

Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
October 5, 2022 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Phil Barrett; Committee Members C. Eric Butler, Diana Edwards, John Lant, Supervisor Mark Hammond; Steve Bulger, Ridge Harris, Stephanie Hodgson, Christine Rush, County Administrator; Michelle Granger, Maribeth Hunt, County Attorney; Daniel Kuhles Erin Murray, Molly Pezzulo, Department of Health; Michael Prezioso, Mental Health; Tina Potter, Concetta Hmura, Social Services; Craig Hayner, Besty Demars, County Clerk.

Chairman Barrett called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Butler, the minutes of the September 7, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

Discussion: Opioid settlement proposed uses

Mr. Prezioso proposed hiring a family services navigator under a contract with the Prevention Council for a term of three years to work directly with families to connect them with rehabilitation, support, and treatment services. The opioid settlement funds would cover fifty percent of the cost of this service and the Prevention Council would cover the other fifty percent. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Butler, to authorize an agreement with Qualtrics, LLC to expand access to health and human services resources. Unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, the committee authorized contract amendments for cost of living increases for two mental health providers. Unanimous.

Rise Housing and Support Services, Inc. received a \$131 increase and Saratoga Center for the Family, Inc. received a \$9 increase.

Discussion: Potential substance abuse prevention and control initiatives

Mr. Kuhles proposed plans for the opioid settlement money including a public health education and outreach campaign for schools and other high risk settings in conjunction with a community based organization at an estimated cost of \$50,000 per year, a lock box pilot program which would place boxes containing supplies to treat overdose victims in high risk areas at a cost of \$2,750, and partnering with a school of public health in New York state to perform a study to determine the cost effectiveness of the provision of non-emergency medical transportation at an estimated cost of \$10,000. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kuhles provided an update on the continuing progress of the Environmental Health division of the department.

A motion was made by Mr. Lant, seconded by Mr. Butler, to authorize the acceptance of an American Rescue Plan Act Adult Protective Services grant from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, and amending the 2022 County budget in relation thereto. Unanimous.

These grants total \$119,997.

A motion was made by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mrs. Edwards, to approve the 2022 Annual Plan update to the 2018-2023 Saratoga County Child and Family Services Plan. Unanimous.

Mrs. Potter announced that the Home Energy Assistance program is opening up on Nov. 1, 2022.

On a motion made by Mrs. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Butler, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bridget Rider
Deputy Clerk of the Board