

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

July 5, 2022

Committee members: Carlie Chilson, Terry Button, Ed Bronson, Jesse Jayne (Zoom), Dick Harper

Others present: Leslie Church, Bonnie Percy, Dan Banach, Mark Morris, Doug Paddock, Tim Cutler (3:24 p.m.), Nonie Flynn, Emilee Miller, Dianne Lovejoy, Phil Rouin, Zachary Housworth, Sara Christensen, George Roets, Amy Miller, Steve Hampsey

Carlie & Ed will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as presented.

ASSIGNED COUNCEL: Dianne Lovejoy

Dianne reviewed her Statistic Report and the Committee discussed.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

Phil highlighted the following Veterans' Service Projects: PFC Dwyer Veterans Program, Yates County Prevention merger, Veteran & Community Engagement, and initiative to identify & recognize Veterans who are reaching a milestone in life.

Phil reported that he will be recognizing Conor Clancy at the legislative meeting for his Hometown Hero Veterans banners Eagle Scout project.

Phil reported that Elizabeth Cromheecke started in the Veterans office today as an administrative clerk for the summer.

Phil reported the trainings and presentations from the month of June.

Phil reported that there were 234 services provided to Veterans for June and there were 44 Veteran transports to medical appointments.

Phil reviewed the summary of statistical data and the upcoming Veteran-related trainings, meetings, and community events.

Phil reported that the total monthly total compensation for VA claims settled in the last month was \$67,750.00 and the total compensation and disbursements year-to-date is \$657,384.10.

Phil reviewed informational items; Veteran Suicide Prevention Website Tool, Vietnam Wall Memorial coming to Elmira June 30th, and The Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins Act "Honoring Our Pact Act".

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Hampsey

Steve reviewed his Statistic Report and Grant Status Report.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth

Zachary reviewed the following resolution that would be needed. After discussion the Committee approved.

- Redesignation of the Yates County Area Agency on Aging, Pro Action of Steuben and Yates, Inc. Pursuant to the New York State Elder Law, Section 214

Zachary reviewed program updates highlighting the following: Legal Assistance, Senior Wellness, HIICAP (Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program), Transportation, Special Event Dinner, Personal Emergency Response System, Senior Nutrition, Emergency Assistance, and Farmers Market Coupons.

Zachary reported that they are going to be getting 6 Robotic Care Companions from the state. He is hoping to bring in a floor motel display to show the legislature.

Zachary reported that their AU is complete and is currently under Fiscal review at NYSOFA. The program review has already been approved and the next step will be the attachment C Committee.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

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

- Authorize Contract with Safe Harbors for Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services
- Authorize Commissioner of Social Services to Fill Account Clerk Typist Position
- Authorize Contracts with the Following Agencies/Persons
- Recognize Yates County Distinguished Youth Award Recipient

Amy and the Committee discussed the need to establish a contract with a non-secure detention center in Bath.

Amy reviewed the following unemployment rates:

	May 2022	May 2021	May 2020
Yates	2.4	3.5	8.9
Seneca	2.7	4.8	11.2
Wayne	2.7	4.3	10.1
Ontario	2.7	4.1	10.1
Monroe	3.3	5.1	11.0

Amy reported that the Yates County Rental Supplement Plan that was submitted in February has been approved by OTDA. This is a program to establish to provide rental assistance to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or are facing an imminent loss of housing.

Amy reported that they will be participating at resources fairs organized by The Living Well. They will also be talking about Elder Abuse Awareness day at St. Mark/s Terrace.

Amy reported that Remedy Staffing will be in the building on July 14th from 11-2 hiring for KanPak and the Summer Youth Program is up and running.

Amy reported that the recreation funding from the legislature for 2022 so far has been used to assist in meeting the needs for lifeguards and swimming instruction in Yates County.

Amy reported that Morgan Andersen will receive a Distinguished Youth Award this month. There will be another Distinguished Youth recipient next month.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Sara Christensen

Sara reported that in regards to monkeypox, as a Friday in New York State there was 96 cases. On Friday, she had a conference call with the state health department. Health and Human services is ready to implement Phase One of the vaccine strategy. Initially, 56,000 doses are available in Phase One and they will be going to the 10 states that have the highest case numbers, including New York State. New York State is getting a total of 8195 doses, which all will be used for first doses. 70% of that, a little over 5900 are going to New York City, specifically, and then the other vaccines are going to other counties throughout New York State. New York State is concentrating on counties that have had reported cases of monkeypox or counties in close proximity to New York City, as well as looking at destination counties. They are recommending that those most at risk have the vaccine. For the general public, it's a virus and that they should treat the symptoms.

Sara reported the locations remaining for the 2022 Rabies clinics.

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

- Authorize Chairwoman to Sign Agreement with NYSARC Inc. DBA Mozaic for the Transportation of Preschool Children with Disabilities

Sara reported that they were partnering with Finger Lakes Community Health on providing community access to safe sex packets; condoms and information on family planning. The packets were available on their display table downstairs in the lobby for two days and they're also available in the reception area of the Public Health Office. The two days that they were down there, 25 packets were taken. They have very little foot traffic in their Public Health Department. Sara reported that condoms are a preventative item, just like other items that they offer to the public. Chlamydia rates are increasing and they have new syphilis cases. Besides STD's they also have individuals that want to properly space pregnancies out, individuals with new babies in the household, breastfeeding mothers who don't want to use other birth control methods, and condoms are a great intervention. People are more likely to pick them up if they can do so without anyone else watching or standing there.

The Committee discussed what was previously decided in regards to distributing condoms.

Sara reported that they have \$18,000 of incentive money that they received for their very hard efforts in a performance improvement project by the state. That money is targeted for sexual health, reproductive health, education, and preventative measures. They were proposing using those funds by installing condom dispensers in the public restrooms, but they weren't allowed to move forward with that previously. She was collecting more data and community input by surveying their public because she thinks most people would find that condoms on a public health table is just something that public health provides. Not only does she have the data piece about their STI rates locally, regionally where they are going with that, as well as their mental or maternal health program, and spacing of pregnancies. She also needs the community input and what their thoughts are about condoms being available in public settings, such as the county office building.

The Committee asked that Sara bring a PowerPoint presentation forward at the meeting next month with information showing the need for condom dispensers, what the dispensers would look like, etc.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: George Roets

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

- Authorize Chairwoman to sign Contract with Veterans One-Stop Center of WNY

George reported that in regards to the SAFE Act 2 reported were received and investigated and 1 was reported to DCJS.

George and the Committee had discussion in regards to the mental health crisis, after hour's crisis, staffing/employee shortages, etc.

George reported that planning for Opioid settlement funds distribution is under way.

George reviewed program updates.

George reviewed a brochure that provided information regarding Understanding Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). SBIRT is a grant program of the Council on Alcoholism and Addictions of the Finger Lakes.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Nonie Flynn

Nonie reported that she received some more information on the recently enacted New York State budget guidelines for frontline healthcare and mental hygiene worker bonuses. She just shared this with Sara Christensen today and talked to her about if she knew any other information on it. They got a little more clarity on how it further defined some of the workers that are eligible for these bonuses. They are required to pay these bonuses, otherwise the County does get a penalty. In the guidelines there are five vesting periods. It started with they had to be employed from October of 2021 through March of 2022. That's the first vesting period, and then it goes in six month increments after that and maximum bonus for each six month period is \$1,500 and an employee can receive up to a maximum of \$3,000. They don't have great clarification, but Nonie wants to keep them abreast of what information she does get and when they do get paid, what they get paid is not subject to state or federal income tax.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.