8 locally).

Staffing Updates:

- One resignation.

Accomplished Activities:

- Birth data from Guthrie is now available to us, so we finally have entire County's birth data.
- NYS Year 13 Performance Incentive funding, we have met all goals and benchmarks and will receive full incentive award.

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

- Conducted alcohol sales compliance checks as part of Advocacy, Support And Prevention (ASAP) Coalition in partnership with the Tioga County Sheriff's Office and had no violations of sales to minors.
- Public Access Narcan (PAN) box installed in the Public Health reception area.

In Progress Activities:

- Community Health Assessment (CHA) survey has 608 responses completed with a goal of 1800. Seeking Board of Health assistance getting more responses from the community.
- Continuing with Quality Improvement projects of electronic forms, policy and procedure updates, and documenting workflows.
- Annual trainings being prepared for the next months.
- Strategic Planning goals are being wrapped up, with nearly all but one fully completed.

PRESENTATION:

Public Health Director's Mid-Year Status/Summary. Copy of PowerPoint attached in this packet.

- Funding updates
- Public Health Management Retreat
- Positions currently and anticipated in 2026
- 2025 Goals
 - Focus on expansion and retention of current workforce (met)
 - Implement comprehensive three-year plan (met/ in progress)
 - Implement new or improved programs/services (in progress)
 - Focus on clinic and lab license and what we can do to best meet the needs of the community (Assessed. No new clinic services at this time.)
 - Complete Community Health Assessment (CHA) & Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) (in progress)
- What's Next
- Roadmap
- Project Public Health Ready 2026 (Emergency Preparedness)
- PHAB Accreditation (National recognition)

Other Information:

None

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

The Board of Health wants to formally convey in the minutes that they show support and appreciation to the Management of Tioga County Public Health. Motion to do so by J. Simmons and seconded by B. Standing. All were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

Discussed September agenda (next meeting as none in August). Decision to not have scheduled fiscal presentation unless something of note develops.

Motion to adjourn meeting by J. Simmons, seconded by R. Kapur-Pado, all in favor, none opposed, motion approved. Adjournment of meeting called at 9:09 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Denis McCann

Thomas Nytkh, DVM, President

Denis McCann; Acting Secretary

Minutes approved September 18, 2025



August & September 2025 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Repeat Violation(s) within 12 Month Period</u>
McDonalds Owego 29 Hickories Park Rd. Owego, NY	Food	\$900.00 7/10/2025	Yes
Don Mattison Spencer Surfline 15 N. Main St. Spencer, NY	Water	\$100.00 7/14/2025	No
Christopher Audette Waterman Conservation Center 403 Holton Rd. Apalachin, NY	Water	\$100.00 8/7/2025	No
Randy Nurek The Big Dipper Ice Cream 6935 NY 434 Apalachin, NY	Food	\$225.00 8/11/2025	No
Santina Christian Dunkin Donuts Owego 135 Park St. Owego, NY	Food	\$150.00 8/14/2025	No
Charles Otto Tioga Downs Hotel-Outdoor Pool 2384 W. River Rd. Nichols, NY	Pool	\$150.00 8/25/2025	No
Charles Otto Tioga Downs Hotel-Indoor Spa Pool 2384 W. River Rd. Nichols, NY	Pool	\$300.00 8/25/2025	No
Brian & Angela Richardson The Golf Club at Owego 2771 Waits Rd. Owego, NY	Food	\$300.00 9/2/2025	No
Kerri Slack The Hudson Cake Studio 5325 West Creek Rd. Newark Valley, NY	Water	\$100.00 9/8/2025	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, MEd., Public Health Director



AGENCY REPORT

June 26-July 23, 2025

Highlights

- In response to the flash flooding event in Newark Valley on July 14th, we held a point of dispensing site administering eight tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccines and distributed numerous buckets of cleaning supplies. We also completed additional flood outreach to residents of Willseyville who were affected by the flash flooding.
- Director of Administrative Services attended a meeting with Health and Human Services department heads, the Tioga County Sheriff's Department, IT and the County Administrator to share Public Health staff's perspective of the Active Threat alert that occurred.
- Public Health staff attended a mandatory in-person training at the Health and Human Services building on Active Shooter preparedness offered by the Tioga County Sheriff's Department and completed the County's Active Shooter online training.
- Health Educators have been out at various locations promoting the My Health Story survey including Tioga County Rural Ministry, the Waverly Senior Hour and the Open Door Mission. We currently have 675 completed surveys. We drew our first three names for the My Health Story survey- \$50 Aldi gift card winners!
- In this month's Working on Wellness Fun series for Public Health staff. Assistant Director of Administrative Services hosted an "Office Olympics" (Tioga County Public Health version) and Deputy Director hosted a fun coffee and coloring break.
- Misty was nominated Team Member of the second quarter!

Health Education

- Public Health Educators have started key informant interviews for the Community Health Assessment.
- We tabled at Sundaes on the Farm.
- Tioga County ASAP partnered with Tioga Theater to host the first "Teen Movie Night" which had fifty attendees and also hosted another Family Movie Matinee which sold out!
- Tioga County ASAP held its monthly meeting with a presentation from Southern Tier AIDS Program (STAP) on LGB+ 101, highlighting differences in LGB terminology and how to be a good ally.
- We provided Tioga County Mental Hygiene with forty medication lock boxes to distribute to their clients.
- Deputy Director and Senior Public Health Educator met with healthcare providers at Guthrie-Owego to discuss lead poisoning prevention, providing an overview of the program and follow-up

services for children with lead poisoning, shared their lead testing rates and discussed barriers that they encounter.

- Suicide Prevention Coalition Chair reviewed a new training that is in development for NACCHO on Suicide Prevention efforts. As a thank you, \$600.00 worth of training was received for Suicide Prevention Coalition members.
- Tabled at Tioga Downs for Suicide Prevention/PTSD Awareness as part of a benefit concert for the Southern Tier Veterans Support Group. We were able to distribute 45 gun locks!
- We have started promoting school immunizations through our “Don’t Wait to Vaccinate” campaign.

Environmental Health

- Held our first Rabies Prevention presentation with Department of Social Services which was well received.

Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)

- Senior Early Intervention Service Coordinator has continued doing outreach. Twenty-three children enjoyed a sensory bin and activities at the Apalachin Library and Tioga Opportunities WIC was given great information to help ensure that the staff know how and when to send Early Intervention referrals.
- Public Health Nurse and Health Educator conducted two Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers (IQIP) visits. During these visits we use a team approach to help ensure best vaccine practices and rates for our county.
- Nursing attended a virtual presentation offered by Tioga County Emergency Services regarding caring for the Amish.
- The Dental Van reserved a few parking spots at the Health and Human Services building to make it easier and safer for clients to access the van for services.
- The Dental team presented a power point at the July All Staff meeting providing insight as to what services are offered, as part of our strategic plan for Workforce Development.
- The Dental van security system is finished and working great! The door lock mechanism is installed and patients now have to ring in through an intercom system to gain access. Staff feel a sense of comfort knowing there is an extra layer of protection in place.

Administrative Services

- We had our second quarter record audit meeting at which record audit findings were presented to our Medical Consultant, Dr. Zevan, updates were provided on Quality Improvement projects and feedback was shared from satisfaction surveys.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator attended the Incident Command System (ICS) 300 training at the Erie County Emergency Services Training Facility and Flooding Hazards Trainings in Queens.
- Management team held 2026 budget development reviews for their individual areas.

Ongoing Support/Partnerships

- Advocacy, Support & Prevention (ASAP) Coalition
- Child Fatality Review Team
- Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)
- Lourdes PACT Advisory Board
- Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network
- New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO)
- New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH)
- New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC)
- Racker Center
- Rural Health Network
- Safe Harbor Committee
- S2AY Pivotal Partners Finger Lakes
- Team Tioga
- Tioga County Board of Health
- Tioga County Commissioner's Advisory Council
- Tioga County Council of Governments
- Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee
- Tioga County Non-Profit Network
- Tioga County Threat Assessment Management Team
- Tioga Opportunities, Inc

Attachments:

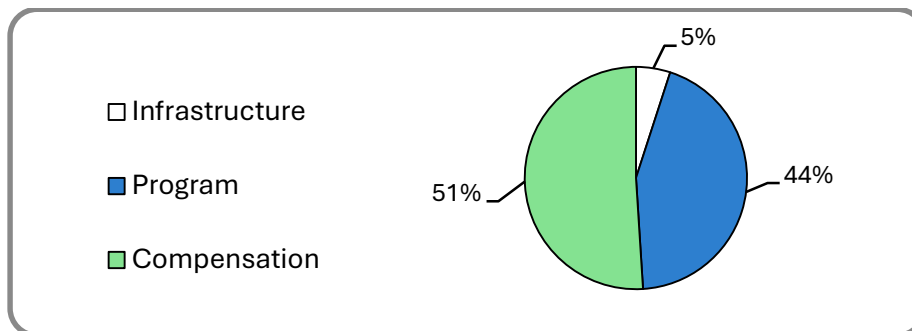
1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru June 2025.
2. Photographs: Newark Valley Flood Event Supply Distribution, "My Health Story" survey outreach and Back-To-School "Don't Wait to Vaccinate" campaign sign.
3. Flyer: "What the Health!?", July 2025.
4. Bulletin Board: "Summer Safety," Health & Human Services Building, Owego, NY, July 2025.
5. Bulletin Board: "Drunk Texting/Drunk Driving Message," 56 Main Street, Owego, NY, July 2025.
6. Billboards: "Don't Drink and Drive" and "Don't Forget to Check for Ticks," Various Locations.
7. Data Spreadsheet June 27- July 23, 2025.

Financial Snapshot Year-to-date through June 2025*1,2,3

	Budget 2025	Actual YTD 2025	Percentage of 2025 Budget
REVENUES			
Fees	1,013,404	427,685	42 %
State/Federal	3,763,299	508,027	13 %
Local	3,336,377	1,586,653	48 %
TOTAL	8,113,080	2,522,365	31 %

EXPENSES			
Compensation	2,862,548	1,278,728	45 %
Program Expense	4,795,432	1,117,143	23 %
Core Infrastructure	455,100	126,494	28 %
TOTAL	8,113,080	2,522,365	31 %

Allocation of Expenses Year-to-date through June 2025



***Notes:**

1. These figures represent the most recent 'closed out' month by the Treasurer.
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.



A. Knapp, Public Health Technician, D. Scherrer, Director of Environmental Health, and M. Squair, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Newark Valley Flood supply distribution; July 2025.



V. Kamagere, Seasonal Public Health Educator & C. Hickey, Public Health Educator; My Health Story survey outreach, July 2025

K. Wait, Public Health Educator, Back-to-school "Don't Wait to Vaccinate" campaign sign, July 2025.





What the Health!?

July 2025



Prep for Trivia Night!

Test Your Knowledge!

- 1: Developed in 1995, this vaccine protects against the varicella virus - commonly known as what?
- 2: Finish the saying to the 1989 political poster to raise awareness of AIDS: "Silence = ____"
- 3: Which medical screening can be traced back to 1913, when a German surgeon performed x-rays on 3,000 mastectomies?
- 4: Which would not protect against a food borne illness?
 - a. Washing produce before eating
 - b. Thoroughly cooking meats and eggs
 - c. Storing perishable items in a cool, dry environment
 - d. Purchasing organic produce
- 5: What was the first illness that was attributed to an animal carrier?

Answers:

- 1: Chicken pox
- 2: Death
- 3: Mammogram
- 4: D
- 5: Malaria (from mosquitoes)



PLANNING TO GET PREGNANT SOON?

Start thinking about your preconception health!

Here are some things to consider:

- Stop smoking and drinking alcohol.
- Make sure medical conditions are under control.
- Stay up to date on all vaccines.
- Get tested for any sexually transmitted infections.
- Men- you play a role too! Talk to your doctor about your own health.



DON'T GET SICK FROM A TICK!



Tick Tips:

- Wear long sleeves and repellent when walking in woods and fields.
- Check for ticks daily.
- Shower after being outdoors.
- Contact your doctor if you have any symptoms of Lyme disease after being bitten by a tick.

Curious about tick anatomy?
Check out this video!





Bulletin Boards: Health & Human Services Building-July 2025



Bulletin Board: 56 Main Street-July 2025



Billboards in several locations during the month of July

DATA SPREADSHEET

June 26-July 23, 2025

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>Y-E 2023</u>	<u>Y-E 2024</u>	<u>Jun-25</u>	<u>Jul-25</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Community Health					
Communicable Disease	2438	3082	130	120	1859
- General Infectious Diseases (Campylobacterious, Salmonellosis, etc.)	61	330	4	15	320
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc.)	375	352	89	84	278
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID- 19, Influenza, etc.)	1897	2281	32	13	1212
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	47	49	4	2	20
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	36	40	3	2	15
CredibleMind Users	NA	NA	259	209	N/A
Immunizations: Total children and adults	62	87	2	0	13
Children Lead Tested (6 years and under)	913	812	80	63	512
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	22	10	0	2	5
Environmental Health Assessments due to Child with EBLL	41	8	0	1	4
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	N/A	NA	21	18	N/A
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	77	298	45	36	232
People Trained w/ Narcan	145	96	0	0	25
Dental					
New Clients	311	325	26	24	237
Dental Screenings	1141	1227	97	103	791
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	374	461	29	11	189
-Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	419	274	23	41	237
- Clients with High Decay Risk	344	493	45	47	358
Extractions	102	170	15	21	128
Children Services					
Early Intervention Referrals	206	195	19	9	90
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload *Monthly total	N/A	N/A	47	41	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	34	24	21	N/A
- Active EI Providers	N/A	N/A	11	8	N/A
Preschool					
- Children in a tuition-based program	N/A	349	24	18	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under the Serafini contract	N/A	223	16	14	N/A
- Children receiving transportation from their parents	N/A	126	8	4	N/A
Child Find					
- Current Children being served	N/A	N/A	20	21	N/A

Environmental Health					
Animal bite investigations	198	238	30	23	144
- Individuals requiring Rabies Series (N)	2	51	7	4	21
Rabies Clinics	8	9	0	0	4
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1098	1377	0	0	634
Food Establishment Inspections	247	228	21	14	127
Temporary Food Inspections	66	62	18	1	32
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	0	1	0	1	5
Mobile Home Park Inspections	37	35	4	2	22
Swimming Pool Inspections	11	11	5	3	11
Tanning Inspections	1	2	0	0	0
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	108	116	0	0	109
- ATUPA Violations	3	2	0	0	2
Wellhead Replacement Projects In Progress	N/A	60	0	0	44
Wellhead Replacement Projects Completed	N/A	30	0	0	6
Children's Camp Inspections	7	13	7	7	14
Agriculture Fairground Inspections	2	3	0	0	0
Nuisance Complaints	7	25	6	3	31
Enforcement Actions	72	45	1	4	31
Weights & Measures					
Inspection Sites	110	201	12	12	100
-Devices Inspected	604	448	16	27	147
Training Hrs./Equipment Maintenance	27	43	4	2	18
Fiscal-Electronic Payments & Applications					
Total Number of Electronic Payments (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	25	9	83
Total Dollar Amount of Electronic Payments Received (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	\$3,704	\$931	\$15,767
Number of Electronic Applications Received	N/A	N/A	14	4	22



Tioga County Public Health

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Heather Vroman, MPH, MEd., Public Health Director



AGENCY REPORT

July 24- August 20, 2025

Highlights

- Completed and submitted the 2026 department budget, meeting all Legislative/County Administrator directives.
- Implemented electronic payments on the Dental Van!
- Many of our staff were busy tabling at the Tioga County Fair for different program areas, the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and incentivizing residents to complete our My Health Story survey for the Community Health Assessment.
- Tioga ASAP Coalition received its Notice of Award for Year 8 of the Drug Free Community Grant!
- We were awarded \$2,500 from the Mildred Faulkner Truman Foundation for the Child Passenger Safety Program! Funds will be used to purchase child safety seats for our distribution program.

Health Education

- Public Health Educator interviewed with WBNG to emphasize the importance of immunizations and remind people about back-to-school vaccines.
- Promoted vaccines at the Family Resource Center in Candor and Berkshire with the “teddy bear medical clinic.”
- Promoted the My Health Story Survey at Tioga County Rural Ministry Food Pantry, Valley Food Pantry in Waverly, Senior Social Hour at Waverly United Methodist Church, Newark Valley Summerfest, Catholic Charities Food Pantry in Nichols, Candor Library Hour, and Berkshire Family Resource Center. The initial goal of 800 surveys has been surpassed; we currently have 923 completed surveys.
- Staff tabled at the Catholic Charities Back-to-School event held at Tioga Central School District, distributing toothbrushes, highlighters, and public health information.
- Our new Public Health Educator is now a certified car seat technician, after completing a four-day training in Watertown.
- Conducted a focus group at the Boys & Girls Club with local teens to talk about substance use and mental health among youth.
- Tioga County ASAP sponsored 72 tickets to the Tioga County Fair, to be able to provide families with an opportunity to enjoy a sober family fun event.
- Partnered with the Tioga Theater to host two sober-family movie events, which had over 200 people in attendance! This has also been an opportunity to take a break from the summer heat.

Environmental Health

- Completed 15 tobacco sales compliance checks with our ATUPA (Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act) young adults. There was only one violating retailer.
- Director of EH attended the Village of Owego Board meeting to share information from the Tioga County Sanitary Code.
- Director of EH completed a total of four presentations to 44 Department of Social Services staff members about potential rabies exposures. This was a great opportunity to explain what to do in the event of an animal bite/exposure.

Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)

- Deputy Director of Public Health and Director of Dental Health Services met with Tompkins County Whole Health to share insight on the dental program as they are looking into starting their own mobile dental program.
- Staff met to discuss ways to get more dental education/information out to the public and will be tabling at several open house school events.
- The security system on the Dental Van is installed and working great! Key fobs have been distributed to staff, and we are ready to go live with the security company.
- Lead Care Coordination staff met with providers from Guthrie Owego to discuss lead poisoning prevention.
- We continue to have a provider shortage in our Early Intervention Program but have been able to fill in some speech therapy gaps with a Special Education Itinerant Teacher (SEIT) either offsite or utilizing our EI Therapy Room at the Health & Human Services Building.
- Senior Early Intervention Service Coordinator did Early Intervention outreach at the Apalachin Library's story time hour, where kids enjoyed playing with a sensory bin.

Administrative Services

- Public Health Director and Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator attended the Tioga County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) meeting.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and Public Health Nurse organized a Tioga County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) kick-off event with seven people in attendance.
- PHD attended the Tioga County Traffic Safety Board meeting.
- Compiled and submitted the required Preschool billing documents to NYS for a documentation training.
- Through our Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) program, we will be starting new Quality Improvement projects, including the development of a communicable disease investigation training plan, streamlining the Preschool Transportation program's processes, and Weights and Measures program procedures.
- A training presentation was finalized and rolled out to staff to help better understand the QA/QI program.

Ongoing Support/Partnerships

- Advocacy, Support & Prevention (ASAP) Coalition
- Child Fatality Review Team
- Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)
- Lourdes PACT Advisory Board
- Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network
- New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO)
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Attachments:

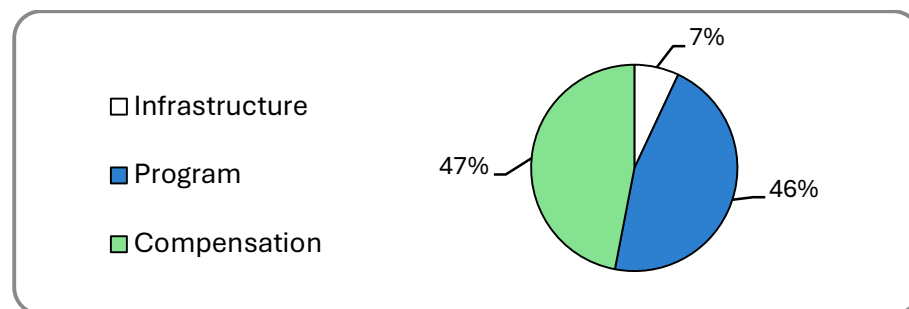
1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru July 2025.
2. Advertisements: "August is Traffic Safety Awareness Month!," Owego Pennysaver, August 10, 2025.
3. Advertisement: "Overdose Awareness Vigil," Owego Pennysaver, August 3, 2025.
4. Letter to the Editor: "Milk quality and pasteurization," Owego Pennysaver, August 10, 2025.
5. Photographs: Tabling at the Tioga County Fair & Tabling at Back-to-School Event Tioga Central School District, August 2025.
6. Flyer: "What the Health!?", August 2025.
7. Bulletin Board: "Use Your Head, Make Helmets a Habit," 56 Main Street, Owego, NY, August 2025.
8. Billboards: "Don't Wait to Vaccinate" and "A DUI Follows You Forever," Various Locations, August 2025.
9. Data Spreadsheet July 24-August 20, 2025.

Financial Snapshot Year-to-date through July 2025*1,2,3

	Budget 2025	Actual YTD 2025	Percentage of 2025 Budget
REVENUES			
Fees	1,013,404	532,074	53 %
State/Federal	3,763,299	1,331,583	35 %
Local	3,330,877	1,516,917	46 %
TOTAL	8,107,580	3,380,574	42 %

EXPENSES			
Compensation	2,862,548	1,581,640	55 %
Program Expense	4,795,432	1,571,964	33 %
Core Infrastructure	449,600	226,970	50 %
TOTAL	8,107,580	3,380,574	42 %

Allocation of Expenses Year-to-date through July 2025



***Notes:**

1. These figures represent the most recent 'closed out' month by the Treasurer.
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August is Traffic Safety Awareness Month!

Every year, there are around 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States. Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death for children and young adults ages 5-24 in the US. National Traffic Awareness Month aims to reduce those fatalities by increasing our awareness of traffic safety rules.

SIMPLE TRAFFIC SAFETY TIPS:



- Buckle up, every time
- Ensure children are in the right car seat
- Drive sober and focused
- Obey speed limits and road signs
- Share the road responsibly

DO YOU KNOW SOME TRAFFIC SAFETY TERMS?

COLLISION	C Q X A O F J Y H K O X Y P C H R U I U M D S
BLIND SPOT	C O J S M G R I J J J F G W D P T S Z I Q E U
HIGHWAY	V U Y K O H O E T I A Y K P H P N Q U N E F Y
DEFENSIVE	C R S A G S H L S T B D D E C A I D Q L L E E
DRIVER	T B G I B W C D A L A X O C I A S S C D D N E
TURN SIGNAL	O A I L H Y L F M O J Y U R T R Z Y P J S S W
GREEN LIGHT	U Y R C B A Z D R R L Y T K G J C J V Z Z I X
CAR SEAT	Z C B F Y U F L P N S S B T S R U M S W S V T
STOP SIGN	D A F T Y C I X S O E E Q B O V E H I C L E U
PEDESTRIANS	C H L Q S A L N T D L W A T L Y P S G M P D R
BICYCLE	U S I F R Q H E E S I O T U I H P K P C R N
CROSSWALK	Y L Q G P O M P U M T M C A B T N L H M D I S
SEATBELTS	N B M B H L D M G I O K V E W E A D C C V V I
MOTORCYCLE	M B Q Y E W G C I K P U R C J W L L S G G E O
POLICE	A G O H B I A U W B S V M L S R S T T P C R N
YIELD	H V Z M D D V Y M V I O X S S D X A S D O Y A
SAFETY	P N G G M M E I U U G F O N Y F Z V F O Q T L
RAILROAD	C A R S E A T V Q N N R N O I V O R Z E Q N Y
HELMET	O P F D H X U G H I C O H S Y R X T Q I T Z R
DUI	F T J U P K F S X P H J D H R L B O H X Y Y K
VEHICLE	J Q P Y A M O F I F I G R E E N L I G H T C H
	I I V G C O L L I S I O N A B B H M C F T M H
	U T U A U O J E X J P X G S Y B J F M V I Y P

Owego Pennysaver 8/10/2025

OVERDOSE AWARENESS VIGIL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025


6:30PM - CONNECT WITH AGENCIES & RESOURCES

7:30PM - VIGIL & MEMORIAL WALK

COURTHOUSE SQUARE GAZEBO

20 COURT STREET, OWEGO, NY

TIME TO REMEMBER. TIME TO ACT.



Owego Pennysaver 8/3/2025

Owego Pennysaver 8/10/25

OPINION/LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letter: Milk quality and pasteurization

Recently, the Pennysaver featured a local farm touting its sale of new milk. While this business is legal under strict NY State regulations, and its restrictions can reduce diseases spread by milk, eliminating them entirely from milk would noticeably alter its quality; it would no longer be the nutritious product we know. Pasteurization is a heat treatment where the milk is subjected to a flash of heat, killing most pathogenic bacteria and viruses, but not destroying the proteins, vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients naturally present in milk, nor altering its taste.

The narrative of the story printed was misleading and not factual. Drinking raw milk today is unsafe, especially for infants and small children. No one can know just when some sickening bacteria or virus might find its way into milk. A little history regarding public health and the crisis of 1906 might illustrate the point.

During the early 20th century, the food supply of the United States and its distribution system was so unsanitary and controlled by corrupt corporations and crime organizations that in 1906, Congress passed a series of laws to clean up our foods, especially as they were sold in the large cities of the nation. The Meat Inspection Act required inspection and sampling of meat and removal of infected and unsanitary products, including tissues from infected mammary glands of cows.

The Pure Food and Drug Act specifically required

improvement in milk quality and distribution, and pasteurization was introduced. However, it was not until 1987 that the FDA made it a nationwide rule that all milk sold in interstate commerce must be pasteurized. Pasteurization effectively removed tuberculosis, brucellosis (undulant fever), and most serious disease-causing organisms in milk. The infection rate for tuberculosis, estimated to be 30% of our population in 1906, went to near zero. Other milk-borne infections followed suit, and "Food Poisoning" numbers plummeted.

In the 21st century, some states began to chip away at the widespread food safety regulations set in 1906 and improved upon as scientific understanding of diseases became better understood. These actions have led to an increase in diseases that had been under control for decades. Milk-borne infections have increased along with many others.

For the health of all people, we must resist the urge to scuttle tried-and-true methods of sanitation to control diseases that are naturally present in our food supplies.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Nyth
President, Tioga County
Board of Health
Owego, New York



V. Kamagere, Temporary Public Health Educator, C. Hickey, Public Health Educator, & L. Dorsey, Public Health Nurse; Tabling at Tioga County Fair, August 2025



M. Squair, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator & V. Kamagere, Temporary Public Health Educator, Tabling at Tioga County Fair, August 2025.



C. Hickey, Public Health Educator & K. Wait, Public Health Educator, tabling at Back-to-School Event at Tioga Central School District, August 2025



What the Health!?

August 2025

Breastfeeding Brain Busters!

1. The amount of energy needed to breastfeed a baby each day is the same amount you'd use to walk how many miles?

- A. 7
- B. 3
- C. 5
- D. 10



2. The first breast milk released after you give birth is a thick, sticky, yellowish fluid called _____?

- A. Hindmilk
- B. Mature Milk
- C. Colostrum
- D. Oat Milk

3. Which of the 5 senses do newborns utilize the most to help them locate breast milk?

- A. Sight
- B. Smell
- C. Hearing
- D. Taste

4. Breastfeeding should start within how many hours after birth?

- A. 1 hour
- B. 2 hours
- C. 10 hours
- D. 4 hours

1. A-7 / 2. C - Colostrum /
3. B-Smell / 4. A- 1 hour

OVERDOSE AWARENESS VIGIL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

6:30PM - 8:30PM

COURTHOUSE SQUARE GAZEBO
20 COURT STREET, OWEGO, NY

TIME TO REMEMBER. TIME TO ACT.

Don't Wait to Vaccinate!

Schedule
Back-to-School
Immunizations Now!

Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Rawley Park, Richford

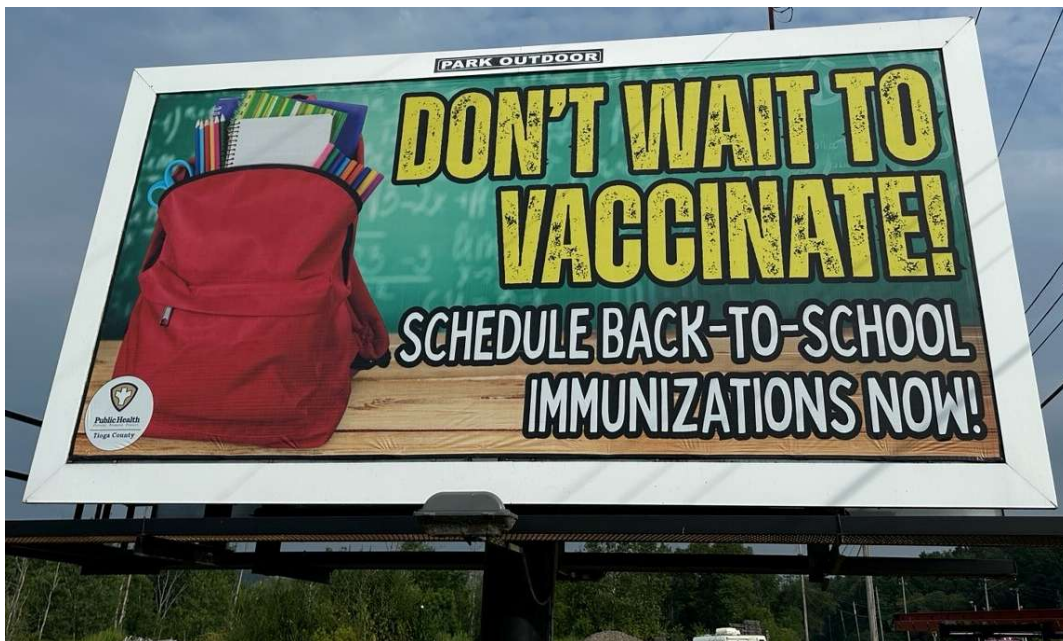
August 21st
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Scan the QR code
or visit our
Facebook page
to pre-register!



Bulletin Board: 56 Main Street, Owego, NY





Billboards: Various Locations, August 2025

DATA SPREADSHEET

July 24-August 20, 2025

<u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES</u>	<u>Y-E 2023</u>	<u>Y-E 2024</u>	<u>Jul-25</u>	<u>Aug-25</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Community Health					
Communicable Disease	2438	3082	155	58	1952
- General Infectious Diseases (Campylobacteriosis, Salmonellosis, etc.)	61	330	16	2	323
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc.)	375	352	110	40	344
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID-19, Influenza, etc.)	1897	2281	20	11	1230
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	47	49	2	5	25
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	36	40	2	1	16
CredibleMind Users	NA	NA	257	179	NA
Immunizations: Total children and adults	62	87	0	0	13
Children Lead Tested (6 years and under)	913	812	63	61	573
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	22	10	2	1	6
Environmental Health Assessments due to Child with EBLL	41	8	1	0	4
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	N/A	NA	18	19	N/A
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	77	298	36	43	275
People Trained w/ Narcan	145	96	0	0	25
Dental					
New Clients	311	325	24	14	251
Dental Screenings	1141	1227	103	59	850
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	374	461	11	7	196
- Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	419	274	41	31	268
- Clients with High Decay Risk	344	493	47	21	379
Extractions	102	170	21	18	146
Children Services					
Early Intervention Referrals	206	195	9	10	100
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload					
*Monthly total	N/A	N/A	41	40	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	34	21	13	N/A
- Active EI Providers	N/A	N/A	8	8	N/A
Preschool					
- Children in a tuition-based program	N/A	349	18	21	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under the Serafini contract	N/A	223	14	14	N/A
- Children receiving transportation from their parents	N/A	126	4	7	N/A

Child Find					
- Current Children being served	N/A	N/A	21	20	N/A
Environmental Health					
Animal bite investigations	198	238	23	29	173
- Individuals requiring Rabies Series (N)	2	51	7	4	29
Rabies Clinics	8	9	0	1	5
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1098	1377	0	140	774
Food Establishment Inspections	247	228	14	21	148
Temporary Food Inspections	66	62	1	22	54
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	0	1	1	0	5
Mobile Home Park Inspections	37	35	2	2	24
Swimming Pool Inspections	11	11	3	4	15
Tanning Inspections	1	2	0	1	1
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	108	116	0	15	124
- ATUPA Violations	3	2	0	2	4
Wellhead Replacement Projects In Progress	N/A	60	0	0	44
Wellhead Replacement Projects Completed	N/A	30	0	0	6
Children's Camp Inspections	7	13	7	0	14
Agriculture Fairground Inspections	2	3	0	2	2
Nuisance Complaints	7	25	3	4	35
Enforcement Actions	72	45	4	6	37
Weights & Measures					
Inspection Sites	110	201	12	10	110
-Devices Inspected	604	448	27	21	168
Training Hrs./Equipment Maintenance	27	43	2	4	22
Fiscal-Electronic Payments & Applications					
Total Number of Electronic Payments (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	9	12	95
Total Dollar Amount of Electronic Payments Received (All Programs)	N/A	N/A	\$931	\$3,819	\$19,586
Number of Electronic Applications Received	N/A	N/A	4	6	28