

Health & Human Services Committee Minutes  
November 22, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Darren O'Connor; Committee Members Eric Connolly, Joe Grasso, John Lant, Sandra Winney, Tom Wood; Supervisor Tara Gaston; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Christine Rush, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Daniel Kuhles, Public Health; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health; Tina Potter, Social Services.

Chairman O'Connor called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mrs. Winney, the minutes of the October 25, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mrs. Winney, to authorize a renewal agreement with CAPTAIN Community Human Services. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said this is a renewal of a three year agreement.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Grasso, to authorize a renewal agreement with James McGuinness & Associates, Inc. Unanimous.**

Mr. O'Connor said this renewal agreement is for software system and support services for preschool.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Wood, to authorize the Chair of the Board to sign the Saratoga County Child and Family Services Plan Annual Update. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Potter said that the local district is required to develop and submit a plan to the NYS Office of Children's Services and this is a five year plan from 2018-2023.

**A motion was made by Mr. Grasso, seconded by Mrs. Winney, to authorize the acceptance of funds from the New York State Office of Family Services for the Safe Harbour NY Program and authorizing a renewal agreement with Saratoga Center for the Family. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Potter said this is a request for a resolution to accept \$43,350 from the Office of Children and Family Services and to authorize a renewal agreement with Saratoga Center for the Family, to meet the needs of youth that are identified in sex and human trafficking, which would run from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

*Other Business*

Mr. O'Connor asked Mr. Kuhles how the County is doing on COVID. Mr. Kuhles said the County is experiencing an increase in cases, three or four fold over what they saw pre-Thanksgiving last year, and that 98-99% of what is circulating is the Delta variant. Mr. Kuhles said the County's

booster vaccination rates are higher than both the national and the state averages, but we need to continue to get that number higher. Clinics are being held this week and Mr. Kuhles encouraged anyone that's interested to get a booster. Mr. O'Connor asked how easy it is to register for the booster last minute. Mr. Kuhles said it depends on the vaccine as Moderna has been popular among seniors. Mr. Grasso asked if boosters will wane after six months and another booster will be needed. Mr. Kuhles said there is no data to inform that right now. Mrs. Winney thanked Mr. Kuhles and his staff for doing a tremendous job and Mr. O'Connor agreed. Ms. Gaston asked Mrs. Potter for an update on Code Blue. Mrs. Potter said Code Blue has been open for a week and a half with an average of 44 people per night. Their total capacity is 60 people with additional back up space for at least 10 more people available at the Adelphi.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Grasso, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Bridget Rider  
Deputy Clerk of the Board