

STEUBEN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES, HEALTH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

9:00 a.m.

*Legislative Committee Room
Steuben County Office Building
Bath, New York*

****MINUTES****

COMMITTEE:	Carol A. Ferratella, Chair Steven P. Maio	Hilda T. Lando, Vice Chair Randolph J. Weaver	K. Michael Hanna
STAFF:	Jack K. Wheeler Hank Chapman Jennifer Prossick	Mitchell Alger Darlene Smith Andy Morse	Lise Reynolds Christine Towner
LEGISLATORS:	Joseph J. Hauryski John V. Malter	Kelly H. Fitzpatrick Robert V. Nichols	Robin K. Lattimer
OTHERS:	Mary Perham		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Ferratella called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Weaver to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2018, AND SEPTEMBER 24, 2018, MEETINGS MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MRS. LANDO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

III. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Department of Social Services

1. **Furnace RFP** – Mrs. Reynolds requested authorization to issue an RFP for furnace repairs/replacement for the 2018 – 2019 HEAP season.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO ISSUE AN RFP FOR FURNACE REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT FOR THE 2018 – 2019 HEAP SEASON MADE BY MR. WEAVER. SECONDED BY MR. MAIO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

2. **Mobility Technology Project RFP** – Mrs. Reynolds informed the committee that they have iPads and are just starting to put them out in the field; currently the Supervisors are using them and it is going well. We have been working with the State on this project and have received the go ahead from them to move forward. She requested authorization to issue an RFP for the Mobility Technology Project. This project will allow us to purchase software which will enable our cases to be electronically filed and stored. Mr. Wheeler commented this is expensive, but the efficiencies are significant and we do have money available in a capital project.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, TO ISSUE AN RFP FOR THE MOBILITY TECHNOLOGY PROJECT MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. MAIO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. **Child Advocacy Center** – Mrs. Reynolds informed the committee Steuben is one of six counties in the State that does not have a child advocacy center. A child advocacy center would provide a child a safe, comfortable and neutral space to conduct forensic interviews for allegations of abuse/neglect. It also provides a multidisciplinary team consisting of Child Protective, District Attorney, law enforcement, behavioral health, medical and a victim advocate. The State is providing us with \$750,000 over a three-year period to set up a mobile child advocacy center. We will receive \$450,000 in year one for the purchase of a Winnebago to serve as the mobile unit, general operating and start-up expenses and vehicle maintenance. We will receive \$150,000 per year for year two and year three for operational expenses and vehicle maintenance.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE STATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000 OVER THREE YEARS TO IMPLEMENT A MOBILE CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Hanna asked what age group will you be serving? Mrs. Reynolds replied babies to 18. Mrs. Lando asked what is the purpose of the Winnebago? Mrs. Reynolds replied it will become a mobile unit that can go right to the location. Mr. Maio asked where will the stationary center be? Mrs. Reynolds replied it will be up near Ira Davenport Hospital.

Mr. Maio commented he sees that Livingston also does not have a Child Advocacy Center; has there been any discussion about sharing a mobile unit with them? Mrs. Reynolds replied the State is looking right now at getting each county its own set up.

Mr. Wheeler commented we have had discussions about this for at least four years. The District Attorney has worked with Social Services to put money into a capital project about three years ago. Our stakeholders certainly see a need. One of the questions is if we add a Winnebago, what happens when it is time to replace it or the State stops funding. If that is the case, we would not be looking at a replacement; we would just have to look at other options.

Mr. Maio asked right now, how do you interview children? Mrs. Reynolds replied when we have had cases in the western part of the County and have had the opportunity, we have utilized Monroe's mobile unit. Mr. Maio asked where are the interviews being conducted? If I am a child, I would rather be in a setting that is familiar to me, someplace comfortable, as opposed to being somewhere else. Mrs. Reynolds replied the design of the Winnebago is to make it a comfortable and safe place since the home might not be the safe place.

Mrs. Ferratella asked how many instances would we use this in a year? Mrs. Reynolds replied we had 133 abuse reports in September. Mr. Maio asked do you expect to use the Winnebago for every single case? Mrs. Reynolds replied no. Mr. Maio commented his understanding is this would be used for those of the highest level. Mrs. Reynolds replied yes.

Mrs. Lando asked the cost of this will be covered by grant funding for three years? Mrs. Reynolds replied yes. Mr. Hanna asked have you asked if Wilkins would donate a vehicle? Mrs. Reynolds replied they have not asked.

Mr. Wheeler explained this is really being driven by the State. This was a concern to the State and they are providing the County with a significant amount of money. If the money goes away, then we can re-evaluate what you are going to do.

Mrs. Lando asked is there a downside to doing this other than if this was no longer funded, then we would not do it anymore? Mr. Wheeler replied an analysis would be done and the department stakeholders would give you a report and you all would determine if it is worth continuing. Mr. Maio stated this is a tool that will help the department and the District Attorney investigate crimes and abuse against children. Mr. Wheeler stated if there is no funding, the issue will be maintenance.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked if this is approved, where will the vehicle be stored? Mrs. Reynolds replied we had talked about the impound lot at the Public Safety Building as that would be a secure spot.

Ms. Lattimer commented if, after three years, there is no State funding and it becomes too expensive, we will still have the stationary location. Even if you give up the mobile unit, you will still have the center.

Mr. Malter asked how do you handle interviews now? Mrs. Reynolds replied they are usually done in the field; most often in the District Attorney's office or a police department. Mr. Malter asked what is the problem with that? Mr. Maio replied the problem is taking a child to an institutional place is not the best way to handle those things. We need to have a place where the focus is on the child and their wellbeing. Mr. Malter stated we have been using that system for years. Mr. Wheeler stated the mobile units are working and in the State's view we are one of six counties in the State that do not have one so they are giving us \$750,000 to put this in place.

Mr. Maio commented he sees this as a necessity. Mrs. Reynolds explained the expectation is to reduce trauma to the child. The hope with the mobile unit is to get one interview with everyone, rather than repeated interviews from the different agencies.

Ms. Fitzpatrick asked how will you measure the success of this? Mrs. Reynolds replied there will be reporting requirements attached to the funding. Mrs. Lando asked how soon would this happen if we approve? Mrs. Reynolds replied April is the projected date for when the Winnebago would be ready.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

B. Office of Community Services

1. **Indemnification Agreement with Genesee County** – Dr. Chapman explained earlier this year we entered into an inter-municipal agreement with Genesee County for them to act as the lead for the 15-county collaborative which is now known as Integrity Partners for Behavioral Health. As part of that, Genesee is receiving State funding in the amount of \$3.3 million over three years. That funding will be used to create value based preparedness and we are looking at purchasing software and developing a process to collect data and outcome measures. Now that they are receiving the funds, Genesee County is looking at county partners to enter into indemnification agreements so we all share the risk. Mrs. Lando asked what is the risk? Dr. Chapman replied the risk is very small. Technically, the risk would be that we have submitted our work plan to the State and if we didn't follow-through and use the funding as we were supposed to.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO ENTER INTO AN INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH GENESEE COUNTY MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0. Resolution Required.

2. **Contract – Psychiatric Services** – Dr. Chapman requested authorization to contract with Dr. Joseph Touchstone for psychiatric services. He has 40 years of experience and is willing to give us two days per week. He will be working in the mental health clinic, PROS and the Jail. The rate will be \$170.00 per hour, not to exceed \$177,000.

Mrs. Lando asked how many psychiatrists do we have on staff now? Dr. Chapman replied Dr. Nobilski is full-time and Dr. Neerukonda is part-time. With the addition of Dr. Touchstone, this will give us two additional days. We are attempting to replace the time lost with the retirement of Dr. Khan.

Mr. Weaver asked will there be an opportunity to increase mid-level nurse practitioners going forward? Dr. Chapman replied they currently have a full-time Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Ellen Stephens, who is looking to retire, but has indicated she would be willing to contract with us on a part-time basis. We also have an additional full-time Nurse Practitioner. We are always searching for nurse practitioners that might be available on a full-time or part-time basis. Dr. Chapman explained state regulations require that we have a psychiatrist on staff to

oversee the program. Nurse Practitioners are very helpful as they can prescribe and do many of the same functions for less cost. However, Nurse Practitioners cannot do evaluations for court or approve treatment plans.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO CONTRACT WITH DR. JOSEPH TOUCHSTONE FOR PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES AT A RATE OF \$170.00 PER HOUR, NOT TO EXCEED \$177,000 ANNUALLY MADE BY MR. MAIO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

3. **Budget Adjustment** – Dr. Chapman requested authorization to transfer \$130,000 from the Mental Health Clinic contracts for services line item and reallocating to the contracts for services line items in the following cost centers: Alcohol Clinic – Bath - \$10,000; Alcohol Clinic – Corning - \$30,000; Health Homes – Children - \$15,000; and PROS Services - \$75,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES TO TRANSFER \$130,000 FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES LINE ITEM AND REALLOCATING TO THE CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES LINE ITEMS IN THE FOLLOWING COST CENTERS: ALCOHOL CLINIC – BATH - \$10,000; ALCOHOL CLINIC – CORNING - \$30,000; HEALTH HOMES – CHILDREN - \$15,000; AND PROS SERVICES - \$75,000 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. MAIO. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

C. Public Health

1. **Marijuana Legalization Listening Session** – Mrs. Smith informed the committee that last night she attended a listening session at Binghamton University regarding the proposed legalization and regulation of recreational Marijuana. The Governor has set 15 – 20 listening sessions across the State. She stated that she attended as a representative of NYSACHO (New York State Association of County Health Officials). There were about 150 to upwards of 200 members of the community that attended this two hour session. Each person wishing to comment was given two minutes. There were close to 40 members of the audience that spoke and only three spoke in opposition, which was very interesting. Across the State, residents are overwhelmingly in favor of legalization and deregulation of Marijuana.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. **Prevention Coalition Update/Funding Request** – Dr. Chapman introduced Colleen Banik and James Bassage from the Prevention Coalition who are here to provide an update on their funding.

Ms. Banik stated we have received notification that we did not receive the \$125,000 in grant funds that we had applied for. She stated they are here today to ask for the County's help. They have prepared a sustainability budget, however, we have a funding gap issue between now and the end of 2018. The gap funding is \$15,681; however, Catholic Charities has committed \$10,000 for the end of 2018 and has also committed \$25,000 for 2019. We are asking for the County's assistance of \$5,681 through the end of 2018 and \$37,724 for 2019.

Mr. Bassage reviewed the gap budget for 2018 and the sustainability budget for 2019. We have come up with what we can barely get by in order to keep things functioning until we can apply for federal grant funds again. Ms. Banik stated the applications are due March 2019 and we will not hear the results of awards until August 2019. This was a very competitive grant year. She stated they are doing community asks in addition to applying for grant funds for 2019 and their goal is \$20,000.

Mrs. Lando commented the Prevention Coalition Board members have been asked to go out and talk to our resources and we are in the process of asking. Ms. Banik stated Joe Rumsey is also going to the school districts asking for funding. We are working with the S2AY Rural Health Network. She reviewed the list of community organizations that they will be making asks of. Of note, they will be asking the Gaffer District for \$1,000 to fund the TIPS training.

Ms. Fitzpatrick commented the Prevention Coalition is not its own separate entity and you are under the umbrella of Catholic Charities. Mr. Bassage stated we are a separate entity. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated but you do not have your own federal tax ID number, you don't file a 990, etc. Mr. Bassage stated that is correct. He stated that without the grant funds, they aren't able to expand into other areas such as opioids.

Mrs. Ferratella commented that she is surprised the agency is totally dependent on the federal grant. Have you not applied for other grants? Ms. Banik replied we have applied for other grants.

Dr. Chapman stated from his perspective, one of the most helpful things they do are the student surveys. We contract with three prevention providers and we use the information from the student surveys to see how effective those services are in the schools.

Mr. Hanna asked if the committee were to approve this, where would the money come from? Mr. Wheeler replied if you fund the remainder of 2018, it would require a resolution to contract with them and an appropriation from the Contingent Fund. The other option would be to find some flex in Dr. Chapman's budget. If you approve an appropriation for 2019, that will be discussed during the overall budget presentation.

Mr. Maio asked is there any duplication of the services you provide? Mr. Bassage stated the DITEP and TIPS trainings would go away as nobody else is doing those efforts. We also have the Sticker Shock and Compliance Programs that only we administer. All of the community partnerships and collaborations will go away. Mr. Maio commented with a limited budget, you should focus on those things that only your agency provides.

Mr. Maio was excused from the meeting.

Mr. Hanna asked Ms. Fitzpatrick why she was asking about the 990 and federal tax ID status? Ms. Fitzpatrick replied how do you know where exactly the funds are spent; who pays the bills? Since they are an umbrella agency under Catholic Charities, she would think that they would evaluate the programs and set money aside for future years. She commented that she understands they do good work, but they are not in control of their own money. They are not their own charity. You have to apply for grants as Catholic Charities as they are your umbrella organization. Does that hurt you in certain ways? Mr. Bassage explained with federal grants, they can rollover to the next year, however, when you hit the fifth year, you have to use the money or give it back. We cannot take grant funds and create a reserve. Catholic Charities has been a benefit to us as they are the umbrella agency and we do not have to have our own not-for-profit tax status. He is not aware of any coalition that would have their own separate fiduciary organization; they are all in the same boat as us. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that it was just an observation that you are not your own 501C-3 organization.

Mr. Malter asked does Catholic Charities provide you with financial statements monthly? Mr. Bassage replied yes and we review those with our steering committee every month. Mrs. Ferratella commented her concern is that we have had other agencies requesting funding increases and we have denied them every time. She stated she knows the Prevention Coalition does a powerful job, but her concern is with the big picture. Mr. Malter stated he would like to see the financial statements if the Prevention Coalition could provide them.

Mr. Wheeler stated we have received their request for 2019. If you would like to consider funding for the remainder of 2018, that would require Finance Committee approval and a resolution.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING A CONTINGENT FUND TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,681 TO FUND THE STEUBEN PREVENTION COALITION THROUGH THE END OF 2018 MADE BY MRS. LANDO. SECONDED BY MR. HANNA. MOTION CARRIES 3-1-1. (MRS. FERRATELLA OPPOSED, MR. MAIO ABSENT FOR VOTE) Resolution Required.

Mr. Wheeler stated he will add their request for 2019 funding to the budget for consideration. Mrs. Lando stated if we provide them with funding for 2019 and they get money from other agencies, what happens with the funds we provide? Mr. Wheeler replied normally when an outside agency makes a funding request, in January they submit an invoice and

they get their payment. Ms. Banik clarified the money that we are asking for in 2019 includes all things that are not included in the sustainability plan.

B. **ProAction** – Mrs. Lando stated with ProAction’s WIC Program there are many people who do not collect their checks, which is about 14 percent as of June. Starting in October and November, they will be issuing electronic cards. Individuals will come in once to apply and the no-shows should stop as the cards will automatically replenish. Ms. Lattimer stated they will be required to do an annual interview to recertify for benefits.

Mrs. Lando announced that ProAction recently was reviewed by the State and met both National and State standards. Their Early Head Start Program is fully enrolled. Ms. Lattimer commented Marsha Patrick, Director of the Early Head Start Program retired last week after 30 years with the program.

C. **Smart Steuben** – Mrs. Ferratella stated she attended the Smart Steuben meeting where they learned through the Tobacco Coalition that five Confier apartment complexes in the County will be smoke-free starting February 2019. These apartment complexes are located in Painted Post, Corning, Bath and Canisteo. She stated they will also continue to talk about the T-21 proposal and she is continuing to gather information.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. HANNA. SECONDED BY MR. WEAVER. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature

****NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR**
Wednesday, November 7, 2018
Legislative Committee Room
9:00 a.m.**

**Please send agenda items to the Clerk of the Legislature’s Office
NO LATER THAN NOON
Wednesday, October 31, 2018.**