

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 8:31 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Jake Brown	Legislator
Mr. Tracy Monell	Legislator {Arrived 8:50 AM}
Mr. Dennis Mullen	Legislator {Arrived 8:35 AM}
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services (MH)
Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Mickelle Andrews	Director of Administrative Services (DSS)
Ms. Heather Vroman	Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services (PH)

Guests: Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Chair of Legislature {Arrived 8:58 AM}
Ms. Elizabeth Myers	Deputy Commissioner (DSS)
Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial
 - Mr. Chris Korba noted that the 2024 budget is tracking well with nothing unexpected.
2. Old Business
 - Criminal Psych – Ms. Lori Morgan shared that as far as they know there are no criminal psych hospitalizations at this time.
3. New Business
 - Waverly location – Construction has begun.
 - Drug Free Communities Grant (DFC)– This is a 5-year grant. Kylie Holochak from PH is the new Project Director. The transition is going well.
4. Personnel
 - Andrienne Lamb, LMSW started 4/22/24
 - Christa Anderson, AA1 started 4/22/24
5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue
 - Appropriation of Funds Mental Hygiene & Amend 2024 Budget (Care Compass)
 - Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (CARA Grant)
6. Proclamations
 - May Mental Health Awareness Month & Children's Mental Health Awareness Week (repeat)

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial

- Mr. Denis McCann reported that 2023 Munis report shows Public Health came in \$107,000 under budget. Due to funds that were transferred out by the Treasurer's Office/Budget Officer to cover other County departments as part of year end process, the actual total return is \$496,000. For the 2024 budget, there are no surprises, and everything is tracking well.

Legislator Standinger asked for a motion to approve the April 2, 2024 HHS Committee minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Mullen. Seconded by Legislator Brown. Motion Carried.

2. Old Business

- None

3. New Business

- Agency Report for April 2024 forwarded to committee.
- The transition with the DFC grant is going well. Kylie Holochak is serving as project manager. Ms. Vroman hopes to hire soon for the Health Educator position that will facilitate the work.
- Met with Southern Tier Aids Program to learn about the services they provide and opportunities for collaboration.
- The recent Rabies Vaccination Clinic in Newark Valley ended up being the second largest clinic, vaccinating 214 pets!
- New York State is ranked 50th in the nation in terms of providing Early Intervention Services in a timely manner. Providers are leaving EI due to low pay and other reasons. The launch of the new EI software program has been postponed until October 2024. Some providers are leaving due to this new software, affecting 5 children so far. This is a critical statewide issue that may need Legislative advocacy in the future. Legislator Mullen expressed his personal frustration with the new State regulations which are also frustrating providers and contributing to the lack/loss of providers.

4. Personnel

- Misty Malmstrom, Office Specialist III, hired effective 4/22/24

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to continue

- Rescind Resolution No. 284-23; Update Public Health Chart of Accounts
- Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (CHSC)
- Amend Budget & Appropriate Funds (ASAP)
- Appoint Director of Environmental Health (Scherrer)
- Authorize Salary Reallocation within CSEA Salary Schedule & Abolish Dental Coordinator (Thomas)

6. Proclamations

- American Stroke Month (repeat)

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial

- Ms. Mickelle Andrews reported that 2023 final budget had a return to the county of \$421,000. Admin was under \$891,000 and the program lines were over budget by \$400,000 mainly due to Foster Care. The 2024 budget is tracking well although Foster Care continues to run high, and Safety Net is rising slightly.

2. Old Business

- None.

3. New Business

- Caseloads
During April, Cash Assistance decreased 4 cases, with Family Assistance decreasing 3 cases and Safety Net decreasing 1 case.
MA-Only decreased 18 cases.
MA-SSI decreased 9 cases.
Total Individuals on Medicaid decreased 39 to 3,307.
SNAP decreased 22 cases.
Day Care increased 1 case.
Foster Care placements & neglect petitions are going up.
See Caseload Summary
- Tioga Career Center report is attached. The proposed budget for program year 2024 was received with a 27% decrease. Commissioner Yetter is in contact with Broome County to address this challenge.

4. Personnel Changes

- Kathleen Wage, OS1, hired effective 4/8/24
 - Stephanie Galeano, Caseworker, hired effective 4/8/24
 - Shannon Willett, Caseworker, hired effective 4/22/24
- Services is now fully staffed

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolution to continue

- Appropriation of Funds & Amend 2024 Budget (CAC)

6. Proclamations

- Foster Care Recognition Month (repeat)

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 9:03 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services