

Public Health & Social Services Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: June 5, 2017 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION: UC Dept. of Health & Mental Health
Golden Hill Office Building
239 Golden Hill Lane, 2nd Floor
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Craig Lopez
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Nettie Tomshaw
PRESENT: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Roberts
ABSENT: Legislator Heppner
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Dr. Carol Smith MD, Commissioner DOH/MH, JoAnne Liguori & Annmarie Belfiglio North East Center, Kenneth Crannell Deputy Cty. Exec., Tara McDonald, Deputy Commissioner MH, Amy McCracken LCSW-R, Deputy Commissioner MH, Kristin Carney, Deputy Dir. Admin. DOH/MH, Judith M. Dagirmanjian, LGU Program Sup. Children's Services, Trish Tuber Access Supports For Living

Chairman Craig Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Chairman Lopez thanked Dr. Smith, Ken Crannell and associates for inviting the committee to visit the Mental Health facility to update the committee on current events and county programs.

Northeast Center for Rehabilitation and Brain Injury in Lake Katrine

Legislator Belfiglio introduced JoAnne Liguori and Annmarie Belfiglio with the Northeast Center for Rehabilitation and Brain Injury who provided an update regarding the center's ongoing struggles with Medicaid/Medicare re-imbursements, educating insurance carriers to better understand the needs of their specialized young population and providing a safe environment and safe discharges back into the community. Committee discussion ensued.

Commissioner Dr. Carol Smith, MD, MPH – UC Health and Mental Health Department

Dr. Smith thanked the committee for meeting with her staff and proceeded to introduce her mental health leadership team.

The Ulster County Mobile Mental Health Team is operated by Access. Trish Tuber is the Director for Access Supports For Living whose company leases office space at the UC Mental Health Building in Kingston, and is fully integrated with county staff. There is also a second team in Ellenville. Ms. Tuber provided an overview of their mobile mental health team who respond and counsel urgent issues in the community, home and school. They cover suicidal thoughts, emotional trauma, serious mental illness, anxiety, depression and family crisis. Their service includes people who can relate through their own experiences and together make sure plans are carried out.

Amy McCracken, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health after 28 years of service with the county Amy will be retiring at the end of the month. Dr. Smith thanked Amy for her invaluable service. Tara McDonald will be Amy's successor as Deputy Commissioner of Mental Health.

Kristin Carney Deputy Director for Administration Health/Mental Health is the chief financial officer who manages the department budget including \$7.6 million worth of state contracts under Article 6 qualifications.

Judith Dagirmanjian Local Governmental Unit (LGU) Program Supervisor Children's Services handles the mental health needs of children and adolescents of Ulster County. Ms. Dagirmanjian discussed the SPOA children's program, health homes and Medicaid redesign for children 0-21.

Dr. Smith and Ken Crannell commended the work of the mental health department, depth of experience, credentials and collaboration of the leadership team. Dr. Smith noted each team meets monthly with their contract service providers. Dr. Smith spoke of the challenges they face and greater need for services in our community due to the closure in state health psychiatric facility beds and the stigma associated with mental health people face. The Mental Health division holds presentations throughout the county addressing the opioid crisis, along with the program in its 10th year, the Ulster County SPEAK Coalition - Suicide, Prevention, Education, Awareness, Knowledge. Committee discussion ensued.

Motion No. 1: **Moved to Approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2017 meeting**

Motion By: Legislator Allen
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Roberts
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Minutes approved

Resolutions for the June 20, 2017 Session of the Legislature

Motion No. 2 **Resolve to Block & Approve Resolution Nos. 228 - 249 for June 20, 2017 Session**

Resolution Summary: All two year contract agreements providing Preschool Special Education and related services to children with disabilities, ages 3 through 5, in accordance with Section 4410 of NYS Education Law and in compliance with Part 200 of the Regulations of the NYS Commissioner of Education. Services include Speech Pathology, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, ect. The services provided are regulated by NYS, paid in accordance with NYS set rates, & providers are licensed & approved through NYS. Paid at NYS set rates, Funding 40.5% County, 59.5% State, Contract dates 7/1/17-6/30/19

Discussion: Ken Crannell provided a brief overview of the county contracts.

Motion Made By: Legislator Kevin Roberts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Chris Allen

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 228 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Abilities First, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 229 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Advanced Therapy, P.T., O.T., S.L.P., Psychologist, Registered Professional Nurse (RN), PLLC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 230 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Basile Crimi, Renata – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 231 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Best Friends Services Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 232 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Center For Spectrum Services – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 233 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Cornielle, Caryn – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 234 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Culjak, Kristen – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 235 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Easter Seals New York, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 236 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Eckert, Michelle – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 237 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Katskill Kids PT, SLP, Psychology, RN, OT & LMSW, PLLC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 238 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Learning Together Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 239 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Mid-Hudson Valley Early Education Center – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 240 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Carolyn M. Machonis, O.T., PLLC DBA Milestones For Munchkins – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 241 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Miller, Harriet – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 242 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – NYSARC, Inc. – Orange AHRC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 243 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family And Educational Consultants, LLC D/B/A Partnership For Education – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 244 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Professional Speech And Language Associates PLLC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 245 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Toddler Genius Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 246 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – NYSARC Inc. – Ulster Greene Counties Chapter – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 247 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – United Cerebral Palsy Of Ulster County, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 248 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Frank M. Volz, Jr., PhD D/B/A Dr. Frank M. Volz, Jr. And Associates – Department Of Social Services

Resolution No. 249 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Wisley, Mary– Department Of Social Services

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| Voting In Favor: | Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Roberts |
| Voting Against: | None |
| Votes in Favor: | 4 |
| Votes Against: | 0 |
| Disposition: | Resolutions adopted |

Resolution No. 254: Amending The 2017 Ulster County Budget To Accept Additional Allocation Of Funds From The New York State Office Of Children And Family Services To Continue Safe Harbor Programming – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution amends the 2017 county budget to accept \$120K additional funds for the Safe Harbor program for the calendar year. Funds will be used exclusively to expand and enhance services to raise awareness of the problem of sexual exploitation of children, and to provide for services to address the needs of these children.

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| Motion No. 3: | Resolution No. 254 moved for discussion |
| Motion By: | Legislator Belfiglio |
| Motion Seconded By: | Legislator Allen |

Discussion: Chairman Lopez & Legislator Belfiglio confirmed this resolution is an extension contract for \$120K.

Motion No. 4: **Moved to adopt Resolution No. 254**

Motion By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Voting In Favor: Legislators Lopez, Allen, Belfiglio, Roberts

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution adopted

Old Business

- Legislator Carl Belfiglio reiterated concern of reimbursement rates being lower than surrounding counties, thus struggling facilities may have to close. He also reminded the committee of ongoing cherry picking of nursing home patients.
- Legislator Kevin Roberts noted June is “Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) Awareness Month.” The disorder, also known as Osler-Weber-Rendu Syndrome is a multi-organ manifestation characterized by tangled blood vessels in the brain, lungs, liver, nose, skin, and intestines. Early diagnosis may prevent needless disabilities and deaths.

Chairman Lopez asked if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Nettie Tomshaw, Legislative Staff

Minutes Approved: July 3, 2017