LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Health & Human Services

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative conference room, Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 8:30 AM.

Present: Mr. William Standinger Chair of the Committee

Mr. Tracy Monell Legislator

Mr. Dennis Mullen Legislator

Ms. Loretta Sullivan Legislator

Ms. Lori Morgan Director of Community Services

Mr. Chris Korba Director of Administrative Services - MH

Mr. Shawn Yetter Commissioner of Social Services

Mr. Gary Grant Deputy Commissioner of Social Services

Ms. Lisa McCafferty Public Health Director

Mr. Denis McCann Director of Administrative Services - PH

Guests: Ms. Marte Sauerbrey Chair of the Legislature

**MENTAL HYGIENE**

1. Budget Status

* Mr. Chris Korba shared that the 2019 budget is not closed yet. Once closed, Mr. Korba expects to have a slight return despite the unbudgeted criminal psychiatric care of $170.000. The Tioga County resident has been discharged in mid-February.
* Mr. Korba mentioned the Cooperative Agreements for shared services resolution.

1. Personnel

* Brittany Santos, LMSW, started 3/2/2020.
* Bobbie Jo Deuel-Lewis, LMSW starting 3/16/2020.
* Jessica Matthews, LMSW (contracted employee) starting 3/30/2020 with the Spencer School Support Project.
* Marie Halecki’s LCSW-R last day 2/27/2020.

1. Critical Issues/Topics

* Care Compass Updates: Tele-Psych/Tele-Med – Ms. Morgan shared that they are waiting for Peter DeWind to finish up the contracts. Some of the equipment has been delivered.
* Permission to apply for a Suicide Prevention Grant – This a 5-year grant for between $400,000 - $700,000. She will be coordinating the application with Public Health & Veteran’s Services. Permission to apply was supported by all Legislators present.

4. Resolutions

* None.

5. Proclamations

* None.

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

Ms. Lisa McCafferty presented highlights and resolutions.

1. Budget Status

* Mr. Denis McCann reported that the 2019 Public Health Budget has no final numbers yet, but he expects to return around $130,000. There is nothing unexpected in the 2020 budget so far.

1. Personnel

* Kimberly Thomas, Dental Hygienist, new hire effective 2/3/2020.
* Susan Medina, Deputy Director of Public Health, resigned effective 2/14/2020.
* Jessica Lovell, Public Health Nurse F/T, reclassified effective 2/18/2020.

1. Program Comments

* Agency Report for February 2020 was forwarded to the Committee.
* Coronavirus – The relative risk for Tioga County is low. Protocols are in place statewide for addressing. Legislator Standinger commended Public Health on their Coronavirus response.

1. Resolutions

* Authorize Appointment to Title of Deputy Director of Public Health Department.
* Authorize Execution of Cooperative Agreements Between the Law Department, ITCS, Sheriff, Public Health, DSS, and Mental Health.

1. Proclamations

* Rabies Prevention and Awareness Month.
* Public Health Week.

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

Commissioner Yetter discussed caseloads, programmatic highlights, and personnel changes.

1. Budget

* Mr. Gary Grant explained 2019 is not closed yet but he’s projecting to be $350,000 over budget on local share. He has increased the Foster Care line by $400,000 for 2020. The cost of specialized placement of kids by schools and courts are rising every year.

1. Caseloads

* During February, Cash Assistance caseloads increased 8 cases, with Family Assistance   
  increasing 2 cases and Safety Net increasing 6 cases.
* MA-Only decreased 12 cases.
* MA-SSI decreased 2 cases.
* Total Individuals on Medicaid increased 8 to 3,492.
* SNAP cases remained flat.
* Day Care decreased 8 cases.
* Services decreased 1 case.
* See Caseload Summary.

1. Programmatic Highlights

* Tioga Career Center Report – The Job Fair is scheduled for March 11, 2020 from 10-2. Sheri has 88 employers signed up so far. She expects around 100.
* NYS Budget – Medicaid - The State wants to make counties responsible for more than 3% growth in Medicaid at the local level. Legislative Chair Sauerbrey shared that NYSAC created a document to plan for five years out and Tioga’s cost could be anywhere from $164,000 to 1.3 million dollars. Ms. Sauerbrey is proposing that we form a task force to try & control utilization and other options. This proposal will be effective April 1, 2020 if the NYS budget passes on April 1st. Ms. Sauerbrey handed out a NYSAC flyer with three phases lined out. She plans to go to Albany this month and is looking for any suggestions to take with her. Mr. Grant pointed out that it will be very difficult to plan because Medicaid is not reconciled until two years later. The state is already planning to keep the FMAP funding.

4. Personnel Changes

* New Hire: Tina Korsak, Caseworker, 2/18/2020.
* New Hire: Briana Ward, Caseworker, 2/18/2020.
* Laurie Miner’s (Caseworker) last day 2/7/2020.
* Peggie Nickels’ (Accounting Associate II) last day 2/24/2020.

5. Resolutions

* Re-Establish Prior Year 2019 Unspent Funds for 2020 Budget.
* Transfer of Funds 2020 Budget Modification.
* Appropriation of Funds for Operation of a Child Advocacy Center (CAC); Authorize Creation of Case Supervisor Grade B Position.
* Cooperative Agreements.

1. Proclamations

* None.

**ADJOURNED:**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue  
Executive Secretary, Social Services