



**MINUTES**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 5:30PM**  
**Live Stream Link: [https://youtu.be/eIsWZ\\_3RNDw](https://youtu.be/eIsWZ_3RNDw)**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Hon. Elane Daly, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

**MEMBERS:** Legislators Christina Calarco, Michael Didio, Brian Muldrow, Heidi Nightengale (Vice Chair), Lydia Patti-Ruffini, and Robert Shea

**OTHERS:** Chair of the Legislature David Gould, Legislator Tricia Kerr, Kathleen Cuddy, Christine Bianco, Jen Marshall, Brenda Wiemann, Lauren Walsh, Fred Westphal, and Secretary to the Chair Sarah Blowers

**MINUTES TO APPROVE:** September 8, 2022 **Motion by Calarco, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shea, all in favor.**

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:**

**Kathleen Cuddy (Health) –**

The past month has been busy with back to school and into fall functions:

October 23-29, 2022 is Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

Vaccines:

- Additional back to school clinics for children to receive their required school shots
- COVID clinics with the Bivalent Moderna and Pfizer options and the Novovax option now available
- Flu vaccine underway

Walk to School Events to promote healthy activity and nutrition, sponsored by Wheelsport and Pedestrian Safety Injury Prevention grant

- 5 Auburn elementary schools
- Moravia elementary school
- New this year, Weedsport elementary participating

HAB monitoring continues. The high raw water level of HABs a few weeks ago was a prime opportunity to remind people to keep 1 gallon of water per person per day (ideally 3 days worth) on hand for emergency use if necessary—any time of year.

Healthy Neighborhoods grant is kicking off, begun some home visits, have a link on website for qualifying residents to request a home visit. More coordinated outreach forthcoming. <https://www.cayugacounty.us/1736/Healthy-Neighborhoods-Program>

**Lauren Walsh (Community Services) –**

○ HEALING CAYUGA UPDATE:

*Overdose Spike Planning:*

- Healing Cayuga is identified as the lead agency
- Coordination between law enforcement, first responders, as well as the health department on planning for what is an Overdose Spike, who will be notified, and when to notify
- Continued meetings with additional partners and planning

*Targeted Narcan Distribution:*

- Increase in Fatal Overdoses outside the City of Auburn
- Responding with outreach and targeted Narcan trainings

*Partnering with School districts on informational presentations and Narcan trainings*

*Overdose Taskforce Meetings*

- Monthly meetings to discuss high risk cases

○ OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS UPDATE:

- The Community Services Board (CSB) is the entity identified to distribute these funds and make recommendations back to the Legislature on the use of the funds
  - The Community Services Board has decided to utilize the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Sub-Committee (ASAS) to identify gaps in services that could be addressed with these funds that also align with the Local Services Plan
  - ASAS has called a special meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> where they have invited agencies to present their data to establish gaps and needs for our county
  - This information will be compiled and reviewed by the CSB to be included in the Request for Proposals

○ OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC CHANGES

**Christine Bianco (Social Services) –**

- As of 9/30/22, DSS was providing Emergency Housing to 25 families and 77 individuals. The number of families and individuals housed has increased in the past few months due to court ordered evictions and individuals seeking emergency shelter now that the weather is getting colder.
- The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) is scheduled to open **November 1, 2022**. That will be the first day applications can be requested or accepted from households that are new to HEAP. HEAP helps low-income households meet the cost of heating their homes. The benefit can pay for fuel, utility source, and heating equipment replacement and repairs. The benefit is paid either directly to the heating vendor or utility company.  
Information on HEAP is available at:  
<http://cayugacounty.us/1236/home-energy-assistance-program-heap> & <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>
- September 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> was *Child Welfare Worker Appreciation Week*. Cayuga County DSS appreciates the truly incredible work being done by these workers daily on behalf of vulnerable children and families of Cayuga County.

**Brenda Wiemann (Office for the Aging) –**

- Our Meals on Wheels program received the Community Partner Award from Mozaic for 2022
- Our NYConnects program showed an increase of 441 records of assistance compared to last year at this time – the economy and the aging of the population are two likely reasons.
- The Meals on Wheels service in Moravia and Locke is facing a severe shortage of volunteer delivery drivers despite many efforts to recruit community members. This could impact the service delivery in the near future.
- I continue to work with Don Carr to purchase a vehicle for OFA.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**HUMAN SERVICES: Motion to bundle HH-1, HH-3-HH-9 by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Calarco, all in favor.**

- 10-22-HH-1 Authorizing the Chairman of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Social Services to Enter into a Contract with Chapel House for Provision of Supportive Case Management Services
- 10-22-HH-2 **(AMENDED)** Authorizing the Legislature to create and the Social Services Commissioner to fill an Assistant Payroll Systems Specialist position in the Department of Social Services due to a resignation. **Motion to move as amended by Nightengale, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Calarco, all in favor.**
- 10-22-HH-3 Amending the Social Services 2022 Budget to Accept 100% Federal Funding from the Flexible Fund for Family Services (FFFS)
- 10-22-HH-4 Authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to Fill a Child Support Enforcement Coordinator Vacancy
- 10-22-HH-5 Authorizing the Commissioner of Social Services to Fill a Sr. Account Clerk position in the Accounting Unit
- 10-22-HH-9 Authorizing the Commissioner of Social Services to Fill a Caseworker Vacancy in the Adult Protective Services Unit

**MENTAL HEALTH:**

- 10-22-HH-6 Authorizing the creation of temporary leave bank for Cayuga County Mental Health Employee. **Motion by Calarco, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shea, all in favor.**
- 10-22-HH-7 Authorizing a transfer from the general fund to the Mental Health Department to cover psychiatric care. **Motion by Calarco, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**
- 10-22-HH-8 Authorizing The Chair Of The Cayuga County Legislature And The Director Of Community Services To Accept a Grant From The U.S. Department of Justice/Bureau of Justice Assistance For Substance Use Diversion Program. **Motion by Shea, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**

**Motion by Shea to adjourn at 6:31 PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nightengale, all in favor.**