St. Lawrence County

BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

48 Court Street, Court House Canton, New York 13617-1169 (315) 379-2276 FAX (315) 379-2463

RUTH A. DOYLECounty Administrator

DAVID FORSYTHEChair, Board of Legislators

SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA MR. BEN HULL, CHAIR MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023 ***BOARD ROOM AND VIA YOUTUBE*** ***5:30 P.M. ***

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 18
- 3. COMMUNITY SERVICES JAY ULRICH VETERAN SERVICES MIKE BOPREY
 - A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Contract with Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project Jefferson and Lewis Counties to Provide the Dwyer Veterans Peer Program and Modifying the 2023 Budget for Community Services (Res)

4. COMMUNITY SERVICES – JAY ULRICH

- A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign Contracts with New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to Accept the 2023-2024 Traffic Safety Program and Child Passenger Safety Grants for Community Services (Res)
- B. Modifying the 2023 Budget for Community Services for Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP I) Funding from the Office of Justice Programs (Res)
- C. Mental Health, Addiction Services, and Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Services Statistics Updates (Info)

5. SOCIAL SERVICES – JOE SEEBER

- A. Modifying the 2023 Budget for Social Services for Office Renovations in the Harold B. Smith Building (Res)
- B. Modifying the 2023 Budget for Social Services for the Relocation of the Legal Staff to the County Attorney's Office (Res)
- C. Modifying the 2023 Budget for Social Services for Child Care (Res)
- D. Social Services Statistics Eligibility Review (Info)

6. PUBLIC HEALTH - CARLY ZIMMERMANN

A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign an Amendment to the Contract with Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH) for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Enhanced Detection (Res)

- B. Modifying The 2023 Budget For The Public Health Department for the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Program (Res)
- C. Modifying the 2023 Budget for the Public Health Department for Administration and Preventive Services Program (Res)
- D. Electronic Health Record Transition (Discussion)

7. LEGISLATOR MARGARET HAGGARD

- A. Urging Governor Hochul and State Legislature to Allow Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants and Aides to Practice Via License, Registration, or Certification in the New York State Early Intervention Program to Expand Capacity for Children in Need of Services in Rural Areas of New York State (Res)
- B. Urging Governor Hochul and State Legislature to Shift the Administrative Responsibility for Preschool Special Education Transportation Services to Local School Districts (Res)

8. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE – RUTH DOYLE

- A. Weights & Measures
 - 1. Fill an Inspector, Position No. 013000001
- B. Social Services
 - 1. Fill a Keyboard Specialist, Position No. 003100105, in Preventive/Foster Care
 - 2. Fill a Case Supervisor, Grade A, Position No. 817100001, in Children's Services
- C. Community Services
 - 1. Create and Fill a Case Manager, Position No. 512200003
 - 2. Create and Fill a Case Manager, Position No. 512200004

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Board of Health (Curran)
- B. CDP Board of Directors (Burke)
- C. Community Services Board (Haggard)
- D. Office for the Aging Advisory Board (Denesha)
- E. Youth Advisory Board (Terminelli)

10. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Litigation
- B. Negotiations
- C. Personnel
- D. Appointments
- 12. ADJOURNMENT If there is no further business.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH JOSEPH P. DWYER VETERANS PEER SUPPORT PROJECT JEFFERSON AND LEWIS COUNTIES TO PROVIDE THE DWYER VETERANS PEER PROGRAM AND MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee Co-Sponsored by Mr. Gennett, District 13

WHEREAS, Community Services receives funding through New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to provide a Veterans Peer to Peer Program in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, the Dwyer Veterans Program is designed with its focus on suicide prevention for veterans experiencing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as a result of their military service, and also addresses all areas of well-being of veterans in the community, and

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board has endorsed the use of the OMH Dwyer Veterans Peer Program Funding for these needed services to be allocated to Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project which is home-based in Jefferson County, and

WHEREAS, the Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Program is currently receiving this OMH funding from Jefferson and Lewis Counties,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign a contract with Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project Jefferson and Lewis Counties to provide the Dwyer Veterans Peer Program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2023 Budget for Community Services, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

A4443224 465JD A J P Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project

\$104,000

INCREASE REVENUE:

A4434905 56000

A SA OFS Other Mental Health

\$104,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO.	I NO.
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AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN CONTRACTS WITH NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE TO ACCEPT THE 2023-2024 TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM AND CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee has determined that the St. Lawrence County Traffic Safety Grant will be funded at \$87,876 with an additional Child Passenger Safety Grant for training and fitting stations in the amount of \$12,300 for a total budget of \$100,176, and

WHEREAS, the 2024 County Budget will be prepared with the understanding that the Traffic Safety Grant expenditures will be funded at \$100,176, and

WHEREAS, funding from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee was requested and approved for the time period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024 (A7233895 56000),

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorize the Chair to sign contracts, and any further documents necessary, with New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to accept the 2023-2024 Traffic Safety Program and Child Passenger Safety Grants for Community Services, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO.	JUTION NO.
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MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID, STIMULANT, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM (COSSAP I) FUNDING FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Community Services has received funding from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and

WHEREAS, the OJP authorized Community Services to modify the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) (2020-AR-BX-0076) Budget, and

WHEREAS, The COSSAP Award 2020-AR-BX-0076 was slated to end on September 30, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the County was unable to fully expend their allocation of their award in 2023, Resolution No. 378-2022, and a budget modification has been approved by OJP to reallocate the funds to sub-recipient St. Lawrence County Addiction Services Opioid Addiction Services in the amount of \$139,120, and

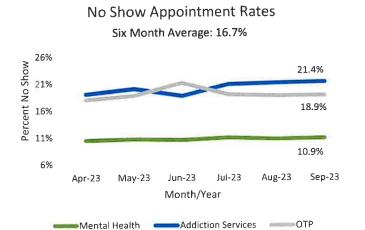
WHEREAS, an extension was approved by the Office of Justice Program to extend the grant period to September 30, 2024,

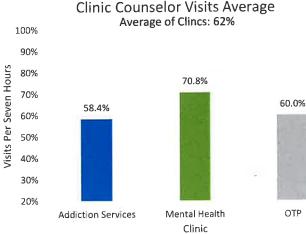
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Community Services for Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP I) Funding from the Office of Justice Programs, as follows:

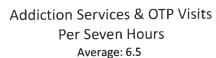
DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

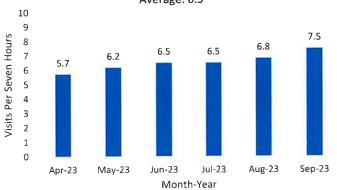
A1542201 12000	A OPIOID Rec Supervisory/ Admin	\$80,784
A1542208 81000	A OPIOID Rec Retirement	12,595
A1542208 83000	A OPIOID Rec Social Security	6,958
A1542208 84000	A OPIOID Rec Workmen Comp	2,131
A1542208 84500	A OPIOID Rec Group Life Insurance	125
A1542208 86000	A OPIOID Rec Hospital & Med Insurance	32,498
A1542208 86500	A OPIOID Rec Dental Insurance	949
A1542208 89000	A OPIOID Rec Vision Insurance	332
		\$136,372
	INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:	
A1542204 46500	A OPIOID Rec Program Payments	\$136,372

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

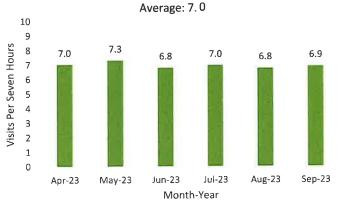








Mental Health Services Visits
Per Seven Hours

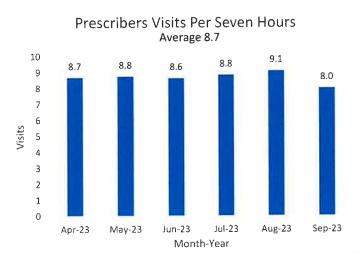


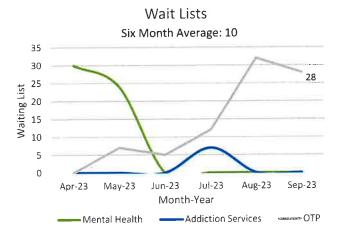
Addiction Services/OTP Face to Face % Average 54%

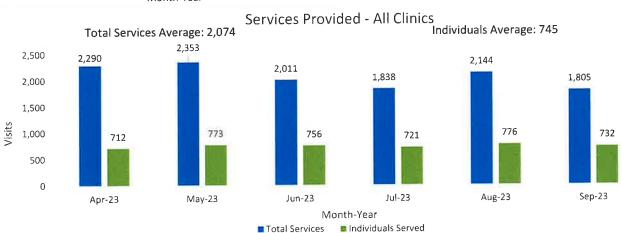


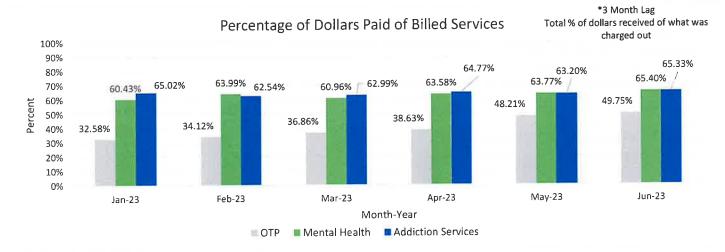
Mental Health Face to Face % Average 72.4%



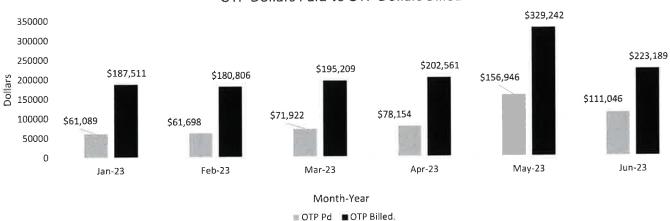








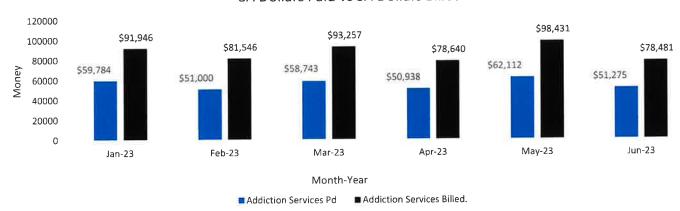
OTP Dollars Paid vs OTP Dollars Billed

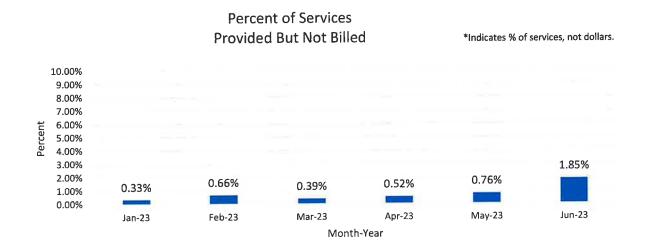


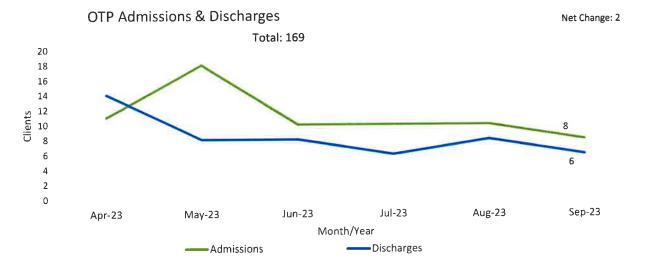
MH Dollars Paid vs MH Dollars Billed



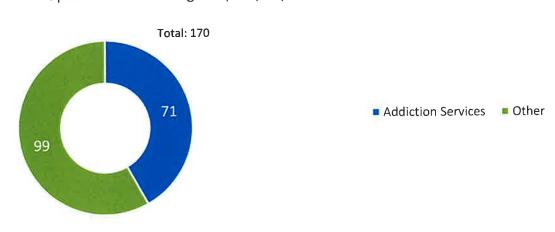
SA Dollars Paid vs SA Dollars Billed







Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Population Source



Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO. _____

MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR OFFICE RENOVATIONS IN THE HAROLD B. SMITH BUILDING

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Harold B. Smith Building opened in 1973 and is in need of updates to the office areas, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators has supported expansion of services in the community which has created working area in the Harold B. Smith Building for creative solutions in office space configurations, and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to update the office environment follows upgrades to the HVAC system and drinking fountains, reception areas for the public, and improved monitoring of the property and facility over the last couple of years, and

WHEREAS, the first phase of the project which was approved per resolution 269-2023 and is currently underway, and

WHEREAS, the next phase of the project is replacing carpets and installing cubicles in the remaining offices of the Harold B. Smith Building, and

WHEREAS, following the office suite renovations, the intentions are to continue with improvements to the bathroom facilities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Social Services for office renovations in the Harold B. Smith Building, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DAA60102 21000 D Admin Furniture \$524,051

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700 B SPEC Contingency Account \$524,051

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES TO ACCOMMODATE OFFICE RENOVATIONS FOR LEGAL STAFF IN THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Office of the County Attorney supervises legal staff in the Department of Social Services, and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Commissioner and the County Attorney to relocate staff to the Office of the County Attorney, and

WHEREAS, the changes will provide an updated office environment for efficient operations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorize the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Social Services for the relocation of the legal staff to the County Attorney's Office, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DAA60102 21000 LG	D LG Furniture & Furnishings	\$13,000
	INCREASE REVENUE:	
DA026835 550WC DA036105 56000 DA046105 57000	D Workers' Comp D SA General Administration D FA General Administration	\$9,421 1,126 <u>2,453</u> \$13,000

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO.	
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MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CHILD CARE

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, due to an increase in the eligibility guidelines for Child Care, it is necessary to modify the 2023 Social Services Budget,

WHEREAS, there has been a steady increase in the number of families eligible for and participating in this program, and

WHEREAS, in the calendar year ending on July 31, 2023, 208 families and 435 children were receiving benefits from this program, compared to 101 families and 187 children the previous year, and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has allocated additional funding to meet the projected child care needs of families across the State,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorize the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for Social Services Budget for child care, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

DSD60554 46500 CCBG D NYS Child Care Block Grant I

\$600,000

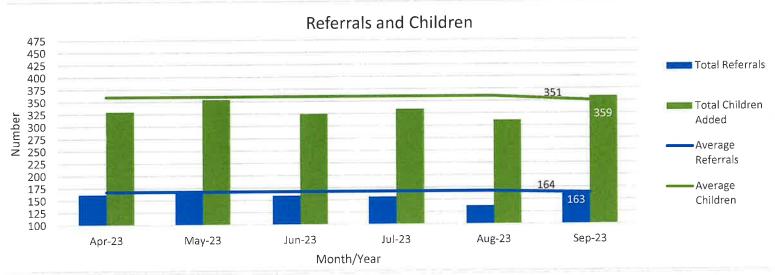
INCREASE REVENUE:

DSD36555 56000 CCBG D SA NYS Child Care Block Grant

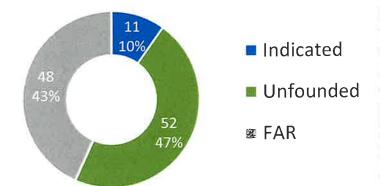
\$600,000

Social Services Monthly Update - September 2023

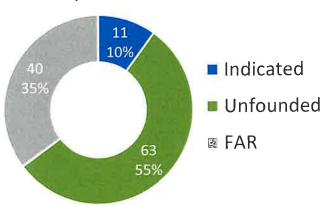
Child Protective Services





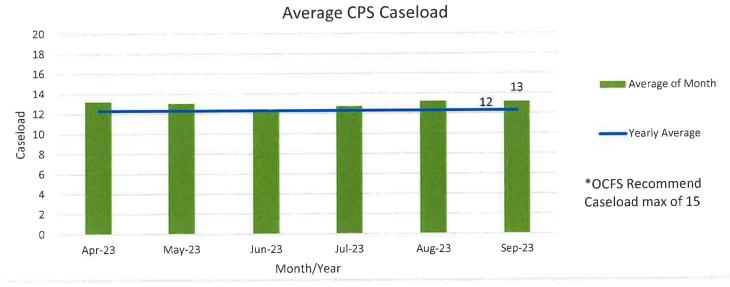


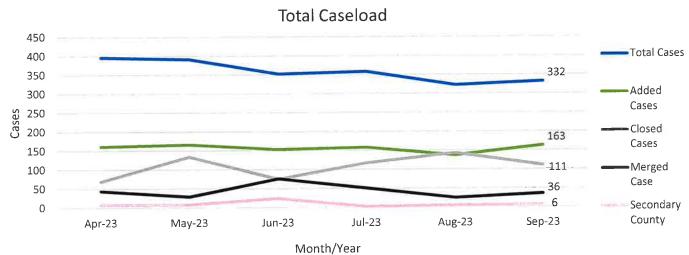
Average Indicated, Unfounded, & Family Assessment Response (FAR)

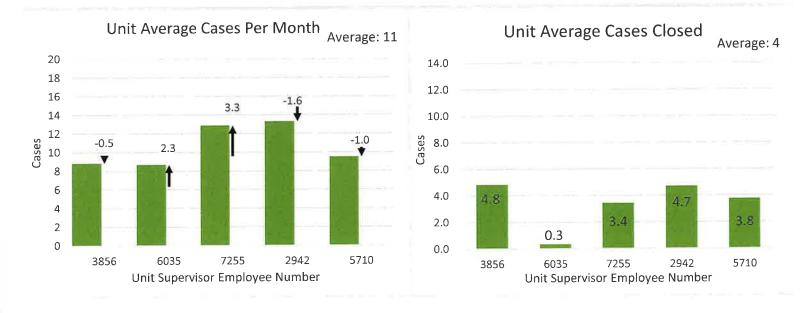




^{*}Data Lagged By One Month Due to Reporting Timeline

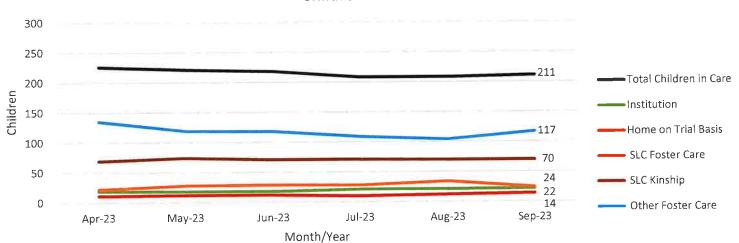




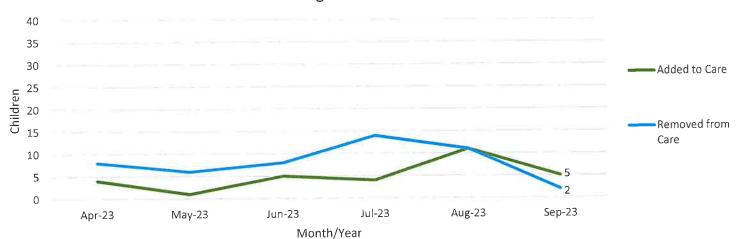


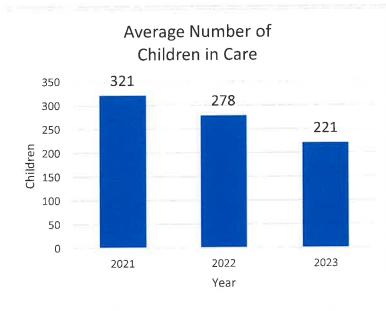
Foster Care/Preventive Services

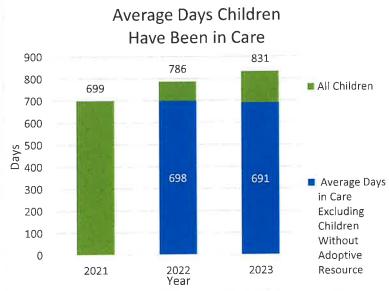




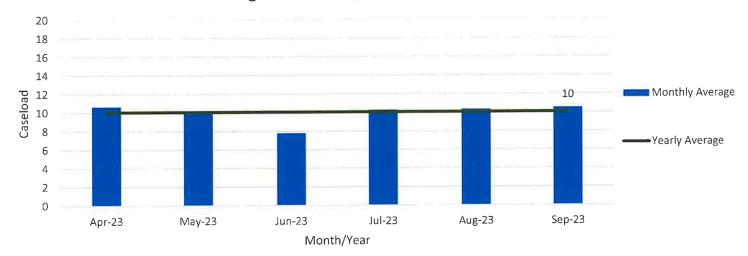
Net Change to Children in Care

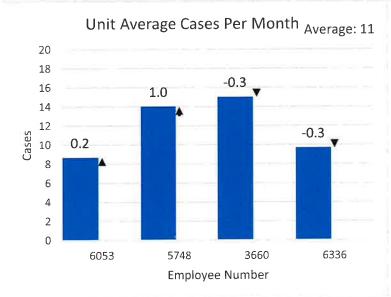


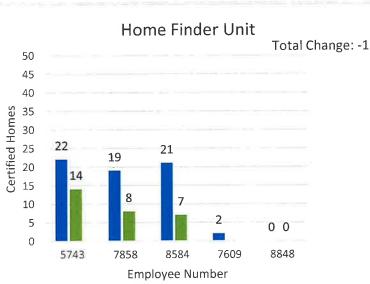


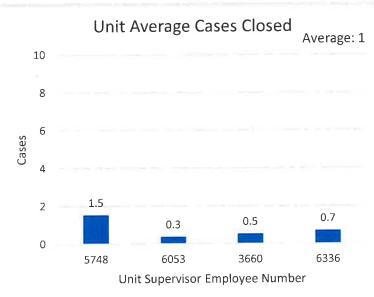


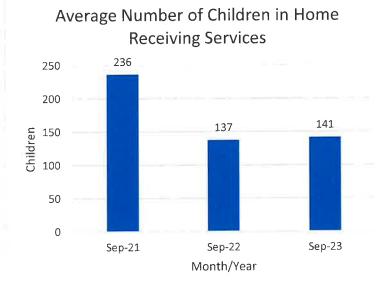
Average Foster Care/Preventive Caseload



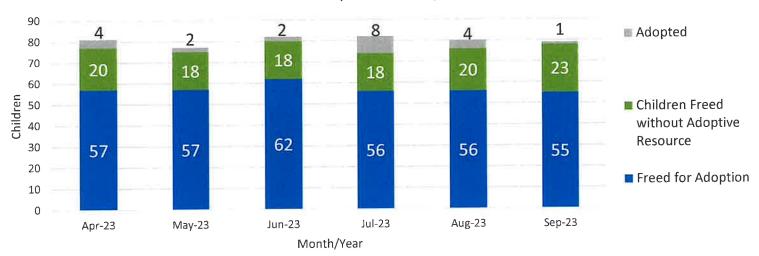


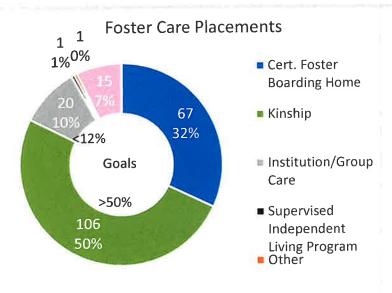


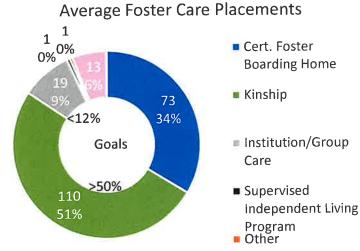




Adoption Activity



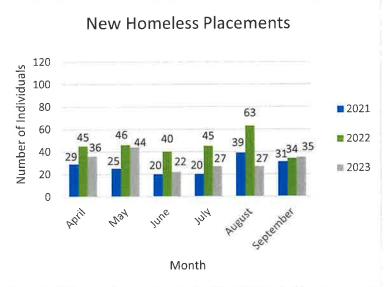


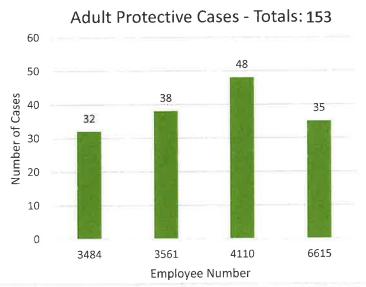


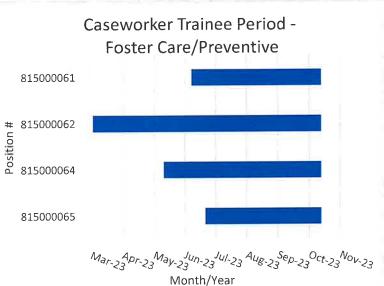


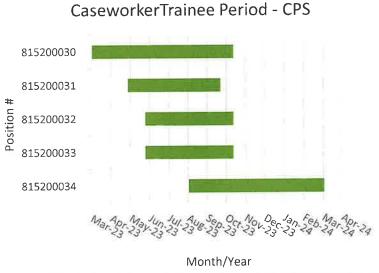


Number of Hours

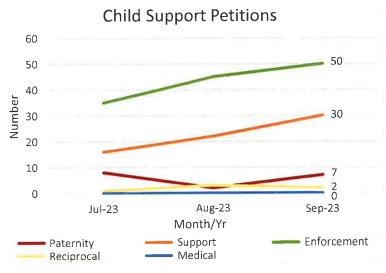


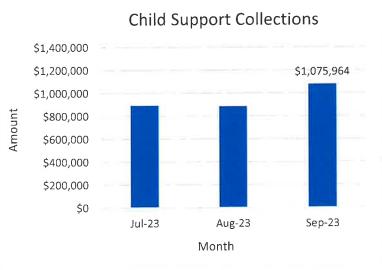






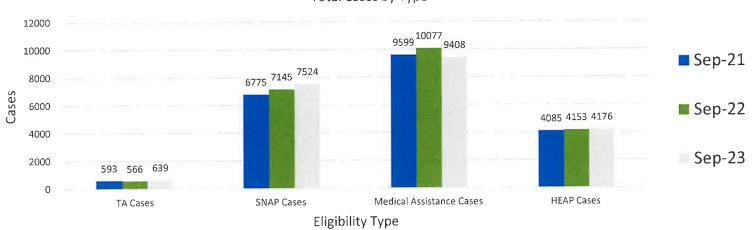
Child Support



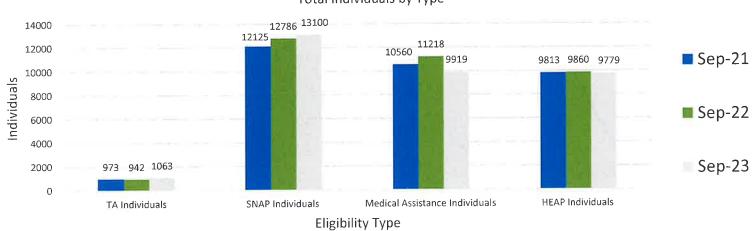


Eligibility Programs

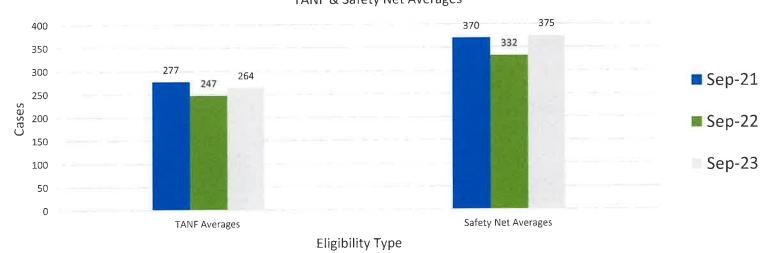


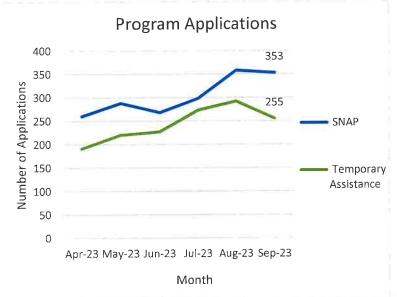


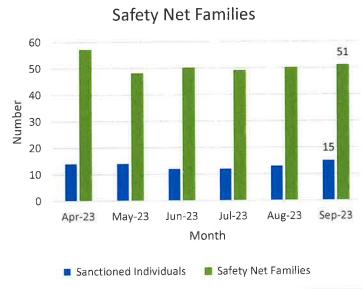
Total Individuals by Type

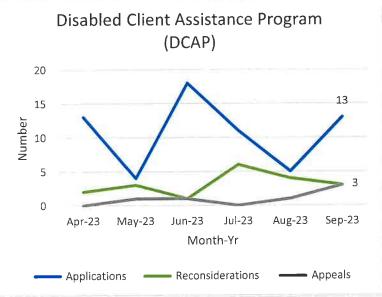


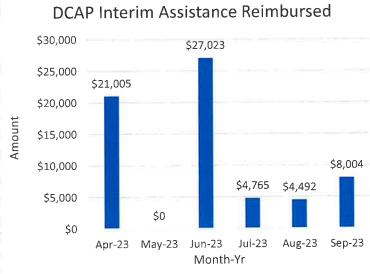
TANF & Safety Net Averages

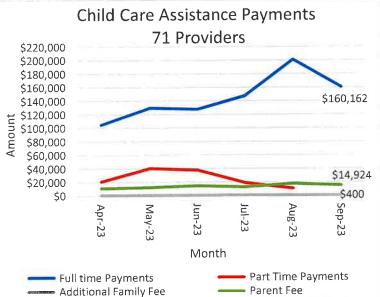


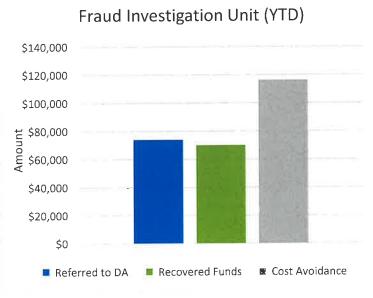


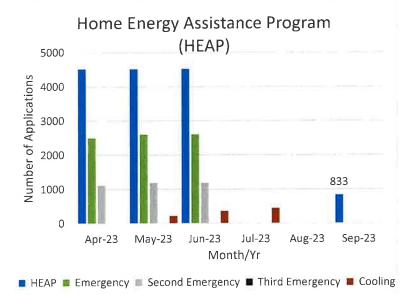




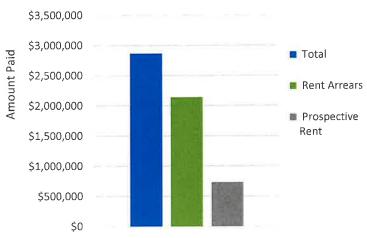


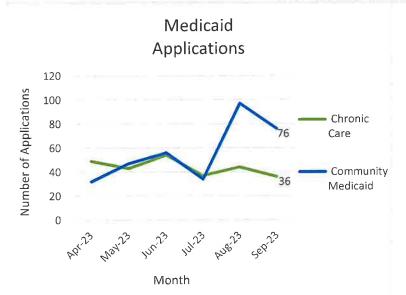


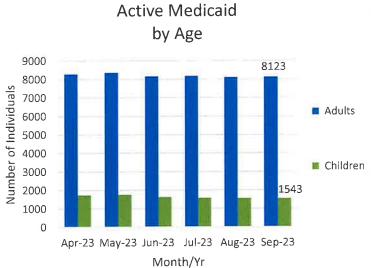




Emergency Rental Assistance Program (6/1/21- 9/25/23)







Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO.	RESOLUTION	ON NO.	
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AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH HEALTH RESEARCH INC./NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (HRI/NYSDOH) FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY (ELC) COVID-19 ENHANCED DETECTION

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH) will be awarding funding to local health departments (LHDs) for enhanced detection, surveillance and prevention of COVID-19, based on county populations plus a supplemental award based on percent of COVID-19 cases, and

WHEREAS, this funding is part of a Center for Disease Control (CDC) sponsored cooperative agreement for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC), CFDS# 93.323, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 257-2020 authorized the original contract for a two-year period ending June 30, 2022, and Resolution No. 82-2022 extended the contract to March 31, 2023, and Resolution No. 381-2022 extended the contract to December 31, 2023, (PPZ44895 57000 CVD), and this amendment would extend the contract through July 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that she is making funding available to counties across New York State to help with costs associated with administering vaccines and boosters and enforcing the mask-or-vaccine mandate for indoor public places, and

WHEREAS, the supplemental funding will be expended on the hiring of permanent and temporary staff to assist with POD activities, POD clinic supplies, conducting public education/awareness campaigns and outreach on mask or vaccine protocols, staff mileage to travel to POD sites, triaging inquires or complaints to partner entities and collaborating on mitigation activities, wrap around services, and deliverables to cover monkeypox response along with COVID-19 activities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to sign an amendment to the contract with Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH) for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 enhanced detection, upon approval of the County Attorney.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION	NO.	
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MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE STRENGTHENING U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE, WORKFORCE, AND DATA SYSTEMS PROGRAM

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, Health Research Inc./New York State Department of Health (HRI/NYSDOH), through a Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sponsored grant titled Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems, CFDA# 93.967, has awarded funding to local health departments (LHDs), and

WHEREAS, funding must be used to strengthen county public health departments and may not supplant existing public health department resources, and maintenance of effort is a requirement of receiving these funds, and

WHEREAS, funds may be used to strengthen the public health workforce through hiring of public health positions, supporting retention of current staff, making upgrades to the workplace to increase employee satisfaction, providing public health training, and providing public health support services to the public health department, and

WHEREAS, long-term outcomes of this funding investment include improvements in the public health of the jurisdiction, especially among socially and economically marginalized communities, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 201-2023 authorized the signing of a contract with HRI/NYSDOH, for the New York State Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems Program, and

WHEREAS, this five (5) year grant is for the period of December 1, 2022 through November 30, 2027,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2023 Budget for the Public Health Department for the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Program, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

PPZ44015 57000 IWD	P IWD Federal Aid	\$407,190
	INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:	
PPZ40101 11000 IWD PPZ40102 21000 IWD PPZ40104 41102 IWD	P IWD Direct Service Workers P IWD Furniture & Furnishings P IWD Educational Workshops	\$223,541 11,000 26,143

PPZ40104 42000 IWD	P IWD Office Supplies & Expense	2,043
PPZ40104 43005 IWD	P IWD Advertising Fees & Expense	3,500
PPZ40104 43007 IWD	P IWD Other Fees & Services	21,975
PPZ40104 44300 IWD	P IWD Mileage Reimbursement	3,500
PPZ40104 44500 IWD	P IWD Other Travel Reimbursement	500
PPZ40108 81000 IWD	Retirement	24,902
PPZ40108 83000 IWD	Social Security	15,424
PPZ40108 84000 IWD	Workers' Compensation	5,566
PPZ40108 84500 IWD	Group Life Insurance	402
PPZ40108 86000 IWD	Hospital & Medical Insurance	65,207
PPZ40108 86500 IWD	Dental Insurance	2,615
PPZ40108 89000 IWD	Vision Insurance	872
		\$407,190

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until fully expended.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION	NO.	
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MODIFYING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department is responsible for expenses associated with Administration and the Preventive Services Program, and

WHEREAS, there have been higher than anticipated expenses within the Public Health Administration and Public Health Preventive Services Programs, and

WHEREAS, there has also been an increase in revenue with the Administration and Preventive Services Programs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2023 Budget for the Public Health Department for the Administration and Preventive Services Program, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

PA040104 43003 PP040104 42004 PP040104 43007	P ADM Accounting & Financial P PREV Computer Software P PREV Other Fees & Services	\$6,000 20,000 <u>35,500</u> \$61,500
	INCREASE REVENUE:	
PP034015 56000	P SA PUB Health Prev & Clinic	\$61,500

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

URGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO ALLOW SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST ASSISTANTS AND AIDES TO PRACTICE VIA LICENSE, REGISTRATION, OR CERTIFICATION IN THE NEW YORK STATE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM TO EXPAND CAPACITY FOR CHILDREN IN NEED OF SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS OF NEW YORK STATE

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee Co-Sponsored by Ms. Haggard, District 10

- WHEREAS, according to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, a Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) is support personnel who, following academic coursework, fieldwork, and on-the-job training, performs tasks that are prescribed, directed, and supervised by a certified and/or licensed speech-language pathologist, and
- WHEREAS, SLPAs may have the opportunity to work in a variety of settings including schools, home health, clinics, private practice, and Early Intervention, as determined by state laws and regulations, and
- WHEREAS, currently in New York State, Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) are required to perform all evaluations and services for speech/language in the Early Intervention Program (EIP), and
- WHEREAS, speech services are repeatedly the number one referred service for Early Intervention across New York State, and
- WHEREAS, New York State is experiencing dire shortages of qualified professionals to provide speech-language pathology and audiology services to children with developmental delays and disabilities in the EIP, and
- WHEREAS, children in the EIP are going unserved or underserved due to the critical shortage of SLPs available to provide services in rural areas, and
- WHEREAS, according to a survey of forty-eight (48) county health departments, over 2,000 children were waiting for speech services in the summer of 2022, and
- WHEREAS, at least forty (40) other states allow SLPAs to practice via license, registration, or certification, and
- WHEREAS, Occupational Therapist Assistants (OTAs) have an existing structure to provide services under a licensed OT in NYS, as well as a billing structure in place, and
- WHEREAS, shifting service delivery for some of the most common speech issues to qualified assistants would result in a more effective use of limited SLPs by allowing SLPs to

work at the top of their license and focus on services that only they are qualified to provide, such as feeding services and other services for high needs children,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature to allow Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants and aides to practice via license, registration, or certification in the New York State Early Intervention Program to expand capacity for children in need of services in rural areas of New York State, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New York State Department of Health be tasked with identifying any barriers to EIP services provided by SLPAs working under a plan of supervision being reimbursed by Medicaid and move forward with actions to ensure such services are Medicaid reimbursable, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Services Committee: 10-23-2023

RESOLUTION NO.

URGING GOVERNOR HOCHUL AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO SHIFT THE ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

By Mr. Hull, Chair, Services Committee

- WHEREAS, Section 200.16(e)(5) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education requires the municipality in which a Preschool Special Education Program (Pre-K SEP) student resides to provide suitable transportation, as determined by the board of education, to services developed in an Individual Education Plans (IEP), as needed, and
- WHEREAS, municipalities contract with third-party transportation vendors to provide transportation services to children in the Pre-K SEP to and from necessary services, and
- WHEREAS, coordinating with bus companies is a significant administrative burden on municipalities, particularly on already overburdened local health departments, and
- WHEREAS, according to a survey of fifty-one (51) county local health departments, county Pre-K SEP transportation costs from utilizing third-party transportation vendors have been increasing for years, with overall statewide costs being ninety percent (90%) higher in 2022 than they were in 2020, and
- WHEREAS, Pre-K SEP transportation costs per child are consistently highest for small, rural counties due to limited choices for transportation vendors, and
- WHEREAS, Section 4401(4) of the New York State Education Law requires all school districts to provide transportation for all pupils, defined as children enrolled in any public or nonpublic elementary, middle or secondary school, with disabilities residing in the district for whom such services are specified in their IEP, and
- WHEREAS, local school districts either own, operate, and maintain buses or have systems in place to contract with bus companies to transport pupils with disabilities to and from special classes, and
- WHEREAS, local school districts have existing systems in place to ensure that bus drivers, monitors, and attendants are properly trained and qualified to transport pupils, including those in Pre-K and with disabilities, safely to and from school, and
- WHEREAS, local school districts have experience and processes in place to coordinate frequently changing bus routes and receive State aid for the costs of transportation services, and
- WHEREAS, Pre-K SEP transportation costs for localities contracting with local school districts to provide transportation to and from services are significantly lower than costs incurred from utilizing third-party transportation vendors, and

- WHEREAS, localities utilizing school districts to provide transportation to Pre-K SEP services spent seventy-eight percent (78%) less on transportation costs per child in 2022 compared to localities utilizing third-party transportation vendors, equaling millions of dollars in cost savings for localities annually, and
- WHEREAS, the disparity in cost for Pre-K SEP transportation per child from utilizing third-party vendors versus school districts has been getting wider since 2019, especially in small counties, and
- WHEREAS, county taxpayer dollars are utilized to pay for Pre-K SEP transportation services regardless of who administers such services, and
- WHEREAS, this action could also allow counties and school districts to take advantage of the countywide shared services initiative (CWSSI) further providing localities with cost savings, and
- WHEREAS, both school districts and municipal government have the fiduciary responsibility to be good stewards of local taxpayer money,
- **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Board of Legislators calls upon Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature to shift the administrative responsibility for preschool special education transportation services to local school districts, and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that localities maintain the fiscal responsibility for providing these services, and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Weights & Measures

				1	Mar
Type: Fill	•	Inspector			
Subunit (If Applicable	e):		Date Submitted: 9/7/23		
Reason Vacated: Re	tirement		Position Number:01300000	1	
Date Vacated: 9/29/23	i.		Position # Abolished:		
Position Status: Full	time		Last Fill Date: 9/24/18		
Jurisdictional Class: (Competitive		Appointee Will Be: Provisional		
Hrs Per Week: 35	Shift Length:	FTE:1.00			Ÿ.
		Budget			
Salary of Person Lea	ving: \$51,623		Fill Request Timeline: Imme	diately	y
Benefits: Yes (51.44%	%) \$26,555	5	Revenue Generating: No	0	%
Base Salary: \$47,855			Reimbursed by Local, State or Federal Funds: No	0	%
Base Hourly: \$26.29					
Grade: 23	Net C *Net County Cost is cal	culated from salary of per	78,178 son leaving, if available		
	D	etailed Justi	fication		
What is the impact need to fill the posi (clients) affected, a	ition. Please includ	le the service pro	is not filled? Please provide, ir vided, if it is mandated, numbe s not filled.	ı detai ər of p	il, the eople
businesses within St. measure devices alo in the County. The D NYS Petroleum Qual	Lawrence County ng with 506 associa Department is respo ity sampling progra	and inspect 805 so ated weights. The nsible for administ m within St. Lawre	employees interact with 358 uncales, 965 liquid measuring developeratment calibrates the 570 tering Local Law #6 for the year ence County. Additionally, the Leand investigate all consumer	rices, 3 milk b 1998 Depart	ulk tanks and the ment

perform credit card skimming audits. The Inspector Position is not mandated but the work that they assist with is. Without an inspector it would be very difficult for the Director to accomplish all of these tasks alone. The Department are the invisible third party to all consumer transactions within St. Lawrence County so if this position is not filled then it will effect all 108,051 citizens. If this position is not filled then the Director would work with the County Administrator to identify priorities and do his best to fulfill the

Department Head: Adam Simmons

County's mandates under NYS Law.

Approved?
Yes ☐ No ☐

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only: Job Qualifications Listed here:

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school, possession of a high school equivalency diploma or possession of an Individual Education Plan diploma.	
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of a valid New York State Operator's license appropriat for the vehicles operated and must be able to lift and carry materials weighing up to fifty (50) pour	te nds.

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Social Services

Type: Fill

Keyboard Specialist

Subunit (If Applicable): Children's Services

Reason Vacated: Resignation

Date Vacated: 9/22/2023

Position Status: Fulltime

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive

Hrs Per Week: 35

Shift Length: 7

FTE: 1.00

Date Submitted: 9/26/2023

Position Number: 003100105

Position # Abolished:

Last Fill Date: 6/28/2022

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving: \$36,876

Benefits: Yes (51,44%) \$18.969

Base Salary: \$36,287

Base Hourly: \$19.94

Grade: 15

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Revenue Generating:

% No

Reimbursed by Local,

State or Federal Funds: Yes 72

%

Net County Cost: \$15,804

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The individual in this position completes all clerical duties for a Preventive/Foster Care Unit, which is comprised of 6 Foster Care Preventive Caseworkers. The person in this position is responsible for Service Plan Review letters; court cards; reminders for all legal activity for the Unit; foster care placement documentation; movements of children in foster care; special payment for foster parents; clothing allowance payments for foster parents; caseloads and case logs; tracking case requirements; opening and closing of cases on the New York State Welfare Management System for foster care and preventive cases and the accurate recording of placement dates to ensure proper payment to providers; foster care subsidies; mailing, copying, and typing. Without this essential position, it would be impossible to comply with or successfully participate in Office of Children and Family Services audits. Legal paperwork that is not completed and processed timely can result in children remaining in care longer than is necessary, at an increased expense to the Department. Keyboards in Child Welfare not only complete their own duties, they also ensure that all required documentation is completed by the caseworkers and communicate with the Supervisor to ensure that work is being completed timely. It is impossible for Child Welfare Supervisors to monitor all of the documentation that is required; they rely on the Keyboard to assist with this vital quality assurance role. This position will handle approximately 70+ foster youth with foster care placements, kinship placements as well as preventive youth placed in relative care.

Department	Head:
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County Administrator

Approved?

Yes□No□

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only: Job Qualifications Listed here:

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school, possession of a high school equivalency diploma, or possession of an Individual Education Plan diploma.	
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St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Social Services

Type: Fill

Case Supervisor, Grade A

Subunit (If Applicable): Children's Services

Date Vacated: 9/28/2023

Position Status: Fulltime

Reason Vacated: Retirement

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive

Hrs Per Week: 35

Shift Length: 7

FTE: 1.00

Date Submitted: 10/2/2023

Position Number: 817100001

Position # Abolished:

Last Fill Date: 07/02/2018

Appointee Will Be: Permanent

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving: \$77,283

\$39,754

Base Salary: \$62,875

Benefits: Yes (51.44%)

Base Hourly: \$34.55

Grade: 30

Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Revenue Generating:

Nο

Reimbursed by Local,

State or Federal Funds: Yes 72

%

Net County Cost: \$33,122

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

The Grade A Case Supervisor oversees 6 Grade B Supervisors, 2 Senior Caseworkers, 4 Caseworker Assistants, 29 Caseworkers, 1 Senior Social Welfare Examiner, 2 Social Welfare Examiners, 1 Senior Clerk 6 Keyboard Specialists and 1 Clerk. There are a few distinct programs in Children's Services for which the Grade A Supervisor is responsible - Foster Care, Preventive Care, and Adoption. The Grade A Supervisor facilitates all Permanency Planning Meetings for all children in foster care; reading (and adjusting) every document (petitions, Permanency Hearing, Violations, Compliance Conference, etc.) that are sent to Court; must attend meetings in St. Lawrence County as well as meetings and seminars in Syracuse and/or Albany and is present at every Children's Services meeting regarding any cases in that unit. The Grade A Supervisor also meets regularly with the Grade B Supervisors, meets monthly with all new workers and is available to meet with any worker, supervisor or line staff whenever necessary. The Grade A Supervisor position in Children's Services requires diligent and precise monitoring and the policies and procedures, which are ever-changing, requires the Grade A Supervisor to be fully cognizant of such changes at all times.

Department	Head:
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County Administrator

Approved?

Yes□No□

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only: Job Qualifications Listed here:

Job Qualifications Listed here:		
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree and five (5) years of experience in social work with a public or private agency adhering to acceptable standards.		

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Community Services

Type: Create & Fill Case Manager

Subunit (If Applicable): Addiction Services Date Submitted: September 26, 2023

Reason Vacated: New Position Position Number: 512200003

Date Vacated: N/A Position # Abolished: N/A

Position Status: Fulltime Last Fill Date: N/A

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive Appointee Will Be: Provisional

Hrs Per Week: 35 Shift Length: 7 FTE: 1.00

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving: Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Benefits: Yes (51.44%) \$26.555 Revenue Generating: Yes 50 %

Base Salary: \$51,624 Reimbursed by Local, State or Federal Funds: Yes 100 %

Base Hourly: \$28.36

Grade: 25

Net County Cost: -\$39,090

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

Addiction Services has been awarded funding from OASAS, distributed through New York State's Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) to support addiction outreach and engagement services designed to reach under served populations in St. Lawrence County. Funds are requested to hire two Case Managers to implement care coordination services devoted to individuals with substance use disorders (SUD) in combination with other co-occurring health issues. Case Managers' primary focus is to ensure that people who use substances are connected to harm reduction, SUD treatment, and recovery support services. These services will ensure that the community members with co-occurring illness have access to adequate food, clothing, and shelter as well as other resources that will aid in removing the many barriers to treatment and recovery services.

OASAS has confirmed that the County can collect all revenue generated from these positions in addition to the grant funds. Total revenue earned by Case Manager for 2022 was \$101,302. Funding from OSF will roll over and continue until 10/1/25. At the end of the grant period the financial information of these positions will be presented to the Board for review.

Department Head:	Jy S. Wil	Approved? Yes⊡ No⊡
County Administrator:		Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only: Job Qualifications Listed here:

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either
(A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services, Psychology, Sociology or closely related field and one (1) year of full time, paid experience working with the mentally ill; OR
(B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree in Human Services, Psychology, Sociology or closely related field and three (3) years of full time, paid experience working with individuals with a mental illness.
*

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form

Community Services

Type: Create & Fill Case Manager

Subunit (If Applicable): Addiction Services Date Submitted: September 26, 2023

Reason Vacated: New Position Position Number: 512200004

Date Vacated: N/A Position # Abolished: N/A

Position Status: Fulltime Last Fill Date: N/A

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive Appointee Will Be: Provisional

Hrs Per Week: 35 Shift Length: 7 FTE: 1.00

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving: Fill Request Timeline: Immediately

Benefits: Yes (51.44%) \$26.555 Revenue Generating: Yes 50 %

Base Salary: \$51,624 Reimbursed by Local, State or Federal Funds: Yes 100 %

Base Hourly: \$28.36

Grade: 25

Net County Cost: -\$39,090

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

Addiction Services has been awarded funding from OASAS, distributed through New York State's Opioid Settlement Funds to support addiction outreach and engagement services designed to reach under served populations in St. Lawrence County. Funds are requested to hire two Case Managers to implement care coordination services devoted to individuals with substance use disorders (SUD) in combination with other co-occurring health issues. Case Managers' primary focus is to ensure that people who use substances are connected to harm reduction, SUD treatment, and recovery support services. These services will ensure that the community members with co-occuring illness have access to adequate food, clothing, and shelter as well as other resources that will aid in removing the many barriers to treatment and recovery services.

OASAS has confirmed that the County can collect all revenue generated from these positions in addition to the grant funds. Total revenue earned by Case Manager for 2022 was \$101,302. Funding from OSF will roll over and continue until 10/1/25. At the end of the grant period the financial information of these positions will be presented to the Board for review.

Department Head:	Jy S. Wil	Approved? Yes⊡ No⊡
County Administrator	•	Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only: Job Qualifications Listed here:

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either
(A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services, Psychology, Sociology or closely related field and one (1) year of full time, paid experience working with the mentally ill; OR
(B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree in Human Services, Psychology, Sociology or closely related field and three (3) years of full time, paid experience working with individuals with a mental illness.