

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 25, 2009

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: LaPointe, Brown, Trinkle, Rymph, Banks

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Henke, N. Hall

SUPERVISORS: Wilbur, G. Hall, Lindsay

Debra Prehoda, Clerk

Sue Mowrey, Deputy Director Youth Services

Phyllis Cooper, Treasurer

Rob York, Mental Health Director

Roger Wickes, County Attorney

Tammy DeLorme, Commissioner DSS

Sam Hall, Veterans Director

Kevin Hayes, County Administrator

AGENDA AS PRESENTED IN COMMITTEE NOTICE:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Minutes – October 28, 2009
- 3) Department Reports/Requests:
 - A) Department of Social Services
 - 1) Agency Updates
 - 2) Public Hearing Reminder
 - 3) Budget Amendment Request – MMIS
 - B) Veterans
 - 1) Program Updates
 - i. Veteran Activities
 - 2) Veteran Friendly Campus/Community
 - C) Mental Health
 - 1) Contract Amendment – United Cerebral Palsy Assoc., Inc.
 - 2) Jail-Based Mental Health Services Update
- 4) Other Business
- 5) Adjournment

Chairman LaPointe called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2009 meeting was moved by Mr. Rymph, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

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

- Agency Updates – Tammy followed up on comments made at the Board meeting by an employee of her department as follows: one employee will have to be reduced from 40 to 35 and go to a different unit, direct deposits are not a local option, regarding workers traveling all over County they are looking at out posting, and County paid luncheons do not happen and noted that they have one lunch and an ice cream social a year that is paid by the management team for recognizing the employees and at quarterly meeting the donuts are paid for by the directors.
- Public Hearing on Monday Nov. 30th – Notification of the required public hearing held by DSS/OFA as it is a State planning requirement.
- Budget Amendments, handouts on file:
 - MMIS – A budget amendment in the amount of \$167,365 is need to adjust funds in the 2009 budget to cover an expected shortfall in the funding allocated toward payment of the weekly Medicaid share. A motion to amend budget DSS budget increasing MMIS and decreasing Contingency by \$167,400 was moved by Mrs. Trinkle, seconded by Mr. Banks and adopted.

- \$10,000 Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funding – A motion to increase 2009 budget to account for the receipt of Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funding provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 in the amount of \$10,000 was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mr. Rymph and adopted.

VETERANS SERVICES – Sam Hall, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Sept. 29th Veteran Friendly Campuses – On September 29th a Veterans Friendly Campus meeting co-sponsored by Senator Little was held at ACC. The purpose was to enlighten the schools on the benefits in the new GI bill and further make the schools aware of federal dollars available to them through having the veterans there. The NYS Division of Veterans Affairs has a counsel on campus several days a week, M, W & F, at ACC. Also through the NYS Division of Veterans Affairs, they are conducting a program called Veteran Friendly Communities that consists of ninety minutes of discussion on a variety of topics of interest to veterans and their families. This is being done regionally across the State and one will be held locally at ACC probably in February. He stated that he is stressing preplanning to the veterans rather than coming to agencies in a crisis mode. Sam stated he has been working over a year on establishing a Veterans panel, similar to a Veterans Court. If a veteran comes into the court system this Veterans Panel would help the veteran get the services they need that also might have lead them to do what they did to get them in trouble with the law. In addition, he is also working on a legal aid program.
- Veterans Day Programs – Programs were held at Pleasant Valley, at the Fort Ann School and a ceremony at Vietnam memorial on ACC campus.

MENTAL HEALTH – Robert York, Director, addressed the following items with the committee:

- Amend budget United Cerebral Palsy – Rob is requesting a budget amendment to recognize additional state aid, \$1,033, that the agency was awarded and goes toward United Cerebral Palsy services. A motion to amend budget to allow United Cerebral Palsy, Inc. to accept \$1,033 in additional funding was moved by Mr. Banks, seconded by Mrs. Trinkle and adopted.
- Update on Jail based Mental Health Services – Rob stated his office brings in funding in the amount of \$145,000 and Sheriff Leclair contracts with Behavioral Health Services. The two counties split the difference about \$65,000 - \$70,000 each. Rob stated the funding has come from the Office of Mental Health Comprehensive Outpatient Services, COPS program an add on to their Medicaid rate. With the Medicaid scrutiny, COPS funding is being phased out over the next four years. He has requested these funds reinstated as 100% state aid. They confirmed via a conference call but not in writing. Hopefully this will be restored and it looks favorable. He will keep the committee informed.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 A.M.