

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 27, 2018

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Idleman, Skellie, Moore, Ferguson, Middleton, Clary

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Campbell

SUPERVISORS: Henke, LaPointe, Shaw, Hicks, O'Brien

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Al Nolette, County Treasurer

Patty Hunt, Director, Public Health

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, OFA Director

Mike Gray, Director Youth Bureau

Ken Marrwinchell, Veterans Director

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Rob York, Mental Health Director

Kathy McIntyre, Assistant Director PH

Tina McDougall, PH Fiscal Officer

Dianne Cantiello, Early Intervention Program Coordinator PH

Media & Public

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

1) Call to Order

2) Accept Minutes – May 30, 2018

3) Department Reports/Requests:

A. OFA/ADRC

1) Program Updates

B. DSS

1) Program Updates

C. Youth Bureau

1) Request Budget Amendment – Recognize Revenue – Runaway Homeless Youth Funding (NYS OCFS)

2) Request to Purchase Bicycles – Washington County Fair

3) Request to Purchase – STSJP Program Items

D. Public Health

1) Excelsior BSN Student

2) Request to Recognize DSRIP Funding

3) Request Permission to Apply as LHCSA – Medicaid Managed Care Billing

4) Preschool Provider Rates

5) Miscellaneous

4) Other Business

5) Adjournment

Chairwoman Idleman called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 30, 2018 meeting was moved by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.

OFA/ADRC – Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

• Program Updates:

- Facebook Page – Working towards starting a Facebook page and have been in contact with Information Technology.
- Senior Fall Festival – Starting preparations for Senior Fall Festival on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and working with WCKM Radio who will provide some advertising and being on site for a live broadcast.
- Senior Picnic – July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Washington County Fairgrounds from 10 AM to 2PM.

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

- Program Updates:
  - Request to Change Position – The current structure for the Child Support Unit consists of six (6) Social Services Examiners, one (1) Sr. Social Services Examiner and one (1) Supervisor/Principle on the program side and in the account side of the unit one (1) Account Clerk and one (1) Senior Account Clerk. She currently has a resignation from the two positions in the accounting side of the Child Support Unit; one employee is transferring to Real Property and one to Personnel. To improve efficiency, she is recommending replacing the Senior Account Clerk position with a Sr. Social Services Examiner position that would bring program knowledge and efficiencies of the processes when in the accounting aspects. This will also help with retention and assist with the supervision of the other Social Services Examiners. This is a two-grade level increase from a grade 10 to grade 12; \$1.25 per hour and for the remainder of the year estimated cost is \$1,300 and can be covered by breakage. The Personnel Director has stated all these duties align with the title Sr. Social Services Examiner; not working out of title with the duties mentioned. The one Account Clerk position would be supervised by the Sr. Social Services Examiner. A motion to send recommended staffing changes to the Personnel Committee for consideration was moved by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Moore and adopted.
  - Received notification on four out of the five program allocations that pass through the State to DSS and still waiting on Child Care; overall to the good but changes within the funding.
    - Title 20 Block Grant \$111,000 decrease of over \$15,000. Funds used to pay for Adult Protective and domestic violence services and other items usually you cannot categorize in another funding source. Typically, over spend Title 20 funding by about \$400,000, County dollars.
    - Independent Living \$9,528, \$5,272 less than the previous year for youth in foster care over the age of 14 for items that qualify; i.e. driving lessons, class ring.
    - Flexible fund for family services (FFFS) – One of the largest funding sources has stayed flat at \$1.907M; 100% funds. Allows them to do preventative services at their discretion.
    - Foster Care Block Grant \$1.240M up \$187,000.
    - Day Care last year was \$863,000; amount unknown. DSS only funds day care through the County with those federal funds for up to that amount and do not use local dollars. Monies have been left unspent because not enough people qualify for the child care assistance.
    - FYI - TANIF, Safety Net, Preventive Services are all items that are open funded so they do budget for them but they are not things the State caps us for. SNAP is federal funding that just passes through.
  - DSS Housing Initiative received media coverage in the Post Star and a Bravo; copies of article distributed, on file.
  - Purchasing Policy – If possible, she would like someone to come up with a flow chart for guidance on how to purchase items/services; steps required. Chairwoman Idleman concurred that a visual is helpful.

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

- Budget Amendment – Recognize Runaway Homeless Youth Funding – The Youth Bureau is the service coordinator for the runaway homeless youth shelter, Wait House in Glens Falls, that serves Warren and Washington Counties; the monies pass through the Youth Bureau. They retain a small administration fee of \$3,000 to perform that role. These are additional monies in the Governor’s budget that they did not anticipate. A motion to amend budget to reflect increase in Runaway Homeless Youth Funding received from NYS OCFS in the amount of \$31,822 was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Middleton and adopted.
- Request to Purchase Bicycles – Washington County Fair – Requesting to purchase two bicycles to give away at the Washington County Fair in the event they are not donated. This is a budgeted expense. A motion to approve purchase of two bicycles to give away at the Washington County Fair was moved by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted. Mr. Shaw asked for a dollar amount and estimating \$200 total.
- Request to Purchase – STSJP Program Items – Will address next month.
- Office was involved in facilitating community meetings in Greenwich during May and June; how to engage youth in the community. An action plan was developed and moving forward.
- Asked by the State to present at the Safe Harbour conference in Syracuse on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and expenses covered by grant funds. They are presenting about the Youth Bureau’s relationship with DSS and their collaborative effort to address the youth in the Safe Harbour program. The State likes our model and want to share it with other counties at the conference. Presenting at the conference: Mike Gray, Youth Bureau/Alternative Sentencing Director and staff member Shaun Etu. A motion to approve overnight stay at conference, covered 100% State funds, was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Clary and adopted.
- Recreation Allocation – Towns will be receiving a couple hundred more dollars this year.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Patty Hunt, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Excelsior BSN Student – Summer Nursing Intern – Requesting permission for a summer intern; Rebecca Brunelle, Fort Edward resident, attending Excelsior College BSN to Masters in Nursing Program, handout attached. She would spend a total of 35 to 42 hours over the summer and unpaid internship for credit. A motion to approve summer intern in Public Health was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted.
- Recognize DSRIP Funding – Received additional DSRIP funding in the amount of \$4,250 and \$10,419 for a total of \$14,669. A motion to recognize DSRIP funding in the 2018 budget in the amount of \$14,669 was moved by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Middleton and adopted. The Treasurer stated Mental Health and Aging also received funding and a joint resolution will be presented at the Finance Committee meeting.
- Permission to Apply as LHCSA – Medicaid Managed Care Billing – That is the license they hold that allows them to go out and make home visits for programs like Moms and Babies, Lead Poisoning and Prevention Program, Prenatal, etc. Need to apply to the State so they can continue their managed Medicaid billing. They must apply as a non-Medical billing provider. The cost is \$569 to apply. A motion to approve applying for LHCSA and authorization for the Treasurer to pay was moved by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted.

- **Preschool Provider Rates** – These are rates we pay for children who are in pre-school special education from three (3) to five (5) years old. This is through the Committees on Preschool Special Education at the local school districts. Many of the children come from the Early Intervention Program into this program. The purpose of this program is to bring children to as age appropriate performance as possible prior to entering the school system. The providers in the Preschool Program contract with the County; the Early Intervention Program they contact with the State of New York Department of Health. The new school year for the preschool children starts in July. The providers have approached them because we pay much less than other counties. Washington County pays \$35 for a half-hour session. Most counties are at least \$10 and some at \$40 beyond that amount and we compete with several of the counties for provider services. Public Health is regulated by the State to maintain adequate services for the children and they have had a couple of providers drop off the list because they can no longer afford to see the children in our county. The \$35 per half-hour is an inclusive rate; includes travel, preparation time, detailed reports and services. The rate has been the same since the late 90's. As the market gets more competitive we are losing out; children are losing out. Warren and Saratoga Counties pay a considerable amount more. The Public Health Director is proposing increasing the rate to \$45 to at least maintain competitiveness with the lowest county around us to maintain the program and services for the children. Public Health does get 59.5% back and estimating the increased rate would equate to a \$40,000 net increase through year-end. Public Health is bound by regulations to have the program. Warren County pays at \$53 and Saratoga County at \$45 per half-hour. The \$10 per half-hour increase brings us on par with the nearest competitor. She has funds within her budget to cover this expense barring any unforeseen circumstances. Dianne Cantiello, Program Coordinator, stated this is a growing program and there were 268 children in the 2017-2018 program. Mr. Shaw asked if this request could wait until budget time and the Public Health Director stated she would prefer to show good faith, honor the providers work and concerns, and maintain the providers we have. Once the school year starts up, we will be asking the providers to absorb more children. A motion to increase preschool provider rates from \$35 to \$45 per half-hour session was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted. The Public Health Director stated there are also 45-minute sessions and recommends that rate increase from \$52.50 to \$67.50. This increase is included in estimated \$40,000 net increase. A motion to approve increase to preschool provider rates from \$52.50 to \$67.50 per 45-minute session was moved by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

Mental Health – Rob York, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- For information, in the 2018-19 New York State budget, Warren/Washington Counties were awarded funding from the NYS Senate to develop a two county veterans peer to peer program, handout attached. NYS started this program back in 2012 with four pilot counties and now twenty-three counties in NYS have this type of program. This program is in recognition of the fact that veterans have their own culture and stigma to receiving services. They have found an effective way to reach veterans is to have other veterans reaching out to them. This award is for connection to treatment and support. What most counties do with the funding is hire a coordinator or part time coordinator. There are a lot of decisions to be

made and he is not at a point of bringing a proposal to the committee yet. He would welcome any input and he is putting together a planning group. Needs to figure out if the coordinator would be a county position and how to split between the two counties or contract it out. The funding awarded is \$185,000 for the two counties; fund coordinator and support for the services. Saratoga County has a successful program.

- 820 River St. has closed the women's residence in Granville, halfway house with thirteen beds. The State had cut off their funding and this issue has been going on for some time. Another provider, Addictions Care Center of Albany, is lined up who is securing properties located in Warren County but will serve both counties.
- DSRIP – They view this funding as an offset to the counties expenses for the office. The Treasurer stated Mental Health's DSRIP funding will be included in the budget amendment that will be presented to the Finance Committee.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Mr. Middleton, seconded by Mr. Ferguson and adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

*Debra Prehoda, Clerk  
Washington County Board of Supervisors*

**Public Health Nursing Intern Request  
Summer 2018**

**Name of Student:** Rebecca Brunelle, Fort Edward NY

**Name of sponsoring academic program:** Excelsior College BSN to Masters Nursing Program

**Name of program/class:** Nursing 448 Community Health Nursing

**Name of academic faculty member supervising intern:** Dr. Reynaldo Espera

**Length of participation:** 35 hours

**Agency oversight needed (time):** 1-2 hours per week

**Reporting requirements:** student conference at beginning and end of clinical day, written mid-term evaluation, final written evaluation

**Expected duties of intern while with the Dept.:**

"Integrate evidence, theory, standards, and knowledge from nursing, public health, and other disciplines to guide population-focused nursing practice. Importance is placed on the application of the core functions of public health: assessment, policy development, inter-professional collaboration, and the assurance of available and necessary health services for diverse populations. Emphasis is placed on identifying determinants of health, advocating for vulnerable populations, prioritizing primary prevention, and utilizing available resources to improve the health of populations. Population focused nursing involves assessing the health care needs of a specific population and making health care decisions for the population as a whole rather than for individuals.

The Student Learning Program Outcomes specifically related to this course are the following:

1. Promote holistic patient-centered care and population health supporting values, culture, right to self-fulfillment, and quality care.
2. Integrate evidence, nursing theory, and knowledge from other disciplines to guide nursing practice.
3. Formulate decisions based on nursing judgment and collaboration with the inter-professional team to achieve quality patient outcomes.
5. Apply principles of leadership to advocate for the unique role of the nursing profession within the health care system".

(taken from NUR 448 Syllabus, Excelsior College June 2018)

**Prospective work schedule:** To be scheduled with the student upon arrival to dept.

**Agency supervision plan:** Director of Public Health will interface with student, manage her experience and objective attainment and provide general clinical supervision and evaluation.

# Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Services Program

The Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Services Program is exclusively funded and overseen by the New York Senate. Created in 2012, the first year of funding was for a pilot program in Jefferson, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Suffolk Counties. These innovative programs were named after Army Medic PFC Joseph P. Dwyer, who risked his life to carry an injured Iraqi boy to safety. Sadly, after discharge Veteran hero Dwyer, died from an overdose, after years of struggling with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

In the Dwyer Program, the Senate recognized that a major roadblock in seeking help for post-traumatic stress is the stigma associated with mental health problems. The Dwyer program was created to allow veterans a place where the stigma of seeking help is not a factor: veteran peer-to-peer support in either one-to-one or group settings. These programs were intended to compliment traditional behavioral health care. Peers are trained to recognize when mental treatment is needed and be a liaison to helping members connect with services.

Each county has flexibility in designing and implementing the Dwyer program. The program was initially intended to provide peer-counseling services to veterans suffering from PTSD; however, the mission of the program grew to include more veteran peer services. Programs now include focus on the reintegration of veterans into society; access to suicide prevention/intervention measures; encourage family, friend, and community connectiveness; outreach and education; linkages to housing and employment; and building peer resiliency. These programs have become the social network where veterans take care of each other in a trusting and safe atmosphere.

The Senate also commissioned the SUNY Albany School of Social work for overall and periodic evaluations of the program. The School has provided in depth evaluation findings for specific counties with recommendations as well identifying best practices for all counties. The School also oversees ongoing communication coordination between the counties so that lessons learned and overcoming obstacles can be shared.

The experience of the program can be summed up with the following observation from the SUNY School of Social Work:

*"Although it may not be immediately clear to the casual observer, the work done by these veterans across the Dwyer-funded counties is staggering in scope, and life-saving in nature. Quantifying the impact of such work is difficult if not truly impossible. Yet the ability of any given program or staff member within a program to alter the life course of an individual veteran can mean the difference between life and death. And if the programs have saved even one life, the effectiveness of these programs can be easily characterized as a resounding success."*

The Fiscal Year 2019 Budget included \$3.7 million for the Program. The Senate has provided approximately \$18 million since the creation of the program.

The program has expanded significantly since 2012, after the current year's planned expansion is implemented will span 23 counties: Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Columbia, Dutchess, Erie, Genesee, Jefferson, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Onondaga, Orange, Orleans, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Suffolk, Warren, Washington, Westchester, and Wyoming. The program has served over ten thousand veterans and their families since its creation through peer-to-peer and other services.

# OVERVIEW

## NEW YORK STATE PFC JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERAN PEER-TO-PEER SERVICES PROGRAM

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**PURPOSE:** To design, implement and evaluate county-based veteran peer-to-peer best-practice service programs for veterans who are experiencing post-traumatic stress symptoms and other service or post service related issues. The goals are to:

- provide peer-to-peer mentoring
- encourage family, friends and community connectedness to foster reintegration
- provide access to suicide prevention/intervention measures
- provide outreach and education
- foster hope
- build resiliency among peers
- participate in a collaborative cross-county model approach

**DESIGN:** Each county will design and implement their Veteran Peer-to-Peer program by:

- identifying the best-practice-model to adopt
- establishing a written philosophy about the program, role of volunteers and peer support persons
- identifying criteria for selection of lead peer-support persons
- outlining training criteria for the peer-support person(s), which may include:
  - ✓ Confidentiality issues
  - ✓ Communication facilitation and listening skills,
  - ✓ Ethical issues
  - ✓ Problem assessment
  - ✓ Problem solving skills
  - ✓ Alcohol and substance abuse issues
  - ✓ Cross cultural issues
  - ✓ Medical conditions often confused with psychiatric disorders
  - ✓ Stress assessment



- ✓ Suicide assessment
- ✓ Depressions and burn-out
- ✓ Grief management
- ✓ Domestic violence
- ✓ Crisis management
- ✓ Nonverbal communication
- ✓ Mental health consultation and referral information
- ✓ Traumatic intervention
- ✓ Limits and liability

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Each county will follow:

- Administration procedures
- Program procedures
- Evaluation criteria
- Confidentiality limitations

**EVALUATION:** Each county will participate in the evaluation conducted by the School of Social Welfare at the University at Albany, State University of New York. This includes the systematic collection of information about the activities, characteristics, and outcomes of programs for program improvement, replication, and decision-making. Additionally, each county will develop a plan for program sustainability in the event that future funding is jeopardized.