

**Health Planning Council / Tompkins Health Network  
Advisory Board**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 12:00-1:00pm (tour of ADC Open Access Center starts at 1pm)**

**Location: The Alcohol & Drug Council Open Access Center (2353 N.  
Triphammer Road, Ithaca) or via zoom**

**(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84337316444?pwd=bmdYMmFqZWVWjFwZzhDRWd4c2NjUT09>)**

**A G E N D A**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
12:00 pm	I. Attendance (sign in on attendance sheet/chat) a. Approve March minutes	Lara Parrilla
12:05 pm	II. Panel Discussion on Peer Programming a. Panelists: Chris Kai-Jones (CCE), Melanie Little (MHATC), Jasmine Myrick (The REACH Project), Alissa Elghazi (ADC)- bios below b. Question & Answer Session with Panelists c. Discussion	Lara Parrilla
12:50pm	III. Announcements a. Open to all members and guests	Lara Parilla
	IV. Committee reports* a. Community Health and Access Committee - Next meeting: June 2 <sup>nd</sup> at Noon b. Long Term Care Committee – Next Meeting: May 5th at Noon c. Tough Conversations (formerly Advanced Care Planning Subcommittee)- Next Meeting: June 1st at Noon	
1:00 pm	V. Adjourn a. Next meeting: May 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 at TCWH Rice Conference Room b. Open Access Center tour (for those attending in-person follows immediately after meeting adjournment)	Lara Parrilla

\*If time allows, otherwise written committee reports will be provided

Panelists Bios:

**Melanie Little** is a Certified Peer Specialist and the Community Education Director at the Mental Health Association in Tompkins County (MHA), where she provides peer support and education programs informed by her lived experience in mental health recovery. Melanie came to Ithaca from Rochester, NY in 2009 to attend Ithaca College in 2009 and began working in the community in 2013 when she first joined the MHA team as a counselor at the Kids First Summer Camp. She is now a graduate student in the University at Buffalo School of Social Work, with interests in trauma-informed care and increasing collaboration between peers and other providers in behavioral health services.

**Alissa Elghazi** is an HR Professional with a background in business administration, finance, and legal support. Alissa is the HR Generalist for Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County, Inc. and a Board Member of the Tompkins County Chapter of SHRM.

**Chris Kai-Jones** oversees the health, nutrition and financial education programming at CCE Tompkins. He has also recently begun working as a psychotherapist for Clinical Associates of the Southern Tier.

**Jasmine Myrick** is a Research Assistant at The REACH Project Inc., a low-threshold, harm reduction focused medical facility in Ithaca, NY. While working as an EMT she saw first-hand how stigmatized vulnerable populations were, igniting a passion to help those within her community. After almost losing a loved one to opioid overdose, she decided to obtain her Bachelors in Community Health. Jasmine then interned at REACH, which led to a position on the research team, allowing her to use her personal and professional knowledge to help with initiatives such as Narcan training, organization of peer services, and research and evaluation projects.