

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 20, 2008**

Present: Chairman Donald J. Gregorius, Legislators Peter Loughran, Glenn Noonan, Philip Terpening, Catherine Terrizzi

Excused Absence: Legislator Jeanette Provenzano

Absent: Legislator Paul Hansut

Others Present: Commissioner Roberto Rodriguez, Deputy Commissioners Patricia Jelacic and Barbara Sorkin, Fiscal Director Patricia Hinchey, Preschool Programs Director Rita Wood, Medicaid Administrator Hermine Scheu, Accountant Peter Carney, Medicaid employee Anne Fischer, Preschool Programs Transportation Contractor Charles Gamin, Ulster County resident Otto Scheu, League of Women Voters representative Lee Cane, Secretary Elizabeth Hillegas

Chairman Gregorius called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

Resolutions:

1. Commissioner of Social Services requests that the Ulster County 2008 Budget be amended to provide for a transfer of \$730,000 to the Child Care Program to provide necessary funding for mandated services. see attached

Motion offered by Legislator Noonan, seconded by Legislator Terrizzi, and adopted.

2. Commissioner of Social Services requests that the Ulster County 2008 Budget be amended to provide for a transfer of \$1,000,000 to the Preschool Physically Handicapped Children Services Program to provide necessary funding for mandated services. see attached

Motion offered by Legislator Noonan, seconded by Legislator Terpening, and adopted.

3. Commissioner of Social Services requests that the Ulster County 2008 Budget be amended to accept recovered funds from Bristol Myers Squibb pharmaceutical litigation in the amount of \$69,474. see attached

Motion offered by Legislator Terpening, seconded by Legislator Gregorius, and withdrawn until budget line designation for the funds can be determined to be following protocol.

Meeting Notes: Motion offered by Legislator Terpening, seconded by Legislator Loughran, and adopted to accept the September 22, 2008 meeting notes.

Commissioner's Report:

Fiscal and Safety Net Reports: Fiscal Director Hinchey discussed the Safety Net reports including the Safety Net comparison chart the Committee specifically requested. Committee requested a list of all outstanding contracts for 2008 that have not been fully executed.

Youth Bureau report was distributed—no discussion.

Preschool Programs report was distributed—Director Wood discussed the statistics.

HEAP: As of this date, County has not received notification of Federal allocation for 2008/2009 season. There were brief discussions regarding vendor pricing, applicant eligibility, and adequate staff coverage. It was noted that appropriate staff will be working 35 hrs + 5 hrs; five satellite offices will be accepting new HEAP applications.

Salient: Salient is training DSS staff regarding best use of software; however, it was noted the program is labor intensive and the software does not appear to benefit DSS programs.

Imaging: The project is making progress. March 2009 is the State deadline for completion of the imaging portion that is no cost to County. There is a possibility the State may provide equipment to counties to allow counties to continue project at no cost.

A-87: 2006 Plan has been finalized; the Plan indicates it is approximately \$100,000 less than 2005.

RISE Program: Chairman Gregorius met with UCCC and DSS staff to discuss problems/issues that are preventing the program from flourishing; therefore at this point, he considers the RISE program in jeopardy. He stated there is a sense of urgency to follow through with the Legislative Resolution to keep the program in tact and successfully moving forward to accomplish the DSS participation goals and UCCC educational goals. It was noted that consistent follow-up with clients may be needed as they enter the educational process. It was suggested that the 30-day initial class be offered on a revolving basis rather than twice annually. The process flow needs improvement.

Chairman Gregorius requested that UCCC and DSS each provide a comprehensive report. He noted that DSS personnel will be invited to attend the next UCCC oversight Committee meeting.

Annual Report: Chairman Gregorius requested assurance that the State approved the 2006-2007 Annual report.

Medicaid: It was noted the County saved 1.9 million in the State 2007/2008 fiscal year with the Medicaid Cap.

Being no further business, motion offered by Legislator Loughran, seconded by Legislator Terrizzi, and adopted to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Gregorius
Chairman

