

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 31, 2016

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Shay, LaPointe, Suprenant, Campbell, Fedler, Moore

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Pitts

SUPERVISORS: Hicks, Gang, Shaw, Idleman, O'Brien, Hogan Armstrong

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Al Nolette, Treasurer

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, OFA Director

Tina McDougall, Public Health Fiscal Manager

Kathy McIntyre, Assistant Director Public Hlt.

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Mike Gray, Youth Bureau

Rob York, Mental Health Director

Public

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1) Call to Order

2) Accept Minutes – July 27, 2016

3) Department Reports/Requests:

A. Public Health

1) Request to Apply for Adirondack Health Institute Grant Funding – Senior Safety Day

2) Request for Budget Close Out FFY 15-16 – WIC

3) Miscellaneous

B. Community Services/Mental Health

1) New Contract Request – The Addictions Care Center of Albany, Inc. (100% State Aid)

2) Budget/Contract Amendment Request – Council for Prevention (100% State Aid)

C. Youth Bureau

1) Request for Budget Amendment – Recognizing Additional STSJP Funding

D. ADRC/OFA

1) Program Updates

E. Social Services

1) 2016 to Date Program Updates

2) Overnight Stay Authorization Request

4) Other Business

5) Adjournment

Chairman Shay called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2016 meeting was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mr. Moore and adopted.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Kathy McIntyre, Assistant Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Adirondack Health Institute Grant Funding – Senior Safety Day – They had already applied for a grant through the prevention agenda for postpartum depression. The grant was well received and the decision was made to do that as a regional level program. The Adirondack Health Institute put it on their work plan. Public Health applied again for the prevention agenda funding for a Senior Safety Day. This event is for all the seniors in the County and will be held on Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge. It is at no cost to the seniors. Event flyer distributed, attached. They plan to use the \$2,500 grant funding for the following: \$1,700 towards food/beverages for the event, \$300 for nightlights and \$500 in educational materials/brochures. A motion to accept prevention agenda grant was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. LaPointe and adopted. A motion to approve use of those funds for food and promotional materials was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Messrs. LaPointe and Campbell and adopted. A motion to amend budget to recognize Prevention

Agenda funding in the amount of \$2,500 was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.

- Budget Close Out FFY 15-16 WIC – The WIC budget closes out on September 30<sup>th</sup>. They still have some funds to spend and are looking to replenish supplies: Farmers Market cookbooks, water bottles for breastfeeding moms and pregnant moms, security cameras and resupply blue plastic documents holders, handout attached. A motion to approve WIC items requested was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.
- Miscellaneous:
  - Clinton County – Regional grant funding opportunity to promote and support pediatric obesity prevention. Clinton County will be the lead agency. A motion to authorize participation and apply with Clinton County for a regional grant was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. LaPointe and adopted. Budget amendment required once grant is awarded.
  - LIFT Grant – Linking Interventions for Total Population Health – Requesting permission to apply for grant funding in partnership with other counties in the region that addresses obesity and diabetes. Essex County is the lead agency. These programs have to be evidence based. The regional funding is \$56,000 first year and \$222,000 in years two and three. The efforts are focused on integration of evidence based services; to provide services outside the clinical settings. A motion to approve letter of intent to participate in LIFT grant was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.
  - Use of DSRIP (Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program) monies towards a grant writer for the counties. They would like to obtain the services of a grant writer to obtain more funding to be able to provide more programming. DSRIP funding can be used in that way and it would cost each county about \$1,000 to go in together for a grant writer. A motion to approve applying funding for grant writer was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Fedler and adopted.
  - Alliance for Positive Health based in Plattsburgh is planning to bring a syringe exchange program to Warren and Washington Counties and are applying for grant funding for this program. The needle exchange program has proven to decrease the spread of a number of other diseases and reduces the number of needles that end up on our roadsides and parks. They are looking for a letter of support for the program to help them secure grant funding. A motion to give Public Health permission to submit a letter of support for this program was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mrs. Fedler and adopted.

COMMUNITY SERVICES/MENTAL HEALTH – Rob York, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Amend Budget - Council for Prevention – A motion to amend the budget and contract for the Council for Prevention, Inc. to allow pass through of 100% State funding from the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services in the amount of \$350 as COLA adjustment provided by NYS OASAS was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mrs. Fedler and adopted.
- Budget Amendment/New Contract – Establish a new contract because 820 River St. is merging with The Addiction Care Center and the fourth quarter funding in the amount of \$72,835 which includes a \$435 COLA will move to the new contract. A motion to transfer the fourth quarter funding from 820 River St. to the Addiction Care Center and recognize the \$435 COLA for a total of \$72,835 was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mrs.

Fedler and adopted.

- Walk for Recovery event to raise awareness about substance abuse issues will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Glens Falls City Park, flyer attached.

YOUTH BUREAU – Mike Gray, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Budget Amendment – Recognizing Additional STSJP (Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program) Funding they receive from DSS. A motion to accept STSJP funding from DSS in the amount of \$22,874 and forward request to amend the budget to the Finance Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.
- Program Updates: In July held a safe sitter program in Whitehall and he reported on their activities at the Washington County Fair.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING – Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Program Updates:
  - Annual Health and Wellness Expo will be held on October 6, 2016 at the Kingsbury Firehouse, Hudson Falls from 10 AM to 4 PM, flyer attached. The Treasurer suggested contacting Capital Financial for participation in this event.
  - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Working with the Glens Falls Hospital on their healthy food initiative called Feel Good Movement bringing healthy food to the workplace. Washington County employees could order healthy food and vegetables for pick up during the week. The grant the Glens Falls Hospital has will help supplement the cost of the food by \$7.00. A motion to authorize permission to enter into an MOU with the Health Promotion Center of Glens Falls Hospital for participation in this program was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted. With this MOU, the County is agreeing to promote and support the program. If a County employee wants to participate, they will have to go online and register.
  - 3D Funding – OFA receives federal funding called 3D funding that can only be used for evidence based programs. She has talked to the committee before about using the funding toward the savvy caregiver program. At this time, she would like to engage in an MOU with Public Health to provide \$2,100 to support their Tai Chi for arthritis program. A motion to accept using 3D funding toward Public Health's Tai Chi program was moved by Mr. Suprenant, seconded by Mr. LaPointe and adopted.
  - NY Connects Funding (Information assistance and referral program for individuals of all ages) & BIP (Balance Incentive Program) – They have guidelines on how they can use the funding. She would like to support the mobile health program supported by Director Mark Spiezio which serves the southern end of Washington County. What they do is an elder check program which is very similar to a care transition program where they receive a referral from a hospital or physician and the mobile health program goes out and does a review of medications and a safety check of the home (that the home is free of harm to the individual). The money would be given to them to promote the NY Connects Program on the line of public education. They would talk about the NY Connects Program; provide a brochure and information on how to contact OFA for more information/services. Kathy McIntyre, Assistant Director of Public Health, stated they are also involved in the mobile health unit. These are people who don't qualify for home care services coming out of the

hospital. It is not in competition with home care services. A motion to authorize permission for OFA to engage in an MOU with the Mobile Health Care Program and provide a funding component for their public education was moved by Mrs. Fedler, seconded by Mr. Campbell and adopted.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Overnight Stay Authorization Request – The Commissioner will be attending a Leadership and Policy Forum presented through the Public Welfare Association in Latham on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The title this year is Supporting Children and Families in Our Communities. There is no fee for the Commissioner to attend other than it does start late in the day and goes into the evening and would like permission to stay overnight. A motion to approve overnight stay request was moved by Mr. LaPointe, seconded by Mrs. Fedler and adopted.
- 2016 to Date Program Updates:
  - Staff Turnover – The Commissioner focused today on the position of Social Services Examiner and distributed and discussed the attached handout. DSS has (34) Social Services Examiner positions in the department out of their total staff of 132. They determine eligibility for various programs and investigate welfare fraud and fill in the the Child Enforcement Unit. It is a front line position. The pay range for this CSEA Grade 10 position is \$17.27 base to \$18.19 at step 4. Out of the 34 position, 26 have become vacant during the seventeen month period, 2015 to August 31, 2016. Four of those positions were backfilled twice. The agency has to deal with all kinds of regulations and clients with many complex needs. She would like to add on more positions so someone leaving does not hurt as bad, lessens the impact on operations, but being aware of the budget constraints does not request additional positions. In the department’s 2017 budget request, she is asking for one more Social Services Examiner and one Senior Social Services Examiner positions. The agency can see some lightening of the load with the State takeover of Medicaid. Discussed possibly making then all 40 hour per week employees or possibly changing their pay grade and not add on positions. One of these new positions would be working with our homeless population. The Commissioner noted this position is paid less than what our surrounding counties pay their employees. The reimbursement on these positions varies with the program. Chairman Shay recommends she meet with the Budget Officer and County Administrator to discuss this issue. Changes in grade would need to be negotiated with the union.
  - Community First Choice Option is part of the Affordable Care Act and was approved in October 2015 but it is retroactive to July 1, 2015. They have not seen an increase in demand yet but will require another Caseworker position in OFA/ADRC area which is 100% reimbursable and will be included in the 2017 budget.
  - Benefit Programs Handout – Distributed and explained Benefit Programs handout, attached. She noted the State made a funding shift several years ago and whereas TANF was a 75%/25% split, they took it all to 100% federal funds. There is a lifetime limit for how long you can receive TANF benefits which could be up to five years. The State then added in Safety Net which used to be a 50%/50% split and when they made TANF 100% federal, they shifted the Safety Net reimbursement to 29%/71% local cost.
  - Homeless Shelter Expenses, included on Benefit Programs handout. She plans to request in the 2017 budget two (2) additional Caseworkers for the homeless population; one to work with the family and one to work with adults. She cannot

commit to reducing the cost but probably can reduce the amount of time that they are placed in housing. The County Treasurer reported that starting with next week's weekly MMIS deposit, it is going from \$213,500 to \$210,400 which over 52 weeks is a \$156,000 savings. The State is getting money through the Affordable Care Act and they are starting to share that with the counties.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

The meeting adjourned 11:16 A.M.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Debra Prehoda, Clerk  
Washington County Board of Supervisors*

# Senior Safety Day!



Brought to you by  
Southern Washington/Northeastern Rensselaer County Mobile Health Care

**Thursday, September 22, 2016**

**9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Free!**

**Lunch  
included**

**Cambridge United Presbyterian Church's Brieman Building  
81 East Main Street Cambridge, NY 12816.**

Join us for a day of mini workshops, lunch, and a CarFit Check \*.

All just for You!

**Falls Prevention**

**Keeping Fit**

**Medication Safety**

**Staying Safe in Your Home**

**Tai Chi for Arthritis**

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**CARFiT** 

This is NOT a driving test or mechanical inspection.

CarFit is a FREE program that teaches people how to make their car "fit" them for better safety and mobility when they hit the road.

We'll review 12 Key areas of your fit to your car, such as driver's ability to easily reach pedals, correct position of driver's seat with enough space from the steering wheel, proper seat belt use, and properly adjusted head restraints. Also, learn how to use and adjust mirrors to eliminate blind spots.

Reservations by September 19th are suggested  
(so we can plan for lunch)

**Call 746-2400 ext. 2415**

## **WIC Requests : Items for Committee for August 31, 2016**

Farmers Market Cookbooks: \$ 2.25 each x 1000= \$ 2,225 plus shipping and handling.

Resupply of Water Bottles for Breastfeeding Moms and pregnant moms to Promote Breastfeeding @ approximately \$3 each x 400= \$ 1200

Security Cameras – Am working with buildings and grounds to purchase good quality security cameras for our new waiting room. Have not received information on this yet. Approximate cost would be \$300 - \$400.

Resupply blue plastic document holders used by participants for securing WIC checks- 1500 @ .80 each = \$1200



1<sup>st</sup> Annual

# Adirondack Walk for Recovery

ADDICTION RECOVERY AWARENESS



A walk of **HOPE** for you & your loved ones!

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**Saturday, September 10, 2016**

10am-2pm

Glens Falls City Park @ Bandstand

Please wear the color turquoise!

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Adirondack Recovery Walk is sponsored by the following:



Friends of Recovery  
Warren & Washington Counties



*Hometowns vs. Heroin & Addiction*



*Warren & Washington Counties  
Partnering for an Addiction-Free Tomorrow*



COUNCIL FOR PREVENTION  
*Promoting Health and Well-Being*

Hope



# Washington County

## Office for Aging and Disabilities Resources



**NY Connects**  
Your Link to Long Term  
Services and Supports

Presents The Seventh Annual

# Health & Wellness Expo

## Our Community, Our Health, Our Future



# October 6, 2016

at the *Kingsbury Firehouse*  
3715 Burgoyne Ave Hudson Falls, NY  
10am - 4pm



Information on  
Benefits for  
Veteran's and  
Spouses

- ◆ Flu Shot Clinic
- ◆ Nutrition Outreach and Education
- ◆ EPIC
- ◆ Community Resources
- ◆ Public Health -CarFit Information
- ◆ Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Initiative
- ◆ Medication Information

Learn what your choices are before open enrollment and get all the necessary information you need before you decide to make any changes on your Medicare insurance options.

- ◆ Make your health plan work for you
- ◆ Free screening and assessment for Advantage Plans and stand alone prescription plans (bring current list of your medications)
- ◆ ADRC Information Specialists will be available to answers all your questions



Medicare Open enrollment is  
October 15th thru December 7th.



BlueShield of Northeastern New York



For more information please call (518) 746-2420



**Social Services Examiner  
Production lost to Vacancy  
2015 – 8/31/16**

Social Services Examiner is the entry level civil service title for the employees that determine eligibility for programs such as Temporary Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, & Day Care. It is also the title for the employees that investigate allegations of welfare fraud, compose the Child Support Enforcement Unit and perform “intake” duties for Children Services. There are a total of 34 positions with this title within the 132 member Department of Social Services.

There are requirements to attend specific trainings, provided by the state, for each of the program specialties. Workers are able to “shadow” experienced workers and assist with basic functions until they are trained. The trainings are accessed when they are available per the schedule arranged by the state with their training contractors. Occasionally, training sessions will line up nicely based on the time of need and at other times it could be a lengthy delay.

Washington County has an approved Case Supervisory Review waiver on file with the state. Without the waiver every transaction that is processed would have to be signed off by both the worker and their supervisor before being entered. With the waiver in place, and a software program called SCREAMS that we contract for in order to automate our authorizations, we are able to set a threshold for the random review of workers that have over one year of experience and a low error rate. These are efficiencies that permitted us to barely maintain our case flow during a time of increased demand.

Out of a total 34 positions, we have had 26 periods of vacancy

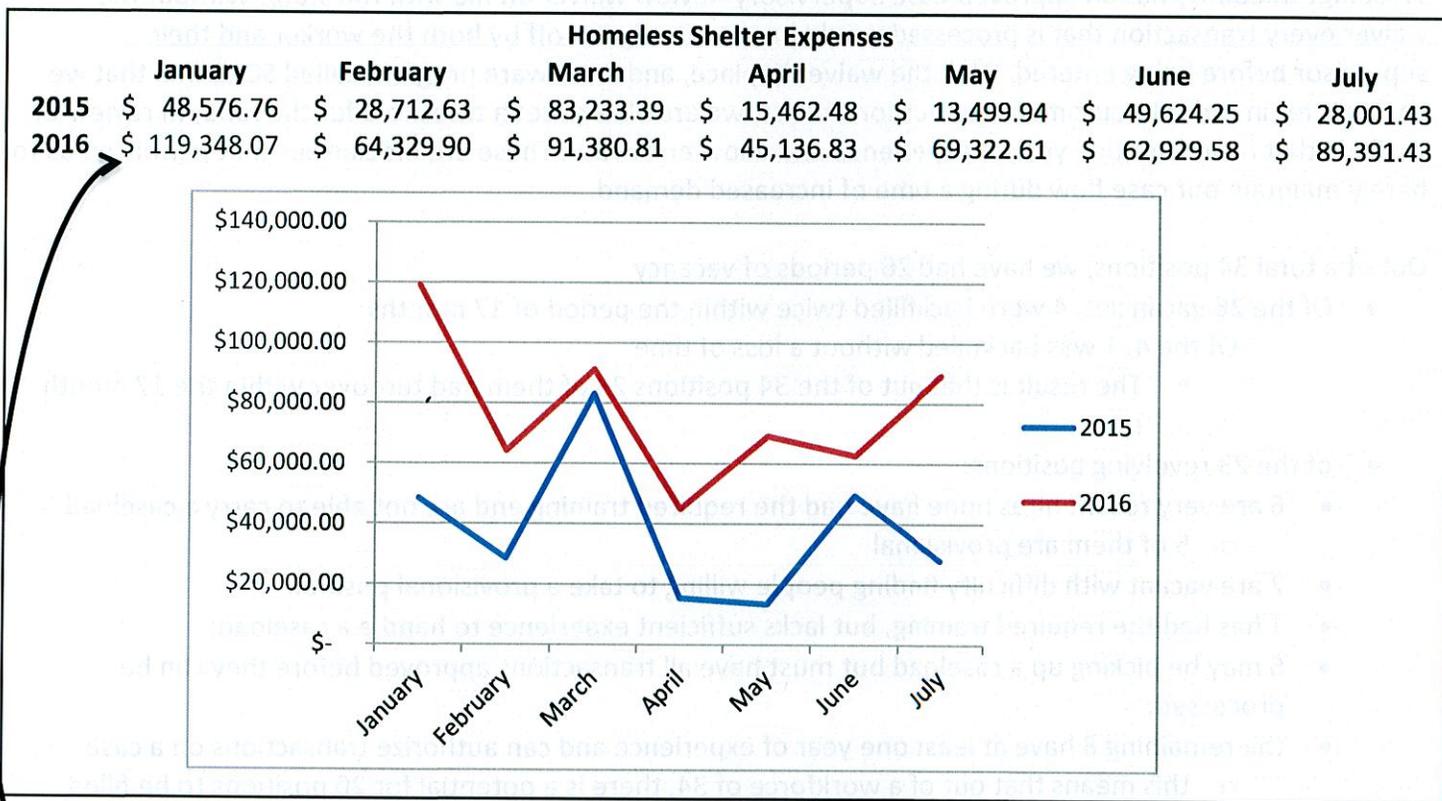
- Of the 26 vacancies, 4 were backfilled twice within the period of 17 months
  - Of the 4, 1 was backfilled without a loss of time
    - The result is that out of the 34 positions 23 of them had turnover within the 17 month span.
- of the 23 revolving positions:
  - 6 are very recent hires none have had the required training and are not able to carry a caseload
    - 5 of them are provisional
  - 2 are vacant with difficulty finding people willing to take a provisional position
  - 1 has had the required training, but lacks sufficient experience to handle a caseload;
  - 6 may be picking up a caseload but must have all transactions approved before they can be processed;
  - the remaining 8 have at least one year of experience and can authorize transactions on a case
    - this means that out of a workforce of 34, there is a potential for 20 positions to be filled with individuals that have had sufficient training and time in title to manage their own transactions on a caseload.

To date for 2016, the Social Services Examiner title has had 347 calendar days of vacancy. For the same time frame in 2015 the total calendar days of vacancy in the same title were 444.

With the considerable turnover rate, it is simply not possible to adequately meet the deadlines set by the state in order to provide adequate services to the residents of the county. There are not enough workers suitably trained to manage a caseload. There are not enough workers to lend a hand to other workers in need of support. The demand for worker to worker support has extended for such lengthy time frames the employees that are adequately trained are frustrated. There are not enough managers to train and coach new staff nor to provide all of the transaction reviews for the newer workers or random review for the tenured workers.

Benefit Programs

|                               | July, 2016   | July, 2015         | July, 2014   | July, 2013         |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>Program Area</b>           | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Individuals</b> | <b>Cases</b> | <b>Individuals</b> |
| TANF Subtotal                 | 170          | 363                | 179          | 381                |
| SN Subtotal                   | 108          | 131                | 94           | 114                |
| <b>TA Total</b>               | <b>279</b>   | <b>495</b>         | <b>273</b>   | <b>495</b>         |
| <b>MA TOTAL</b>               | <b>5,752</b> | <b>8,268</b>       | <b>6,262</b> | <b>9,462</b>       |
| FS Subtotal                   | 3,449        | 6,512              | 3,782        | 7,107              |
| <b>FS RELATED TOTAL</b>       | <b>3,564</b> | <b>6,716</b>       | <b>3,883</b> | <b>7,317</b>       |
| Unduplicated Individual Count |              | 13,690             | 15,107       | 16,056             |



| Funding Source | % Local Cost | Jan-16            | Feb-16           | Mar-16           | Apr-16           | May-16           | Jun-16           | Jul-16           |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| FA             | 0%           | \$ 12,079         | \$ 20,012        | \$ 18,996        | \$ 9,079         | \$ 15,170        | \$ 10,165        | \$ 15,823        |
| SN             | 71%          | \$ 62,395         | \$ 36,757        | \$ 67,399        | \$ 25,447        | \$ 38,576        | \$ 35,549        | \$ 58,103        |
| EAA            | 50%          | \$ 1,377          | \$ 3,075         | \$ 1,645         | -                | \$ 1,839         | \$ 4,055         | \$ 3,175         |
| EAF            | 17 1/2 %     | \$ 43,496         | \$ 4,484         | \$ 3,339         | \$ 10,609        | \$ 13,737        | \$ 13,158        | \$ 12,289        |
| <b>Total</b>   |              | <b>\$ 119,348</b> | <b>\$ 64,329</b> | <b>\$ 91,380</b> | <b>\$ 45,136</b> | <b>\$ 69,322</b> | <b>\$ 62,929</b> | <b>\$ 89,391</b> |