

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

October 4, 2021

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

Others present: Doug Paddock, Nonie Flynn, Connie Hayes, Emilee Miller, Jim Multer, Tim Cutler, Dan Banach, Zach Housworth, Amy Miller, Annmarie Flanagan, Phil Rouin, George Roets, Steve Hampsey, Dianne Lovejoy.

Leslie and Bonnie will sign the audit this month.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved as presented.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Zachary Housworth

Zach reported ProAction Yates Office for the Aging has received 520 coupon booklets to distribute this season and 360 were distributed.

Zach reported there were 115 medical trips provided to 25 individuals in August. Six trips included a transportation companion riding along.

Zach report he has run into some issues with the 11 passenger vehicle. Due to the lack of availability as 2022 model will need to be ordered likely pushing the receipt of the new vehicle to sometime next year.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

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

- Enter into contract with Rainbow Junction
- Enter into contract with ProAction for the provision of HEAP outreach and alternate certifier status
- Amend Resolution 29-21
- Authorization to fill caseworker vacancy/Vacancy review form
- Authorization to fill Employment and Training Counselor vacancy and subsequent vacancies/Vacancy review form

Amy reviewed the 2022 budget summary review.

Amy reported the situation with homeless clients is quickly becoming problematic, as there is now only 2 hotels in the county that will take DSS clients, and one of those hotels will only take clients who are fully vaccinated. Several hotels that we have used in the past are disengaging with DSS due to the problems that come with housing the long-term homeless population. Most of the long-term clients have burned their bridges at area hotels and with local and regional landlords. Keuka Housing Council, who offers transitional housing will not accept referrals after 3:30 on weekdays and not at all on the weekends. Amy will be attempting to negotiate a financial incentive with Keuka Housing Council to allow greater access. If the situation continues as is now, DSS will be unable to provide housing as required during Code Blue. Amy is reaching out to community partners in hopes of working together to provide some sort of warming station for the evening hours.

Amy reported as of September 29th the ERAP report indicates that there have been 78 applications in Yates County for payment of rental arrears/perspective rent and utility arrears. As of September 22nd, there have been 9 payments totaling \$63,930 for Yates County.

Amy reported as of September 30th Amy received notice that starting September 22nd HEAP is offering a Regular Arrears Supplement benefit (RAS). RAS is a onetime benefit funded with the HEAP appropriation, available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. RAS benefits are available to assist HEAP eligible households who have electric and/or gas account arrears as documented by their utility vendor. Only one RAS benefit per current electric and/or gas account is permitted, and total RAS benefits must not exceed \$10,000.

Amy reported that Keuka Taxi is now only doing transportation for Medicaid, food deliveries and wine tours. This creates a major problem for the department as the taxi was used to transport homeless clients to housing, to the office, to appointments that are required, and also transporting parents to and from visits with their children in foster care. So far DSS has spent \$1,500 on taxis this year. Amy is searching for possible solutions to this problem. Staff do not have the time or flexibility in their workday to transport clients.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Annmarie Flanagan

Annmarie updated the Committee on the COVID statistics since the Friday report. As of today there are 15 new cases, 6 from Friday, 3 on Saturday and 3 on Sunday. Of those 7 were from close contacts of pervious positive cases and 14 have signs and symptoms. There have been 16 more recovered and 2 remain in the hospital.

Annmarie explained Public Health continues to hold 2 vaccination clinics a week at the Gordmans building.

Annmarie reviewed resolutions that would be needed. Further discussion will take place later in the meeting.

Annmarie reported the on the School ELC Grant. This grant is for the schools to reopen with limited interruption to learning and other activities is being implemented on a step by step level.

Annmarie reviewed the 2022 budget summary review.

COMMUNITY SERVICES – George Roets

George reported there were 2 reports for the SAFE ACT and 1 was reported to DCJS.

George reported the full time Single Point of Accountability for Children (C-SPOA) has been hired and will start on October 18th.

George updated the Committee on the following programs: Yates Suicide Prevention Coalition, Yates INSYGHT, Crisis Intervention Training, Columbia University HEALing Communities Study, Yates County Crisis Services Plan, Transitional Care Management Adult Single Point of Accountability, Children’s Single Point of Accountability, Yates Substance Abuse Coalition and Mozaic.

George reviewed the 2022 budget summary review.

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Steve Hampsey

Steve reviewed his statistical report which showed 280 active cases.

Steve reviewed the Grant update report.

Steve reviewed the 2022 budget summary review.

ASSIGNED COUNSEL: Dianne Lovejoy

Dianne reviewed her statistical report which showed 465 active cases.

Dianne reviewed the 2022 budget summary review.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

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

- Supporting Operation Green Light for Active Military Service Members in Transition to Civilian Life

Phil reviewed the 2022 budget summary report.

Phil updated the Committee on various Veteran Service Projects.

Phil reviewed trainings completed by the Veteran's Service Officer and the Veteran's Service Director.

Phil reviewed his statistical report which showed 490 contacts for the month and 38 veterans transported to medical appointments.

Phil reviewed upcoming Veteran-Related Community Events.

Phil reviewed the claims settled.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Nonie Flynn

Nonie reviewed the monthly statistical report as it relates to Human Services.

Human services Committee was recessed at 5:15 p.m.

The Human Services Committee reconvened in open session at 2:35p.m. and Sara Christensen attended.

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

- Authorize Chairman to Sign Contract With ProAction of Steuben and Yates Inc. for the Employment Administration of Personnel for Response to COVID 19
- Authorize Chairman to Sign Contract with S²AY Rural Health Network, Inc. for the Employment Administration of Personnel (Being held)
- Amend Resolution No. 322-21 (Authorize Director of Public Health to Create and Fill Temporary Full Time Account Clerk Typist Position)
- Rescind Resolution 353-21 (Authorize Director of Public Health to Enter Into an Agreement with Finger Lakes Staffing Services to Staff COVID Surveillance and Testing Clinics for YC Schools)
- Authorize Director of Public Health to Fill Part-Time Public Health Program Coordinator Position
- Designate October 24-30, 2021 As National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week – Public Health
- Sign Amendment #1 to Agreement With Health Research Inc. (HRI)

- Sign Agreement with Health Research Inc. (HRI) – ELC Schools Grant
- Authorize Chairman to Sign Contract With Water Street Pharmacy for COVID-19 Testing Services

Meeting adjourned at 2:53p.m.