

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2021**

Members present: Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Mr. Bob Thome Jr.
Via Zoom: Mr. Steven Schreier, Mr. Jim Winkler

Staff: Ms. Mary Rideout, Ms. Tammy Javenkoski, Ms. Jeri Driscoll, Ms. Heidi Chavez

Public: None

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:31 a.m. by Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion by Mr. Bob Thome Jr. seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier, to approve the agenda as posted. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – December 22, 2020:

Motion made by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier, to approve the Social Services Committee minutes of December 22, 2020. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

3. Public Comment:

None

- 4. Closed Session:** It is anticipated that a motion will be made, seconded and approved by roll call vote to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c), "Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which this body has jurisdiction or responsibility." Topic: Department Head Evaluations and Goals, Veterans Services Officer and Social Services Director and approve minutes of December 22, 2020 closed session. It is anticipated that the committee will return to open session by roll call vote to consider the remainder of the meeting agenda. Motion by Mr. Steven Schreier, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to move into closed session at 9:35 a.m. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

Motion to return to open session by Mr. Jim Winkler, second by Mr. Steven Schreier. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried. Committee returned to open session at 10:45 a.m.

Veterans Services:

1. **2021 Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Grant:**
Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported to apply for the grant it would have to be submitted by January 29, 2021. An extension was requested and approved, information for the grant will have to be submitted by February 19, 2021 if the committee approves the grant. Motion made by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier, to approve applying for Veterans Affairs Grant. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.
2. **Update on Scanning Paper Files:**
Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported that 8 Veteran's files were scanned in the month of December.
3. **New Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP) Rep.**
Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported that Debbie Meye was hired as the Outreach and Recovery Program Coordinator. She started yesterday, January 25, 2021.
4. **2020 Financial & Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:**
 - Ms. Tammy Javenkoski provided the committee with the Veterans Service Office's Report for December 2020. Motion made by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier to approve Veterans Financial and Statistical Report for the month of December 2020. Mr. Alan VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.
 - Ms. Tammy Javenkoski provided the committee with Vouchers for Advanced Appeals Training. There were no other questions or comments. Motion made by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier, to approve the vouchers. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.
5. **Public Comment:**
None
6. **Agenda items for future meetings:**
 - Update quarterly on Northwoods National Cemetery.

Social Services:

1. **Review and Approve Updates to 2019-2021 Long Range Plan:**
Ms. Heidi Chavez reviewed the changes that were made to the 2019-2021 Long Range Plan.
 - Integrate Policies and Procedures with staff from the ADRC to ensure consistency throughout the newly combined agency. All staff will be treated equally and eliminate confusion of inconsistent policies.
 - Educate staff on the Family First Prevention Services Act for Implementation by October 2021. Staff will have a better understanding of Family First, agency will increase use of in-home services and reduce out of home care.

- Determine appropriate use/changes to Supportive Home Care Program to more effectively serve the adult/elderly population that "falls through the cracks" or are being served as an Adult Welfare Concern. Provide services to adult/elderly population to avoid crisis situations and reduce amount of repeat referrals.
- Research software to be used by the ADRC and Adult Protective Services for information sharing. Reduce paperwork for intake process and provide a case management system for APS workers.
- Prepare and integrate the Social Services and ADRC Budget. Have a well thought out integrated budget that meets the needs of both agencies.
- Develop a recruitment and retention plan to increase the number of Volunteer Guardians available to assist adults/elderly. Have a larger resource of Volunteer Guardians and provide support to them for retention.
- Increase public input on development of the county's 3 year Aging Plan submitted to the State. An Aging Plan will be developed around the needs of the population we serve to ensure we are meeting the needs of our county. Stakeholders will feel valued and heard.
- Evaluate current and needed services to promote the Family First Prevention Services Act and maintain children in the home or with relatives whenever possible. Provide sufficient services to promote families staying together or with relatives whenever possible.
- Educate community stakeholders on the Family First Prevention Services Act for implementation by October 2021. Stakeholders will have better understanding of Family First and the benefits of maintaining families together or with relatives.
- Motion made by Mr. Steven Schreier, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve 2019-2021 Long Range Plan. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

2. Presentation – Family First Prevention Services Act:

Ms. Mary Rideout presented the Family First Prevention Services Act which was signed into law in February 2018 and takes effect in October 2021. Family First provides historic funding reforms in our nation's child welfare system and is focused on keeping families intact. This is accomplished by reducing the number of children in foster care and building more family-based environments for children who cannot safely remain at home. Under Family First, states will receive more federal funding for preventative programs, such as trauma-informed mental health services, substance use treatment and in-home parenting skills training, that help families at-risk of entering the child welfare system build safe, loving and supportive homes where their children can grow and thrive. Additionally, Family First will change the foster care landscape by putting more emphasis on keeping children in home-based environments whenever possible. When a child cannot safely remain in their home, every effort will be made to place a child with a relative or like-kin caregiver. When that is not possible, the next preference is to place children with foster families. Lastly, Family First is reducing the use of group care settings, such as group homes and residential care centers, by narrowing the use to children and youth who require a high level of care due to certain medical needs.

The law also requires states to establish new group facilities called Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP) to provide such care.

3. **Contract Approval – Department of Children and Family – Children First:**
Reviewed contract information. Motion made by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., to approve Contract – Children First. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.
4. **ADRC and social Services Alliance – Progress Update:**
Ms. Mary Rideout provided an updated Integration Plan. This is currently what has been done or is being worked on.
5. **Human Service Center System Review Update:**
 - The conflict protocol has been rewritten and sent to Corp. Counsel for review. It was approved by the Human Service Center Board and will be forwarded to the counties for review and comment.
 - The Human Service Center Board has approved a Board and Committee Training Plan which the board hopes will be completed this year.
 - The Human Service Center Board approved a letter from the Human Service Center Board Chair to member counties advising of the need to update the joint agreement since it hasn't been modified since 1986.
 - Except for at least one more meeting, the work of the System Review committee appears to be complete.
6. **Resolution recognizing March 2021 as Social Work month – Social Workers are Essential:**
 - March is National Social Worker month. The resolution recognizes that Social Workers are essential. If approved the resolution will be sent to the County Board for approval. Motion by Mr. Bob Thome Jr., seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier to approve Resolution – recognizing March 2021 as Social Work Month as presented. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.
7. **Agency Update – Holiday donation program, Recovery Coach update, Increase in Food Share allotments, staffing update, Trauma Informed Care Newsletter:**
 - 2020 Thanksgiving Donations
 - Jim Kryshak Jewelers, Inc. helped 20 families, Oneida County Department of Social Services helped 10 families and a private donor also helped 1 family. We were able to fulfill all requests.
 - 2020 Christmas Donation: We had a tremendous amount of donations; we were able to fulfill all requests.
 - Recovery Coach: At the end of 2020, we were approached by the Program Coordinator for the Recovery Corps Program through Marshfield Clinic Health Systems. They had a slot available to place a Recovery Coach with an organization beginning in January. In trying to locate a person to fill this

role, it was determined that our intern through Nicolet College was eligible for this role through the Recover Corps program. She applied, was accepted, has attended training through Marshfield Clinic Health Systems, and began her role in our office January 18, 2020 as a Recovery Coach/Intern. She will be working with parents with substance use disorder. We are receiving this service at no cost to the county.

- Increase in Food Share allotments: At the end of December, the federal government enacted legislation that provided resources to the FoodShare Program that will temporarily increase the amount of benefits that households are getting from January to June 2021. The new law temporarily increases the maximum amount a household can receive by 15%.
- Staffing/Vacancies:
 - Marsha Holley returned as a Social Worker on January 25, 2021.
 - Shelley Steingraeber was hired as an LTE at the ADRC to fill the receptionist vacancy.
- Trauma Informed Care Newsletter: Our Trauma Informed Team has developed a monthly newsletter, TIC Talk, to distribute to staff monthly with reminders/information regarding being "Trauma Informed". They are also distributing a community version of the newsletter. It was suggested that this newsletter also be sent to the County Supervisors.


9. 2020 Financial & Statistical Reports, Quarterly Workers Compensation Report, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

- Ms. Mary Rideout explained that we estimate ended 2020 \$90,000 in the black. The Anti-sex trafficking is still pending expect this sometime in February.
- \$124,819 in non-payroll expenditures for December were reviewed.
- Line item transfers for 2020 were reviewed.
- Motion by Mr. Bob Thome, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve Financial and Statistical Reports as presented. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

10. Public Comment:
None

11. Agenda Items for future Meetings:
Families First will be on agenda each month.

12. Adjourn:
There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Alan VanRaalte to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board Room.


Mr. Bob Thome Jr.


Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Chairperson

Date: January 26, 2021