

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

June 1, 2022

Members Present: J. Ricketts-Swales, G. Hanchett, B. Harris, D. Root, J. Rumfelt, P. Stockin, (Absent: J. Burdick)

Others Present: G. Barnes, T. Boyde, B. Budinger, A. Carrow, K. Chamberlain, R. Christman, P. Curran, A. Cyr, J. D'Arcy, K. Demick, A. Fancher, D. Fanton, S. Havey, D. Healy, K. Hooker, E. Kayes, C. Knapp, T. Linn, A. Mattison, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Human Services Committee Vice-Chair Jennifer Ricketts-Swales at 2:37 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Harris, and carried to approve the May 4, 2022, Human Services Committee meeting minutes.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Director Tyler Shaw attended the meeting and submitted the Department of Health's monthly report to the committee for review.

Request for Resolution for Healthy Families Allegany/Cattaraugus

Public Health Director Tyler Shaw requested a resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Healthy Families Allegany/Cattaraugus, and the Allegany County Department Health/WIC as a collaborating partner. The Allegany County Department of Health/WIC will provide referrals to Healthy Families Allegany/Cattaraugus should the persons meet the requirements for the program. Healthy Families Allegany/Cattaraugus also agrees to provide referrals to the Allegany County Health Department/WIC if persons meet the requirements provided by said agency/service provider. The MOU will go into effect immediately upon the signature of all of the parties, and it will remain in effect for the Healthy Families Contract year of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request for Resolution to Amend Preschool Contracts for Children's Services

Public Health Director Tyler Shaw requested a resolution to amend the previously approved preschool contracts to increase the payment rate from \$50 per half hour session to \$55 per half hour session. The rate increase for preschool providers was approved by the legislature via Resolution 57-22. This rate increase will begin July 1, 2022, for currently approved providers and will apply to any new preschool providers contracted after June 30, 2022. The rate increase for services is already appropriated in our 2022 Budget. The County Attorney has reviewed and approved this agreement. Currently contracted providers are as follows:

Speech:

Angela Baron	Bolivar	NY	14715
Jamie Beardsley	Fillmore	NY	14735
Sara Carbone-Hess	Hornell	NY	14843
Jennifer Callahan	Franklinville	NY	14737
Susan Cochrane	Honeoye	NY	14473
Dena Hess	Wellsville	NY	14895
Renee Giardini	West Clarksville	NY	14786

Caroline Painter	Portville	NY	14770
Maggie Smith-Pomeroy	Fillmore	NY	14735
Tommie Pomeroy	Fillmore	NY	14735
Tanya Tucker-Scholla	Scio	NY	14880
Building Blocks	Canandaigua	NY	14424
Jillian Short	Wellsville	NY	14895
Jean Walk	Cuba	NY	14727
Jennifer Williamson	Cuba	NY	14727
Southtown's	Orchard Park	NY	14127
Jennifer Smith	Alfred	NY	14802
Julianna Hamm	Hamburg	NY	14075

Physical Therapy:

Denise Cornell	Franklinville	NY	14737
Candy Hodnett	Fillmore	NY	14735
Rehabilitation Today	Olean	NY	14760
Maple City PT	Hornell	NY	14843
Jones Memorial Hospital	Wellsville	NY	14895
Building Blocks	Canandaigua	NY	14424

Occupational Therapy:

Brandi Duvall	Houghton	NY	14744
Anthony Marra	Belmont	NY	14813
SDAA OT Solutions	Belmont	NY	14813
Kirsten Clancy	Almond	NY	14804
Jones Memorial Hospital	Wellsville	NY	14895
Southtown's	Orchard Park	NY	14127
Building Blocks	Canandaigua	NY	14424
Tanya Konopski	Bath	NY	14810
Kathryn Schledorn	Dansville	NY	14437

Music Therapy:

Kathleen Avins	Bath	NY	14810
Alicia Hubbard	Hornell	NY	14843

1:1 Aide:

Accord Corporation	Belmont	NY	14813
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Parent Training:

Kelly Morehouse	Wellsville	NY	14895
Joanne Ross	Belfast	NY	14711
Michelle DeGraff	Alfred Station	NY	14803

Behavior Consultation:

Michelle Degraff	Alfred Station	NY	14803
Southtown's	Orchard Park	NY	14127
Dr. Lynn O'Connell	Alfred Station	NY	14803

Special Education Itinerant Services:

Friendship Central School	Friendship	NY	14739
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The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Rumpfelt, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request to Fill Registered Nurse

Public Health Director Tyler Shaw requested permission to fill one full-time Registered Nurse (NYSNA Bargaining Unit, Step: Base to 6) in the Department of Health. This position would primarily work to support the requirements of the Federal Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant which may include COVID-19 testing, vaccination, contact tracing, and other COVID-19 duties as necessary. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be between \$45,117.08 and \$55,997.70, with benefits estimate to be between \$19,689.09 and \$24,437.47. The position is completely funded through 100 percent Federal funds specifically earmarked for COVID-19, and \$80,435.23 has been budgeted in the 2022 Budget by Resolution #186-21. Legislator Root asked for the total number of Registered Nurses within the DOH, and Mr. Shaw there are 7. Legislator Root also asked how many Registered Nurse positions were currently open. Mr. Shaw replied that this is the only open position at this time. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Fill Typist

Public Health Director Tyler Shaw requested permission to fill one full-time Typist (AFSCME Bargaining Unit, Grade: 4, Step: Base to 3) in the Department of Health. This position will support the Department of Health by answering all incoming calls, receiving and sending of daily mail, acting as purchasing agent, sending of lead programmatic information to the public, and posting of clinical payments received. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be between \$30,272.97 and \$32,193.25, with benefits estimate to be between \$13,211.12 and \$14,049.13. The position is funded with 100 percent State funds, and benefits are funded with 100 percent County funds. The amount in the 2022 Budget for this position is \$31,415.20. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Kayes began by introducing Adult Protective Services Caseworker Andrew Fancher. Mr. Fancher gave the following presentation:

We receive referrals for people in our community who are 18 years and older. We work with high school seniors up to age 102, the oldest individual I have worked with. There are three eligibility criteria that we assess for. First and foremost, the individual must have an impairment. That impairment can be anything mental or physical, rather than being an ambulation issue such as: diabetes, mental health, dementia, etc. Secondly, the individual must be experiencing an unmet need or some kind of harm to the individual which is directly connected to the impairment. An example may be, if Mrs. Smith has dementia to the point that it is affecting her ability to manage her finances and pay her bills. We deal with environmental concerns such as hoarding, homelessness, animal infestations, and lack of utilities. We field referrals in regards to self-neglect and abuse by others. We investigate allegations of physical and mental abuse, as well as financial exploitation and scams such as: romance scams, family imposter scams, and social security scams. Financial exploitation is sadly one of our more popular referrals. Our third criteria are assessing the ability and willingness of others to assist responsibly. This is where a lot of the work comes from APS. We take a great deal of effort making sure the individuals we work with are connected with the appropriate people who can assist in their situation such as: family, doctors, service providers, churches, and neighbors. Adult Protective Services is designed as a last resort agency. Once we link the client to the appropriate support to alleviate the harm, that is when we close our case.

Unlike Child Protective Services, our main tenant is not safety, but rather self-determination. Self-determination is one of the key components to all of our referrals. As APS workers, we have to consider the individual's capacity. Capacity is the ability of the individual to make rational decisions regarding their welfare. If we find someone to have adequate capacity, we have to allow them to make poor decisions or allow them to remain in unsafe situations. This can sound concerning to some; however, most of us would not appreciate the government coming to our homes and forcing us out. We realize our inability to change a certain situation can be frustrating for those who make referrals as well as people in the community because there are sometimes misconceptions that we have the authority to make people involuntarily do certain things such as: going to a nursing home, receiving medical care, relocating to a safer environment, or to having charges filed when the individual is the victim of a crime. That being said, we do have some tools that we can use when an involuntary measure may be required, though they are rare. One of the involuntary measures would be an access order in which we have been denied access to an individual who we believe may be experiencing harm or an unmet need. In these cases, we consult with a supervisor and our County Attorney, and present the concern to one of our Family Court Judges who has the authority to grant us an access order. When we have to use an access order, we collaborate with law enforcement. The next measure we can take is to request a Short-Term Involuntary Protective Services Order (STIPSO). In this type of situation, an individual we have met with has to be experiencing a medical emergency that we feel left unaddressed could lead to serious injury or death within 24 hours, and the individual appears to not comprehend the situation they are in. Unfortunately, there are times when people who do have capacity and understand their lack of medical attention could potentially lead to their death. We have to respect their wishes, but we will also contact emergency services to allow the individual to deny medical attention.

In APS, we also have the responsibility of being the legal guardian to individuals who have lost their capacity and do not have others who can responsibly fill that role. Currently in Allegany County, we have 5 guardianship cases. Commissioner Kayes is technically the legal guardian of these 5 individuals, with APS conducting the case work. With guardianship cases we have the duty of making decisions about their person and property. We have had to sell homes for these individuals, make medical and financial decisions, and unfortunately end of life decisions.

Given that we work with the adults in our community, we get to meet people from different walks of life. No two cases are ever the same. We get the pleasure of working with some of the great resources in our County such as: Office for the Aging, NY CONNECTS, ACCORD, our colleagues at DSS, law enforcement, and many others.

Request to Fill Senior Account Clerk Typist

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested permission to fill one full-time Senior Account Clerk Typist and any resulting backfills (AFSCME Bargaining Unit, Grade: 10, Step: Base 7) in the Department of Social Services (CSEU). This position will be responsible for building cases, handling income tax offsets, building out-of-state support order cases, and adjusting support orders following court appearances. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be between \$34,978 and \$42,084, with benefits estimated to be between \$15,264 and \$18,365. The position is funded with 66 percent Federal funds and offset with TANF collections. The amount in the 2022 Budget for this position is \$41,879. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Refer to Ways & Means

Request to Fill Social Welfare Examiner

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested permission to fill one full-time Social Welfare Examiner and any resulting backfills (AFSCME Bargaining Unit, Grade: 11, Step: Base 7) in the Department of Social Services. This position will be responsible for interviewing clients and determining eligibility for benefits. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be between \$36,107 and \$43,885, with benefits estimated to be between \$15,757 and \$19,151. The position is funded with 52 percent Federal funds, 10 percent State funds, and 38 percent County funds. The amount in the 2022 Budget for this position is \$43,671. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Request to Fill Social Services Investigator

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested permission to fill one full-time Social Services Investigator and any resulting backfills (AFSCME Bargaining Unit, Grade: 15, Step: Base 7) in the Department of Social Services. This position will be responsible for investigating possible receipt of fraudulent benefits, and working to prosecute if necessary. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be between \$40,908 and \$50,967, with benefits estimated to be between \$17,852 and \$22,242. The position is funded with 47 percent Federal funds, 7 percent State funds, and 46 percent County funds. The amount in the 2022 Budget for this position is \$50,967. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Rumfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Requested Resolutions for Permission to Renew the Following Foster Care Contracts:

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested a resolution approving the renewal of the Foster Care Contracts for the time period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, between DSS and the following:

- Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth- 427 New Karner Road, Albany, NY 12202
- Buffalo Urban League, Inc.- 15 Pine Street, Buffalo, NY 14204
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rochester D/B/A Catholic Charities Steuben/Livingston (Kinship Family Youth)- 23 Liberty Street, Bath, NY 14810
- Child and Family Services- 330 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209
- Children's Home of Wyoming Conference- 1182 Chenango Street, Binghamton, NY 13901
- Gateway-Longview, Inc.- 6350 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221
- Glove House- 220 Franklin Street, Elmira, NY 14904
- Gustavus Adolphus- 200 Gustavus Avenue, Jamestown, NY 14701
- Hillside Children's Center- 1183 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620
- KidPeace National Centers of North America, Inc.- 4085 Independence Drive, Schnecksville, PA 18078
- New Directions Youth and Family Services, Inc.- 356 Main Street ER, Randolph, NY 14772
- Pathways, Inc.- 33 Denison Parkway, Corning, NY 14830
- St. Anne's Institute- 160 North Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
- The William George Agency for Children's Services, Inc.- 380 Freeville Road, Freeville, NY 13068
- Villa of Hope Youth and Family Services- 3300 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

The requests were approved on a motion made by Legislator Rumfelt, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request Resolution for Permission to Contract with Stephen DeMarte

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested a resolution approving Allegany County Social Services to enter into a contract with Stephen Demarte, in Belfast, NY 14711 for the rental of a four-bedroom home/apartment. The tentative dates of this contract will be July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024. This is a two-year contract as follows:

Year one funding-	\$ 24,000
Year two funding-	<u>\$ 24,000</u>
Total of two-year contract-	\$ 48,000

This rental will help alleviate the lack of availability of temporary housing to the homeless population, and reduce the number of persons who are referred to hotels/motels. Furthermore, the location of the property is located close to Social Services for better communication with those who have to utilize this service. Currently the department will utilize the Emergency Solutions Grant under COVID (ESGCV – A2024.481) to cover 100 percent of this expenditure. Legislator Harris asked if this rental amount was considered fair market value. Ms. Kayes responded that she was not certain of the fair market value, but pointed out that this rental will cost less than the current standard of hotels and motels for each individual client. Legislator Root asked what a typical residency is for this type of housing. Ms. Kayes explained that it is temporary housing until permanent housing can be secured. Legislator Root asked if this rental could also be a solution for Code Blue. Ms. Kayes stated that they had not considered that but that it could potentially be used for that. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Prepare Resolution**

Request Authorization to Apply for Federal 2022 SNAP Process and Technology Improvement Grant

Social Services Commissioner Edna Kayes requested a resolution for permission to apply for the Federal 2022 SNAP Process and Technology Improvement grant which will be used to improve the SNAP application process by providing computer workstations for client use and to improve remote access. The total amount requested for fiscal year 2022 to 2023 is \$23,000 with no obligation to the County once the grant expires. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Rumpfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Office for the Aging Director Anita Mattison attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Mattison began by introducing Volunteer Coordinator for the Office for the Aging Karen Chamberlain. Ms. Chamberlain gave the following presentation:

My name is Karen Chamberlain; I am the Volunteer Coordinator for the Office for the Aging. I have been in this position since 2016. Currently, I coordinate 9 volunteer programs with approximately 240 volunteers.

Transportation Program

Available Monday-Friday. Taking seniors to medical appointments, grocery shopping, bank, pharmacy, post office, support groups/counseling and OFA luncheon centers. These are in order of priority and as volunteers are available.

Meals on Wheels

I have 9 volunteer MOW routes utilizing approximately 100 volunteers delivering meals to seniors.

Tax Counseling for the Elderly

A seasonal program. I start contacting my volunteers late fall, the lead volunteer and I complete necessary trainings in November and December. Our lead tax volunteer provides instruction for 2 weeks in January for the additional volunteers in preparation for the upcoming season. For the 2022 tax season we had 11 volunteers, 9 trained tax preparers and 2 greeters. We served 548 seniors and completed 390 tax returns. Bringing \$332,183 back to our seniors.

Handyman Program

Has approximately 6 volunteers doing minor repairs for seniors such as installing grab bars, repairing or replacing a leaky faucet, repairing a step or install a railing. Clients are responsible for the cost of materials.

Friendly Visiting and Telephone Reassurance Program

Offers a call or visit by volunteers on a pre-determined schedule for socialization and a health and safety check.

Senior Luncheon Centers

Volunteers assist the site manager with setting up, serving, and clean up. Currently we have 8 open luncheon sites.

Growing Stronger Program

Volunteers lead the exercise program. Currently, we have 6 locations, most take place at our luncheon sites.

Allegheny County Fair Booth

Volunteers man our fair booth for 2 hours at a time during fair week.

Miscellaneous Work

Volunteers help with various needs such as assisting in mailings like our Silver Linings, office jobs as needed, and Senior Picnic.

Volunteers dedicated to helping the Office for the Aging save this County more than \$218,000 annually. We are always looking for new volunteers. Pre-COVID I averaged 300 volunteers. We lost many volunteers for different reasons.

My position is very demanding but without these volunteers we would not be able to provide the level of services we currently do to our older adults. As we continue to grow our volunteer base, my goal is to designate more time directly supporting my volunteers.

Request for Resolution Accepting Supplemental Funding from OFA Unmet Needs State Grant

Office for the Aging Director Anita Mattison is requesting a resolution to accept supplemental funding from the OFA Unmet Needs State grant. This grant runs on a fiscal year of 4/1/22-3/31/23. This grant requires no County match and will result in no fiscal liability for the County once expended. We anticipate an increase in participant contributions, reflected below, due to increased services provided, and request the funds be added to the 2022 Budget as follows:

Appropriations (\$182,000)	
A 6792.101 Regular Pay	\$ 26,000
A 6792.210 Equipment (Other)	\$ 4,000
A 6792.402 Mileage	\$ 12,000
A 6792.408 General Supplies	\$ 6,750
A 6792.422 Gas/Oil	\$ 2,500
A 6792.474 Contractor (Homecare)	\$ 121,000
A 6792.475 Contractor (PERS)	\$ 1,500
A 6792.803 FICA	\$ 3,700
A 6792.804 Workers Comp	\$ 550
A 6792.806 Health Insurance	\$ 4,000
Total:	\$ 182,000

Revenues (\$181,000)	
A 6792 3772.00 State Aid-OFA Unmet Needs	\$181,000
A 6792 1972.PC Participant Contributions	\$ 1,000
Total:	\$ 182,000

The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Rumpfelt, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Request to Fill Part-Time Typist

Office for the Aging Director Anita Mattison requested permission to fill one part-time Typist (Non-Unit, Grade: 4, Step: Base) in the Office for the Aging. There is only one Typist position at the Office for the Aging. This position is responsible for telephone and office reception, and clerically supports the whole agency. If other employees were asked to do these jobs, the County would be paying higher wages for typist duties. The annual salary of this position is estimated to be \$13,893, with benefits estimated to be \$3,484. The amount in the 2022 Budget for this position is 37,872, with funding from 10 percent County funds, 57 percent State funds, 20 percent Federal funds, and 13 percent other funds. The request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Harris, seconded by Legislator Hanchett, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

Senior Picnic

Ms. Mattison stated that the Senior Picnic will be held on August 16, 2022, at the Allegany County Fairgrounds between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. August 17 is scheduled as a rain date.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m. following a motion made by Legislator Rumpfelt, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Linn, Confidential Secretary
Allegany County Board of Legislators