



MINUTES
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, September 13, 2021 at 5:30PM
Live Stream Link: <https://youtu.be/0U6QbcEF10Q>

CALL TO ORDER: By Hon. Elane Daly, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32PM

MEMBERS: Legislators Michael Didio, Ryan Foley, Tricia Kerr, Timothy Lattimore, Heidi Nightengale (Vice Chair), and Mark Strong

EXCUSED: Ryan Foley and Timothy Lattimore

OTHERS: IT Technicians Dan Lovell and Jodie Nickerson, Director of Community Services Ray Bizzari, OFA Director Brenda Wiemann, and Health Department Director Kathleen Cuddy

MINUTES TO APPROVE: August 9, 2021, Motion by Nightengale, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.

APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT UPDATES FOR COMMITTEE:

Brenda Wiemann (Office for the Aging) –

- The Volunteer Picnic was a big success, enjoyed by over 60 volunteers. We are undergoing a big effort to find volunteers in the Moravia and Southern Cayuga area due to the loss of a regular driver to F/T employment.
- Farmers Market Coupons with a total value of \$15,600 were distributed to eligible seniors at drive-up sites throughout the county.
- OFA is offering a week of Zoom classes for Aging Adults 9/13-9/17, culminating with our Annual Public Hearing.
- The huge aide shortage crisis continues, with only 3 seniors receiving PCAII aide (personal care, bathing, transferring) services so far in 2021. Most of the time we can only hire companion/homemaker aides who cannot assist with any hands-on care.
- We are expecting the Boyle renovation cost estimates by the end of the month.

OFA:
9-21-HH-1 Authorization to accept additional funding from the NYS Office for Aging (NYSOFA) for Expanding Access to COVID-19 Vaccines via the Aging Network (COVID-19 ADRC VACCINE ACCESS). **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.**

Kathleen Cuddy (Health) – No updates

HEALTH:

Motion by Nightengale to bundle HH 2, 4, 5, & 7, 2nd by Strong, all in favor.

9-21-HH-2 Authorizing the Public Health Director to fill a PT Lactation Peer Counselor Position in the Health Department's WIC Program

9-21-HH-4 Authorizing the Public Health Director to fill one Public Health Sanitarian position due to a resignation.

9-21-HH-5 Authorizing the Public Health Director to fill a Nutritionist position due to a resignation.

9-21-HH-7 Authorizing the Public Health Director to carry out a budget modification in the WIC program budget.

End of bundle

9-21-HH-3 Authorizing the Cayuga County Legislature and the Public Health Director to enter into contract and accept funding for the COVID Vaccine Response from New York State Department of Health. **Motion by Nightengale, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.**

9-21-HH-6 Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature and the Public Health Director to enter into a service agreement with MEDENT to provide electronic medical record software and services to the Cayuga County Health Department. **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**

Ray Bizzari (Mental Health/Social Services) –

Mental Health – Ray Bizzari – No updates

Social Services – Christine Bianco

- New York State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) applications are still being taken by New York State. As of August 24, 2021 - 524 Cayuga County residents have applied for ERAP funds. Additionally, nearly \$400,000 has been distribute to landlords for rental arrears, prospective rent and utility arrears payments for Cayuga County residents.
- DSS emergency housing numbers at the beginning of September were 61 homeless individuals and 18 homeless families.
- Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) law is set to go into effect on September 29, 2021. The Department has been taking steps needed in order to be ready for the significant changes in practice that the law requires.
- DSS has been working recently on interviewing and hiring for the multiple Caseworker vacancies that we received permission to fill. I am pleased to report that we have three individuals who have accepted positions and will be starting in the next few weeks.

HUMAN SERVICES:

9-21-HH-8 Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to Enter into a Contract with Cayuga County Mental Health for Reports and Assessments on the Placement of a Child in a Qualified Residential Treatment Program. **Motion by Nightengale, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.**

9-21-HH-9 Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into a contract with Community Action Programs Cayuga/Seneca (CAP) to perform any outreach activities for the State Mandated HEAP Program (100% Federally Funded). **Motion by Nightengale, 2nd by Kerr, all in favor.**

MENTAL HEALTH:

9-21-HH-10 Authorize the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature and the Director of Community Services to enter into 5-year agreements with colleges or universities for social work interns and/or medical students. **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**

9-21-HH-11 Authorize the filling of a full time Supervising Social Worker (CMH) position at the Community Mental Health Center and abolishing one full time senior Staff Social Worker position due to a retirement. **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

9-21-HH-12 Fixing Day and Notice of Public Hearing on a Local Law repealing Local Law No. 5 of 2014 and establishing the positions of Commissioner of DSS and Director of Mental Health.

Title change to: Fixing Day and Notice of Public Hearing on a Local Law repealing Local Law No. 5 of 2014 and establishing the positions of Commissioner of Social Services and Director of Community Services. **Motion by Kerr, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.**

Motion by Kerr to adjourn at 6:47PM, 2nd by Nightengale, all in favor.