

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**February 7, 2018**

ALLEGANY COUNTY  
BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

**Members Present:** J. Hopkins, G. Barnes, D. Decker, S. Havey, D. Root, P. Stockin, C. Crandall  
(Absent: J. Burdick)

**Others Present:** L. Ballengee, T. Boyde, B. Budinger, D. Fanton, M. Gasdik, V. Grant, K. Graves, B. Harris, D. Healy, K. Hollis, R. Hollis, C. Jones, C. Knapp, J. Ricci, B. Riehle, T. Ross, T. Shaw, M. Washer

**Media Present:** K. Kellogg – *Olean Times Herald*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Human Services Committee Chair Judith Hopkins at 2:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the January 3, 2018, meeting were approved on a motion by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried with the following amendments:

*Change “cold blue” to “Code Blue”*

*Change: “December 21 they had a Child Protective Ongoing Monitoring and Assessment. Ms. Grant stated they passed everything at a 100 percent, and congratulated her child protective staff for a job well done.”*

*To: “On December 21 they had a Child Protective Ongoing Monitoring and Assessment and passed several areas at a 100 percent. Ms. Grant congratulated her child protective staff for a job well done.”*

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report for review. Ms. Ballengee stated the Clinical/Medical Services numbers are showing a decrease in December; however, it is not uncommon as students are gone during the month of December. Ms. Ballengee stated the total value of WIC checks issued for 2017 was \$1,313,122, noting they generated over \$12,000 in Farmer’s Market checks during the Spring, Summer, and Fall. Legislator Healy asked if there is a way to track where the money is spent. Ms. Ballengee stated she can get a report that tracks spending, and she will get the information to the Board. Ms. Ballengee stated they are currently out of state clinical funds and have had to place individuals on a waiting lists for mammograms, colonoscopies, etc. Legislator Decker asked if it is due to an increase in demand or a decrease in funds received. Ms. Ballengee stated they did not receive as much money. The state is aware, and as soon as funds are released, they will be reaching out to those on the waiting list which is currently less than 10 individuals. Ms. Ballengee stated there was a 16 percent increase in Coroner calls in 2017; however, the autopsy cost is down due to the contract we have with Olean General Hospital. Ms. Ballengee highlighted the contract as well as the process for autopsies for the new Board members. Ms. Ballengee stated in the eleven years she has been in her position; this is the first time the entire United States has been affected by Influenza. Ms. Ballengee indicated this year’s flu strain intensity is severe and spreading in high frequency. Ms. Ballengee encouraged all who have not received their flu vaccine to contact the Health Department as they still have vaccines available. Legislator Healy asked if there is a concern of this becoming a trend in the future. Ms. Ballengee stated it’s not a matter of if, but when a flu pandemic will occur. Legislator Decker asked how late someone can get their flu shot. Ms. Ballengee stated they keep the vaccine on hand until March or April. Ms. Ballengee

announced that Melissa Watson is now a Nationally Board Certified Lactation Consultant. She is the second for our County, it is a very intensive certification, and they are proud of her work. Dustin Quinn passed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Certification to become a Lead Risk Certifier, which now brings our total of certifiers in the County to three. Ms. Ballengee was re-elected as Co-Chair for another one-year term to the Western New York Public Health Alliance. This group is part of the eight Western New York Public Health Commissioners, Directors, and other health related agencies.

### **Acceptance of Unallocated WIC Funds**

Public Health Director Lori Ballengee requested a resolution to accept and appropriate an additional \$10,826 in unallocated funds released by the NYS Department of Health for the WIC Program. The funds should be appropriated as follows:

<u>Appropriation:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A4190.409 (WIC Program – Fees)	\$ 1,200
A4190.424 (WIC Program – Legal/Advertising)	\$ 7,200
A4010.101 (WIC Program – Regular Pay)	<u>\$ 2,426</u>
Total:	\$10,826
 <u>Revenue:</u>	 <u>Amount:</u>
A4190.4452.00 (Federal Aid – WIC)	\$10,826

This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

### **OFFICE FOR THE AGING**

Office for the Aging Director Madeleine Gasdik attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Gasdik noted that in 2017 there was a total of 3,290 people age 60+ served; however, that number does not include the miscellaneous “quick calls” they receive. Ms. Gasdik stated there were a total of 118,994 meals served in 2017 which is an all-time record for the Meals-on-Wheels Program. Ms. Gasdik indicated this number is after they eliminated individuals whose need for meals was not as great, or they had another source for food. Ms. Gasdik stated they recently had their annual evaluation, and it went very well. They were cited once for an over-due well monitoring visit for the Willcare, Inc. home health care agency because it was not completed within the 365-day requirement. Ms. Gasdik explained that this was due to an unexpected winter storm, and they always try very hard not to miss them. In the future, all contract monitoring will be scheduled at least three weeks before the 364<sup>th</sup> day. Office for the Aging received a letter from New York State Office for the Aging recognizing them for several best practices. Legislator Barnes indicated that during his campaign for Legislator, he met several new County residents who required Office for the Aging services, and asked if they are the majority who receive services, or do we have a good amount of “home grown” residents that utilize them. Ms. Gasdik stated a lot are originally from the County. Some leave the area after retirement and then return as the need becomes greater; however, we do have some who are brand new to the County. Ms. Gasdik stated due to inclement weather, Meals-on-Wheels has been cancelled for Wednesday, February 7, and they are encouraging residents to utilize their Blizzard Boxes.

**Medicare Basics**

Ms. Gasdik announced a free training to explain the basics of Medicare (Parts A, B, C, and D) as well as other health plan options available. These trainings will be held at Allegany County Office for the Aging, 6085 State Route 19N, Belmont, NY, on the following dates and times:

<b><u>Date:</u></b>	<b><u>Time:</u></b>
January 18, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
February 15, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
March 15, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
April 19, 2018	5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
May 17, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
June 21, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
July 19, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
August 16, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
September 30, 2018	5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
October 18, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
November 15, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
December 20, 2018	1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To make reservations, please call 585-268-9390 or toll free 1-866-268-9390.

**Free Help with Tax Forms**

Ms. Gasdik announced that individuals 60 years of age and older can receive help filing their tax returns through the Office for the Aging's Tax Counseling for the Elderly Volunteer Counselors. For preparation of Federal and State returns, individuals must bring the following with them:

- Social Security Cards for all individuals included on the return
- Photo ID
- Copy of 2016 Tax Return
- Forms W-2 and W-2p for each place worked during 2017
- 1099R for retirement income and SSA 1099
- Unemployment compensation statements (available online at NY.gov)
- Interest/Dividend statements from savings accounts, etc.
- Forms 1095-A, B, or C, Affordable Healthcare statements
- All documents supporting claims (i.e., estimated tax payments)
- Checkbook or cancelled check for direct deposit information

There is no appointment necessary, and the 2018 Tax Clinic Sites are as follows:

<b><u>Date:</u></b>	<b><u>Location:</u></b>	<b><u>Time:</u></b>
February 14, 2018	Bolivar Fire Hall	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
February 20, 2018	Canaseraga Town Hall	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
February 21, 2018	Wellsville Grace United Church	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
February 28, 2018	Wellsville Grace United Church	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
March 7, 2018	Wellsville Grace United Church	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
March 14, 2018	Wellsville Grace United Church	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Legislator Stockin stated that Houghton College also offers a program similar to this. Legislator Root stated that program is through the United Way, and typically they refer senior citizens to Office for the Aging.

### **Senior Forum**

Ms. Gasdik stated they are currently looking to hold their Senior Forum at a different location and are open to any suggestions Ms. Gasdik indicated they are looking into legions which could possibly change the date of when it's held as they will have to schedule based on what works best for the legion they choose. Legislator Decker suggested the Cuba VFW, and Ms. Gasdik stated they cannot accommodate everyone. Committee Chair Hopkins stated they have been fortunate to have the Genesee Valley cafeteria for so many years, and it becomes challenging when you realize here isn't much available, but is confident Ms. Gasdik will put together something that will fit the needs of everyone involved.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant attended the meeting and submitted her monthly report to the committee for review. Ms. Grant stated in December 2017 they were down in Temporary Assistance Cases compared to December 2016 which could be due to several different factors. Ms. Grant indicated that in 2017 they saved a total of \$267,194.25. Ms. Grant noted that they had 43 Food Stamp Disqualifications that was directly related to the investigation they had with the District Attorney's Office. Ms. Grant stated that Senior Social Welfare Examiner Heidi Jordan graduated from Leadership Allegany. Ms. Grant graduated from the Western New York Trauma Informed Care Champion Cohort in 2017, and she has been asked to remain on as an advanced champion.

### **Senior Typist**

Social Services Commissioner Vicki Grant requested permission to fill one full-time Senior Typist (AFSCME, Grade 7, Step: Base – Step 7) due to a promotion. This position is responsible for answering all calls coming into the agency as well as clerical work to support all programs. The annual salary of this position is estimated between \$29,847 and \$34,943 with benefits estimated at 48 percent. This position is funded 38 percent with County funds, 10 percent with State funds, and 52 percent with Federal funds. This request was approved on a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Havey, and carried. **Refer to Ways and Means**

### **Citizens Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging Appointments**

The Chairman of the Board plans to appoint Janice L. Burdick of Alfred Station to the Citizens Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging with a term commencing immediately and will continue until another Legislator has been appointed, or until she no longer serves as a member of the Human Services Committee, subject to confirmation by the Board of Legislators. A motion was made by Legislator Root, seconded by Legislator Decker, and carried to appoint Janice L. Burdick to the Citizens Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging. **Prepare Resolution**

The Chairman of the Board also plans to re-appoint Kenneth David Porter of Wellsville as an "Over 60" member of the Citizens Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2018, and expiring December 31, 2020, subject to confirmation by the Board of Legislators. A motion was made by Legislator Decker, seconded by Legislator Root,

and carried to re-appoint Kenneth David Porter to the Citizens Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Heroin & Opioid Ad Hoc Committee Update**

Committee Chair Hopkins stated for the past several months, the Ad Hoc Committee and workgroups have worked together with Ardent Solutions to create the 2018-2019 Allegany County Heroin & Opioid Abuse Ad Hoc Committee Strategic Plan. Committee Chair Hopkins continued that the Ad Hoc Committee has reviewed and all have approved the plan, and they are requesting that it now go to the full Board for approval. Ms. Hopkins thanked Helen Evans, Ardent Solutions Associate Director, for being our facilitator and for all of her hard work. Legislator Stockin stated he had the privilege of sitting in on the last Heroin & Opioid Ad Hoc Committee meeting and was impressed with how thoroughly the strategic plan was looked at and discussed. Legislator Harris asked if there is any ability on the County level to control or minimize the over prescription of opioids. Ms. Evans stated they are hopeful to see an impact through trainings, educating our physicians, and County-wide support of pain management through means other than prescriptions. Chairman Crandall expressed his appreciation to Committee Chair Hopkins for taking on this project after being appointed to the Board, stating it was a big undertaking, and she stepped up to the plate, and we owe her a great deal of thanks. Committee Chairman Hopkins stated when she first started dealing with this issue, she didn't believe Allegany County had a heroin and opioid problem, but has learned since that we have a major problem in our County, and we need to continue our work as we have been successful with our efforts in making a difference. A motion was made by Committee Chair Hopkins, seconded by Legislator Stockin, and carried to forward the 2018-2019 Allegany County Heroin & Opioid Abuse Ad Hoc Committee Strategic Plan to the full Board for approval. **Prepare Resolution**

### **Good of the Order**

Committee Chair Hopkins thanked Kathleen Kellogg of the *Olean Times Herald* for her article on the Allegany County Heroin & Opioid Abuse Ad Hoc Committee Strategic Plan, stating since it was published Ms. Hopkins has received phones from Buffalo Radio stations for interviews.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 p.m. following a motion made by Legislator Stockin, seconded by Legislator Barnes, and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Washer  
Confidential Secretary to Clerk of the Board