

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 5, 2021

Committee members present: Leslie Church, Ed Bronson, Terry Button, Carlie Chilson, Dick Harper, Bonnie Percy

Others present: Ed Bronson, Jim Multer, Connie Hayes, Dan Banach, Earle Gleason, Pat Killen, Tim Cutler, Nonie Flynn, Zach Housworth (by zoom), Amy Miller, AnnMarie Flanagan, Phil Rouin, Steve Hampsey, Bill Holgate, George Roets.

Leslie and Dick will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as presented.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth

Zach reported ProAction is working on a plan for the congregate sites to reopen.

Zach reported Candice has registered just under 200 seniors for the COVID-19 vaccinations.

Zach reported there were 163 tax appointments provided in March and the tax preparers extended the end date for appointments from 4/15/21 to 4/30/21.

Zach reported 187 families participated in the drive through pantry at the Town of Starkey Highway Department. The next distribution is on 4/15 at the Town of Starkey Highway Department. Signups were made available on 3/23.

Zach reported he will be auctioning off a bus and a Toyota van during the month of April. Zach went on to explain that there were 89 medical related trips in March and the medical trips to Rochester have increased.

Zach reported they are currently delivering 43 home delivered meals and 6 congregate grab and go meals daily in Yates County.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

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

- Appointments to the Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
- Authorize Social Welfare Examiner
- Enter into a Contract with Pathways Inc.

Amy reviewed a position review form for an additional Social Welfare Examiner to replace the current HEAP position that is contracted through ProAction. The Committee approved.

Amy requested that the Distinguished Youth Award that was to be presented in April be moved to May. The Committee approved.

Amy reviewed the Pandemic Caseloads. Amy explained that looking back at the caseload in 2020 the number of cases, number of transactions and amount of money spent on Temporary Assistance and Food Stamp Cases. Transactions on cases include registering applications, withdrawing applications, denying, opening, closing, reactivating, changes and re-certifications.

Food Stamps	2019	2020
Transactions per month (average)	550	968
Cases per month (average)	1146	1163
Benefits issued (not reflected in county budget)	\$2,878,025	\$4,124,529

Temporary Assistance	2019	2020
Transactions per month (average)	222	264
Cases per month (average)	109	121
Benefits issued (reflected in county budget)	Family Assistance \$451,857 (100% reimbursed) Safety Net \$394,668 (29% reimbursed)	Family Assistance \$528,803 (100% reimbursed) Safety Net \$571,802 (29% reimbursed)

Amy reported on the American Rescue Plan. She received guidance from the Office of Temporary and Disability assistance regarding how funds from the most recent stimulus impacts public assistance cases, and it doesn't. It will not impact Food Stamps, HEAP, or Temporary Assistance. However, if Child Support arrears are owed, or if arrears are owed from an overpayment in a Social Services Program, the stimulus will be impacted.

Amy reported on unemployment insurance changes in the American Rescue Plan.

Amy reported all vouchers for 2020 have been sent to the state for Youth Bureau reimbursements. All the programs have received annual reports to complete regarding the 2021 application process.

Amy reported the first 2021 meeting of the Yates County Human Trafficking Task Force will be April 6 at 9:30 a.m.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Annmarie Flanagan

Annmarie reported on a recent rabid fox in the 900 block of East Lake in the Town of Barrington. Annmarie explained that the rabies funding was included in next year's state budget.

Annmarie reported influenza is active but we have not seen any positive test as of year.

Annmarie reported as of today there are 12 active COVID cases, there were 5 new cases since the last report on Friday, and there are 36 in quarantine. Currently 32 to 35% of the population has at least one vaccine dose. Annmarie is concerned with people who are not showing up for their second dose.

Annmarie went on to explain that most people want the Johnson & Johnson vaccine as it is a one shot vaccine. On April 6th the vaccine can start being given to individuals 18 year old and above. At the same time the Pfizer vaccine can be given to residents 16 years old and above. However, due to the cold chain storage Yates County will not be giving out the Pfizer vaccine.

Annmarie she has submitted her Annual Report.

Annmarie reported Durham Transport will not be renewing their contract for the transportation for Early Intervention. She will be going out to bid for this service later this year.

Annmarie reported she is interviewing for a Public Health Nurse. An offer will be made this week.

Annamarie reviewed the following resolutions that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Approving Memorandum of Understanding with CSEA Concerning Altering the Work Hours for a Public Health Department Nurse.
- Authorize Director of Public Health to Fill Part-Time Account Clerk Typist Vacant Position.

Dan reported the Yates Concert Series would like to hold the concert in the parks this year. Joe contacted Public Health and they stated that it would be fine as long as social distancing is practiced and masks are worn.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

George reported there were 3 reports for the SAFE Act and one was reported to DCJS.

George reported funding changes related to withholds have been initiated. Monitoring of CFR reporting for funded agencies from 2019 and 2020 have been undertaken. Adjustments regarding reduction in withholds and performance reviews are under consideration.

George reported one Ontario County AOT client is in a transitional residence awaiting a supportive housing placement back to Ontario County.

George updated the Committee on Yates Suicide Prevention Coalition, Yates INSYGHT, Outpatient Behavioral Health Services, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), Columbia University HEALing Communities Study (HCS), Yates County Crisis Services Plan, Transitional Care Management/Adult Single Point of Accountability, Children's Single Point of Entry, Local Behavioral Health Emergency/Crisis Services Improvement Plan.

George updated the Committee on the progress of his goals.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

Phil reported his annual report was submitted.

Phil reported the last day for the Keuka College social worker intern in his office is May 6th.

Phil reported he has been working on educating Veterans and their family members about the Columbia Protocol. Phil is working with the Yates County Suicide Prevention Coalition in developing and implementing a plan for educating our Yates County Veteran community on suicide awareness, intervention and support and resources.

Phil stated Governor Cuomo signed groundbreaking legislation allowing counties that lack a Veterans Treatment Court to transfer an eligible justice-involved Veteran's case into an adjoining county's Veterans Treatment Court.

Phil reported on various trainings that he and staff have attended.

Phil reported there were 333 services provided and there were 35 veterans transported to medical appointments.

Phil reported on upcoming Veteran related Training, Meetings, and Community Events.

Phil reported on the claims settled.

PUBLIC DEFENDER – Steve Hampsey

Steve reviewed his statistical report which showed 340 active cases as of March.

Steve reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. The Committee approved.

- Authorize Public Defender to Create and Fill Assistant Public Defender (First) Position

Discussion took place on the staffing for the office. Nonie suggested that maybe another part time attorney could be hired with grant funding. Steve will look into it.

Steve updated the Committee on various grants.

ASSIGNED COUNSEL – Dianne Lovejoy

Dianne could not attend the meeting but submitted a written report which showed 431 active cases as of March.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Nonie Flynn

Nonie reviewed on the Project status report as it related to Human Services.

Ed moved to enter executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual or individuals with Committee members, Legislators, Director of Public Health, the Personnel Officer and the County Administrator present. Seconded by Bonnie.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.