

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: M. Walker, M. Falk, D. Babbitt Henry, D. Wester, D. LeFeber, D. Mahus, I. Coyle, A. Ellis, B. Mann, S. Hillier, J. Gunther-Intern
 ABSENT: I. Davis

Human Services Chair Merilee Walker asked N. Dansville Supervisor Dennis Mahus to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING GRANT AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH: NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contract for the Livingston County Department of Health, and any future amendments to said contract, according to the term designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
New York State Department of Health	7/01/20-6/30/21	\$347,622.00
Corning Tower		
Empire State Plaza		
Albany, NY 12237		
For: Family Planning Grant		

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
New York State Department of Health	0%	Yes X No

Director's Comments: This grant provides for the Reproductive Health Center's Family Planning Grant. Ms. Rodriguez reviewed the grant contract for approval.

Motion: Mrs. Babbitt Henry moved and Mr. Wester seconded to approve the foregoing resolution Carried.

2. PROCLAIMING WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2020, AUGUST 1-7, 2020

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of Livingston County residents are of utmost importance to the prosperity and livelihood of our local communities; and

WHEREAS, the United States Breastfeeding Committee declared August National Breastfeeding Month, and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action declared August 1-7, 2020, as World Breastfeeding Week to promote breastfeeding as a key to sustainable development; and

WHEREAS, the Livingston County Department of Health and community partners are coordinating World Breastfeeding Week events to include Virtual Celebration on August 4; and

WHEREAS, exclusively breastfeeding infants for the first six months after birth with continued breastfeeding for at least twelve months ensures that both mothers and infants receive maximum health benefits; and

WHEREAS, breast milk is physiologically tailored to meet the needs of infants' maturing digestive systems, which ensures proper growth and development, helps prevent a variety of acute and chronic diseases, reduces childhood obesity, and improves a child's neurodevelopment; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding provides women with health benefits such as reduced risk of ovarian, uterine, and breast cancer, osteoporosis, and high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding enriches the bond between a mother and her baby; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive lactation support programs increase employee retention rates, decrease absenteeism, decrease health care costs, improve employee productivity, and support family-friendly communities; and

WHEREAS, all Livingston County employers are encouraged to accommodate the breastfeeding needs of mothers and their children; and

WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2010 Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) (P.L.111-148); Employers are required to provide “reasonable break time for an employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for 1 year after the child’s birth each time such employee has need to express the milk” in addition to providing “a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by an employee to express breast milk.”; and

WHEREAS, keeping breastfeeding high on the public health agenda is critical in improving the health and well-being of mothers and babies; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Livingston County Board of Supervisors supports the World Breastfeeding Week 2020 and the Livingston County Department of Health in their efforts, and commands all who participate in such a worthy cause, and proclaims the first week in the month of August, as World Breastfeeding Week 2020. Ms. Rodriguez noted that they have had the highest participation rate since the baby cafés went virtual.

Motion: Mr. LeFeber moved and Mr. Mahus seconded to approve the foregoing resolution Carried.

Ms. Rodriguez updated the Committee members on a letter they may receive about dog control. The citations found have been remedied and Ag and Markets is coming back this week. Ms. Rodriguez reported that they did meet weekly with SUNY on reopening and their plan was one of the very few plans approved without many qualifiers. Testing will be done for students coming from high risk states or travel. We are at the lowest percentage of positives today than we have been. Current testing numbers are as follows:

9,629 tested

132 positives

121 recovered

35 people positive for the antibody and of those, 30 did have covid and 4 do not have the antibody at this time.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

- *Be Well in Livingston* (Nunda) - informational social media posts only due to COVID-19 pandemic, new sidewalk was put in which provide greater and safer access to the Kiwanis Park, 86 participated in the Marathon Walk Challenge.
- The GVHP received grant funding from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation to support *Be Well* efforts. A portion of the total requested was received. We are proposing to build a *Be Well in Livingston* website, to purchase sanitation stations for Kiwanis Park, incentives and place paid media upon approval from the funder.
- Conducting strategic planning process to develop plan for LCDOH for 2021-2023.
- Completing Emergency Preparedness Deliverables.
- Coordinating Medical Reserve Core NACCHO grant funding regarding recruitment and retention of volunteers - MRC volunteers to assist with rabies clinics.
- Media and outreach efforts: Men's Health Week, Summer Safety, Heat Safety X2, Lyme Disease, National HIV Testing Day, Rabies Clinics, and Virtual BFF.
- Environmental Health has taken several complaints on PAUSE violations.
- Hospice had an all-time census of 32.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – DIANE DEANE

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES: ENCOMPASS RESOURCES FOR LEARNING, INC., GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, HILLSIDE CHILDREN’S CENTER & VARIOUS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTERS

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contracts for the Livingston County Department of Social Services, and any future

amendments to said contracts, according to the terms designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Encompass Resources for Learning, Inc.	7/1/20-6/30/21	\$143,928.00
275 Pinnacle Rd. Rochester NY 14623		

For: Educational Support Preventive Services Program – Dansville & Wayland-Cohocton School Dist.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Preventive	0%	Yes X No

Genesee Community College	8/1/20-7/31/21	\$306,861.00
One College Road Batavia NY 14020		

For: Staff Development training for staff, including training provided by the County ITS Department.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
State Training Cap	0-5%	Yes X No

Hillside Children’s Center	6/1/20-5/31/21	\$27,500.00
1183 Monroe Ave. Rochester NY 14620		

For: Youth Court Preventive Services Program

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Preventive	0%	Yes X No

Various Residential Treatment Centers	7/1/20-6/30/21	Various Rates
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For: Specialized level of care placement for children in the custody of the Commissioner.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
State Foster Care Block Grant, Fed IV-E if Eligible	24%	Yes X No

Ms. Deane reviewed the contracts for approval.

Motion: Mrs. Babbitt Henry moved and Mr. Wester seconded to approve the foregoing resolution Carried.

2. AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS: DONATED FUNDS AGREEMENTS

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Social Services is hereby authorized to sign the following contracts for the Livingston County Department of Social Services, and any future amendments to said contracts, according to the terms designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Donated Funds Agreement		\$54,142.00

For: Agreement authorizing DSS to accept donated funds from private sources to provide the local share of Preventive Services.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Education Success Foundation	0%	Yes X No

Donated Funds Agreement		\$11,000.00
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For: Agreement authorizing DSS to accept donated funds from private sources to provide the local share of Preventive Services.

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Hillside Children’s Foundation	0%	Yes X No

Ms. Deane explained that these are two sources of donated funds when these foundations donate money she can then choose to use the money for the local share portion of the preventive services that are provided to County residents.

Motion: Mr. Falk moved and Mr. Wester seconded to approve the foregoing resolution Carried.

Ms. Deane reviewed how they are changing the way they deliver financial eligibility determination services. They have not noticed any increase in regular temporary assistance cases. They are seeing a lot more children going into foster care. Their fourth youth went into state custody last week and that costs ~\$250K per year. Drug and alcohol and domestic abuse are usually involved when children are placed in foster care. There was discussion on how many children are aging out of foster care. There are currently ~50 total and maybe 5-6 are in the 14-18 age range. Ms. Deane reviewed the many benefits for children after having been in foster care.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

1. Statement of Appropriations (Monthly) (May) - Attached
2. Statistics (Monthly) (May)

	<u>May</u>	<u>% Change from Jan 1</u>
Temporary Assistance Cases (TA):		
Family Assistance	196	0.00%
Safety Net	249	5.51%
Total	445	3.01%
Medicaid Cases (MA):		
Community	1951	16.62%
Chronic Care	248	6.90%
Foster Care	163	3.16%
SSI	1288	3.29%
Total	3650	10.27%
Livingston County Citizens receiving some form of Medicaid service:		
Cases In Transit	0	
NYSOH		
Livingston County DSS	4594	
Total	4594	
Food Stamp Only Cases:	2308	5.34%
SSI Food Stamp Cases:	791	-0.38%
Child Care Cases:	101	-16.53%
Fraud:		
Front End Detection (FEDS) - During Applicant Status	0	
Fraud Referrals Received - Anonymous/Other	3	
Fraud Referrals Received - Internal/DSS	0	
Referrals sent to Sheriff & DA	0	
Pending with DA/Awaiting Disposition	8	
Clients thru the lobby (Unduplicated #):	208	
Total # of individuals served by reception staff:	336	
Housing - Homeless Caseload:		
Diversion	9	
Housed	37	
Total	46	
Total Nights	464	

Singles	292	
2 Adults	55	
Families	117	
Total Clients in Temp. Housing at end of month	17	
Clients entering Temp. Housing & remaining in the month	13	
Code Blue - Below 32 Degrees		
Cases	0	
Nights	0	
Section 8 Vouchers Leased Up:	511	
Child Support:		
Caseload Count	2,922	-3.05%
Dollars Collected	\$578,208	
Child Protective Services (CPS): Ongoing		
New Primary Investigation Assignments	39	
Secondary Assignments from Other Counties	19	
Petitions Filed	0	
1034 Court Ordered Investigations Completed	3	
CPS Ongoing Case Management/Preventive Services:	82	17.14%
CPS Ongoing Management Cases	52	
Article 10 Placement/Non-DSS Custody Cases (Out of Home)	19	
*Distinct Children	33	
Supervision Cases Remaining in Home	26	
*Distinct Children	69	
Supervision Cases on Behalf of Another County-Secondary	7	
*Distinct Children	9	
Probation Based # of Children Referred	28	
School Based Consults (Avon, Dansville, Livonia)	134	
TASA (Case Management for Pregnant/Parenting Teens) Active	1	
Foster Care	57	
Foster Children - DSS Custody	46	6.98%
OCFS State Custody	3	
Levels of Care:		
Foster Boarding Home	37	
Approved Relative Foster Home	0	
Institution	5	
Group Home	4	
Supervised Independent Living	0	
Other	0	
Other Case Processing	11	
ICPC Requests	2	
Supervision - Post Discharged - Court Ordered	4	

Supervision on behalf of another county	0	
Aftercare Services	1	
Children on Trial Discharge	3	
Children Discharged to Parent or other resource	1	
Adoptions	0	
Protective Services for Adults (PSA):	37	-22.92%
PSA Referrals Received	7	
Active Financial Mgmt. Cases	46	
Active Home Mgmt. Cases	45	
Personal Care Aide Cases	33	
Level I	5	
Level II	27	
Level I pending	1	
Cases waiting for an assigned Aide	6	
Guardianship Cases	3	
Awaiting discharge	6	
Pending	0	
Assessment Contacts	56	

3. Employees hired, resigned or retired in May/June:

Paula Christiano	Retirement – 25 yrs.	Social Welfare Examiner	5/15/20	Retsof
Nickie LoVerde	Reinstatement	Caseworker	6/8/20	Lakeville
Marianne Hilderbrant	End of Temp. position	Staff Development Coor.	6/11/20	Dansville
Barbara Dutton	Retirement – 30 yrs.	Sr. Social Welfare Examiner	6/11/20	Leicester
John Sylvester	End of Temp. position	Social Services Attorney	6/19/20	Lima
Cassandra Lauko	Hired	Eligibility Clerk	6/22/20	Geneseo
Jo Beach	Hired	Eligibility Clerk	6/22/20	Livonia
Nina Shelton	Hired – Currently a Sr. Typist	Eligibility Clerk	6/21/20	Caledonia
Donna Rivers	Resignation	Caseworker	6/30/20	Groveland

4. The Department has worked to restructure service delivery methods to reduce in person contact as well as increase efficiency. The COVID experience has afforded us the opportunity to test remote access and technological strategies to the financial assistance programs. The Temporary Assistance Unit is restructuring to an Intake/Maintenance task-based organization.

Three new positions were created, Eligibility Clerks, copying a model we saw in Chemung County. These positions will assist in the clerical functions of eligibility, leaving the eligibility determinations to the examiners, processing applications in a more efficient way.

Intake staff will now have same day eligibility appointments, removing the need for applicants to return multiple times when they are applying for a benefit. The Eligibility Clerks will prepare the documents needed for the eligibility interview. The Intake staff will also be handling all emergency needs and housing needs. This will be a dedicated consistent number of staff, which will increase the processing based on knowledge of familiar circumstances and regulations that apply. This will also decrease errors that affect an applicant's eligibility, and errors in calculations. Increasing timely and accurate benefits being issued.

The Maintenance staff will be managing all open/on-going cases. The Eligibility Clerks will be assisting them in document gathering and management to assist with recertifications. This will allow the Maintenance staff larger capacity for ensuring the recipient is meeting all of the regulatory requirements related to continued eligibility, such as Employment and Training and Substance Use Treatment. This will

also allow them to better manage their caseload with fewer unexpected emergencies to manage. Increasing efficiency and service provision.

We have also increased the use of technology to assist our clients. We have 2 computers available in the lobby to allow clients to apply online which will expedite their application. Clients can also use these to search for employment and housing. We have created and installed a public facing scanning device for clients to upload required documents for eligibility directly into the work system so their information is immediately available to assist in processing their application.

5. Preparations have all been made to office space for staff and clients. Clients will now be limited to the North wing interview room space to limit exposure risk.
6. Staffing: Remote Temporary Assistance staff returned to the Agency on June 29, 2020. Caseworkers continue to utilize mobile technology successfully, a project that was begun back in 2017 which has paid off in spades during this pandemic. The Department continues to have eight staff on furlough.

CENTER FOR NURSING & REHABILITATION – STEPHEN WOODRUFF

Action Item(s) To Be Reported

1. AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO SIGN THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY CENTER FOR NURSING AND REHABILITATION: THE NURSING CONNECTION STAFFING, INC. & FAVORITE HEALTHCARE STAFFING, INC.

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Livingston County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to sign the following contract for the Livingston County Department of the Livingston County Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation and any future amendments to said contract, according to the term(s) designated, subject to review by the County Attorney and County Administrator:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Amount</u>
The Nurse Connection Staffing, Inc.	8/1/20-7/31/21	Fee Schedule

1 Computer Drive South
 Albany, NY 12205
 For: Supplemental Staffing Contract, RN, LPN, CAN

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Operating Budget	N/A	Yes

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Operating Budget	N/A	X Yes No

Favorite Healthcare Staffing, Inc.	8/1/20-7/31/21	Fee Schedule
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7255 W. 98th Terrace
 Building 5 – Suite 150
 Overland Park, KS 66212-2215

For: Supplemental Staffing Contract, RN, LPN, CAN

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Operating Budget	N/A	Yes

<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Local Share</i>	<i>Budgeted?</i>
Operating Budget	N/A	X Yes No

Director’s Comments:

Staffing agencies have had limited personnel available and are experiencing the same recruiting difficulties as the CNR and other providers. This contract will enable the select and limited use of agency personnel to meet staffing needs.

Mr. Woodruff reviewed the contracts for approval. There are no changes in cost to either contract.

Motion: Mrs. Babbitt Henry moved and Mr. Falk seconded to approve the foregoing resolution Carried.

Pre-approved Informational Item(s) To Be Reported

FINANCIAL/OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

- a) Occupancy – As of June 29, 2020 occupancy was 83.56% for the month, YTD 89.07%. Occupancy right now is 84.2%. Mr. Woodruff reviewed the quarantine requirement when residents come back from hospital and the space dedicated for that. The Garden of Life remains temporarily suspended. The suspension to visitation remains in effect. They are still waiting to see what state visitation guidelines will look like. They continue to do drive by window visits and to provide teleconference services. Cash Flow - The CNR's Cash Flow Report as of June 30, 2020, \$17,076,986 in Reserves. Budget Variance - The March 2020 budget variance report will be distributed and discussed at the committee meeting. Medicaid under budget \$1,547,586; Medicare under budget \$308,122; Private pay over budget \$1,748,551; Total operating expense under budget \$2,545,472; Garden of Life is under budget since we suspended services. Mr. Woodruff thanked Dansville Strong for their donation to the staff.

There was discussion on the employee mandatory testing emergency order that expires on 7/9. It is expected that it will be renewed but we have not heard anything yet.

There was discussion on concerns that there be some kind of debriefing service in place for employees working through the last few months of the covid pandemic and the tractor trailer incident. Mr. Coyle explained that there was a dedicated mental health sub unit set up early in the pandemic for County staff. There were actions taken to support the officers involved in the shooting incident. We will be setting up something soon to help with post pandemic issues. Mr. Coyle reported that we did get our first foil request for personnel records for our Sheriff’s Office for records from 2010 to the present. We don’t see much response to the anti-cop issues in our area. There was a positive response to the Black & Blue procession held recently.

Informational Item(s) Written Only

- 1) Reports - Absenteeism, Mandation, FMLA, Payroll Performance, Work Related Injuries, Report Card
- 2) Current FT Nursing Assistant vacancies are: Night Shift –18, Evening Shift –24, Day Shift –17
- 3) Nurse Recruitment – The CNR is actively recruiting qualified applicants.
 - a) There are currently 0 day shift LPN, 8 Full Time and 4 Part Time evening shift LPN and 6 Full Time and 2 Part Time LPN night shift vacancies.
 - b) There are currently 2 Full Time day shift RN, 3 Full Time evening shift RN, & 2 Full Time night shift RN vacancies.
- 4) There are currently 1 Part time day shift, & 6 Part Time evening shift PCA vacancies at this time
- 5) There are currently Part time day shift & Part Time Uncertified Nursing Assistant vacancies at this time. The Center continues to utilize agency staffing solutions in the interim to augment these vacancies.
- 6) Beacon Solutions Monthly Report – to be distributed.
- 7) The immunization acceptance rates for the Residents this season is 91% and the rate for Staff is 98%.

CNR Influenza Report-

	Influenza A	Influenza B
October	0	0
November	0	0
December	0	0
January	0	0
February	4	0
March	0	0
April	0	0
May	0	0
June	0	0

- 8) CNR COVID-19 Test Results

	Employee	Contract Staff	Resident / Patient
May	1	0	0
June	2	2	0

Note: The facility self-initiated voluntary testing of CNR employees, (prior to the E.O. mandate issued in May) on 04/22/20; the testing was facilitated by UPMC Noyes personnel.

Pursuant to Executive Order 202.30; Full time employees or employees working more than 3 shifts per week were required to test 2 times per week. Employees who work 3 shifts per week or less were required to test 1 time per week. Staff testing was initiated on 05/19/20, through the end of the E.O.: 06/09/20.

Pursuant to Executive Order 202.40, the Center continues to complete weekly testing of all employees, contract and medical staff, until 07/09/2020.

Resident / Family Communication continues to occur on a weekly basis. Pursuant to regulatory guidelines, Staff will not be eligible to return to work until 14 days after the onset of symptoms, provided at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since resolution of fever without the use of a fever-reducing medication and respiratory symptoms are improving and they have a (negative) COVID-19 test.

- 9) The Adult Day Health Program services remain suspended until further notice. The GOL Program Coordinator continues to connect telephonically on a weekly basis with program Registrants in the community.
- 10) NYS-DOH reporting continues on a daily basis, 7 days per week, via the HERDS survey in the Health Commerce System.
- 11) The CNR continues to submit survey data to the CDC, via the National Healthcare Safety Network, twice per week.
- 12) PPE
- 13) Family Visitation continues to be restricted within skilled nursing facilities
- 14) On 06/16/2020, the NYS-DOH survey team conducted the “NYS-DOH COVID-19” infection control survey in the CNR, resulting in a deficiency free survey.
- 15) The Center wishes to formally recognize Dansville Strong, the local not-for-profit organization that raised funds to purchase meals for the essential employees of the CNR. On behalf of the staff, we thank you for your generosity.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Wester moved and Mrs. Babbitt Henry seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING – SUE CARLOCK

Informational Item(s) Written Only

Served Client Summary

Livingston

01/01/2020 and 05/31/2020

Report Run Date: 06/23/2020

State Service Type Summary

State Service Type	Total Units
Case Management	771 hours/281 people
Congregate Meals (closed since 3/16)	4,753 meals/182 people
Home Delivered Meals	27,460 meals/422 people

In-Home Contact and Support	3,081 contacts/453 people
Information & Assistance	1,563 calls
Nutrition Education	3,988 contacts
Personal Care (In-Home)	2,591 hours/32 people
Personal Emergency Response System	2,128 service months
Transportation	1,490 one-way trips

COVID Response – 3/16 – 5/31/2020

Home Delivered Meals	18,390 meals	407 participants
In-Home Contact and Support	3,061 contacts	451 older adults

In-Home Contact and Support includes well check calls, delivery of masks, paper products, sanitizer, food boxes, etc.

Program Updates:

Senior Nutrition:

Have not missed a delivery day throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Continue to use Personal Protective Equipment and deliver to coolers with very few exceptions.

Shelf stable meals were purchased with stimulus grant funds and delivered to clients in case we could not deliver.

Congregate sites remain closed at this time.

We will be issuing Farmer’s Market Vouchers to participating older adults in Livingston County beginning in July but in new ways to allow for distancing, etc. It looks like there will be limited markets in Livingston County this year. Mount Morris does not intend to operate its Farmer’s Market.

Staffing:

One staff remains furloughed.

On any given day, 30% - 50% of staff are in-office. Planning for 50% in July.

Virtual Education:

Collaborating with Lifespan to offer on-line Medicare 101 and Tai Chi for Wellness.

No in-person health education currently. Planning Tai Chi in parks for July-August.

Support for Older Adults at Home:

Masks and sanitizer received from the New York State Office for the Aging were delivered to all clients and additional older adults who called and/or were referred.

VETERAN’S SERVICES AGENCY – JASON SKINNER

Informational Item(s) Written Only

VA Expenditure Data

Each year the VA puts out an expenditures report. It differs from my report I provide yearly. The VA is reporting what is expended in a federal fiscal year starting in October every year. My reports project the veterans benefit forward as a yearly salary would be calculated. These numbers are also in a Calendar year. I also do not account for the appeals that we win that on average are \$150,000.00 lump sum payments. Keeping in mind that appeals can take 5 years an initial claims can take a year or longer to get a decision, our efforts are really reflected in my reports because it is more real time. It takes more than a year for the VA’s data to reflect funds that have been actually expended. This year’s report minus the 1.4% COLA show an increase in veterans claims of 2.2 million dollars.

Customer service

Since March of this year we have seen a sharp decline in face-to-face meetings. We have however; still have been serving veteran’s needs over the phone and through electronic means. During the Covid pandemic we have created a list of individuals wishing to have appointments. We have commenced face-to-face appointments June 15th. We find that most of our veteran are 70 and above are apprehensive about face to face visits.

VA health clinic status

The VA clinics in Canandaigua, Calkins rd. Rochester, Batavia, and Bath are increasing staffing in all of their clinics 10% next week. Patients must have appointments and in some locations are screened for temperatures in a tent in the parking lot before their appointment.

The Canandaigua VA will be closing its Homeless/Mental health treatment housing facility soon. This move is to accommodate the construction of their new community living centers for their nursing home expansion project. Those currently housed at Canandaigua will be transferred to Bath VA medical center. This ultimately will affect the capacity in the area to serve homeless veterans.

VA benefits regional offices status

The Buffalo Regional Office is still closed to the public. We have had two Administrative Law Judge Board Hearings canceled.

We are developing the capacity to do virtual hearings in our office. This is a rare opportunity that allows an appellant to argue a denied issue without traveling to Buffalo or Washington D.C. This new capacity will speed up the appeals process and save the county money.

Suicide Prevention

New York State:

The Governor's Challenge is an intensive year-long process that takes each state team through the stages of both a Policy Academy model and an Implementation Academy model. These models provide a proven process and foundation for bringing policy-to-practice change in state behavioral health care systems. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Service Members Veterans and their Families (SMVF) Technical Center, and the Rand Corporation are assisting many states in a plan to end suicide among Veterans.

Director, Jason Skinner is the veteran in his work team. There are 3 teams and there is only one other veteran that works for (OASAS) New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports. All other team members are from academia, State and Federal researchers and medical practitioners. The Director's team is focused on lethal means. This generally focuses on firearms, as it is the most common method of suicide among veterans. This topic is one of the hardest to discuss with many stakeholders, as many believe it threatens the Second Amendment.

The overall purpose of participation is to shape policy, legislation and learn how funds will be distributed from the state for suicide prevention efforts in the near future.

Federal:

President Trump signed an Executive Order on the "President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide"—the PREVENTS Initiative March of 2019.

The Executive Order established a task force that includes the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, Health and Human Services, and Homeland Security.

The task force developed a comprehensive public health roadmap for helping veterans pursue an improved quality of life and ending the national tragedy of veteran suicide.

The roadmap includes a national research strategy for engaging with public- and-private sector stakeholders to better understand the underlying factors of suicide, and to lead to earlier identification and intervention.

The roadmap will (at some point) include a proposal for equipping State and local governments with the resources and tools they need to empower veteran communities and provide needed services.

To prevent suicide, the Federal Government must work side-by-side with partners across all levels of government and with the private and non-profit sectors.

The Administration's roadmap will help create a national and local ecosystem that cultivates active engagement with each veteran, rather than a passive system wherein the onus for engagement is placed on veterans.

Information on the PREVENTS strategy is available on line as of 6/20/2020. These initiatives take two years to implement in most cases.

Livingston County Suicide Prevention

We have had success and will continue to partner with GVHP on the Suicide Prevention Taskforce. The Director of the VSA will participate in the state and national initiatives in an effort to fund and establish our own standalone coalition style program. The vision is, many groups spread throughout the county will be able to form and participate in "self-care" activities. Practicing self-care can be participating in activities and feeling

welcome in a group setting. All too often “self-care” is misinterpreted as hygiene practices. Our County has much to offer in the area of recreation. Canoeing on Hemlock Lake, Bass fishing in Conesus Lake, ice fishing on Honeoye lake, Trap or target shooting, golf, fitness activities, art at the Arts Council, church groups, and morning coffee clubs. We are in talks with the Veterans Outreach Center to fund raise with a dedicated account to be spent only in Livingston County. They are willing to manage these funds and work with local existing organizations to provide safe environments for these activities.

New York State Division of Veteran Services update

The New York State Division of Veteran Services director Jim McDonough has resigned his appointed position. His leadership will be missed among the County Veterans Service Officer Association. With his help and our advocacy the American Legion Department of New York will be signing a memorandum of understanding for future training needs.

Quality training at no cost is much needed across the state regardless of what accreditation you hold for new generation of veteran service officers statewide this is essential. This initiative was introduced last year and was difficult to get the buy-in from the American Legion. As time had passed this year in the free training being offered to all of the offices statewide has proved beneficial, attitudes were changed. The prevailing belief now is sharing resources builds capacity.

The State Division of Veteran Services has offered to accredit us in addition to our many other accreditations. This will assist us with the technological advances that allow us to save money in the future.

Veterans Outreach Center

The CEO of the VOC Laura Stradley and I have discussed several areas to work together.

Free RTS bus passes for veterans is on target for roll out in September. This new initiative has the VOC coming to our office once a week to process ID cards. This of course is dependent upon the covid situation.

We have discussed the VOC fundraising for a Veterans Mental Health recreation program here in Livingston County. They will agree to set up a separate account to guarantee funds will raised here stay here. “Self-care” is vital to mental health and our county has so much to offer that many take for granted. We have had many conversations about bolstering what we already have and this recreational program may bring revenue to our county as advertising and word travels. My hope is to someday have a bass tournament on Conesus lake to raise funds and awareness for Veteran Suicide prevention. This would be in conjunction with multiple family fun barbeques at all of the public parks on the lake. Marines would say this establishing a Beach Head. Young Veteran Families need to meet others and there are so few spread throughout the county it would be nice to hold a summer event with games for these families.

We are exploring a sharing agreement with 5 counties in the area for potential state revenue. At first glance at \$10,000. Local share may result in a \$60,000 grant from the state per county providing \$50,000 revenue each.

Veterans Monument

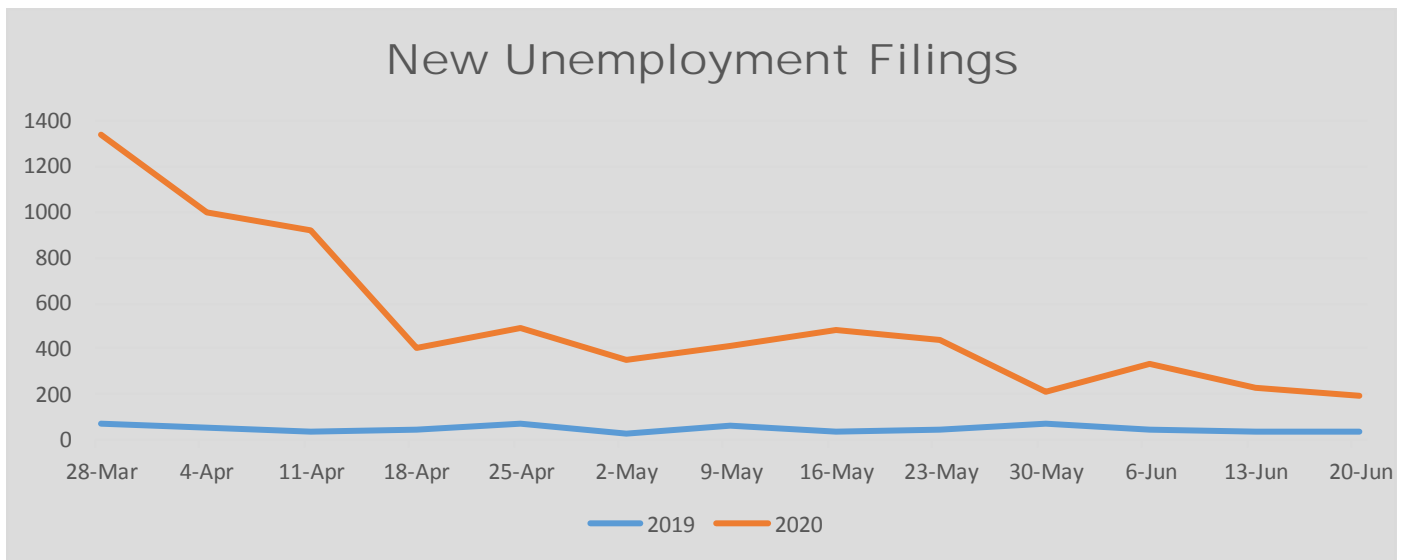
Don Higgins is still actively working toward completing the Veteran’s monument. Weather dependent we could see completion in August. Diamond grinding by Kircher Construction will take place as soon as possible.

Within 48 hours of the grinding the primer coat must be applied. From that point forward we are looking at painting the flag and drilling the holes for permanent installation.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – RYAN SNYDER

Informational Item(s) Written Only

Livingston County New Unemployment Filings



New Unemployment Filings for Livingston County are up 972% over the same period in the prior year. 6,796 new filings occurred over the past 13 weeks, up from 634 in 2019.

Program Report

NYSDOL – New York State Department of Labor employees assigned to Geneseo continue to work from home with no date set to return to the office. County employees continue to handle all Unemployment calls, visitors, complaints, etc.

Grant Funds – The New York State Division of Budget is holding TANF Summer Youth Employment and OCFS Youth Development program allocations and guidance. WIOA (federal grant pass through funds) have been significantly delayed, but are eventually being paid.

U – Livingston County received \$322,000 in CARES Act funding to Prevent, Prepare or Respond to the Corona Virus.

TANF Summer Employment – 60 low-income youth will begin paid summer employment on July 13th. With TANF Funding being held by the State, we received permission to use federal CARES Act funding (if necessary) to operate the program.

Zoom Workshops – Jobseeker workshops are now being offered weekly on Zoom.

Unemployment Benefits – The additional \$600 paid each week to UI beneficiaries under the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Compensation Program is set to expire on 7/31/20, which will likely result in many recipients seeking to return to work.

CNR Employee Recruitment – The new Recruitment Specialist has recruited and hired 38 new employees since the program began on 3/9/20.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Rees, IIMC-CMC
Clerk of the Board