

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 8:32 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Tracy Monell	Legislator
Mr. Andrew Aronstam	Legislator
Mr. Ray Bunce	Legislator
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services (MH)
Mr. Shawn Yetter	Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Heather Vroman	Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services (PH)

Guests:	Mr. Jackson Bailey	County Administrator
	Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk
	Ms. Marte Sauerbrey	Legislative Chair
	Ms. Liz Myers	Deputy Commissioner (DSS)
	Ms. Sarah Begeal	Deputy Director of Community Services

Legislator Standinger asked for a motion to approve the September 2, 2025 HHS Committee minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Monell. Seconded by Legislator Bunce. Motion Carried.

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial

- Mr. Chris Korba reported that the financials show nine months of Expenses and eight months of Revenue. Projections show a return to local share. The 4th Quarter State Aid has not been received yet. The 2025 budget is tracking well.

2. Old Business

- Criminal Psych – Paid up to the end of August. Patient has not been discharged. There is about two months of expenses remaining in the budget line. After that, savings in the salary line can be moved to the Criminal Psych line. The cost to the County is about \$35,000 a month.

3. New Business

- Federal Impact – None so far
- Walk-In Pause – The clinic will not be doing any new intakes for the month of October due to workforce issues. They will still see crisis clients, but not the two-hour intakes until staff get caught up.
- 3rd Quarter Remote Work Usage – Will be presented next month
- Opioid Abatement Money – Mr. Peter DeWind is looking at the paperwork.

4. Personnel

- Anna Walter, LCSW, resigning as of 11/17/25

5. Resolutions

6. Proclamations

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial

- Mr. Denis McCann reported that the financial reports show 52% of local share used through September. The 3rd Quarter State Aid has not come in yet, will be in November. Fee-For-Services are doing well. He expects to have a good return of local share at the end of 2025.

2. Old Business

- Federal Budget Impact – None. Some other Health Departments throughout the State are not fairing as well. Ms. Vroman expressed appreciation for Mr. Denis McCann's careful handling of the budget.

3. New Business – Agency Report for September:

- Flu season has started. There have been four confirmed cases of flu in Tioga County. TCPH is encouraging people to get vaccines from their primary care providers. To date, nine children were given the necessary vaccines by TCPH, so they were not excluded from school.
- A retailer in Owego had a second ATUPA violation of selling tobacco products to underage individuals. This is the second violation in a six-month period.
- Interviews are starting this week for EI Service Coordinator. Several applicants
- At the end of August, a Binghamton University intern started. PH has had interns for years and has MOU's reviewed by Peter with several Colleges/Universities. A PH Educator provides supervision and an established work plan. Ms. Morgan noted that Mental Hygiene also has an intern from Binghamton University. The Legislature would like to be verbally notified when any interns start working for the County.

4. Personnel

- None

5. Resolutions

- None

6. Proclamations

- Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial

- Commissioner Yetter reported that the administrative side of the 2025 budget is on target. Foster Care continues to run over budget. Next month a resolution will be brought to appropriate more money to Foster Care with savings from other Children's Services lines. The 2026 Foster Care Block Grant was received, up \$134,000. There is an increase in the 2026 budget for Foster Care.

2. Old Business

- None

3. New Business

- Caseloads – See Caseload Summary
During September, Cash Assistance increased 9 cases, with Family Assistance increasing 5 cases and Safety Net increasing 4 cases.
MA-Only increased 7 cases
MA-SSI remained flat
Total Individuals on Medicaid increased 31 to 3,463
SNAP increased 15 cases
Day Care increased 4 cases
- Tioga Career Center report is attached. The unemployment numbers continue to run below State & Federal levels. Some job fairs are coming up.
- Committee Chair Standinger asked how the government shutdown is affecting DSS. Commissioner Yetter noted that it is not impacting DSS in a specific way but if it lasts longer than three months, SNAP funding could be affected. It impacts other agencies in the County like WIC.

4. Personnel Changes

- Megan Gilbert, Social Welfare Examiner, resigned effective 9/5/25
- Kathryn Willett, Office Specialist II, hired effective 9/8/25
- Keri Mortimer, Social Welfare Examiner, hired effective 9/22/25
- Ashton Lewis, Caseworker, resigned effective 10/3/25
- Marley Norton, Senior Caseworker/Staff Development Coordinator, resigned effective 10/3/25
- Christa Garrison, Social Welfare Examiner, hired effective 10/6/25

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to move forward

- Recognize Julie A. Whipple 36 Years of Dedicated Service
- Authorize Appointment of Director of Employment & Transitional Supports
- Appoint New Youth Bureau Board Member Term
- Authorize Donation of Time
- Approve Funding 2026 Youth Bureau Program Funding

6. Proclamations

- None

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 8:57 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services