

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

May 4, 2015

Present: Leslie Church, Sarah Purdy, Doug Paddock, Gary Montgomery, Margaret Dunn, Elden Morrison, Bonnie Percy, Jim Multer, Bill Holgate, Dan Banach, Tim Dennis, Lee Sackett, Mark Morris, Bob Clark, Jim Smith, Connie Hayes, Ron Spike, Amy Miller, Deb Minor, George Roets, Phil Rouin, Katie Smeenck, Valerie Gardner.

Leslie and Gary will do the audit this month.

Minutes approved of the April meeting.

VETERANS: Philip Rouin

Phil reported Keuka College is hosting a Victory in Europe (VE) Day remembrance ceremony on May 8, 2015 from 4 to 5 pm. The event is open to all members of the community, WWII veterans in particular are encouraged to attend.

Phil reported he has been awarded the national American Legion accreditation on April 7th which enables his office to prepare, present and prosecute claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs under the laws relating to veteran's benefits.

Phil reported he will need to complete a required online Training, Responsibility, Involvement and Preparation (TRIP) training before he can verify/sign DD-214's. Phil plans to have this done by July 1st. Until Phil receives the TRIP training Earle Gleason has been providing these services on an as needed basis.

Phil reviewed the statistical report which showed 307 contacts and 396 services provided for the month of May with 17 veterans transported to various medical appointments. Gary questioned that out of the 307 contacts how many veterans that number represented. Phil will provide the information next month.

Phil reviewed various community outreach and departmental in reach that was done.

Phil reported he is on the subcommittee to develop a Standards of Conduct policy.

Phil reviewed upcoming meetings that he will be attending.

Phil reviewed claims settled for the month.

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

- Resolution Chairman to enter into a written agreement with P. Earle Gleason for services regarding the veterans' services agency

Tim asked if information could be provided of the number of new contacts the office makes. Basically what is the number of veterans that come in for the first time?

SOCIAL SERVICES: Amy Miller

Amy reported Sue Yonts, the Director of Income Maintenance is retiring as of 5/15. Amy will be looking at the job description and duties and will be bringing a position review next month. Sue has worked for Yates County for 30 years.

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

- Resolution to enter into a contract with St. Anne Institute
- Resolution to authorize contract with Pathways Inc. Erwin Child and Family Center, Child Care

- Resolution to authorize Chair to Finger Lakes Chiefs Elected Local Official Agreement for Program Year 15
- Resolution to authorize 2015 Contracts for Yates County Youth Board
- Resolution for Budget Transfers

Amy reviewed the following report on Fraud.

Departments of Social Services are required to investigate fraud. They are also required to enter into agreement with the District Attorney for the prosecution of that fraud. There are several requirements from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance for Social Service Districts in regard to Fraud investigations

1. All contracts for investigation must be approved by the Office and Temporary Disability Assistance
2. Each DSS must submit an Investigative Unit Operations Plan (IUOP)
3. That IUOP must include a written agreement with the district attorney

Yates DSS is currently in compliance with all of these requirements. Attached you will find the agreement that we have with the YCSO to investigate fraud, the agreement that we have with the DA's office to prosecute fraud, and our IUOP.

As a clarification to last month's report, the referrals that are made by DSS are to the fraud investigator. We would have no reason to make a referral directly to the DA, and as you can see by the attached documents, that is not our process.

As was mentioned last month we have sent a fraud case to the state to request our First Administrative Disqualification Hearing. What follows is a better description of an Administrative Disqualification Hearing from the Temporary Assistance Source Book.

If the local district refers an overpayment of over-issuance to the appropriate prosecutor or authorized to act on the matter, and that prosecutor declines to prosecute or fails to take action on the referral within a reasonable period of time, and the local district elects to initiate the process for an administrative disqualification hearing, the local district must withdraw in writing the referral to the prosecutor before referring the case to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA).

DSS submits an evidentiary packet to OTDA and if/when the packet is determined to be sufficient OTDA will schedule an administrative disqualification hearing. If a hearing is held a decision is made that is based on clear and convincing evidence that demonstrates that an individual committed and intended to commit an Intentional Program Violation (IPV). The following penalties from the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance are imposed for cases found to have committed an IPV.

1. Ineligible for 6 months for the commission of a first IPV, and the offense is less than \$1,000
2. Ineligible for 12 months for the commission of a second IPV, or the offense is between \$1,000 and \$3,900
3. Ineligible for 18 months for the commission of a 3rd IPV, or the offense is over \$3,900
4. Ineligible for 5 years for the commission of a 4th or subsequent offense.

Amy reviewed the various agreements that in place with the Sheriff, DA and NYS for Fraud Investigation.

Valerie walked the Legislature through a flow chart for determining/disqualification for Fraud.

Ron reported there were 58 referrals in 2014 from DSS to the Investigator. Of those 58, 60% were front end detection. These are issues where the caseworker sees things that they want looked at because the individual may not be entitled to the assistance. The investigator working with the caseworker usually closes these types of cases out so they do not get to the point where criminal charges are placed. Ron explained that typically Schuyler County was not involved in fraud investigations down there. Yates has been doing fraud investigations for 30 years. Ron stated that when he first started doing fraud investigations with DSS there were a lot of cases. Eventually that number has come down.

Amy reviewed the following unemployment rates.

	March 2014	March 2015
Monroe County	6.2%	5.2%
Ontario County	6.2%	5.4%
Schuyler County	8.4%	7.8%
Seneca County	6.8%	6.0%
Wayne County	7.2%	6.2%
Yates County	6.8%	5.9%
New York State	7.1%	5.8%
United States	6.8%	5.6%

Amy reported the results of the Transportation Survey that was done. Out of 80 surveys received 95% are unemployed, 46% indicated that a lack of transportation has prevented them from applying for a job, 27% indicated that they have lost a job due to lack of transportation, and 90% say they would access public transportation if it were available.

Amy reported Workforce is in the transition from a WIA to WIOA. The RFP for Youth is out and they are currently working to incorporate the changes that are required under the new legislation. These include a change in the population served to 100% out of school youth. Other additions required include financial literacy education, entrepreneurial skills training, pre-apprenticeship programs, and services that provide labor market and employment information about in-demand industry sectors or occupations available in the local area, such as career awareness, career counseling, and career exploration services.

Amy reported the Youth Bureau has determined allocations for agencies and municipalities for Youth Development program funding through the office of Children and Family Services for 1/1/15 to 12/31/15. The youth Bureau anticipates receiving the same amount in State Aid and therefore based the allocations on that amount.

Amy reported her agency will be working with Pro Action Yates Youth Services to assist them in providing the Learn Serve & Earn program to penny an area youth this summer.

PUBLIC HEALTH: Deb Minor

Deb reviewed the 2014 Live Birth Report. In 2014 the number of live births was 283 a decrease from 302 in 2013 and 330 in 2012. The highest recorded number of births in the last decade occurred in 2009 at 350.

Deb reported a Medical Counter Measures POD exercise was conducted on April 27th

Deb reported Chris and she attended in the County Emergency Preparedness Assessment led by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and emergency Services and the Yates County Office of Emergency Management on April 8th .

Deb reported she participated in a recent Disease Control Committee of NYSACHO to consider proposed Bills in Albany and to make a recommendation to the full NYSACHO Body. These Bills include:

A.123/S.4739 (Paulin/Hannon) and S.3900 (Hoylman) - seek to expand the scope of pharmacists and nurse practitioner immunization authority in NYS. There seems to be good support for these bills as they will help to increase availability of adult vaccines and affect an increase in the percentage of adults with current tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis and herpes zoster (shingles) vaccination.

A.1822 (Paulin)/ S.509 (Hoylman) – an Act to amend the public health law in relation to requiring immunization against human papillomavirus (HPV) in school age children from the current legislation which encourages voluntary, informed vaccination.

A.1982 (Weprin)/S.3155 (Stavisky) – an Act to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to restricting areas where smoking is permitted by prohibiting smoking in private passenger vehicles where minors less than 14 years of age are in such vehicles. This also seems to have support in theory however some question the ability to enforce and some question the need to raise the age and include e cigarettes and vaping.

Deb reported April 13th starts National Women's Lung Health Week. The American Lung Association reminds us that Lung Cancer continues to be the #1 cancer killer of women in the US. Recently released County health Rankings cite that 25% of adults in Yates County are current smokers.

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

- Resolution: Authorizing Signature of a Subcontract Agreement with Health Center Network New York (HCNNY)
- Resolution: Authorizing signature of Amendment to Agreement with Finger Lakes Therapy Works, PLC

Deb reported the SAY Rural Health Network is assisting PY in responding to a grant opportunity through the NYSDOH to conduct a radon outreach and education programs designed to encourage people to test homes, schools and daycares and to mitigate those identified with elevated radon levels.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING: Katie Smeenk

Katie thanked everyone for their kind words regarding the death of Stephanie Bates.

Katie reported there are 2 vacancies in her office she has interviewed 12 applicants so far and hopes to finish the second round of interviews next week.

Katie submitted a letter in support of Lifespan for a grant to provide fraud, scams and ID theft prevention services for seniors in the Finger Lakes region including Yates County.

COMMUNITY SERVICES: George Roets

George reported there were 7 reports received for the SAFE ACT and 2 were referred on to DCJS.

George reported the 2nd quarter funding from the Office of Mental Health has been received.

George reported we have two assisted outpatient treatment (AOT) cases in the county. Both of these cases are individuals on AOT who moved into the county after placement on AOT status. The responsibility for the individuals move to the county of residence. Under the law the individuals remain on AOT until the order expires (one year) or is terminated. Orders can also be continued. There are plans in place, monitoring treatment is ongoing and both individuals are benefiting from ordered treatment.

Jim Smith moved to enter executive session to discuss an employee performance, seconded by Lee.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15p.m.