

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

January 28, 2016

Present: Leslie Church, Tim Dennis, Gary Montgomery, Ed Bronson, Elden Morrison, Bonnie Percy, Jim Multer, Bill Holgate, Dan Banach, Earle Gleason, Mark Morris, Terry Button, George Roets, Amy Miller, Deb Minor, Katie Smeenck, Connie Hayes, Phil Rouin.

- Leslie and Ed will do the audit this month.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Katie Smeenck

Katie reported there isn't anything to report on how the proposed State budget will affect ProAction's Programs. Katie expects to be funded at the level in the 2016/17 Annual Implementation Plan.

Katie reported beginning January 2016 ProAction has reduced their home delivered meals to one meal per person per day. This change will impact 12 customers.

Katie continues to research the Chilled Meals Program. Katie explained that the 2015 nutrition services were breakeven in Yates County so she is looking to estimate the full cost and operational impact of the chilled meals program.

Katie reported on the Poverty Simulation in 2016. Katie contacted Laura Rossman, ProAction Executive Director, to find out possible dates for upcoming Poverty Simulations. Ms. Rossman would like to come to the April meeting to talk about upcoming poverty simulations and the ProAction Needs Assessment process that will be kicking off in the next few months. The Committee agreed.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: George Roets

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

- Resolution to Amend Resolution No. 402-15 – Authorizing Contract Renewals For Community Services
- Resolution to Appoint Member To The Yates County Alcohol/Substance Abuse Subcommittee

George reported with regards to the Governor's proposed budget. George explained that there is nothing in the proposed budget that will hurt Yates County. There are a couple of things that may help. There is some funding in the budget regarding services in the Jail, whether we will see any of that is unknown. But there may be some opportunities for mental health services in the jail. Under substance abuse, there is more money for the state agency OASIS. There is some funding targeted toward the heroin epidemic. There is an opportunity for our local agency FLACRA to look at some residential beds regionally. With the Developmental Disability State Agency there is money, they are moving toward establishing a clinic to treat their patients who have a variety of medical issues related to mental health.

George reported there were 3 reports received for the SAFE ACT, 1 was reported to the State.

George reported during 2015 there were a number of suicide deaths or attempts involving youth in our community. In response to that and at the request of the local school districts George held meetings with the superintendents of the Dundee, Penn Yan and Marcus Whitman School Districts as well as counseling staff regarding suicide prevention programs and activities. George explained that suicide intervention training has been delivered to the counseling and

response staff at Dundee and is planned for April at Marcus Whitman and later in the year for Penn Yan. Additional suicide gatekeeper training for the school staff and the community in general will be offered during 2016.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

Phil reviewed a Veteran Service Agency Survey that the agency has created to assess if the office is meeting the veterans' needs and ask for Committee approval. Several suggestions were made for Phil to consider. The consensus of the Committee was to move forward with the survey and have a stamped self-addressed envelope included to be returned to the Legislature.

Phil reported this year the agency along with local cemeteries, will be replacing destroyed/worn veteran military burial markers as part of the Cemetery Military Marker Replacement Project. The project will start with the French Cemetery in Potter. Lynn Axtell from Lakeview Cemetery will be providing the agency with a list of markers needing replacement there. The agency will be working with the smaller cemeteries in the area to evaluate their needs after the French Cemetery markers have been ordered.

Phil reported last year there were 4 homeless veterans. Phil explained the agency assisted a homeless veteran family this past month. Keuka Housing Council temporarily housed them and is working on a more permanent residence.

Phil reported the agency is participating in the 2016 Point in Time County Survey. The survey will be completed for any homeless or at risk of homeless veteran. The data will be forwarded to the Finger Lakes Addictions Counseling and Referral Agency for future use by the housing consortium.

Phil reported the Finger Lakes Veterans Task Force met at the Town of Victor Town Hall on January 27th.

Phil reported he facilitated a Veterans Choice Program Health Care Awareness training/question and answer session at the American Legion Post 355 in Penn Yan on January 13th. Karen Stryker from the Bath VAMC was the guest speaker.

Phil reviewed the monthly statistics which showed 202 contacts and 267 services provided with 5 veterans transported to various medical appointments.

Phil reported the VFW Post 745 in Penn Yan has moved to the American Legion Post 355 Facility. The vacated building is closed and there has been a proposal to sell the property.

Phil reviewed upcoming veteran related community events and meetings.

Phil reviewed the claims settled for the month.

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

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

- Resolution to recognize Mariah Bond as the 4th quarter Distinguished Youth
- WIB appointments
- Workforce Development Budget Allocation resolutions
- Renew a contract with Crestwood Children's Center
- Renew a contract with Family Services of Chemung County

Amy reported the new Youth Bureau Director Alicia Avellaneda started on January 20th.

Amy reported on the Governor's executive order pertaining to the Homeless. The Office of Temporary and disability Assistance (OFTDA) requested a plan regarding homeless housing and a budget estimating the cost of housing otherwise ineligible adults during the time of the executive order. Amy explained that because she is being asked for a cost estimate, it seems possible that we will be reimbursed for these costs, however, Amy has not received any information regarding how to claim the expenses separately from their other expenses. Amy estimated that the department may use \$9,200. So far \$520 has been spent.

Amy reviewed how the Governor's proposed budget will affect DSS.

Raise the Age Back

Like last year, the 2016-17 Executive Budget proposal includes a plan to raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 16 to 18. The age of juvenile jurisdiction would be raised to age 17 on January 1, 2018—and to age 18 on January 1, 2019. Among its provisions, the plan indicates state reimbursement of 100 percent for foster care, aftercare and independent living services, detention and Close to Home for 16 and 17 year old youth newly placed as a result in the change of age of juvenile jurisdiction. It also waives reimbursement from Local Departments of Social Services for placement with OCFS for 16 and 17 year old youth placed as a result of the change.

Affordable and Homeless Housing Plan

During his State of the State presentation, the Governor highlighted a multi-year, *Affordable and Homeless Housing and Services Initiative*—proposing \$20 billion over five years in affordable housing and housing opportunities and services for the homeless. The goal is to establish 94,000 units of affordable housing, 6,000 units of supportive housing, and 1,000 new emergency shelter beds. DOB indicates that \$640 million in settlement funding will be directed toward the plan in SFY 2016-17—including \$590 million for capital projects and \$50 million for other services costs. It seems unlikely that any of this money will go to rural areas.

Medicaid Admin Cap

There is No change to the Medicaid Administration Cap for SFY 2016-17 under the Executive Budget.

Expansion in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) Eligibility from 130% to 150% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL)

Governor announced his plan to raise the Gross Income Test (GIT) level from 130 percent to 150 percent of the FPL for all SNAP households with earned income. DOB projects that an additional 750,000 households will be eligible and that it will bring in \$688.5 million in additional SNAP benefits per year. The SNAP benefit is 100 percent federal funding, but SNAP administration is a 50/50 share between federal and local government without any state support.

Amy reported Workforce Development had 21 job placements this month.

Amy reported the front door traffic increased in the office. In 2014 there were 7,727 individuals who came into the office. In 2015 that number increased to 9,479.

Amy reported Workforce Development in partnership with the Yates Cultural and Community Center, 4 more jobseekers were trained in the Gold Guest Services National Certification Program. This is a 10 hour training and is being offered in response to the concern of local business owners who identified a need for customer service training. One of the jobseekers who took the course in December obtained a job this month in a related field.

Amy reported Girls on the Run registration begins February 1st and they now have coaches for all three teams.

Amy reported the Youth Director is processing the 2015 annual reports for all funded programs and have begun to send out applications for 2016 funding.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Deb Minor

Deb reported a meeting was held with Finger Lakes Health, S²AY Rural Health Network and Public Health Directors of Seneca, Ontario and Yates County to begin the process of conducting the 2016 Community Health Assessment with our local hospital and community partners.

Deb reported the Yates Substance Abuse Coalition held a community form on January 19th at the Dundee Central School with approximately 200 community members present. Prior to the forum, Sara Christensen conducted a Narcan Administration Training.

Deb reported she will be attending the Partnership for Ontario meeting on January 27th to participate in planning efforts of a student assembly February 10th and a community forum February 24th, Naples and Geneva also attended. Naples will also be holding a student assembly, Geneva will also be doing something similar.

Deb reported Senator O'Mara is planning his forum here at the Penn Yan Middle School on February 23rd at 6:30p.m. to discuss heroin.

Deb reported Senator O'Mara, Assemblyman Palmesano and Congressman Reed all sent representatives to the forum in Dundee.

Deb reported Dundee and Penn Yan School Districts are looking to have a motivation speaker come in by the name of Marc Mero on February 10th.

Deb reported the following on how the 2016 -2017 Executive Budget Proposal will affect her department.

- Article 6 State Aid Funding appropriation includes a 4.13% increase however the NYSACHO request for a legislative change to the base grant and percent reimbursement for municipalities was not included.
- Categorical funding appropriations for most public health programs were level-funded.
- Combat Heroin epidemic includes a \$6M increased appropriation. Funding is targeted for initiatives such as:
 - Adolescent clubhouses for those in recovery or at-risk
 - Navigator assistance for those seeking treatment and their families
 - Recovery Community and Outreach Centers
 - Real time statewide Treatment Availability Tool
 - Online resources for parents, teachers and community members designed to assist in communicating with youth
- Purchase of portable, hand-held machines for synthetic drug testing for NYS Police and local law enforcement \$2M.
- Early Intervention appropriation decrease of 3.14% with proposed language to increase insurance reimbursement by requiring insurers to pay medically appropriate claims. There is also language proposing streamlined eligibility and initial screenings which could eliminate the need for more costly comprehensive medical evaluations for some children.

- Paid family leave (12 weeks) for parents of newborns or newly adopted children or for those providing care to seriously ill family members. The proposal is financed through employee payroll deduction

Deb reported as a follow-up regarding Medicaid Pre-School and School Supportive Health Services program annual cost based settlement and reconciliation. The state will not be dispersing any funds because the total settlement amount for NYS did not exceed the \$150 million required threshold as required by NYS Social Services Law.

Deb reviewed the following resolution that will be needed. The Committee approved.

- Resolution to Authorize a Contract With Lauren Taylor SLP

Deb reported there will be a vacancy due to a retirement and the position has been posted.

Leslie reported on a letter received from the Public Defender. She will be responding to that letter once the figures in the letter can be verified.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40p.m.