

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING **Health & Human Services**

The regular meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee was held in the Legislative Conference Room, Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 8:30 AM.

Present: Mr. Tracy Monell	Chair of the Committee
Mr. Bill Standinger	Legislator
Mr. Andrew Aronstam	Legislator {Arrived 8:38 AM}
Mr. Ray Bunce	Legislator
Ms. Lori Morgan	Director of Community Services
Mr. Chris Korba	Director of Administrative Services (MH)
Ms. Liz Myers	Commissioner of Social Services
Ms. Mickelle Andrews	Director of Administrative Services (DSS)
Ms. Heather Vroman	Public Health Director
Mr. Denis McCann	Director of Administrative Services (PH)
 Guests:	
Mr. Jackson Bailey	County Administrator
Ms. Cathy Haskell	Legislative Clerk
Ms. Jo Ellen Rose	Legislator
Mr. David Cantella	Legislator
Ms. Sarah Begeal	Deputy Director of Community Services
Mr. Peter DeWind	County Attorney {Arrived 8:36 AM}

Introductions were made around the table welcoming two new Legislators. Legislator Jo Ellen Rose and Legislator David Cantella

MENTAL HYGIENE

1. Financial

- Mr. Chris Korba reported that 2025 is looking well with \$190,000 in encumbrances (some are estimated). Some Fee for Services funds received in January and February that have 2025 dates of service will go back to 2025. Projections show a return of at least \$125,000 to local share due to savings in salary and fringe.

2. Old Business

- Criminal Psych – Patient has not been discharged as far as MH knows. MH has received invoices through November. Had to transfer funds from the salary line of \$25,000 to cover those invoices. MH has budgeted \$198,000 for this service in 2026.

3. New Business

- Federal Impact – None so far

4. Personnel

- Michelle Stouffer, PT Account Clerk Typist 1 started 12/15/25
- Leila Squicciarini, CASAC will start 1/26/26

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to move forward

- Transfer of Funds 2025 Budget Modification (Criminal Psych)

- Award Proposal and Contract Authorization for A New Hope Center for the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds Including Transfer of Funds and Modification of the 2026 Budget
- Award Proposal and Contract Authorization for CASA Trinity for the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds Including Transfer of Funds and Modification of the 2026 Budget
- Award Proposal and Contract Authorization of Funds for HeaHea LLC for the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds Including Transfer of Funds and Modification of the 2026 Budget
- Award Proposal and Contract Authorization for Partnership to End Addiction for the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds Including Transfer of Funds and Modification of the 2026 Budget
- Award Proposal and Contract Authorization for Tioga Opportunities Inc for the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds Including Transfer of Funds and Modification of the 2026 Budget
- Restricted-Opioid DR104 Budget Modification 2025 (Unfilled SW position at the CAC)
- Recognition of Lori Morgan 25 Years/5 Months of Dedicated Service to Tioga County and Tioga County Department of Mental Hygiene

Ms. Morgan requested an Executive Session after Committee meeting.

6. Proclamations

- None

PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Financial

- Mr. Denis McCann reported that although the current Munis report shows PH returning over \$400,000, there are still a couple months of 2025 invoices and revenues to be received. He is confident there will be a sizable return of local share, but too many factors to project the amount at this time. Fee-for-Service revenues continue to be above budgeted amounts. Expenses in Early Intervention (EI) and Pre-School continue to be below budget as reported throughout 2025. 2026 is "tracking well".

2. Old Business

- None

3. New Business – Agency Report for December:

- Flu cases are the highest rate they have ever been across NYS. For Tioga County, 50% of the cases are people under 19 years of age. Likely due to more people being tested. TCPH continues to educate the public about influenza prevention by promoting the vaccine and by reminding people of measures to help decrease the spread. RSV cases have also increased.
- There was a Document Review or unofficial virtual audit conducted on Pre-School Special Education Program (Medicaid billing). Ms. Vroman is pleased to report that there were no official findings.

- 2025-2030 Community Health Assessment has been submitted to NYSDOH.
- The retailer in (Owego) that had a second ATUPA violation of selling tobacco products to underage individuals has had their tobacco license suspended for 12 months by NYS.
- NYSDAM continues to provide support in Weights & Measures program as PH works to assess needs and identify gaps/priorities.

4. Personnel

- None

5. Resolutions- Legislators approved resolutions to move forward

- Amend 2026 Budget and Appropriate Funds, Public Health Infrastructure Grant
- Authorization to Apply for Grants for Child Passenger Safety
- Authorize Agreement with Dentrix Ascend Dental Software

6. Proclamations

- None

SOCIAL SERVICES

1. Financial

- Ms. Mickelle Andrews reported that the 2025 Admin line is below budget (due to vacancies). Foster Care has been running over budget all year, the expenses were covered by transferring funds from other accounts. The FC budget has been increased for 2026. All the other accounts are running at or below target.

2. Old Business

- None

3. New Business

- Caseloads – See Caseload Summary
During December, Cash Assistance increased 6 cases, with Family Assistance decreasing 3 cases and Safety Net increasing 9 cases.

MA-Only increased 3 cases

MA-SSI remained flat

Total Individuals on Medicaid increased 19 to 3,464

SNAP decreased 29 cases

Day Care remained flat

- Tioga Career Center report is attached. The unemployment numbers have still not been posted from the federal government.
- Remote Work Update – Commissioner Myers reported that there are six people that routinely work remote. The current agreements will be renewing except for one worker due to attendance and work performance issues.
- Commissioner Myers noted that the Federal Government may soon be withholding Child Care Funding in some States, including New York

4. Personnel Changes

- Elizabeth Myers was appointed to Commissioner of Social Services effective 12/13/25
- Chase Bullock was promoted to Social Welfare Examiner effective 12/13/25

5. Resolutions - Legislators approved resolutions to move forward

- Appropriation of Funds & Amend 2026 Budget (CAC)
- Appropriation of Funds & Amend 2026 Budget (5311 Funds)
- Appropriation of Funds & Amend 2026 Budget (Code Blue)
- Appropriation of Funds & Amend 2026 Budget (VOCA) *(Later revised the Program Expense line)*
- Amend Resolution No. 323-25 Contract with A New Hope Center
- Authorize Contract with A New Hope Center
- Authorize Contract with Family & Children's Society of Broome Co., Inc.
- Authorize Contract with Glove House
- Authorize Contract with Industrial Medicine Associates (IMA)
- Authorize Contract Extension with Guthrie Lourdes for Tioga Pact Program *(Later revised to include term dates)*
- Authorize the Appointment of Director of Social Services

Commissioner Myers noted that she will be bringing a resolution next month to appoint a Deputy Commissioner

6. Proclamations

- None

Legislator Monell asked for a motion to approve the December 2, 2025 minutes as written. Motion made by Legislator Standinger. Seconded by Legislator Bunce. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNED:

Health & Human Services Committee adjourned at 8:56 AM.

Motion made by Legislator Monell, seconded by Legislator Standinger, to enter executive session regarding a Mental Hygiene Personnel matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail V. Perdue

Executive Secretary, Social Services