

Rebuilding the Budget



3 Programs Get Tioga's TOP Priority

Three programs are getting the most attention from the state budget, according to the Tioga County Senior Citizens Center in Owego. Work on the center has started.

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Opportunities Program Executive Director Glenn Hine, left and Michael Wilcox, director of community development, are in the dining room of the Tioga County Senior Citizens Center in Owego. Work on the center has started.

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Help for Elderly

Senior Center Opens Monday

OWEGO — Monday is slated for the opening day for "Project Dinner Bell," a nutrition program for senior citizens in Tioga County.

The program, established by a grant from the New York State Office for the Aging, will be coordinated by Tioga Opportunities Program. The program will start in Owego and other areas of the county.

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Funds Cut Won't Halt Poverty Work

Head Start Appears Solid

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2015 Annual Report



Helping People, Changing Lives.

Celebrating 50 Years of Community Action

TIOGA ISSUES: STATE RETURNS MONEY TO TIOGA

Rebuilding the Budget



3 Programs Get Tioga's TOP Priority

Press Bureau
 Owego—Program reports on three programs being launched in Tioga County through Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc. (TOP) were given at the organization's first annual meeting last night.

The meeting was held in the administrative building at the Owego-Appalachian Central School District at 28 Towner Street.

The programs being undertaken by TOP through the fall are: Headstart, Homecoming Program for the Blind, and the Neighborhood Youth Corps.

It is designed to all economically disadvantaged youth in the management of the program and in the understanding of their own potential.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps program is designed to help the unemployed youth in the county to gain experience and training in the field of their interest.

TOP, although not State or Federal funds has been approved by the regional office of the Department of Labor in Binghamton, N.Y. for the program.

"I expect our 1988 program to be a success, and we are looking forward to working with you on this program," said Hine.

During the meeting, Hine also presented a report on the progress of the program.

Opportunities Program Executive Director Glenn Hine, left and Michael Wilcox, director of community dining room of the Tioga County Senior Citizen Center in Owego. Work on the center has stalled for some time.

Tioga groups regain funding under

"We've recovered all the things taken from us," said Kenneth G. Wolff, Tioga County fire coordinator. The \$36.5 billion budget for 1992-93 restores funds for training courses counties offer to volunteer firefighters. Wolff said

do now. It will be an aid to building. The present situation is easily ac-

commodated with the organization's needs. Wolff said the program will be a success and will be a great help to the community.

Here's a rundown of how the state budget will affect agencies and groups in the county.

The state budget offers no money

Help

Senior Open

OWEGO—Monday is opening day for "Dinner Bell," a meal program for senior citizens.

The program, established by the Owego Office for the Elderly, will be coordinated by the Office for the Elderly and will start in the area of the Owego Senior Center.

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Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc.

231 MAIN STREET, OWEGO, NEW YORK 13827

OPEN HOUSE

Friday, Sept. 17th, 1976

FROM 3:00 TO 6:00 P.M.

The Agency Staff invites the public to participate.

PH. Oct. 30, 1970 PRESS, Binghamton, N.Y. 2A

TOP Director Goes To Washington Fight

Press Bureau
 OWEGO—William Black, TOP Director, is expected to leave for Washington, D.C. to fight for the state budget.

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Tioga County Senior Center announced

OWEGO - The announcement for the construction of a new senior center to be located in Owego, currently referred to as the "Senior Center," is expected to be announced in the near future.

The center will be located on Brown's Lane, adjacent to the Meadowbrook Elementary School.

The center will be a two-story building with a total area of approximately 10,000 square feet.

The center will include a dining room, a lounge, a library, and a recreation room.

The center will be open to all senior citizens in Tioga County.

TOP Directors Approve Mothers Headstart Plan

The Board of Directors of Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc. has approved a request presented by L.L. Bennett, Executive Director, for a \$10,000 grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity for the 1987 Home Start Mothers Program.

The program is designed to help the unemployed mothers in the county to gain experience and training in the field of their interest.

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Senior Room Dedicated

By Angie Rogers
 Recently the Countryside Community Center celebrated its 25th year of existence. The center was inaugurated in a very special ceremony in a very special room. The room was named the "Senior Room" in honor of the many seniors who have used the center over the years.

The room was dedicated on September 1st, 1976. The room is a beautiful and comfortable place for seniors to relax and socialize.

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Tioga aged's meeting

The meeting of the Tioga County Senior Citizens Association was held in the dining room of the Tioga County Senior Citizen Center in Owego. The meeting was held on September 1st, 1976.

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Senior Room Dedicated

The presentation was provided by Glenn Hine, Director of the Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc. (TOP). The presentation was given to the members of the Senior Room at the Countryside Community Center.

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Man Named New Executive Director of TOI

OWEGO—Glenn Hine, of Owego, has been named the new executive director of the Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc. (TOP).

Hine has been named the new executive director of the Tioga Opportunities Program, Inc. (TOP).

"The Great Society is a place where every child can find knowledge to enrich his mind and to enlarge his talents. It is a place where the city of man serves not only the needs of the body and the demands of commerce but the desire for beauty and the hunger for community. It is a place where men are more concerned with the quality of their goals than the quantity of their goods."

LYNDON B. JOHNSON



Coordinated Program

Glenn Hine, TOP Executive Director, has held the post of acting executive director since Stronbeck took a four-month leave of absence last spring.

Stronbeck formally resigned his post in August.

Officials said Black was not among the applicants for the executive director position.

Hine is married to Norma and two children.

HISTORY OF TIOGA OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

1960'S

1964

- Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 – established the creation of Community Action Agencies

1965

- May - Tioga County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution requesting a subcommittee of the Tioga County Resource Development Committee to study the question of county participation under the Economic Opportunity Act.
- June – Committee was authorized to form a non-profit corporation for the purpose of serving the county as a CAA; incorporation papers submitted and approved.

1966

- TOI received Program Development Grant in January (\$17,356) – this funding made it operative as a Not-For-Profit.
- Lloyd G. Strombeck hired as First Executive Director. Temporary offices opened in Owego-Apalachin School Administration Building on Talcott Street.
- Funding received to serve 200 preschool children in a Summer Head Start Program - \$37,869 & 75 youth in a Summer Neighborhood Youth Corp - \$43,855
- Year one budget - \$117,616
- Services added – Community Development, Legal Services, On-the-job-training (OJT)

1967

- Head Start Expanded into Barton, Berkshire, Newark Valley, Richford, Jenkville, Waverly Center.
- Neighborhood Councils popped up in Newark Valley & Spencer – \$395,483 grant received - Neighborhood Leader Development.
- Agency moved to larger offices at 68 North Ave.

1968

- Services added – Project FIND (Friendless, Isolated, Needy, Disabled) – services for person age 55+; Adult Education Classes; Emergency Food/Medical Services; Senior Opportunities & Services Program (SOS)

1970'S

- Attempt to dismantle Office of Economic Opportunity at Federal level which resulted in a 5.8% decrease in federal funding.
- Services added: Meals on Wheels; Food Buying Clubs; \$25,000 grant received for Family Planning; 2 senior centers opened in Owego & Richford
- New Executive Director hired – 1972 – Glenn Hine

1973

- Future of Community Action is threatened. President Nixon zeroed out all budget lines for CA funding. TOI received notice that agency would shut down on 11/30/73. Due to a grassroots effort across the country, order was ruled illegal by US District Court. Dollars allotted as a stop gap through June of 1974; County Legislature freed up \$20,000 to assist with operation of agency through end of 1974.

- Manpower program – evolved into the Comprehensive Employment & Training Act (CETA)

1974

- Birth of Community Services Administration

1975

- Tioga Office for the Aging established – placed in the agency
- \$24,000 Energy Grant received to winterize 85 low-income homes.
- Agency overall budget - \$636,957.

1976 – 1977

- Offices moved to 231 Main St.
- Services added: HUD Rental Assistance; Section 8 Rental Assistance.
- Agency funding surpassed the million dollar mark.

1978

- First computer was introduced in the agency; NY Association of Counties awarded TOI the Achievement in Management Award for the introduction of computer technology in community action agency.

1979

- Senior Housing Construction began
- WIC Program began

1980'S

- Dedication of Long Meadow & Springview – April 26, 1980

1981

- Community Service Administration eliminated at federal level. CA \$'s were block granted to the states - Community Services Block Grant (CSBG).
- Emergency food pantry system was established – TOI identified as the lead.
- 32 Unit Long Meadow expansion underway - \$963,000 – Farmers Home Administration financing

1984

- Long Meadow II dedicated on 9/29/1984
- TOI took possession of County Farm. Property was rehabbed to offer 15 units and it opened in December.

1986

- EISEP – signed into law & Implemented in 1987
- Head Start celebrated 20th Anniversary
- Renovations of North Ave Project completed including 3 commercial units & 8 apartments.

1990'S

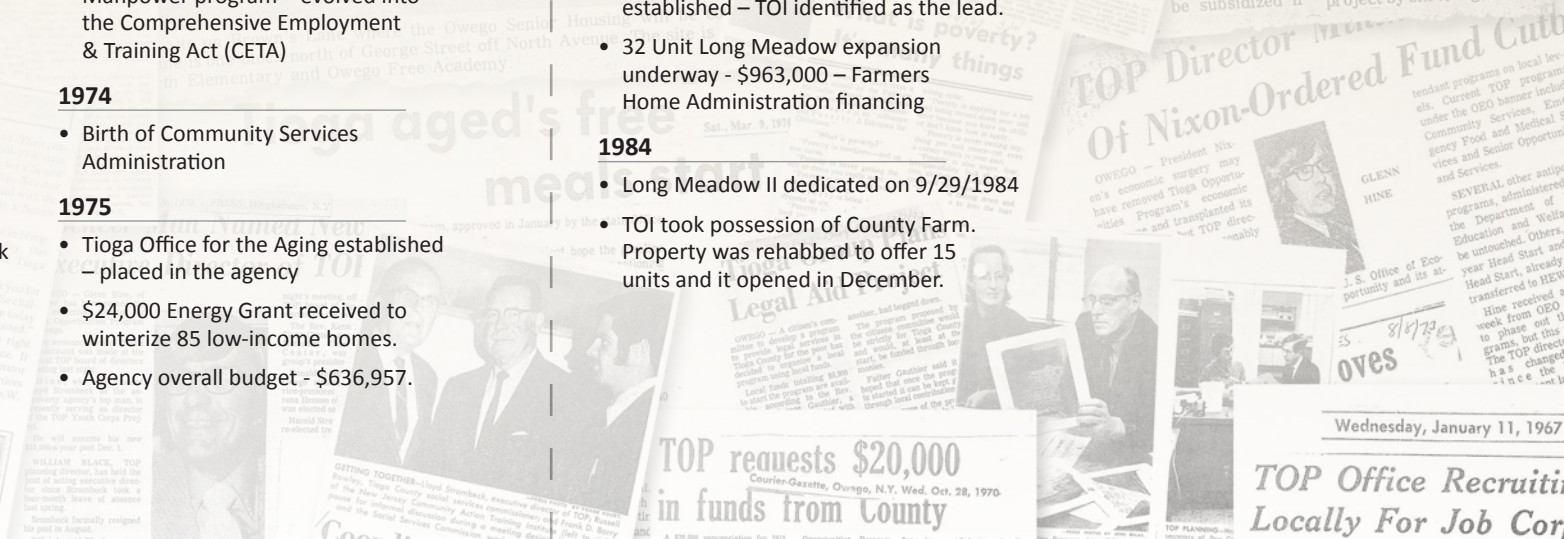
- 100 FT employees
- Plans drawn up for a Senior Activities Center – fundraising efforts continue through 1992 – center opened in 1992
- Kathleen Horner appointed Executive Director in 1996

2006 & 2011

- TOI was a lead agency in flood recovery efforts

2015

- Maureen Abbot named Executive Director



WILLIAM BLANK, TOP founding director, has had the task of being executive director since Strombeck took a leave-of-absence leave of absence last spring. Strombeck formally resigned his post in August. Blanks and Blank was not among the applicants for the executive director position. When an applicant takes a leave-of-absence leave of absence, he or she is not considered for the position. Blanks and Blank was not among the applicants for the executive director position.

GLENN HINE
Norma and two children.

GETTING TOGETHER-Lloyd Strombeck, executive director of TOI, and William Blanks, TOP founding director, are joined by the task of being executive director since Strombeck took a leave-of-absence leave of absence last spring. Strombeck formally resigned his post in August. Blanks and Blank was not among the applicants for the executive director position. When an applicant takes a leave-of-absence leave of absence, he or she is not considered for the position. Blanks and Blank was not among the applicants for the executive director position.

Coordinated Program

TOP requests \$20,000 in funds from County

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50 YEARS

MISSION STATEMENT

Advance the self-sufficiency, well-being, and growth of individuals, families, and communities through human services, education, advocacy, and resources.

VISION STATEMENT

Tioga Opportunities, Inc. is a community action agency of dedicated and resourceful professionals who understand and respond to evolving community needs & causes of poverty. We are responsible managers of resources and services who provide leadership and foster partnerships to improve the quality of life in the greater Tioga County area.

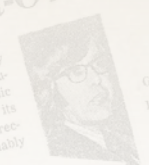


MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

Tioga aged's free meals start

Man Named New Executive Director of TOI

Tioga Group Plans Legal Aid Project



PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS JANUARY 8, 1964

This administration today here and now declares unconditional war on poverty in America. I urge this Congress and all Americans to join me in that effort....

"Poverty is a national problem, requiring improved national organization and support. But this attack, to be effective, must also be organized at the State and local level.

"For the war against poverty will not be won here in Washington. It must be won in the field, in every private home, in every public office, from the courthouse to the White House.

"Very often, a lack of jobs and money is not the cause of poverty, but the symptom.

"Our aim is not only to relieve the symptoms of poverty but to cure it--and above all, to prevent it.

"No single piece of legislation, however, is going to suffice."



MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT

Throughout 2015 Tioga Opportunities, Inc. has been celebrating 50 years as a Community Action Agency in Tioga County. With the ongoing efforts of so many people, I am confident that the founders of TOI would be proud to see all of the accomplishments made in the past 50 years. Thousands of people have been helped since TOI opened its doors in 1965 and we will continue to work to improve the lives of people the agency serves.

As I attended several events throughout the year I continued to be impressed with the commitment and energy demonstrated by TOI employees and volunteers as they work within their programs to help the people in the community. The Directors of each Department should be commended for their strong leadership in each area as well as being able to come together and work as a team. To all of the staff of TOI working hard each day serving our clients, on behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you! You make the community stronger in all of your work and you are truly appreciated.

Tioga Opportunities, Inc. also saw a change in leadership as we welcomed our new Executive Director, Maureen Abbot, on June 1st. She joins TOI with over 24 years of previous experience working for a community action agency. Maureen is off to a great start and the Board of Directors is excited to have her experience and enthusiasm as our new Executive Director.

I would also like to thank Kathleen Horner for her 20 years as Executive Director of TOI. She provided exemplary leadership to one of the most complex organizations in Tioga County. It has been a pleasure for me to work with her and her staff over the past five years as Board President. Kathleen always strived to make Tioga County a better place to live and work and I firmly believe that through this organization we have accomplished that goal. I and the entire Board of Directors wish Kathleen a very happy well deserved retirement.

2015 also saw the retirement of two department directors - Jack Chanecka, Housing Services and Anne McManus-Grant, Department of Aging. Stephen Timchack has been appointed Housing Director and Christine Shaver as Aging Director. Welcome Steve and Christine to the TOI leadership team and happy retirement to Jack and Anne!

Finally, thank you to everyone who supports TOI and its mission. I am thankful for all the generosity and support TOI receives that enables the Agency to make positive changes in our community.

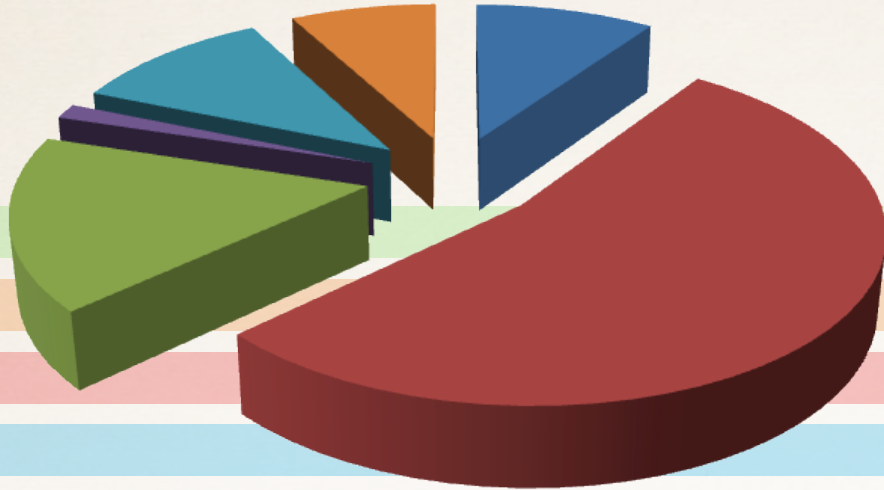
Todd N. Trencansky
President, Board of Directors



JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015

Total Available Budget = \$11,954,384.14

- Federal Funds = \$1,156,567.00
- Federal Funds Thru New York State = \$6,385,894.94
- New York State Funds = \$1,998,951.81
- County & Local Contracts / Cash = \$174,370.50
- Contrib. & Program Income = \$1,297,948.91
- In-Kind = \$940,643.98



NEW FUNDS 2015

CDBG for the Village of Owego = \$400,000.00

New York State Rising = \$50,000.00

JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2015

Total Available Budget = \$11,954,384.14

- Administration = \$500,652.00
- Dept. of Aging = \$1,812,920.25
- Dept. of Community Service = \$1,322,389.28
- Dept. of Energy Services = \$3,177,463.00
- Dept. of Family Health Services = \$1,898,279.61
- Dept. of Housing Services = \$3,242,680.00



AGING SERVICES OVERVIEW

In-home services, such as Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP), Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS), and Home Delivered Meals, allow clients to remain in their own homes for as long as possible, living independently in a safe environment and dignified manner by addressing the clients' personal and nutritional needs. Other programs within the Department focus on educating individuals and families about healthcare options and community resources, thus helping them become educated consumers and therefore, more self-sufficient. Wellness and health promotions offered by the Department, such as Tai Chi, exercise classes, and blood pressure screenings, increase clients' overall well-being.

SIGNIFICANT DATA POINTS

- In the last year, 803 people were counseled on Medicare options.
- A total of \$85,940.29 was saved as a result of helping clients enroll in Medicare plans that most appropriately met their healthcare needs (an increase of \$58,494.46 from the previous year).
- These savings will result in clients becoming more self-sufficient and financially stable by allowing them to redirect their resources to other areas, such as food and housing.
- In the last year, 1,517.25 hours of respite were provided to our clients (an increase of 463.25 hours from the previous year).
- The break from care giving is intended to assist in lowering caregivers' stress levels, thereby increasing their well-being (both physical and emotional) as well as their ability to provide higher quality care to their loved ones.

SUCCESS STORY

During a routine HIICAP (Health Insurance Information, Counseling, and Assistance Program) appointment, TOI's Aging Benefits Specialist discovered that the client was not receiving Medicare or Social Security benefits. When she inquired, the client explained that she was told that she was not eligible. The Aging Specialist asked the client if she could help her complete a new application for benefits online. The client was thrilled to discover that she was indeed entitled to both Medicare and Social Security benefits. With Medicare, her medical needs will finally be addressed. Also, not only has she been receiving a check each month, effectively doubling the household's monthly income, but the Social Security Administration also sent her a check for over \$7,000 in back benefits!



OUTCOMES

- Maintenance or improvement of clients' nutritional health.
- Enable older adults to remain in their own homes, living independently, with a high quality of life for as long as possible.
- Empower older adults, their caregivers, and people with disabilities to make informed decisions about long term services and supports, and learn how to best utilize community resources.

SUCCESS STORY

One of the Department of Aging's Home Delivered Meals (HDM) clients, Linda W., had experienced involuntary weight loss while she was in a nursing home. Upon Linda's initial assessment for HDM, her nutritional status was determined to be "malnourished." HDM has been helping Linda to maintain her weight, which has been a struggle since returning to her home. The Department of Aging has also been able to provide supplemental nutrition drinks and coupons as they have been available. Linda reports this has been "a huge help," and allows her to save money on her SNAP benefit card. During a recent reassessment, Linda's nutritional status had improved. The Department of Aging will continue to supply Linda with supplemental nutrition drinks and healthy meals in an effort to help her to continue to improve her nutritional status.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

Tioga Opportunities, Inc. was recently recognized at the 2015 HIICAP (Health Insurance Information, Counseling, and Assistance Program) Coordinators Conference as "Most Improved Performance Measure for Outreach."

- During the past year, 1,018 individuals were contacted through outreach events (an increase of 721 individuals from the previous year)

Outreach events were held throughout the county in an effort to reach those in outlying areas who had not historically been targeted and who may not otherwise have access to this program.



COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW

The Community Services Department offers a variety of programs to assist individuals and families within Tioga County and acts as the coordinating entity between a number of local service providers to promote a seamless service delivery to the most vulnerable residents in Tioga County, such as:

- Works in conjunction with the Food Bank of the Southern Tier to ensure that seven food pantries and one soup kitchen in Tioga County are able to purchase needed food items for those in need of emergency food.
- Coordinates a Group Workcamp program that allows for the construction of wheelchair ramps, porches, along with various other light construction projects addressing health and safety issues, as well as access to home issues, by 300 youth from all over the country
- Through a contract with the Tioga County DSS, oversees the Disability Case Management program to pair those on Temporary Cash Assistance, SNAP, and Medicare recipients who appear to be unemployable with favorable Social Security Insurance or Social Security Disability determinations.
- In conjunction with the County, Tioga Works offers a job skills program for individuals receiving cash benefits, performing labor for many public and community non-profit agencies
- Coordinates community wide special events like the Macaroni & Trees event that collects donations of food items and personal care items to food pantries and soup kitchens; The Community Christmas Party co-hosted by the Tioga County Corrections Association and Tioga Opportunities, Inc. which allowed for many individuals and families to receive a hot, healthy meal, while providing gifts to younger children who may not have otherwise received a gift for the holiday.
- Community Gardens

SIGNIFICANT DATA POINTS

- In the last year a combined 32,325 individuals were served by the seven food pantries and one soup kitchen under TOI's umbrella (this figure includes duplicated counts).
- 11,311 volunteer hours were used to distribute 255,906 lbs of food.
- The food pantries provide customer education on preparing inexpensive healthy meals while on a limited budget.
- Group Workcamp completed 56 jobs with a total of 12,240 volunteer hours.
- 3,000 lbs of food was collected and donated by GWC volunteers and distributed to the food pantries and soup kitchen.



SUCCESS STORY

Prior to being selected for the 2015 Group Workcamp, Mr. and Mrs. W. were in the process of selling their home of many years due to health issues. Both, Mr. and Mrs. W., were having difficulty executing the stairs that led into their home. Not only would they have to sell their home, they would also have to give away their beloved pets. Mr. and Mrs. W. were heartbroken... Then in late spring they applied for the 2015 Group Workcamp program and requested a wheel chair ramp be built. Due to budgetary constraints, a limited number of wheel chair ramps are built during one camp year. Twenty-nine ramps were requested for the 2015 Group Workcamp in Tioga County, three were accepted. Mr. and Mrs. W's request was one that was accepted. Today they have a very sturdy, well built wheel chair ramp. The couple is now able to access their home with ease. They have no plans on moving and have described the event as a 'Miracle'.

OUTCOMES

- Providing healthy and adequate food to all ages, allowing for proper developmental growth in children, emotional security in adults and seniors knowing that they have a 'next meal'.
- Enable people with disabilities to remain in their own homes.
- Providing employment skills to transitional workers allowing them to pursue gainful employment, thus promoting self-worth, creating a higher quality of life, contributing to the local economy, and in some cases, a step toward breaking generational poverty.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

The collection of 3,000 lbs of food, along with a monetary donation of \$640 by GWC volunteers was a substantial windfall for the local food pantries and soup kitchen- every food donation to a local pantry/soup kitchen allows for the additional purchasing of food items by the pantry/soup kitchen, thus more individuals are served.



ENERGY SERVICES OVERVIEW

Energy Services continues to provide both the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and EmPowerNY to clients in both Broome and Tioga counties. The department has made a push to expand the services of EmPowerNY into neighboring counties, since the fee-for-service program allows coverage outside of county limits. The efforts of both programs provided by Energy Services not only help the clients lower their energy burden, but allow for less financial stress, healthier physical and mental well-being, as well as increased pride and value of their homes. Less stressed and healthier individuals have the potential to give back some of their energy and resources to the community through things such as coaching sporting teams, volunteering at community events and being active in social clubs or organizations.

SIGNIFICANT DATA POINTS

- Household in receipt of Energy Services realized an average of 20% reduction in energy usage across all programs.
- 11 clients with diagnosed health conditions that can be exacerbated due to high summer temperatures, received an air conditioner unit installed by Energy Services staff. By having the cool room at home, these clients are able to maintain their health and avoid potential hospitalization or flare-ups of their health condition.
- 9 households were assisted by Energy Services for emergency heating appliance repair/ replacement during the 2014-2015 heating season. Without the program, many of these clients would have continued to live in unsafe conditions, risking their health and their family's health because they could not afford the repair or replacement of the heating system.

SUCCESS STORY

Stella S., a 102 year old Tioga County resident, had been without a properly working furnace for a number of years. Her niece contacted TOI's Energy Services for assistance in getting a new, energy efficient furnace installed in her aunt's home.

Dear Mr. Resue,

I wanted to write this letter to sincerely thank you for the furnace for my Aunt Stella S. She is going to be 102 years old next week and hasn't had the money for the last couple of years to get her furnace fixed and working properly. Your organization was like an angel coming to help my aunt!

(...)

I had to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this wonderful service and help. This will be the winter that my Aunt Stella will be warm all winter long! She is so thrilled with her new furnace!

Thank you and thanks to your team for the wonderful job, well done!!

***Sincerely,
JoAnn S.***

OUTCOMES

- Energy savings, allowing household budgets to focus less on energy bills and more on other necessities such as food, education, transportation and health.
- Increased comfort and safety within the home.
- Increased property value, pride of ownership and community revitalization.
- Healthier indoor air quality for clients, especially children, through the benefits of exhaust fans in kitchens and bathrooms and properly vented combustion appliances.

HIGHLIGHTS

An additional \$150,000 incentive was added to Energy Services PY2015 base WAP Contract for the successful completion of 70% of units by November 30 in PY2014. Approximately 20 additional units were added to PY2015 as a result of the increase; allowing the benefits of the program to reach that many more clients.



FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES OVERVIEW

WIC and Family Planning are both health related programs, focusing first and foremost on the well-being of the individual and the families served by providing health related services along with education to yield positive health outcomes, which in turn, leads to an increase in the number of healthy contributing members of the community.

The WIC program focuses on decreasing the risk of poor birth outcomes and improving the health of women, infants and children during critical times of growth and development by providing nutritious supplemental food packages and nutrition education to those that qualify; encouraging mothers to breastfeed and promoting breastfeeding as the optimal infant feeding choice; and by providing the support that is needed to improve the nutritional status of participants, thereby creating a healthier community.

Family Planning staff assists individuals in overcoming obstacles to accessing high-quality, confidential reproductive health care by providing services on a sliding fee scale; enrolling those who qualify in the Family Planning Benefit Program; connecting the uninsured to enrollment specialists; linking individuals to additional beneficial services through reputable referrals; and by respecting the anonymity of all clients. Trained Educators provide programming to individuals, community members and professionals on reproductive health care issues and available services in order to create a better understanding; therefore, promoting and initiating appropriate and informed decision making which leads to the prevention of negative health outcomes and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

SIGNIFICANT DATA POINTS: WIC

- In the last year, 1,958 individuals received supplemental food packages and nutrition education.
- 79.4% of prenatal women receiving WIC services through TOI, initiated breastfeeding upon delivery in 2015, which is 3% above the NYS average. (In 2014, initiation rates for TOI participants was 2% below the NYS average)
- In the last year 790 males and females received reproductive health services at the Family Planning Clinic.
- 227 individuals took part in health education programs provided by the Health Educator.

SUCCESS STORY: WIC

Maryolevia B. shares her breastfeeding story with WIC: “Through a number of challenges and issues, my peer counselor and the staff at the WIC office helped me, supported me, and made me feel good about the work I was doing for my children. I looked forward to going to my appointments at WIC. I loved being able to say how proud I was because I was still nursing my twins at three years old! I remembered how bad I wanted to give up in the beginning and how supportive they were of me continuing. I believe I would have given up and went to formula if it wasn’t for the staff at WIC.”

SUCCESS STORY: FAMILY PLANNING

A 42 year old female reached out to our Sexual Health Educator after seeing an advertisement for the Tioga County Condom Courier service. Being located in Richford without access to affordable public transportation and not having the ability to access the free condom service at the Owego clinic due to a variety of other barriers, left her feeling unequipped as a mother to provide for her sons who may or may not be sexually active. “There is way too much teenage pregnancy and babies that are not being taken care of properly. I am the mother of 5 teenage boys and would love to keep condoms and other things in stock... just in case! I also want to be able to hand them out to my boys’ friends as well... thank you so much for having this program.” She requested that a variety of barrier methods be mailed to her house; her request was immediately filled, along with supporting educational materials, and mailed out that same day.

During the first month of the implementation of the TC Condom Courier program, TOI’s Sexual Health Educator was able to fill 30 requests for supplies for individuals throughout the county that had previously not been able to access this service.

OUTCOMES

- Improved birth outcomes.
- Decreased childhood obesity rates.
- Increased intendedness of pregnancy.
- Improved interpersonal relationships.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHT

Family Planning applied for, and was awarded, a grant from the Community Fund of the Community Foundation for South Central New York in the amount of \$10,000. The proposed project includes a social media campaign, the TC Condom Courier service, and evidence based one-on-one educational services to be implemented throughout Tioga County. Board Members of the Community Foundation expressed their impression of the proposed project as “innovative, exciting and an obvious choice for funding”.



HOUSING OVERVIEW

Tioga Opportunities, Inc.'s Housing Department offers assistance in finding safe, affordable, living options; obtaining rental assistance; and addressing residential health & safety concerns of local residents. Tioga Opportunities, Inc.'s Housing Department also manages 134 residential units throughout the county for low to moderate income elderly residents (ages 62+), disabled or handicapped individuals (age 18 +) and families that meet appropriate income guidelines.

TOI's Housing Department continually works to ensure that the client's living environment enriches their overall well being, improves the health & safety of their home, and provides on-going supports that bring peace of mind to family and caregivers that their loved one is safe, and that people are concerned about their well-being.

SIGNIFICANT DATA POINTS

- 2788 Section Vouchers distributed with \$1,132,817 disbursed in rent subsidies throughout Tioga County
- 4,587 individuals maintained a stable living environment

SUCCESS STORY

Richard P., a WW2 Vet and his wife contacted TOI with a concern regarding lack of a fresh water supply. Richard and his wife are elderly, handicapped and up to this point were hauling water from a neighbor's house to their house for their use.

TOI responded immediately to address this issue and installed a complete water delivery system including a domestic hot water tank that was destroyed due to the lack of water. In addition, TOI

1. Installed Well Water System
2. Installed Smoke and CO Detectors
3. Completed an Electrical Inspection

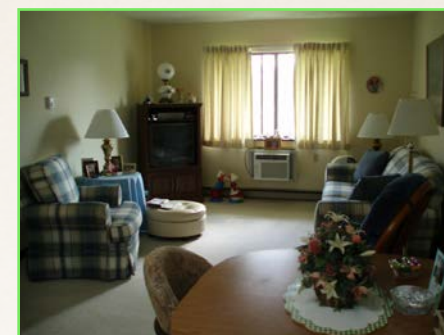
Due to TOI's quick response, Richard and his wife now have a fresh water supply and are able to stay in their home and live in a safe and healthier environment.

HIGHLIGHTS

TOI's Housing maintenance specialists completed a number of renovations at the various housing units managed by TOI including:

- Major upgrades to apartments at County Farm
- Installation of a new hot water unit at Springview apartments in Waverly
- Heat detectors & sprinkler heads replaced at Nichols School House
- Upgrades to the parking lot at Long Meadow including enhanced lighting and upgrades to the lobby area

Through funds provided by the NYS Department of Housing & Community Renewal, 10 households received needed repairs including roofing, wells, septic systems, etc.



The Countryside Community Center serves as a meeting place and training center for many county groups such as; AARP Driver Safety Classes, Alzheimer Support Groups, Owego Lions Club, Tioga County Hunger Coalition, in addition to being the Congregate Meal Site for Tioga County.

Numerous activities and classes were offered; Bridge, Ceramics, Crafts, Tai Chi, Oil Painting, Line Dancing & Exercise, to name a few.

The center is available for private events such as family reunions, birthday parties, showers, etc. for a fee.

Community Gardens are located on the premises and all plots were in use this past summer.

TOI hosts a number of community wide special events including the Macaroni & Trees event that brings the community together during the holidays to collect donations of food items and personal care items for food pantries and soup kitchens in Tioga County; and The Community Christmas Party co-hosted by the Tioga County Corrections Association and Tioga Opportunities, Inc. which provides many individuals and families with a hot, nutritious meal, while providing gifts to younger children who may not have otherwise received a gift for the holiday.

In May 2015, Tioga Opportunities celebrated 50 years of service to Tioga County with a community picnic.



GROUP WORK CAMP 2015 ECONOMIC IMPACT TO TIOGA COUNTY

CELEBRATING OUR PARTNERS



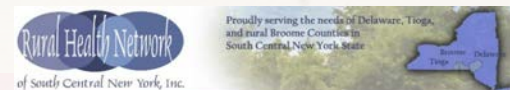
- Capitol Improvements to housing stock \$39,068.32
- Service Reimbursement (School costs) \$29,537.26
- Camp Staff expenses (food, lodging, local travel) \$7,440.00
- Volunteer Camper spending (snacks, gasoline, incidentals, etc) \$19,075.00
- In-Kind labor \$186,991.20
- Nonperishable food donation \$2,727.20

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT= \$284,838.98



Tioga Opportunities, Inc. wishes to thank the following community partners for their continued support of its mission.

- | | |
|---|--|
| • A New Hope Center | • Owego Rotary |
| • AARP | • Owego Kiwanis |
| • All Metro Health | • Park Terrace Food Pantry |
| • Allied Christians of Tioga County | • Project Neighbor |
| • Berkshire & Richford Helping Hands Food Pantry | • Rural Health Network |
| • Broome/Tioga Workforce Investment | • Scott Smith & Sons |
| • Candor Bread of Life Food Pantry | • Southern Tier Independent Living Center |
| • Catholic Charities of Tompkins & Tioga Counties | • Spencer Food Cupboard |
| • Chemung Canal Trust | • Spencer Van-Etten Central School District |
| • Community Bank | • Staffings |
| • Community Care Network of Nichols | • Tioga Center Central School District |
| • Community Foundation for South Central New York | • Tioga Chamber of Commerce |
| • Cornell Cooperative Extension | • Tioga County Economic Development |
| • Food Bank of the Southern Tier | • Tioga County Legislature |
| • Group Cares | • Tioga County Mental Hygiene |
| • INSPIRE | • Tioga County Public Health |
| • Interim Health Care | • Tioga County Rural Ministry |
| • Lounsberry Food Pantry | • Tioga County Sheriff's Department |
| • Mildred Faulkner Truman Foundation | • Tioga County Social Services |
| • Newark Valley Central School District | • Tioga Downs |
| • Northern Tioga Neighbors Network | • Tioga PACT |
| • Open Door Mission | • Tioga County Senior Citizen Foundation |
| • Owego-Harford Railroad | • Tioga State Bank |
| • Owego Lions Club | • Tompkins/Tioga Neighborhood Legal Services |
| • Owego-Apalachin Central School District | • Village of Owego |



DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICE LOCATIONS

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Countryside Community Center
9 Sheldon Guile Blvd.
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-4222
Fax: 607-687-4236

AGING

Countryside Community Center
9 Sheldon Guile Blvd.
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-4120
Toll-free: 866-352-3680
Fax: 607-687-4147

Countryside Café:

Countryside Community Center
9 Sheldon Guile Blvd.
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-4120

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Countryside Community Center
9 Sheldon Guile Blvd.
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-4222
Fax: 607-687-4236

FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

Family Planning

110 Central Ave.
PO Box 70
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-5333
Fax: 607-687-4899

WIC

110 Central Ave.
PO Box 70
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-3147
Fax: 607-687-9566

WIC Clinic Sites: Waverly, Owego,
Newark Valley, Spencer, Richford

ENERGY SERVICES

The Farm House
7 Browns Lane
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-0944
Toll-Free: 877-786-2419
Fax: 607-687-0170

HOUSING SERVICES

1023 State Route 38
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-0707; TDD: 607-687-5905
Fax: 607-687-2017

Commercial & Residential Apartments

58-60 North Avenue
Owego, New York

Residential Apartments County Farm Apartments

1023 NYS Route 38
Owego, New York

Project Step Ahead Apartments

State Route 38
Owego, New York 13827

Long Meadow Apartments

5 Browns Lane
Owego, NY 13827
607-687-5554

Nichols School House Apartments

84 Cady Ave.
Nichols, NY 13812
607-699-0524

Springview Apartments

80 Spring St.
Waverly, NY 14892
607-565-4812



TIOGA OPPORTUNITIES, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

Tioga Opportunities, Inc. is governed by a 15 member volunteer, tripartite Board of Directors, requiring a Board make-up of 1/3 representation from the public sector (elected officials or their designee, 1/3 representation from the private sector, and 1/3 representation from the target sector (low-income residents or organizations that serve them)

- Todd Trecansky Private Sector President
- Bruce Brent Private Sector Vice President
- Randy Kerr Public Sector Secretary
- Brian Rieber Private Sector Treasurer
- Kermit Bossard Target Sector
- Emilie Edwards Target Sector
- Rebecca Goodrich Public Sector
- Patricia Hunsinger Target Sector
- Bridget Kane Public Sector
- Jane Linnell Target Sector
- Carl Muldner Private Sector
- Jim Tornatore Public Sector
- Kara Vizina Target Sector

