

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

April 4, 2022

Committee members: Carlie Chilson, Terry Button at 4:08 p.m., Ed Bronson, Jesse Jayne, Dick Harper

Others present: Bonnie Percy, Dan Banach, Leslie Church, Mark Morris, Nonie Flynn, Emilee Miller, Steve Hampsey, Zachary Housworth, Amy Miller, Sara Christensen, George Roets, Phil Rouin, Rick Willson, Tim Cutler, Pat Killen at 4:12 p.m.

Carlie & Jesse will to do the audit this month.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Hampsey

Steve reviewed the monthly Statistical Report for March. There are 225 open/pending cases as of 3/31/22.

Carlie questioned if 7 violent felonies was high.

Steve replied that it is not high and it is usually around that amount.

Steve reviewed the Grant Status Report.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth

Zach reviewed the program updates.

Zach reported that there were 91 medical trips provided to 23 individuals in February, 0 trips included a transportation companion riding along, and 31 non-medical trips were provided to 10 individuals.

Carlie noticed that the transportation was getting better and she wondered what the success was in that.

Zach replied that he thinks it is just that more people seem to be more comfortable going to their appointments. He thinks people are catching up on appointments that they maybe didn't go to in the past couple of years.

Zach reported that their four year plan is now available for them to access, update, and submit. That is their main funding and kind of forecasting package for the year. They received the email late in the afternoon April 1, 2022 with a due date of March 31, 2022. They all missed the due date, but they anticipate that it should be done and submitted by the end of next week.

Zach reported that their Advisory Council is due to start having meetings again in April. It is every other month for about an hour, sometimes less, but they do cover some fairly important things and it is more like a planning meeting. If any of the legislators are interested in being on this, they should let Zach know.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

Amy reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Authorize Contracts with Catholic Charities of Steuben and Livingston Counties

- Authorize Contract with Pro-Action of Steuben and Yates Counties, Inc. for Staffing of the Yates County Summer Youth Employment Program

Amy submitted her 2021 Annual Report.

Amy reported that their Code Blue plan was approved on March 24th. They spent \$37,344, which leaves \$13,193 remaining. December-February claims of \$23,264 were submitted March 25th and will claim over \$14,000 for March next month.

Amy reported that a hot topic for discussion during this budget cycle was childcare. Lack of childcare is statewide and social service districts universally underspend their childcare funding. For social services to be able to fund more childcare, rates for providers should be raised. NYS does have grants available to assist with the costs of starting a childcare. In 2021, Yates County DSS paid \$145,605 to childcare providers, serving 38 families.

Amy reported that the proposed executive provision changes the eligibility requirements for Medicaid in NYS. These changes include: raising the income level for seniors and individuals with disabilities from the (SSI) related levels to 138% FPL to align with modified adjustable gross income (MAGI) and eliminating the resource test for seniors (65+) and individuals with disabilities. If the changes are implemented, they will conflict with current state law.

Amy reviewed the following unemployment rates:

2021	September	October	November	December	January	February
Ontario	3.6	3.5	3.2	2.6	3.6	3.8
Seneca	4.0	3.9	3.5	2.8	3.9	4.1
Wayne	3.8	3.6	3.2	2.7	3.7	3.9
Yates	3.2	3.1	2.8	2.4	3.4	3.5
Monroe	4.7	4.4	3.9	3.0	4.0	4.2
NYS	6.3	6.0	5.5	5.0	5.3	5.1
US	4.6	4.3	3.9	3.7	4.4	4.1

Amy reported that Yates County will host approximately 30 high school students from Hammondsport High School who are interested in exploring municipal careers on Friday 4/29.

Amy reported that on Wednesday, April 13th, 3-5pm in the Community Room at the Dundee Library Workforce Development will be presenting for the Yates County Chamber of Commerce Growth Series.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Sara Christensen

Sara reported that the Flu continues to be categorized as widespread in New York State. Flu A is the dominant strain. Children 5-17 years old have the highest reported number of Flu cases followed by 18-49 year olds. They have received 58 lab confirmed cases to date in Yates County, 2 Flu B and 56 Flu A.

Sara reviewed the following COVID-19 Update as of 3/31/22:

COVID 19 Data Summary	
Total Cases to Date	4285
Total Cases in March to date	134
# Currently Hospitalized	0
# Deaths	38

Sara reported that the BA.2 sub variant of Omicron is a new variant being monitored by the CDC and NYS and it has been reported as the new dominant strain. It appears to be more transmittable than the BA.1 Omicron, but it has not been shown to cause more severe illness.

Sara reported that weekly COVID-19 vaccination clinics have ended and they are now holding walk in clinics on the 1st and 4th Thursdays of the month from 2:30-3:00 p.m. at the Public Health Office. On March 29th, the FDA authorized administration of a second booster dose of either Pfizer or Moderna vaccine for individuals 50 years and older at least 4 months after receipt of the first booster dose.

Sara reported that Public Health has resumed monthly immunization clinics in the north and south end of the counties for their Mennonite families. Clinics will be held at the Benton Fire Department and the Dundee American Legion on the 3rd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

Sara reported that their first rabies clinic was held Saturday, March 19th at the Dundee Village Barns. The successfully vaccinated 80 animals, 53 dogs and 27 cats. Their next rabies clinic is Saturday, June 4th, at the Penn Yan Firemen's Field from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Sara reported that staff participated in the Fairy Tale Festival held on March 17th at Dundee School. Over 120 children and adults attended. The Public Health staff provided kid friendly activities and educational information on immunizations, Early Intervention, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs, COVID-19, lead poisoning prevention, rabies, ticks/Lyme disease and emergency preparedness.

Sara submitted her 2021 Annual Report.

Sara reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Appoint Early Intervention Official (S. Christensen)
- Appoint Early Intervention Official Designee (C. Bailey)

COMMUNITY SERVICES: George Roets

George reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Appoint Member to the Yates County Mental Health and Substance Use Subcommittees (Holly R. Smith)

George reported that for the Safe act they received and investigated 3 reports and 1 was reported to DCJS.

George reported that the OASAS Jail funding plan was approved.

George reported that there were 0 AOT cases.

George reported on the following Program Updates: Yates INSYGHT, Crisis Intervention Training, Columbia University HEALing Communities Study, Yates County Crisis Services Plan, Transitional Care Management, Children's Single Point of Accountability, Yates Prevention Coalition, Mozaic/Catholic Charities, Outpatient Behavioral Health Services, Staffing Related Issues, and Transportation.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

Phil reviewed the following Veterans' Service Projects: PFC Dwyer and Outdoor Rx Programs for Veterans and Veteran Suicide Prevention & Community Engagement.

Phil reported that he is interviewing eligible candidates to fill the Veteran Service Officer position.

Phil reported that the following trainings were completed: Veterans Naturalization Assistance Program (VNAP) training (March 29th), Community Interventions to Prevent Veteran Suicide webinar (March 28th), National Veterans Legal Services Program (NVSLP) training - A Guide to VA Benefits for Family Caregivers and the Beaudette Class Action (March 23rd), and New York State Division of Veterans' Services Veteran Advisor training (March 7th thru 16th).

Phil reported that he submitted the scholarship application for the National Association County Veteran Service Officers conference and if sufficient funds are awarded, he plans to attend in person.

Phil reported that their Monthly Services Report for March shows that they provided 306 services. VSA staff and volunteers transported 32 Veterans to medical appointments. He reached out to the Highway Department about possibly getting a handicap accessible van. He was informed that there isn't much need right now for one, but there is at least one Veteran that would benefit from a handicap accessible vehicle.

The Committee questioned if this Veteran was eligible for Office of the Aging services or another service provided in the County. It was determined that there is a timing and scheduling issue that makes it difficult and maybe they could work with the Veteran on that.

Phil reported that the following Veteran-Related Training, Meetings and Community Events are coming up: Veteran, Active-Duty Military and Their Families Coffee 'n Cards conversation on Saturday, April 2th, Finger Lakes Veterans Advocacy Council meeting on Wednesday, April 6th, New York State Division of Veterans' Services VSO Training on Thursday, April 14th, and NYS DVS & CVSOA Leadership Team meeting on Wednesday April 20th.

Phil reported that the monthly total compensation for VA claims settled in the last month was \$157,074.27 and the total compensation and disbursements year-to-date is \$378,968.97.

Phil reported that they are expressing support for the designation of May 27th, 2022, as "National Poppy Day" in Yates County.

It was questioned if they are going to have poppies available for people to purchase downstairs or in the VSA office for that day or how they are going to promote it?

Phil was planning to bring a resolution for it forward first. The American Legion or VFW typically sells them as a fundraiser. He will see if he can rally some Vet's together and see what they can do.

Phil reported the New York State Division of Veterans' Services annual training this year will take place on September 19th-23rd. This year's training will be slightly different from prior years, because it will be a "hybrid" training.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Nonie Flynn

Nonie reported that there is an Education Reimbursement Request for Sara Christensen. This is for her Master's Degree in Public Health from St. John Fisher College beginning fall 2022.

The Committee all agreed to the Education Reimbursement for Sara.

Mr. Bronson moved to enter executive session to discuss:

The employment history of a particular individual, with members of the Committee, other members of the Legislature present, the County Administrator and the Public Health Director.

Seconded by Mr. Jayne.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.