

## HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

August 3, 2015

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

Leslie and Lee will do the audit this month.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved as presented.

The September Committee meeting will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00p.m.

### **PUBLIC DEFENDER** – Ed Brockman

Ed reviewed the call-out for arraignments that were outside the regular court appearances.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Deb Minor

Deb reported a meeting was held with the Yates Substance Abuse Coalition (YSAC) and Soldiers and Sailors Emergency Department staff to discuss the issue of opioid use in the community. Informational packets were provided to the Emergency Department Staff that can be distributed to family or friends of a patient with suspected overdose.

Deb reported a training was held at the Dundee Central School for community members interested in the administration of naloxone; an opioid antagonist. There were 20 attendees with an average age in the 40's. The current plan is to tailor and expand the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program to include training community members which would be led by the Coalition in community outreach, promotion and site location of any community training events.

Deb reported to date 4 reports of Naloxone administration by trained overdose responders has taken place in the county. For the period Jan-July, 38 patients have presented to the hospital with a chief complaint of overdose, drug withdrawal or detox.

Deb reported Rite Aid will be conducting 2 flu clinics in the county auditorium which will be open to county employees and the general public. Those clinics will be Sept 22 and Oct 13, 11:30 – 1:00 and 3:30 to 5:00.

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

- Resolution to authorize renewal of agreement with Durham School Services for the 2015-2016 school year (routes to Happiness House \$183.03/day/child to Keuka Lake School \$38.95/day/child)
- Resolution to create a part-time position of Public Health Program Coordinator

Deb explained she did not receive information in time for this meeting to prepare a report on Lifetime Care and will have the report next month.

### **OFFICE FOR THE AGING:** Katie Smeenck

Katie reported she is now back up to being fully staffed.

Katie reported the department is busy handing out Farmers Market Coupons.

Katie reported there are no waiting listings for services at this time. Also, the funding for legal assistance to seniors has been exhausted. Seniors that contact them requesting a referral for free legal assistance are told that funds are fully committed and no referrals will be sent for the remainder of 2015.

Katie reported the Alzheimer's Association is going to begin offering two half days per month of counseling services to families and caregivers. Counseling services will be offered in the Yates Office for the Aging offices, and Yates OFA staff will schedule the appointments.

Katie reported OFA has received a \$1,500 grant from the Yates TB and Health Association to assist them with the purchase of a replacement of the Personal Emergency Response receiver unit. The unit is located in the Sheriff's Department.

Katie reported she is in the process of working with Pat Brede to propose an update in the Yates County Senior Citizen property Tax Exemption levels. The last update to these levels was in 2008. Katie is suggesting that the Senior Citizen property tax exemption levels be increased to adjust for increases in social security and the federal poverty level. Katie will bring additional information next month when all the analysis is done.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES:** George Roets

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

- Resolution authorizing the appropriation of funds from the NYSOMH designated for supportive housing
- Resolution to amend 2015 contract with Lakeview Health Services, Inc.
- Resolution for appointments to the Yates County Community Services Board and Subcommittees

George reported there were 7 reports received pertaining to the SAFE ACT and 1 was reported to the State.

George reported all advances have been received as planned and the budget is on target.

George reported there is currently 1 AOT client who is being followed by the EPC ACT team.

George gave a brief explanation on the Single Point of Access for Children and Youth.

**VETERANS:** Philip Rouin

Phil reviewed the monthly statistical information which showed 223 contacts, 261 services, and 27 transports to medical appointments and there was 1 new veteran contact.

Phil reviewed the community outreach and departmental in-reach that he participated in last month.

Phil reported he will be attending a Veterans mental health and homeless Summit on August 4<sup>th</sup> at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center. The purpose of the summit is to bring community partners together to discuss Veterans' mental health and housing issues in order to enhance access to resources.

Phil reported he will be doing the "Open Mic" talk show with WFLR Radio on August 11<sup>th</sup> to announce upcoming events and discuss veterans' services and benefits.

Phil reported he will be attending the County Veterans Service officers Association Annual Conference on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the American legion post #230 in Sherrill.

Phil reported the Wings of Freedom Tour is coming to Seneca Flight Operations at the Penn Yan Airport August 19<sup>th</sup> through August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Phil reviewed claims settled this month and also the retroactive payments the office has been notified of for the period of January thru July which total 302,844.54

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** Amy Miller

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

- Renew contract with Safe Harbors for the provision of Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services
- Amend contract with Kinship Family and Youth Services to include parent education
- Enter into contract with Mike Pliszka for polygraph services
- Authorize chairman to appoint Katherine Hayes to a 3 year term on the Youth Board beginning August 10, 2015 and ending August 9, 2018
- Recognize Miriah Jefferson of Dundee as the Yates County Distinguished Youth for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- Amend Resolution 173-15 (Renew Contractual Agreements )

Amy gave the following report on Able Bodied Adults without Dependents. The vast majority of food stamp recipients in Yates County are working families or senior citizens. There are about 100 recipients who are individuals without dependents. Up to the present time these recipients, upon application have been required to go to the office of Workforce Development to learn about the services we offer, but we were not required to engage with them further. This was because NYS had been receiving a waiver from the Federal Government that exempted these clients from having to participate in work activities. This waiver ends 12/31/15. At that point the

Department of Social Services will have to monitor these cases monthly to ensure that they are working 20 hours per week, or engaged in 20 hours of work activities (these are the same sorts of activity that we currently provide for public assistance applicants and recipients).

This will be a difficulty for working clients, as they will have to provide us with information regarding their activity monthly so that we can ensure that they are receiving the correct benefit amount.

This will be a difficulty for the Department because we will need an employee who is able to monitor and/or provide activities for all of these clients. At this time we do not have any employee who is able to take on that increased workload, and this will become an unfunded mandate. The current reimbursement for employees that provide SNAP is federal only. Reimbursement provided by NYS is the SNAP Employment and Training Allocation (\$2,379 at 100% and \$49,890 at 50%) which we use to pay the current SNAP workers.

Amy reported she is coming under budget in several lines which is primarily due to 16 children leaving care after the 2015 budget was approved.

Amy updated the Committee on the mileage of each of the county cars. Also, DSS has spent \$7,892.25 on expenses and mileage for the county cars.

Amy reported Workforce Development has made the transition from WIA to WIOA which continues to be a learning process. Amy explained the funding for the adult and dislocated workers was cut by 10% and the Youth Programs were flat funded.

Amy reported the summer Youth Employment Program is underway and currently has approximately 35 youth employed in approximately 20 worksites throughout the county.

Amy reported the summer recreation programs for youth are in the final weeks of operation. The Town of Middlesex has informed the Youth Bureau that that due to low attendance they will not be holding swim lessons therefore their funding is being allocated to other programs.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:** Sarah Purdy

Sarah reviewed her memo pertaining to Attorney support staff changes that need to be decided due to an IRS audit. Sarah explained according to the IRS the only options that are acceptable are to pay the attorneys directly and have the attorneys pay their staff or have the staff members become employees. A lengthy discussion was held and concerns were, having non-county employees handle county information, how many hours are they going to work, and fairness in salaries across the support staff. Sarah will put more information together on the impact of making the support staff employees vs. non-employees and further discussion will take place next month.

Leslie questioned if the consensus of the Committee was to go ahead and appoint the Conflict Defender now or wait until the secretarial issue is resolved. The consensus of the Committee was if the individual agrees to start work without the secretarial stipend than to go ahead and make the appointment now.

Sarah reviewed her memo on public transportation and asked if the Committee wanted her to continue to work on this. The consensus of the Committee was to have Sarah continue and check with Mary Zelanzny who is the Director of Finger Lakes Community Health and see if she would be interested in doing a presentation next month.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30