

## HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 6, 2022

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

Others present: Bonnie Percy, Rick Willson, Mark Morris, Tim Cutler, Leslie Church, Doug Paddock, Nonie Flynn, Emilee Miller, Phil Rouin, Sara Christensen, Amy Miller, Zachary Housworth

Carlie & Dick will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved as submitted.

### **PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Hampsey**

Steve was not present, the Committee reviewed the Statistical Report and the Grant Status Report.

### **VETERANS: Philip Rouin**

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

- Authorize Director of Veterans Services to fill Veterans Services Officer position

Phil reported that the Amanda Hayes was hired for the Veterans' One-Stop Center of Western New York as the Yates County Dwyer Peer Support Program Specialist. The Yates County Veteran kayaking trip with the Finger Lakes Museum is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is effort for the Lock and Talk program initiative to be implemented. The 2023 budget proposal was reviewed with the County Administrator.

Phil reported that the Veterans Service Officer resigned from his position on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Elizabeth Cromhecke, Summer Youth Employment Intern, has finished her summer service on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Phil reported that he completed the American Red Cross Training.

Phil reported that the monthly services report for August had 390 services provided.

Phil reported that they provided 17 Veterans transportation to medical appointments and one additional transport where the volunteer used their own vehicle.

The Committee, Phil, and Zach from ProAction, discussed the hardships and possible solutions for the lack of volunteers, etc. for Veterans' transportation. Sharon Helton was present to ask questions regarding the transportation issues.

Phil reviewed the summary of statistical data for August.

Phil reviewed the upcoming Veteran-related trainings, meetings, and community events.

Phil reviewed informational items, highlighting the following: Veterans Benefits Administration claims, PACT Act's enactment, and contaminated water at Camp Lejeune.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH: Sara Christensen**

Sara reported that in September they have two rabies clinics, one that will be held at the town of Italy Highway on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and then their second one at the Town of Starkey Highway barns, on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Sara reported that in regards to COVID-19, the bivalent booster vaccine was approved by the FDA and the CDC. It will be officially recommended probably this week by New York State, that vaccine is going to replace the monovalent vaccine booster. Moving forward individuals, twelve and older, if they want to boost they will be receiving the bivalent booster vaccine. The monovalent vaccine will continue for a primary series for an individual.

Sara reported that they continue to hold monthly COVID-19 vaccination clinics, one being this Thursday for ages five and up, and next Thursday is their Pediatric clinic, which is six months through four years of age. Starting in October, they are going to combine them, they no longer need to separate clinics. They do anticipate holding a separate bivalent first booster dose clinic, because individuals are going to be eager to receive that vaccine specifically. It does have the omicron variant in it, which is the strain that it's circulating right now. There was discussion regarding the combining of the flu vaccine and the COVID vaccine into one shot. Sara reported that they are not this year, but she is sure they're looking at that for subsequent years. It's likely that COVID will probably potentially be a seasonal vaccine like the flu is every year. They do not yet have the booster vaccine.

The Committee discussed Monkey Pox. Sara reported that someone can be infectious anywhere from two to four weeks after symptoms. Individuals work with their health care provider if they are positive in regards to when they can return to normal activity, employment, and what not depending on where their rash is and healing. The guidance says that it needs to be crusted over a new layer of skin forming before they can return to work, but they've kind of backed off on that a little bit. If the provider feels they're far enough where, if they're crusting over, and the rashes can be covered by clothing, gloves, or what not then they may return them earlier than that four-week mark.

### **OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth**

Zach reported on the housekeeping aids job description. They will see what the outcome is, but their representative is coming to town at the end of the month for her annual visit, and she said that she was hoping to have a final wrap up on all of this at that visit. He is hoping that they have some good news by October. They received all the files that were submitted to the training program. All of what they submitted, has all been approved individually. So now what they need to do is unlock their portal, which they upload all these documents in, and then there's one final approval. It is really a technical matter of the paperwork getting submitted when they unlock that portal. It should be something that's very easy. He is hopefully that by October 1st, they are able to start advertising for the housekeeping aid position. So they can get somebody in and trained as soon as possible, the sooner they get them out in the field the better it would be.

The Committee questioned the public hearings being held. Zach reported that they call them a public hearing, but it is kind of an odd name for it. Basically, it is like a community forum. They will have one at St. Mark's Terrace, which will be right after their open enrollment presentation. Anybody can register and go, but it's the chance for them to tell the public what they worked on in last year, these were their numbers, this is what they are proposing to do in the following year, and if there's any major changes. The housekeeping aid will probably be discussed at length. It depends on the crowd. There is a Zoom meeting that's going to be available and they will do one as part of their advisory Council meeting.

The Committee questioned the 53 Home Delivery Meals (HDM). Zach reported that they have 53 HDM's per day and then they also have 10 bulk once a week deliveries. The bulk deliveries are the same meals, but the people only get those once a week, so it would be a total of 63 seniors that they serve every week. The seniors can get the bulk meals, but a lot of them don't have the space to store a week's worth of meals. It is a good thing to have deliveries everyday as it is another way to check in on the seniors.

Zach reported that this is the last month for them to assist individuals that were financially impacted by COVID with emergency services, because it expires the end of the month. All payments need to be vouchered to their fiscal department by the end of business on the 28<sup>th</sup>, which means they are going to need all requests and backup documentation no later than the 26<sup>th</sup>. If anyone knows of someone who had a financial impact due to COVID, and they're behind on rent or utility payments, feel free to refer them to ProAction. They really want to get those through as soon as possible. It would demoralizing to everybody if they had a bunch of requests that came in midway through October or something, and there were people that they were unable to assist.

**SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller**

Amy reminded that the income limits for childcare subsidy have changed. The following are the new income guidelines:

Family Size	New Max Income
2	\$54,930
3	\$69,090
4	\$83,250
5	\$97,410
6	\$111,570

The following are the new rates established to pay childcare providers:

<b>DAY CARE CENTER</b>				
	<b>Age of Child</b>			
	<b>Under 1 ½ years</b>	<b>1 ½ - 2 years</b>	<b>3 – 5 years</b>	<b>6 – 12 years</b>
Weekly	\$295	\$275	\$253	\$245
Daily	\$64	\$59	\$55	\$55
Part-Day	\$43	\$39	\$37	\$37

<b>FAMILY DAY CARE HOME AND GROUP FAMILY DAY CARE HOME</b>				
	<b>Age of Child</b>			
	<b>Under 2 years</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>3 – 5 years</b>	<b>6 – 12 years</b>
Weekly	\$266	\$252	\$250	\$225
Daily	\$55	\$53	\$50	\$50
Part-Day	\$37	\$35	\$33	\$33

Amy reported that the eligibility standards for the SNAP program are also increasing October 1<sup>st</sup> as follows:

Family Size	Current Monthly Income	October 1 Monthly Income
1	\$1,396	\$1,610

2	\$1,888	\$2,718
3	\$2,379	\$2,745
4	\$2,781	\$3,313
5	\$3,363	\$3,880
6	\$3,855	\$4,448

Amy reviewed the chart with the rates for children in foster boarding homes showing the increase.

Amy reported that the GRIT Program was a success. Out of the 6 students enrolled, 5 are now working in local manufacturing facilities.

Amy reviewed the unemployment rates:

	July 2022	July 2021	July 2020
Yates	2.8	4.1	9.5
Seneca	3.0	4.9	11.7
Wayne	3.3	4.8	11.3
Ontario	3.1	4.5	12.8
Monroe	3.4	5.7	11.3

Amy reported that NYS upgraded internet browsers without updating programs, so they are unable to determine the exact number of Yates County residents on unemployment insurance, but they estimate between 15-30 individuals.

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

- Appointment to the Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board
- Authorize Chair to Sign Administrative Agreement for the Workforce Investment Board
- Reappointment to the Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board

**COMMUNITY SERVICES: George Roets**

George was not present, the Committee reviewed his submitted report and after discussion, the Committee approved the following resolution.

- Authorize Chairwoman to Sign Contract with the Yates County Sheriff's Office

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Nonie Flynn**

Nonie reported that per NYS Executive Order 18, counties are required to develop a plan to identify and confront threats of domestic terrorism. This plan must be submitted to the NYS Department of Homeland Security Office of Counterterrorism by December 31, 2022. She is still waiting for more guidance from NYS, however, she has spoken with the Sheriff, Brian Winslow and George Roets about coordinating efforts on this.

Mr. Bronson moved to enter into executive session to discuss:

1. The employment history of a particular individual with Committee members, other Legislators Present, the County Administrator, and the Commissioner of Social Services.

Seconded by Mr. Button.

VOTE: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.