

ONEIDA COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
June 28, 2011

Members present: Mr. John Hoffman, Mr. Peter Wolk, Ms. Carol Pederson, Mr. Jim Sharon, Mr. Paul Dean

Staff: Mr. Paul E. Spencer, Jr., Ms. Tara Vandenberg, Ms. Mary Rideout, Ms. Donna Levknecht

Guests: Mr. Brian Desmond, Mr. John Potters

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:02 a.m. by Mr. John Hoffman, Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion made by Mr. Paul Dean, seconded by Mr. Peter Wolk to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Minutes of May 24, 2011:

Motion made by Mr. Peter Wolk, seconded by Mr. Jim Sharon to approve the minutes of May 24, 2011. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Paul Dean stated that he noted he was marked as absent at the April meeting, however, he was in the hospital so he wasn't able to attend.

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Aging and Disability Resource Center (update report):

The committee was advised that the work group has completed its work on all sections of the application, including a budget for the first year operations. There is a four member application team reviewing all draft documents. Ms. Tara Vandenberg informed the committee that the group is looking at a client database provider and working with Frontier on telephone solutions that will allow partners to easily communicate and transfer calls. Letters of support are an important piece of the final application and the committee was provided with a chart identifying the organizations that will be asked to provide their letter of support.

The last meeting of the work group will be July 20, 2011 to complete any work needed prior to submitting an application in person to ORCD Resource Specialist, Sherry Shuelke.

5. Child Death Review Committee – Release of Confidential Information:

The committee was sent a copy of the memorandum sent to Mr. Brian Desmond, Corporation Counsel on releasing information to the Child Death Review Committee. Mr. Desmond addressed the committee explaining that there is an exemption that allows the release of information. The first meeting of the committee is tomorrow. Mr. Desmond stated he could meet with staff to see what is necessary or unnecessary to be released that is relevant. Mr. John Hoffman stated that his committee is gathering information to make things safer so it doesn't happen again. Ms. Tara VandenBerg informed that committee that the Sheriff's Department will not discuss anything until the case is closed. Mr. Paul Spencer advised the committee that he would not release records, unless he was so ordered by this committee. Ms. Carol Pederson asked Mr. Spencer if he believed if he released information, the committee would be able to identify who it is. Mr. Spencer informed the committee that this is a very small community, so an individual could easily be identified. Motion made by Mr. John Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Paul Dean to participate as an agency but at this time, not to release confidential information. Motion carried unanimously.

6. State Budget Impact on the Department (status report):

A handout was provided to the committee on what is known today on the state budget. One of the biggest impacts will be in the Economic Support Unit. A maximum of 10 multi-county consortia will be formed to provide Economic Support (ES) services. The consortia must be organized by October 1, 2011, and must be approved by DHS by October 31, 2011. The consortia to take over ES program administration January 1, 2012. Six small counties can make up a consortium if they have at least 8,000 cases combined (Oneida County currently has 3,350 cases).

The duties of the multi-county consortia include call/change center functions, application processing and eligibility determination, ongoing case management and lobby services. Normal expected case load size is 675 per worker. Oneida County's staff current averages 500-600 cases per worker.

Counties may choose to participate in a consortium. If they choose not to, or do not meet performance requirements, DHS shall assume responsibility for providing ES services in that county either by contracting with another consortium or by providing the services with state resources and employees. In this instance, DHS will take county funds to administer programs. There will be a centralized document processing unit administered by DHS.

Counties must contribute funds to consortium to administer ES programs (\$88,720.00 currently).

The committee was informed of the impact of the budget in the area of Child Support, Child Care, Children and Family Services, Youth Aids and Health Services. More information will be provided to the committee at next month's meeting.

7. Staffing Issues:

The committee was provided with the organizational chart for the department. The committee was informed that 52% of the staff has been employed less than 5 years within the department. There currently are 2 vacant positions and 2 on Family Medical Leave within the Department. For an example, in Ms. Mary Gadzalinski's unit there are only 3 main employees, 1 on Family Medical Leave, 4 on probation and 1 vacant, and this is the unit that saves the county money.

8. 2011 Financial/Statistical/Flex Time Reports

The committee reviewed the Financial/Statistical/Flex Time Reports. It is projected that \$661,675.85 will be returned to the county for 2011. Motion made by Mr. Peter Wolk, seconded by Ms. Carol Pederson to approve the 2011 Financial/Statistical/Flex Time reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Audit of Payments/Line Item Transfers:

The bills were reviewed by the committee. There were no line item transfers. Motion made by Mr. Peter Wolk, seconded by Ms. Carol Pederson to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Agenda items for the July 26, 2011 meeting:

Next meeting will include the Governor's Budget impact on the Department and updated information on the Aging and Disability Resource Center, Economic Support, and staffing issues.

11. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Peter Wolk, seconded by Mr. John Hoffman to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be July 26, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Paul Dean, Secretary