

NASSAU COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

LAURA CURRAN, COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Carolyn McCummings, PhD, Commissioner

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COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



During the year 2019, the focus of my work as Commissioner was to continue our efforts and enhance the great work the Department of Human Services is charged with. Our main goal was to add value to all the communities of Nassau County who we are proud to serve. The Department of Human Services serves, with pleasure, the county's youth and seniors, as well as those residents who are struggling with substance abuse, and mental health issues. We are also committed to serving residents who are physically challenged and individuals with developmental disabilities.

NCDHS and its divisions provide programs and services designed to give eligible individuals and families the help they need to find permanent solutions to a myriad of life challenges. Our divisions are the Office for the Aging, Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Developmental Disabilities Services, Office for Youth Services, and the Office for the Physically Challenged. This is made possible through the Department's work to maximize state and federal resources, establish community supports and promote accountability among staff and those we partner with.

Many thanks County Executive, Laura Curran and Deputy Kyle Rose- Louder, for all your support and to all of you who helped us achieve excellence in 2019.

Sincerely,

CAROLYN McCUMMINGS, MPH, PhD
COMMISSIONER

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nassau County Department of Human Services provides the residents of Nassau County with a constituent centered and holistic approach to the delivery of services and information through and between its Office for the Aging, Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and Developmental Disabilities Service, Office for the Physically Challenged, and Office of Youth Services. The department facilitates the sharing and exchange of knowledge, skill, and professionalism in a comprehensive and integrated manner. Additionally, the Department of Human Services works closely with, and enjoys a collaborative relationship with many non-profit and community-based organizations throughout the county

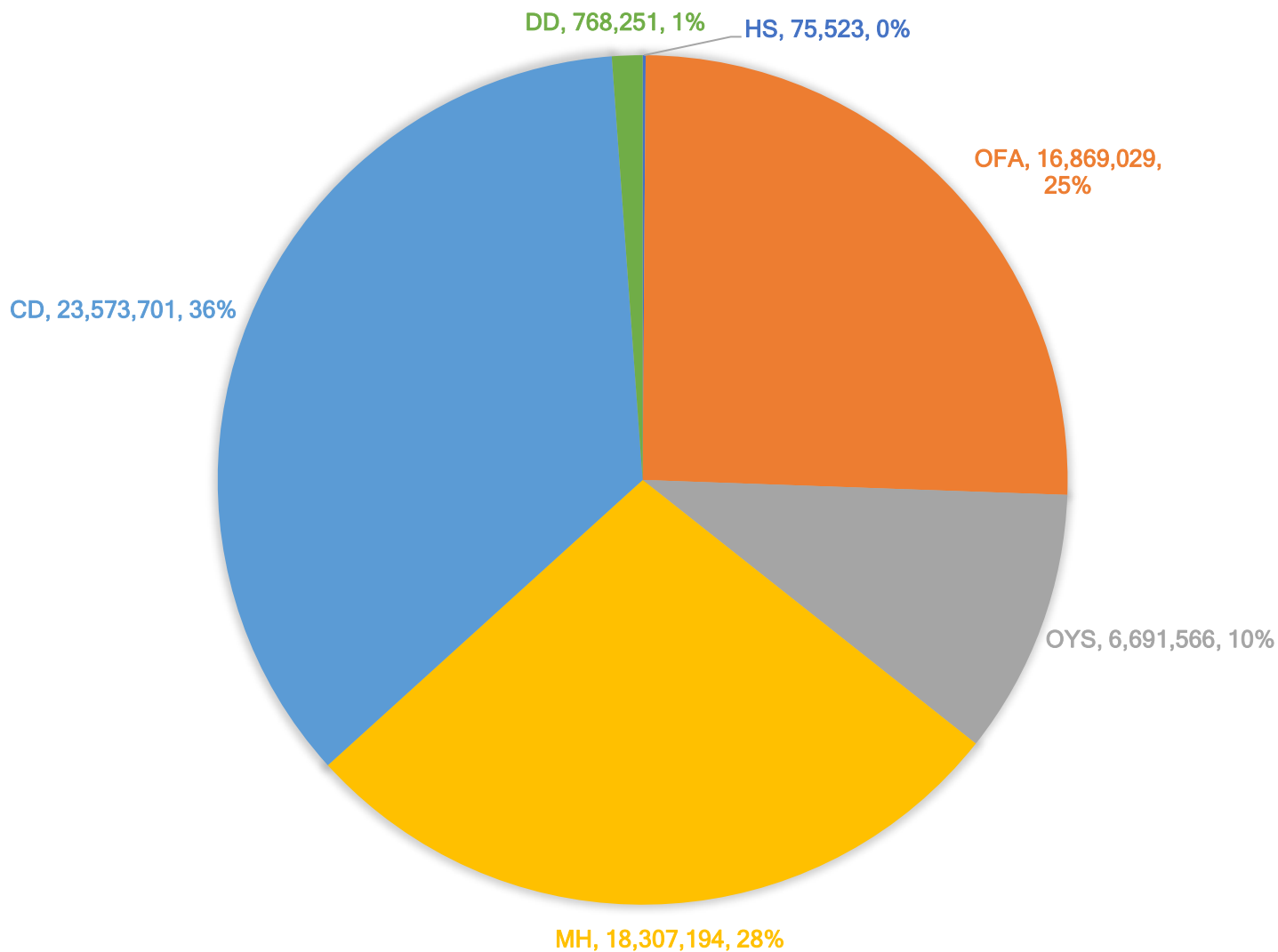




OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES



HS= HUMAN SERVICES
MH = MENTAL HEALTH
CD = CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY
DD = DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
OFA - AGING
OYS = YOUTH SERVICES

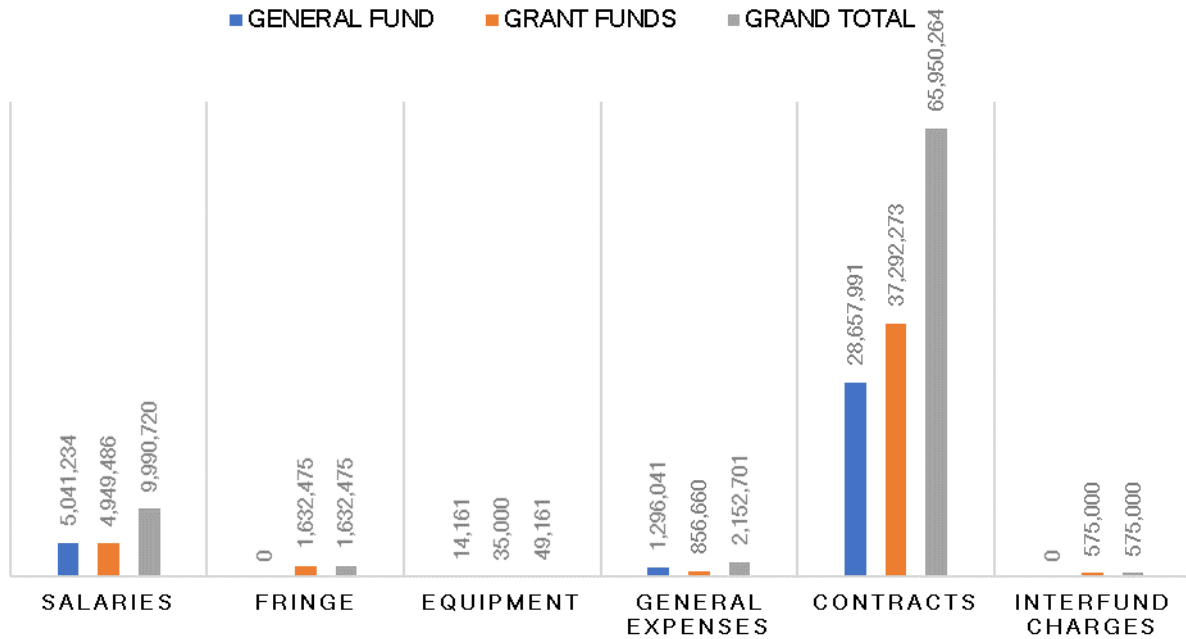
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Resp. Ctr.	Index Title	Obj.	Obj Title	SubObj Code	SubObject Title	Dept. Req. Amt.	20190budget
1100	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	75,523	
1200	OFFICE FOR THE AGING	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	16,839,416	
1200	OFFICE FOR THE AGING	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE563	CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXT OF N.C.	29,613	
			Total OFA		TOTAL 1200	16,869,029	
1324	YOUTH DEVELOP & DELQ PREVENTION	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	6,341,566	
		DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	Municipal Grant Contracts	350,000	
			Total Youth Services			6,691,566	
1501	MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ASSISTANCE	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	2,984,763	
1501	MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ASSISTANCE	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE524	MEDICAL/PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES	124,800	
					TOTAL 1501	3,109,563	
1502	MENTAL HEALTH COURT SERVICES	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE500	MISCELLANEOUS CONTRACTUAL SERV	400,000	
1502	MENTAL HEALTH COURT SERVICES	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	80,640	
1502	MENTAL HEALTH COURT SERVICES	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE524	MEDICAL/PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES	339,765	
					TOTAL 1502	820,405	
BH9A	Grant	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	Grant Adult Service Contracts	10,839,326	
BH9C	Grant	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	Grant Childrens Service Contracts	3,537,900	
			Total Mental Health			18,307,194	
1601	CHEMICAL DEPEND LOCAL ASSISTANC	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	673,654	
BHF1	Grant	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	OASAS GRANT contracts	22,900,047	
			Total Chemical Dependency			23,573,701	
1701	DEVELOPMENTAL DISAB LOCAL ASSIS	DE	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	DE511	PROGRAM AGENCIES	768,251	
			Total Develoepment Disability				
			Department Total		TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	66,285,264	

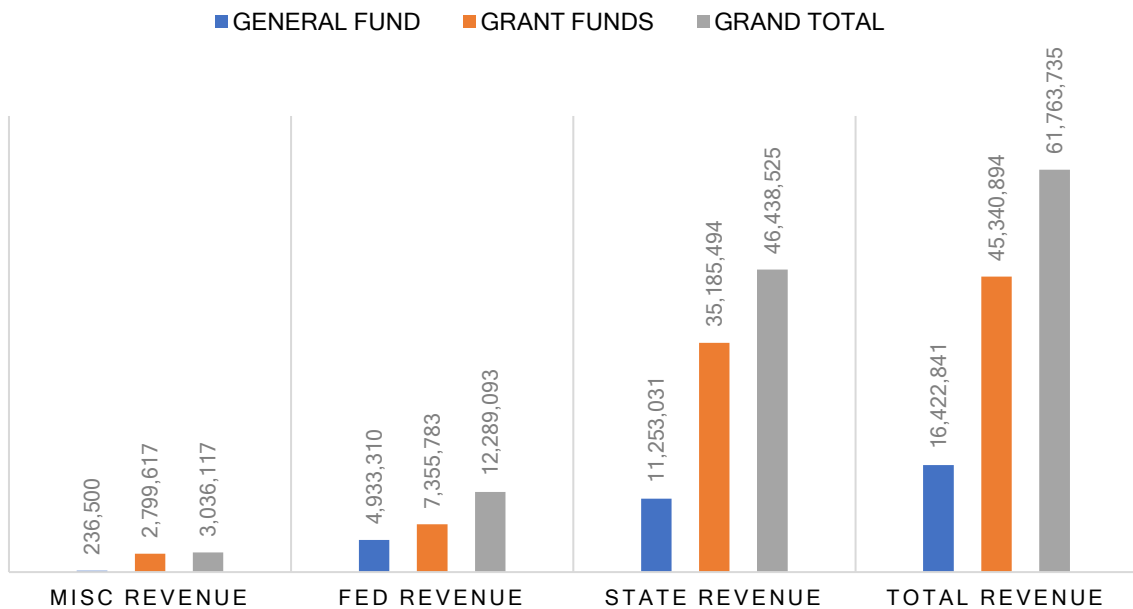
2019 HUMAN SERVICES RECAP

GENERAL FUND

TOTAL EXPENSES



TOTAL REVENUE



2019 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

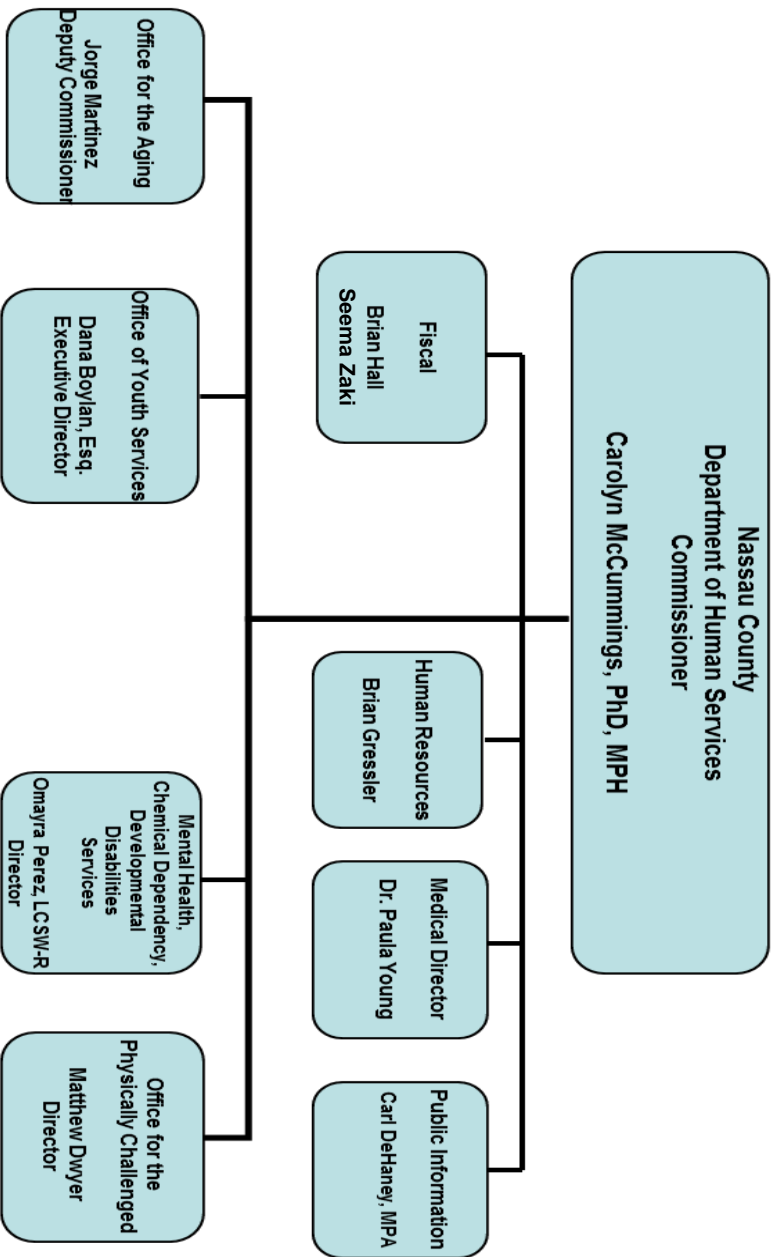
	GENERAL FUND	GRANT FUNDS	GRAND TOTAL	
OBJECT	AMOUNT			
AA Salary	5,041,234	4,949,486	9,990,720	
AB Fringe		1,632,475	1,632,475	
BB Equipment	14,161	35,000	49,161	
DD General Expenses	1,296,041	856,660	2,152,701	
DE Contracts	28,657,991	37,292,273	65,950,264	
HH Interfund Charges		575,000	575,000	
Total Expenses	35,009,427	45,340,894	80,350,321	
	AMOUNT			
MISC REVENUE	236,500	2,799,617	3,036,117	
FED REVENUE	4,933,310	7,355,783	12,289,093	
STATE REVENUE	11,253,031	35,185,494	46,438,525	
TOTAL REVENUE	16,422,841	45,340,894	61,763,735	
GRAND TOTAL	18,586,586	0	18,586,586	18,586,586

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PROGRAM AREAS

Nassau County Department of Human Services



MENTAL HEALTH, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES



Omayra Perez, R-LCSW
Director

Agency Vision

The Nassau County Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and Developmental Disabilities Services promotes the development of a comprehensive, coordinated system of services that enables those with a mental illness, chemical addiction, or developmental disability to maximize their functioning to live safely and successfully in the community.

Agency Core Values

- Compassion and respect for persons served
- Belief in the potential for recovery and one's ability to maximize their potential for independent living

Agency Mission

- Promote the highest quality of clinical, supportive, and rehabilitative services, so that individuals can safely and effectively work towards recovery.
- Foster the delivery of services that enable the developmentally disabled to achieve their potential for autonomous functioning and self-sufficiency.
- To provide oversight and methods of accountability to ensure that services are responsive to individuals needs and are delivered in accordance with best practice standards.
- To evolve services in a changing health care environment that meet one's holistic needs.
- Provide for full, open, and meaningful participation for the people who use services.
- To safeguard the client's right to receive services and maximize client choice.
- To ensure that those most in need have access to care
- To ensure county Planning incorporates input from clients, family, providers, and the community at large.

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

Electronic Medical Record clinical implementation team has been selected and planning meetings have begun. Each clinical discipline is represented. The team will work with Netsmart project coordinator Ms. Maura regarding implementation. Nassau County IT follow-up planning meeting took place with Nassau County IT 1/25/19 discussion centered around server set-up the server was brought onsite 1/3/19. A one-hour Netsmart call is scheduled for 2/5/19 with the clinic's implementation team; the focus of this call is transfer of data.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues. There have been some issues related to the delivery of Methadone and the interfering with Nursing staff lunch hour at the jail. Dr. Young spoke with Dr. Henig and informed her that the clinic cannot start preparing any earlier than 10:30am and that the courier cannot pick-up when the clinic is open to clients as it puts the courier and the clinic at risk. Dr. Henig was going to have a discussion with the Nursing staff. On 1/10/19, staff members attended a meeting at Confide with OASAS staff. Staff members attended the ASPIRE meeting on 1/25/19. Additionally, staff members met with OASAS and SAFE Glen Cove staff members to review SAFE's "Prior Consult Attachment 1A".

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

Electronic Medical Record clinical implementation team has been selected and planning meetings have begun. Each clinical discipline is represented. The team is working with Netsmart project coordinator Ms. Maura regarding implementation. Nassau County IT is involved in all scheduled meetings. Follow-up planning meeting took place with Nassau County IT 2/5/19 discussion centered around software set-up. The next call is scheduled for 3/11/19 during this call all users will be set up in the system.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

Electronic Medical Record clinical implementation team has been selected and planning meetings have begun. Each clinical discipline is represented. The team is working with Netsmart project coordinator Ms. Maura regarding implementation. Nassau County IT is involved in all scheduled meetings. Follow-up planning meeting took place with Nassau County

IT on 3/8/19, 3/15/19, 3/22/19, 3/29/19. All Users have been set-up in the system. Netsmart has requested specific clinical data related to software setup, Staff roster and contact info, Phases of Treatment, and Care Plans'. Data conversion should be completed by 4/5/19 at which time the implementation team will begin cross checking the data. Fiscal Planning meetings are occurring separately with the Netsmart Fiscal and Billing team. The next call is scheduled for 4/5/19.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

Staff participated in a phone conference with OASAS and Confide staff to discuss the program's budget on 3/4/19. On 3/12/19, Prevention Program Liaisons participated in a WITNYS webinar which discussed the upcoming prevention plans. On 3/15/19, staff attended an ASPIRE meeting and provided an update from the Department. Prevention Program Liaisons began to review and approve prevention plans submitted for the 2019-2020 school year.

Medication Assisted Treatment Workgroup met for the second time and developed several subcommittees. The focus of the workgroup is to expand access to MAT services in Nassau County.

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

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The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

OASAS prevention plans were due to the LGU on 4/15/19, and staff began to review and approve or request modifications from providers. Staff participated in phone conferences with OASAS and HELP on 4/16/19 and 4/30/19.

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

Electronic Medical Record clinical implementation team has been selected and planning meetings are ongoing. Each clinical discipline is represented. The team is working with Netsmart project coordinator Ms. Maura regarding implementation. Nassau County IT is involved in all scheduled meetings. Netsmart Train the Trainer was 5/1/19 and 5/2/19. Follow-up planning meetings took place with Netsmart on 5/10/19, 5/17/19, 5/24/19, 5/31/19. All Users have been set-up in the system. Data conversion was completed however after numerous attempts dosing information did not come over completely and data needed to be inputted by the implementation Medical team. JAVA had to be installed to allow access to the data. JAVA install began 4/26/2019 and is now complete on all computers. Fiscal Planning meetings are occurring separately with the Netsmart Fiscal and Billing team.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

On 5/2/19, staff accompanied OASAS Regional and Central Office staff on two prevention program site visits at Port Washington and Rockville Centre Schools. On 5/3/19, staff attended the ASPIRE meeting and provided an update on the contacting process (Program Narratives and site visits). Staff also continued to collaborate with prevention providers on their workplans, providing corrections and approvals through WITNYS.

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

All Patient Notification and Warning went out 6/28/2019 regarding the overdose cluster in Nassau County.

Electronic Medical Record clinical implementation AVATAR was installed 6/12/2019. The clinic has now converted to the NEW AVATAR system. We are still in the implementation phase working with AVATAR on any ongoing issues. Weekly meetings with the implementation team continue. Fiscal Planning meetings are occurring separately with the Netsmart Fiscal and Billing team.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

During June 2019, prevention program liaisons met with the school-based programs to review the services and interventions that they had implemented during the school year as well to review their anticipated plan for the 2019-2020 school year. On 6/7/19, a staff member attended the final ASPIRE meeting for the school year. Staff shared information on upcoming site visits and contractual process to ASPIRE members. On 6/10/19, staff attended an OASAS visit to the Diocese of Rockville Centre's school-based prevention program.

Clinical interventions targeting clients with positive fentanyl toxicology are ongoing.

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administration team met with Lab Corp. to coordinate activities related to uploading all diagnostics.

The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

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The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

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The Methadone at the jail collaboration continues.

Staff Education and Training

- HIPAA update provided by Dr. Paula Young 1/27/19.
- Interpretation of Lab CORP toxicology reports, was presented by Lab Corp 2/13/19.
- 2/13/19 – Interpretive Analysis of toxicology
- 3/13/19 – Thrive Program Overview
- 3/19/19 - Ebola Update
- 3/20/19 – Donning and Duffing
- 4/4/19- Options Overview of services
- 4/18/19- Trauma Addiction Support for Women
- 5/8/19 – Facts About Measles what the practitioner needs to know
- 5/21/19- Avatar Treatment Plan Overview
- 6/27/19 – Avatar Treatment Plans (treatment category delineation)
- 7/30/19 - Narcan Staff Training and update
- 8/27/19 – Narcan Staff Training and update
- 9/30/19- Active Shooter Training
- A staff member attended the first ASPIRE meeting of the school year.
- 10/2/19-Recognizing Diversion
- 11/19/19-Cultural Sensitivity
- 11/21/19-Domestic Violence

MENTAL HEALTH

Catholic Charities has formally submitted their intent to close the Teaching Family Residential Program. Our Office along with OMH and Suffolk County are discussing opportunities to re-

invest potential funding to other gaps in children system of care services. An area of interest is building supportive services around transitioning non-Medicaid youth considering Health Home services being targeted for children with Medicaid.

The community continues to contact our Office requesting MHFA trainings. Request are coming from schools, NUMC and law enforcement agencies.

A revised program liaison list is being developed because of some reassignments of MH and CD programs.

A Mental Health Awareness Training was conducted at Dodd Middle School for 5 Health classes.

During January 2019, the in-home SPOA committee met five times and the residential SPOA committee met once. A staff member attended the Children's residential provider meeting at the LIFO on 1/8/19. A staff member also participated in the CLMHD's Children and Family phone conference on 1/15/19. On 1/16/19, a staff member attended the Children's Health and Behavioral Health Managed Care Plan Provider Roundtable at the LIFO. On 1/17/19, a staff member participated in a case conference with OMH and the Teaching Family Home program. A staff member participated in the RPC's Children and Families Subcommittee meeting on 1/22/19. On 1/23/19, a staff member presented mental health resources to Wisdom Lane Middle School's administration and mental health staff. Additionally, on 1/23/19, a staff member participated in a case conference with OMH and MercyFirst regarding a youth residing in an RTF placement. Staff attended a meeting at the LIFO, with Suffolk County LGU staff, and Catholic Charities staff to discuss the Teaching Family Home program. On 1/29/19, staff members attended a meeting and presented on mental health services and programs to representatives from Nassau County school districts.

During February 2019, the in-home SPOA committee met four times and the residential SPOA committee met once. On 2/5/19 and 2/21/19, staff members attended children's services planning meetings at the LIFO with OMH and Suffolk County LGU staff. A staff member participated in a phone conference with Northwell's children's urgent care clinic as an introduction their program and services. On 2/7/19, staff members planned and facilitated a children's art expressions meeting. On 2/11/19, a staff member attended a taskforce meeting of LI RPC Children & Family Subcommittee focused on the workflow plan for HCBS eligible

youth with non-Medicaid insurance. On 2/15/19, staff members participated in a conference call with OMH LIFO and Central Office staff to discuss the HCBS waitlist on Long Island. On 2/20/19, a staff member met with staff from Uniondale School District to discuss SPOA services and other mental health services available for children residing in Nassau. On 2/21/19, staff members participated in a phone conference with the Teaching Family Home program, OMH, and the Suffolk County LGU. Throughout the month staff members continued to participate in webinars and conference calls related to the children's waiver transition.

Met with Denise Thorsen to coordinate MHFA trainings for the DSS staff as captured in the new legislation mandating certain civil service titles to become trained in MHFA within the next 3 years. There will be 14 sessions comprising of both youth and adult MHFA modules. Trainers have begun to select the sessions of their respective availabilities.

Trained Nassau County Correctional Center recruits in the Public Safety MHFA module.

Wellness Mental Health training conducted at Dodd Middle School and presented to the 7th and 8th graders.

The Executive Director and Board member of the Cope foundation, a bereavement focused service, met with the Director of MH, CD, & DD and Diana Johnson to propose a collaborative partnership with community providers whose clients would benefit from attending groups or other bereavement services. An invitation was extended to attend the Town Hall event and the next executive director meeting.

During March 2019, the in-home SPOA committee met four times and the residential SPOA committee met once. On 3/7/19, a staff member attended a Children's planning meeting at the OMH Field Office. Additionally, on 3/7/19, a staff member participated in phone conference with OMH and the Teaching Family Home program. On 3/12/19, staff participated in a conference call with Suffolk County LGU staff to discuss and finalize a proposal which was then submitted to OMH requesting new residential beds and supports for children in the Long Island region. On 3/14/19, staff facilitated the Interagency Full Partnership meeting for children's providers. On 3/19/19, staff participated in the CLMHD Children and Families Committee phone conference. On 3/26/19, a staff member attended the LIRPC Children and Families Subcommittee Meeting, and on 3/28/19 a staff member participated in the RPC C&F

Chair and Lead Support conference call. Staff continued to participate in multiple webinars and conference calls related to the children's wavier transition throughout the month.

A presentation of Youth MHFA was facilitated at NUMC

Trained Nassau County Correctional Center recruits in the Public Safety MHFA module.

Teaching Families Home program through Catholic Charities continue their efforts to discharge children to obtain final approval to close the program. There is one Nassau County resident that is still transitioning back home to parents. Weekly monitoring via telephone conference will take place until an appropriate discharge is resolved.

The final plan for the DSS MHFA training has been completed. The schedule reflects 14 sessions beginning in May through December 2019.

During April 2019, the in-home SPOA committee met four times and the residential SPOA committee met once. On 4/1/19, staff met with Nassau's HCBS provider to discuss the state-wide change in the system of care impacting HCBS referrals. On 4/1/19 and 4/5/19, staff interviewed and met with candidates for MHA's Children's Hospital Discharge and Crisis Respite Coordinator position. Staff reviewed expectations and discussed the position with the candidates. Staff also participated in three conference calls with OMH and Catholic Charities to discuss the Teaching Family Home program on 4/2/19, 4/16/19, and 4/26/19. Staff participated in the CLMHD Children and Families Committee phone conferences discussing the C-SPOA standardization process on 4/5/19 and 4/16/19. On 4/19/19, staff attended the children's residential provider meeting at the LIFO. Starting 4/1/19, HCBS applicants who do not have Medicaid must apply through the state's independent entity, C-YES, instead of SPOA. Staff had numerous discussions with the SPOA committee and other providers throughout the month regarding the state-wide changes in the system of care.

The first mandated YMHFA session for DSS was completed this month.

MH, CD and Fiscal met to discuss strategies on how each area can work together collectively to ensure a timelier delivery of contracts to our MH and CD Providers. Read only access to the vendor portal will be provide to liaisons covering MH and CD programs.

The MH subcommittee of the advisory board met and identified 5 domains that should be documented as priority in the local service plan:

- African American women and the high maternal mortality rates as compared to other ethnicities
- LGBTQ Community
- Geriatric population
- Immigrants
- Suicide

During the month of May, staff continued to collaborate with providers to gain information on change in the system of care/C-YES. SPOA applications also continued to be processed. The in-home SPOA committee met five times, and the residential committee met once. On 5/2/19, staff facilitated an Art Expressions meeting. On 5/8/19, staff attended the Children's Mental Health Symposium. On 5/9/19, a staff member participated in a conference call with the treatment team for a Nassau youth in an RTF. Staff participated in three conference calls with OMH LIFO and Catholic Charities staff regarding the Teaching Family Home program and a youth's discharge on 5/10/19, 5/17/19, and 5/24/19. Staff participated in a CLMHD conference call on 5/21/19. On 5/22/19, staff visited Cohen's Children's Behavioral Health Urgent Care and met with the director to find out more about the program and to learn ways in which Nassau providers may be able to collaborate with their program. On 5/28/19, staff had a conference call with Angela Keller from OMH to discuss the children's Interagency Full-Partnership Committee in Nassau.

DSS has completed 4 class sessions of the Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings presented by NCOMHCD&DD Svc. There is a total of 14 class sessions with 10 more classes to be completed by 12/17/2019.

Program Liaisons have been asked to begin scheduling site visits to community providers of both MH and CD programs. To goal is to complete the site visits no later than 8/30/19 to help expedite the time frame of processing contracts.

The MH subcommittee of the Advisory Board met to complete the survey and prevention section of the local service plan. The MH committee is also tasked with drafting a proposal to recommend the use of unallocated net deficit funding.

During June 2019, staff continued to process SPOA applications. The SPOA in-home committee met four times, and the residential committee met once. Staff also continued to

collaborate with providers to gain more information surrounding the state-wide change in the system of care as well as educate professionals in the community about the changes. On 6/6/19, a staff member attended the LI RPC Children and Families committee meeting. Staff participated in OMH's audit of FCA's HCBS program from 6/17/19 through 6/19/19. On 6/18/19, staff participated in a statewide webinar that acted as a meeting with C-YES, Health Home Lead Agencies, and CLMHD/SPOA. Staff also prepared for the Art Expressions Reception which took place at the Long Island Children's Museum on 6/28/19.

The Youth MHFA trainings for DSS staff will be concluding by the 1st week in August. A meeting will take place with DSS Administrators to review some of the challenges and next time opportunities for the next module which is the Adult MHFA.

Training has begun for program liaisons to view information in the Vendor Portal.

Program liaisons are on task with completing Agency site visits by the end of August 2019.

The transition of SPA housing liaison role and responsibilities has been completed.

During July 2019, SPOA applications continued to be processed. The in-home SPOA committee met three times and the residential committee met once. On 7/12/19, staff attended a meeting with LIFO, Sagamore, and Suffolk County LGU to discuss changes in the children's system of care as well as updates related to Sagamore programs and services. On 7/16/19, staff participated in a phone conference to discuss the PAR submitted by MercyFirst requesting the closure of their RTF. On 7/23/19, a staff member attended OMH's "New Opportunities in Children's Mental Health Services: CFTSS" training. On 7/30/19, a staff member attended the residential provider meeting at the LIFO. Additionally, on 7/30/19, a staff member participated in the exit summation for two of FCA's residential programs, the West Nassau and Lakeview Community Residences.

Completed the Youth MHFA mandated trainings for DSS.

All Agency site visits should be done and refunding certificates completed.

Met with DSS Administration to discuss what areas during the training roll out went well and what next time opportunities can be captured. Approximately 630 DSS staff is slated to be trained in both Youth and Adult MHFA beginning in January 2020.

Our Office was contacted by the Director of Recovery, NC Office of Emergency Management to join in collaborating with a planning/steering committee in discussing MHFA resource with the 69 municipalities that are a part of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

During August 2019, SPOA applications continued to be processed. The in-home SPOA committee met five times. During the month, the Art Expressions artwork was on display at the Long Island Children's museum. On 8/5/19, a staff member met with the crisis respite coordinator from MHA to review procedures and information needed for crisis respite referrals. On 8/15/19, a staff member participated in a conference call with a subcommittee of the LI RPC Children and Families committee. On 8/20/19, a staff member participated in the CLMHD Children and Families Committee conference call. On 8/27/19, staff facilitated a meeting of the Children and Family Treatment and Support Services (CFTSS) providers in Nassau County to discuss the challenges and successes within the system as these services were newly implemented by the state. On 8/27/19 a staff member participated in a CSPOA webinar hosted by OMH.

Program liaisons have completed all agency visits as of September.

Our Office will be collaborating with NCOEM on the Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee. Our role will be rolling out MHFA to stakeholders and communities effected by disaster event.

The Adult phase of MHFA has begun which will be presented during the remainder of this year. During September 2019, SPOA applications were received and continued to be processed. The in-home SPOA committee met four times and the residential committee met once. On 9/12/19, a staff member facilitated the Interagency Full Partnership meeting for providers in the children's system of care. On 9/17/19, a staff member participated in the CLMHD Children and Families Committee conference call. On 9/18/19, a staff member participated in OMH's System of Care Long Island regional phone conference. On 9/23/19, staff members participated in statewide conference call with Children and Youth Evaluation Service, Health Homes Serving Children and Single Point of Access focused on improving communication between the entities related to Medicaid and the Children's Waiver. On 9/26/19, a staff member participated in a treatment team conference call for a Nassau youth who is currently at an RTF.

Met with DSS Staff Development contact to begin the discussion of the next DSS staff MHFA training sessions for 2020.

Program Liaisons met to review any outstanding agency issues and determined that periodic agency visits should occur in between annual audit visits.

A draft was developed of what needs to be captured in a database reflecting statistical information for the MHFA trainings.

During October 2019, the SPOA committee continued to meet and applications continued to be processed. On 10/7/19, staff attended the regional RPC Children and Families Full Subcommittee meeting. On 10/11/19, a staff member will participate in the CLMHD's C-SPOA quarterly call. Then on 10/15/19, a staff member participated in the CLMHD's Children and Families Committee Meeting. Also on 10/15/19, a staff member attended the LIFO's children's Residential Provider meeting. On 10/17/19, staff participated in the Medicaid Reimbursable Peer Recovery Support for Families Impacted by Substance Use Disorder information session. On 10/18/19, staff attended a meeting with LIFO OMH, Sagamore, and Suffolk County's C-SPOA. On 10/21/19, staff provided training to staff from South Shore Child Guidance Center on the changes in the children's system of care including C-SPOA, C-YES, and CFTSS. On 10/24/19, a staff member participated in OMH's site visit of FCA's Family Center program. On 10/24/19, staff also facilitated a meeting and information session for children's residential providers on the in-home programs and new services available through CFTSS. On 10/25/19, staff attended a breakout meeting of the regional RPC Children and Families Subcommittee, specifically for providers in Nassau County. On 10/28/19, staff participated in a phone conference with LIFO staff to discuss logistics of a new children's in-home program being proposed.

Dates and times have been confirmed for the next round of MHFA presentations to DSS.

Program Liaisons met to review any outstanding agency issues and determined that periodic agency visits should occur in between annual audit visits.

A MHFA database has been developed reflecting statistical information about the MHFA trainings. The SPOA Committee continued to meet in November 2019 and SPOA applications continued to be processed. On 11/1/19, staff attended the ASPIRE meeting and presented on the children's system of care including C-SPOA, C-YES, and CFTSS. On 11/7/19, staff

accompanied OMH on their site visit of North Shore Child and Family Guidance's Family Support program. On 11/6/19, a staff member participated in the RPC Children and Families subcommittee leadership call. On 11/12/19 staff also accompanied OMH on their site visit to Hispanic Counseling Center's Family Support program. A staff member presented to DSS staff on 11/18/19 and provided training on the children's SPOA programs and referral process as well information on CFTSS and C-YES. On 11/19/19, staff participated in CLMHD's Children and Families Committee phone conference. Staff participated in a treatment team meeting for a Nassau County youth who is currently at an RTF on 11/21/19. On 11/22/19, staff assisted OMH during their audit at FCA's Non-Medicaid Care Coordination program. On 11/25/19, a staff member attended a Family Court hearing due to a subpoena and explained services available through OMH residential placement.

Our Office in partnership with CNGC completed a full year of MHFA trainings to DSS, Dept of Corrections and the District Attorney's Office.

MHFA facilitators met to discuss successes and next time opportunities. A contact log has been created and shared amongst the Trainers.

A MHFA database has been developed reflecting statistical information about the MHFA trainings.

During December 2019, C-SPOA applications continued to be processed. The in-home SPOA committee met three times and the residential SPOA committee met once. The residential committee met and fulfilled the court order to meet to discuss a specific youth. Additionally, staff collaborated to continue work on the RFP for a new children's program initiative.

FORENSIC SERVICES

A new social worker began in District Court to work on the diversion programs our office is involved with.

We are pleased to announce that both of CNG new staff members have started in District Court.

We are pleased to announce that we are in the process of interviewing a support staff to join our team in District Court.

We are pleased to announce that we have approval to hire a support staff to join our team in District Court.

We are pleased to announce that we have approval to hire a support staff to join our team in District Court.

We are pleased to announce that we have approval to hire a support staff to join our team in District Court.

A Provisional Psychiatric Social Worker 1 has been hired and started with the Treatment Alternative Plea Program (TAPP).

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) now have split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

Nassau County Office of Mental Health and Nassau County District Attorney's office continue to work in a collaborative effort on several Jail Diversion Programs thus improving public safety and connecting defendants to Court supervised, community- based treatment.

A Provisional Psychiatric Social Worker 1 started in July 2019 and remains at the Treatment Alternative Plea Program (TAPP).

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) continue with split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

Nassau County Office of Mental Health and Nassau County District Attorney's office continue to work in a collaborative effort on several Jail Diversion Programs thus improving public safety and connecting defendants to Court supervised, community- based treatment.

Nassau County Mental Health Court and Nassau County Treatment Court quarterly meeting conducted with focus on continued County and Court collaboration.

Long Island Forensic Mental Health Quarterly Meeting conducted at Suffolk County Parole Office with emphasis on cross county and state collaboration.

Provisional Psychiatric Social Worker 1 that started in the summer of 2019 remains at the Treatment Alternative Plea Program (TAPP).

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) continue with split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

Nassau County Mental Health Court and Nassau County Treatment Court quarterly meeting conducted with focus on continued County and Court collaboration.

Long Island Forensic Mental Health Quarterly Meeting conducted at Suffolk County Parole Office with emphasis on cross county and state collaboration.

Provisional Psychiatric Social Worker 1 that started in the summer of 2019 remains at the Treatment Alternative Plea Program (TAPP).

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) continue with split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

Nassau County staff member attended the November 22, 2019 Jail Diversion Learning Collaborative Conference at The Hilton Garden Inn, Clifton Park, NY.

Some staff and both Interns attended the November 15, 2019 10th Annual Conference on Co-Occurring Disorders at Hofstra University.

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) continue with split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

Nassau County Mental Health Court & Nassau County Treatment Court Quarterly Meeting attended.

Interns continue to provide additional assistance within the Specialty Courts.

Two of the Psychiatric Social Workers with (TAPP) continue with split schedules with duties divided between Court and the main site at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard.

SPECIALTY SERVICES

Disaster Preparedness

Employee Assistance Program

- 7 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over sixty cases, adequate for the current staffing pattern of 2.20 FTE.
- On January 11, 2019 the EAP began providing on-site counseling at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard. Sessions are booked through mid-February.
- 16 intakes completed between 2.40 FTE.
- 9 intakes completed between 2.40 FTE.

- Currently there are over sixty cases, adequate for the current staffing pattern of 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy cases, adequate for the current staffing pattern of 2.40 FTE.
- On January 11, 2019 the EAP began providing on-site counseling at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard. Sessions are consistently booked.
- 13 intakes completed between 2.40 FTE.
- Currently there are over ninety open cases.
- 11 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy open cases.
- 20 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy-nine open cases.
- 9 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy-six open cases.
- On January 11, 2019 the EAP began providing on-site counseling at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard. There is a minimal drop off on scheduled appointments.
- 17 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy-two open cases.
- On January 11, 2019 the EAP began providing on-site counseling at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard. There is a minimal drop off on scheduled appointments.
- 17 intakes completed between 2.20 FTE.
- Currently there are over seventy-two open cases.
- On January 11, 2019 the EAP began providing on-site counseling at 60 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard. There is a minimal drop off on scheduled appointments.

Assessment and Referral Center/227-TALK

- ARC answered 257 calls in September, an average of 13 calls per workday.
- ARC answered 266 calls in February, an average of 15 calls per workday.
- ARC answered 323 calls in March, an average of 15 calls per workday.
- LICC fielded 59 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 3 per day.
- LICC fielded 55 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 269 calls in June, an average of 13 calls per workday.
- LICC fielded 165 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 8 per day.
- LICC fielded 55 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 301 calls in July, an average of 14 calls per workday and 80 intakes for mobile crisis team.
- LICC fielded 209 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 9 per day.
- LICC fielded 65 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 264 calls in August, an average of 12 calls per workday and 65 intakes for mobile crisis team.
- LICC fielded 144 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 7 per day.
- LICC fielded 43 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 269 calls in September, an average of 13 calls per workday and 78 intakes for mobile crisis team.
- LICC fielded 140 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 7 per day.

- LICC fielded 41 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 277 calls in November, an average of 16 calls per workday and 66 intakes for mobile crisis team.
- LICC fielded 125 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 7 per day.
- LICC fielded 40 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”
- ARC answered 316 calls in December, an average of 15 calls per workday and 85 intakes for mobile crisis team.
- LICC fielded 183 “business hour rollover calls” for 227TALK, approximately 9 per day.
- LICC fielded 67 telephone calls for the Mobile Crisis Team to “give a message.”

Mobile Crisis Team

- Completed seventy-one crisis intervention/prevention site visits and forty-three crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed sixty-two crisis intervention/prevention site visits and fifty-two crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed ninety crisis intervention/prevention site visits and forty-one crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed eighty-two crisis intervention/prevention site visits and thirty crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed fifty-eight crisis intervention/prevention site visits and twenty-two crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed eighty-nine crisis intervention/prevention site visits and twenty-two crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.
- Completed sixty-four crisis intervention/prevention site visits and sixteen crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.

- Completed Ninety-eight crisis intervention/prevention site visits and Twenty-eight crisis intervention/prevention attempted site visits.

Critical Incident Debriefing

Subsequent to a critical incident in a County Department, the Office arranged for a psychiatric social worker to provide debriefing to interested personnel. Twenty (20) sessions were held with personnel.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Began planning for this year's Multicultural Awareness Conference. This year's focus will be on the concepts on Cultural Humility & Intersectionality

Continue to develop and outreach Mental Wellness Model for the school districts. Presented to both the ASPIRE School Social Workers and the Nassau County School Superintendents We were able to locate the Opiate Webpages that we created in 2018 and link them to the OMHCDDDS main pages

There are nine (9) Narcan trainings planned for March, including trainings being hosted in two local schools (Uniondale & Westbury), one University (LIU Post), two libraries (Hicksville & Franklin Square), one Fire Department (Uniondale) and one for NAMI (families of people with mental illnesses)

There are twelve (12) BHA-TE related activities being worked on and/or scheduled for March: Meetings/Trainings on Mental Wellness with four (4) School Districts-Roosevelt, Valley Stream & Lawrence & Port Washington

Presenting three (3) community based trainings.

- One at Carle Place HS for students on the Opiate Epidemic
- Another for Community Residence Programs and other Mental Health Providers focusing on Current Drug Trends and the Self-Medicating Client
- The third for Parents of athletes involved in the LI Rough Riders Soccer development program on Vaping

Continue to attend planning and committee meetings (4) -NCOYS to finalize the Youth Ambassador Vaping Project; Heroin Task Force Committee; MAC planning meeting; School Superintendents MH Committee

Have been asked to join the Education Committee of the Heroin Task Force

Continue to work with local colleges for possible internships

Revisit moving forward with updating the Speakers Bureau Program

Multicultural Awareness Conference format and focus has been established. The Title for this year's conference to be held on May 23 is "Recognizing the Mozaic Within: Exploring Cultural Humility and Intersectionality. Save the date cards have been developed, format of program established and a few speakers have been secured.

We have added an additional School District (Lawrence) to our SEL project and we have been asked to join a task force group of the MH Superintendent's Subcommittee to focus on long term planning needs. We will now be including the Hispanic Counseling Center as co-trainers in school districts with large Spanish speaking families.

Met with administrative staff of Pilgrim State Psychiatric Center to assist with assessing training needs and service gaps to improve. We will provide an overview of the Stages of Change Model focusing on MICA clients for their staff and other community programs on the grounds of PPC.

Added another intern this month from GWU's Masters in Public Health. Focus of his project will center around community Narcan trainings.

We have identified two additional students-one for the summer and the other for next Fall.

In addition, we re-established a working relationship with Molloy's School of Social Work, whom is now open to a more macro centered placement.

Joined the educational committee of the Heroin Prevention Task Force.

Submitted the 2019 first quarter Naloxone report to NYSDOH.

Multicultural Awareness Conference is in the final phase of preparation. All speakers and panelists have been secured. Registration is now open for the event.

BHA-TE has been asked to present with the Manhasset School District on our accomplishments in Mental Wellness for the June BOCES Wellness Symposium. In addition,

we have been asked to join a newly formed task committee on the MH Superintendents. This will focus on long-term strategic planning.

We have begun a conversation with an additional school district following the Town Hall Meeting and have set up a meeting in May with Roslyn HS staff.

In addition to the two students identified last month for both the summer and the fall, we have now had requests from another summer intern and three social work students from Molloy for next Fall. Hopefully we will be able to place at least two of them in OYs & OFS.

We have reached another milestone with the Narcan program by training our 14,000 responder this past month.

Multicultural Awareness Conference conducted. Received positive feedback.

BOCES has changed the focus for our presentation for the Wellness Symposium to Community Resources.

We have been invited to meet with Behavioral Health Staff at Sacred Heart Academy around their MW work.

Two of the three summer interns have been processed and are ready to begin in June. The third student has an interview scheduled for June. Five fall students have received initial screening. Two of the 5 have been accepted for work with BHA-TE. The remaining three need follow-up appointments with OFA, OYS and Forensic MH units.

Solidified second county partnership by completing the train-the-trainer with NC Aquatics staff for Narcan.

Began planning for the Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) conference conducted. Initial idea would be to focus on the needs of seniors.

BOCES presentation for their Wellness Symposium on Community Resources was well received and we were invited to present at the Long Island BOCES Symposium in November. Met with Behavioral Health Staff at Sacred Heart Academy around their MW work and added East Rockaway to the list of school districts seeking support and training. Also, asked to assist with the training of peer educators at the Nassau Hebrew High School.

Two summer interns have begun their placement, joining one student previously started in Spring semester. Seven (7) fall students have received initial screening.

NC Aquatics staff trained their first group of lifeguards and we are looking forward to scheduled dates to train county staff at both the Department of Health and Parks & Recreation.

NC Office of the Aging has requested Narcan and opiate training for staff and clients in the Senior Centers.

Continue planning for the Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) conference. Will be held in November this year and at Hofstra. Picked up additional support from Hofstra's Department of Health Professionals, which will be beneficial next year for securing space and contracting for services without Hofstra's Professional Event center. Need to start securing speakers and send out save the date cards shortly.

Invited to present two trainings for summer interns at the NC Legislature-one of coping with stress, the other, for Narcan.

Of the Seven (7) fall students that have received their initial screenings, four (4) have been accepted to start in September

September date picked to train NC Office of the Aging Case Managers and Center Managers in Opiates and a second training for Narcan. Two dates per month are being held for each center to have the Opiate presentation on site

Conducted a focus group with OYS interns on vaping

Successfully re-certified the Narcan Program to continue to be a registered training provider with the NYSDOH.

Fixed calendar snafu for Narcan listings.

Trained DD staff in Narcan at both Lifes Worc and FREE.

Continue planning for the Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) conference. 'Save the Date' cards have been created and sent out. Efforts have begun to secure speakers and keynotes for the event. The official title is "Resiliency... Co-Occurring Disorders Across Multiple Aging Generations."

Added Seaford as another school district being supported in their SEL initiatives

Set two dates for training of DSS and Shelter staff on Handling Difficult Situations in the Workplace. Will add a de-scalation component.

All seven (7) fall students that have been processed and are going to start by the second week of September. All Summer students have completed their placements.

Majority of speakers have been identified for Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) conference.

All seven (7) fall students have begun their placements.

Vaping program for youth by youth has been transitioned to the OYS now that their social work student has begun.

Served as Key Note Speaker for the NYU-Langone conference on Trauma and Mental Health of Student Athletes.

Narcan program has trained their 15,000th person.

Added the Nassau County Medical Examiner as our newest partner in Narcan trainings as we conducted a train-the-trainer for their senior staff. They will now be able to conduct trainings for their staff as needed.

Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) conference had 235 participants and was very well received
Heroin Task Force Education Committee also held their November Conference on Schools Building Community Networks

Finished our faculty Mental Wellness Training series for Plainview-Old Bethpage School District

Received confirmation that YMHFA certification has been met for both 2018/2019 and 2019/2020.

Developed an introductory blurb explaining NCDHS internship program for potential students, volunteers & field placement offices.

Ended calendar year with 15,854 people trained in Narcan since inception of program. Will reach 16,000 in January of 2020.

Completed fourth quarter 2019 Narcan report for the NYSDOH.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING



Jorge Martinez
Deputy Commissioner

Office for the Aging Mission Statement

THE NASSAU COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING is responsible for advising the County Executive and government officials on the problems and needs of the county's 300,000 residents age 60 and over. As the official Area Agency on Aging for Nassau County, the office develops a county-wide plan to provide services that assist older persons to remain independent and living in their own homes for as long as possible.

The Office also serves as a funding agency for programs offered by other voluntary and government agencies. It provides more than 70 programs in the areas of health, counselling, legal services, home care, transportation, nutrition, etc., to improve the quality of life for older persons. The Office also serves as an advocate for the elderly. More recently, Nassau NY*Connects, provides persons of all ages with information, referrals and assistance in accessing long term care services and programs. The Office operates one five-day-a-week multi-purpose community center. In cooperation with local community agencies, the Office maintains 13 additional senior centers, which provide daily hot lunches and social and recreational programs, four adult day services centers, and eight senior lunch programs. Nassau County made a commitment more than thirty years ago when it became one of the first county governments in the nation to establish a county agency dedicated to providing programs and services for the over 60 population. As the designated Area Agency on Aging for Nassau County under the federal Older Americans Act, with additional support from the New York State Office for the Aging and Nassau County, we empower older persons to live more independently in their own homes and communities.

Responsibilities of the Office

- Developing county-wide plans to provide services that assist older persons to remain independent for as long as possible.
 - Providing services that assist older persons to remain independent for as long as possible.
 - Supporting and recommending positive legislation for the elderly at state and federal levels by giving testimony at legislative and public hearings.
- Providing information on legislative issues affecting older persons.
- Serving as a funding agency for programs offered by other voluntary and government agencies.
- Providing more than 70 programs for the elderly, such as health and counseling, county-wide.

OFFICE FOR THE AGING DATA:

- Case management provided over 30,400 hours of assistance
- Senior Centers served over 186,000 meals
- Served over 359,000 home delivered meals
- Social Adult Day Care Centers provided over 61,400 hours of service
- Provided over 147,100 hours of in-home personal care services, such as housekeeper, chore services, homemaker and personal care
- Provided over 141,800 bus trips for senior center transportation
- Information and Assistance, NY Connects program had contact with over 7,000 people through phone calls and face to face interactions
- Provided over 2,200 seniors with legal services through the Senior Citizens Law Project
- Total meals served is over 545,300

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Office for the Aging spends a lot of time working on community engagement. This is our core outreach that enables us to connect with senior citizens in the community and bring our programs and services directly to them. We coordinate and participate in a variety of events in order to engage with the senior community. Some include:

Library Visits:

Office for the Aging visits libraries all over Nassau County in order to speak with seniors about the programs and services we offer.

Veterans Stand Down:

Office for the Aging makes it a priority to reach out to our Veterans. There's no better way to do it than at Nassau County's semi-annual Veterans Stand Down at the Freeport Armory. We talked with hundreds of senior Veterans and distributed Farmers Market Coupons to eligible seniors.

Legislative Partnership:

In order to meet the needs of all senior communities in Nassau County, we make sure to partner with Legislators in all districts. This allows us to understand the different needs in all senior communities, while educating Legislators on the programs and services that the Office for the Aging can provide. Some events include the Department of Human Services Legislator Presentation, coordinating tours of senior centers, participating in health fairs, partnering together to meet with community and cultural leaders and much more.

Community Group Outreach:

Office for the Aging believes that a strong bond with all communities opens opportunities for us to offer seniors our programs and services. We work with many groups and organizations in all Nassau County communities, which include New York State Senior Softball Association, Gala Foods, AARP, Family & Children's Association Senior-Senior Prom, Ms. New York Senior America Pageant and much more.

Heritage Celebrations:

Nassau County is a very diverse community. Office for the Aging enjoys participating in heritage celebrations. Some include The Village of Freeport's Black History Month celebration, Israel Independence Day, Cuban Heritage Day, Dominican Independence Day, and Indian Independence Day celebrations, St. Pius X Seniors St. Patrick's Day lunch and the Nassau County Kwanza celebration.

National Night Out:

In order to enhance our presence in the communities of Nassau County, Office for the Aging also participates in National Night Out. It's a great opportunity to bring our programs and services directly into the communities and meet and engage with our senior residents. We enjoyed participating in the Freeport National Night Out and the Baldwin National Night Out.

Health Fairs & Golden Gatherings:

Nothing is more important than the health of our senior population in Nassau County. Office for the Aging participates in Health Fairs and Golden Gatherings throughout the County. Events we participated in this year include St. Francis Hospital Health Fair, Town of North Hempstead Senior Health Fair, Legislator Kevan Abrahams' Senior Health Fair, Freeport Senior Health Fair, Senator Thomas Senior Health Fair, Senator Brooks' Golden Gathering, Glen Cove Senior Day and Senator Gaughran's Golden Gathering.



Deputy Commissioner Jorge Martinez throwsout the first pitch at the NY Senior Softball Association All-Star game.



OFA staff and County Executive Curran at the Veterans Stand Down



Senator Thomas' Senior Health Fair.



National Night Out in Freeport.



Glen Cove Senior Day

CONFERENCES & LUNCHEONS:

Office for the Aging continues to broaden our network in order to best serve seniors in Nassau County. We find it very important to coordinate conferences and luncheons to bring people together who can assist in serving our aging population. Some of our gatherings include:

- Older Americans Month Conference (May Conference): The Older Americans Month Conference was held on May 10th to celebrate Older Americans Month. This is our biggest event of the year bringing together over 500 people at the Marriott in Uniondale. This year we had 28 vendors and over 400 senior participants. This year's theme was Connect, Create and Contribute. We had two breakout sessions with three workshop options, which included a food demonstration from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County, an art discussion and a panel on seniors using the internet, which included a demonstration of a virtual senior center. Our Keynote Speaker was Michael D'Innocenzo, Professor Emeritus of History at Hofstra University. Claudia Rotando and Kevin O'Neil were presented with the Senior Ambassador of the Year award for their outstanding service to the aging community.
- Town of North Hempstead "Funday Monday" and Health Fair: Office for the Aging participated in the "Funday Monday" and Health Fair held at Bar Beach. Office staff handed out Farmers Market Senior Nutrition Program coupons and information about services to attendees.
- Town of North Hempstead "Aging in Place" Conference: Office for the Aging participated in the "Aging in Place" conference held in Port Washington. It brought many senior resources to one place and allowed us to present our programs and services to seniors living in North Hempstead.

- End of Summer Soiree: Office for the Aging held its End of Summer Soiree at the Bethpage Senior/Community Center in September. The event included over 200 seniors from our senior centers and from the general public. We provided live music, a hot lunch and dessert. Excel at Woodbury sponsored the event and provided dessert and a free gift basket auction. It was an opportunity for our seniors to unwind and enjoy a nice afternoon while saying goodbye to the summer and hello to the fall.



Vendor tables at the May Conference “Funday Monday” & Health Fair at Bar Beach



Lots of fun at the End of Summer Soiree!

MOVIES:

Besides just offering programs and services, Office for the Aging also likes to provide fun for our seniors! There’s no better way to do it than a day out at the movies. This year we did a screening of “Cocoon” at the Bellmore Movies & Showplace.



Waiting for "Cocoon" to start.



Seniors arriving for the viewing of "Cocoon".

FARMERS' MARKET PROGRAM:

The Farmers' Market Program provides coupons to seniors through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for the purchase of locally grown, fresh fruits and vegetables. Office for the Aging distributes these coupons at various sites and senior centers in Nassau County. Each eligible senior receives \$20 in coupons to spend at local participating farmers' markets. 2019 was a record setting distribution year with over 4,700 coupons handed out, surpassing 2018 by over 800 coupons!



Farmers' Market Coupon distribution at Brady Park Senior Center.



OFA staff distributing Farmers' Market Coupons.

TRAININGS:

Office for the Aging is constantly looking to strengthen our skills and ability to provide programs and services to our senior population. Throughout the year we participate in training programs. Some trainings we have participated in this year include:

- Aging Concerns Unite Us Conference in Albany
- Alzheimer's Conference
- Case Manager's Trainer at Bethpage Senior Community Center
- Concurring Disorders Conference
- NYSOFA Webinar Training Connecting with Latino Older Adults
- NYSOFA Business Training in NYC
- Mental Health Training at the Morelli Center
- Hispanic Alzheimer's Conference
- NC Comptroller's Finance Training



OFA staff and NYSOFA Acting Director Greg Olsen at Aging Concerns Unite Us Conference



OFA staff at Aging Concerns Unite Us conference.

MOLLOY COLLEGE BUSINESS CONSULTING CAPSTONE:

Office for the Aging partnered with Molloy College MBA students to work together on a problem-solution project that created an educational opportunity for the students and a real-world contribution to the Office for the Aging. Students were asked to provide ways to better market our senior center programs and services in order to attract more and younger members. Students were split into two teams. Each team made multiple visits to local County sponsored Senior Community Service Centers in order to learn what problems and barriers the Office was facing. Students then made a final presentation to Office staff, which provided us with many ideas to grow our senior center member base. Office for the Aging has already implemented their slogan suggestion, adding "Life Gets Better with Age" to our Facebook page. We have

many more great contributions from the Molloy students and are planning a future project with students for the Spring 2020 semester!



Molloy College Capstone Project final presentation.

SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTERS:

Office for the Aging funds fourteen Senior Community Service Centers throughout the County. These centers serve as a gateway to the County's aging network by connecting older adults to vital services that can help them stay healthy and maintain independence. We make regular site visits to our centers throughout the year to assess their programs and needs. Some of the services offered by our senior centers include:

- Congregate Meals
- Socialization
- Exercise, art and music classes
- Shopping trips
- Transportation
- Recreational trips
- Informative speakers
- Holiday celebrations & luncheons
- Musical entertainment
- Farmers' Market Coupons



**Strength exercise class with Samantha
at the Bethpage Senior Center**



**Hempstead Senior Center
Shopping Trip to Gala Foods**



**July 4th celebration at
Hispanic Brotherhood.**



Tennis program at Bethel.

PUBLIC HEARING: Office for the Aging hosted a Public Hearing at the Nassau County Executive & Legislative Building in Mineola on October 18th. The event was attended by senior center directors and participants, Legislators, community groups and the general public. This allows us to properly budget and build programs that will truly have a positive impact on the community. We made sure to have all levels of government there to understand the aging populations needs. This year included County Executive Laura Curran, Deputy County Executive Kyle Rose-Lauder and Human Services Commissioner Dr. Carolyn McCummings.



Panel at the Public Hearing.



Speaker at the Public Hearing.

PARTNERSHIPS:

There is a saying “two heads are better than one.” Here at Office for the Aging we believe that to be true and strongly value the partnerships we have created in order to better serve seniors in Nassau County. Some partnerships we are proud to have created in 2019 include:

- New York Senior Softball Association: Member to sit on an OFA council
- Vision Long Island: Smart growth and age friendly collaborations
- Gala Foods: Worked together to implement senior day discount program and provision of cakes for special occasions
- Parker on Madison: Working together for future collaborations



New York Senior Softball Association & OFA Staff.



Parker on Madison open house.

AGE FRIENDLY:

In 2019 Office for the Aging applied for two Age Friendly Grants from New York State. One grant is in partnership with the City of Glen Cove to create an Age Friendly Center of Excellence and one for the County to become Age Friendly. The program is designed to help communities and local governments incorporate healthy, age-friendly community principles into all relevant policies, plans, ordinances and programs.



**Hero Day Luncheon
at Glen Cove Senior Center.**



Glen Cove Senior Center

#####

Office for the Aging Events



SAVE THE DATE
Friday May 10th 2019

County Executive Laura Curran
and
The Nassau County Office for the Aging
Celebrate
Older Americans Month
LUNCHEON AND CONFERENCE

Marriott Hotel Uniondale
Formal Invitation to follow

For more information please call 516-227-8905



SAVE THE DATE
Tuesday, June 4th 2019

County Executive Laura Curran
and
The Nassau County Department of Human Services
Office for the Aging
Present a screening of the Academy Award winning film:
COCOON

Hosted at the Bellmore Movie and Show Place
Formal Invitation to follow

For more information please call 516-227-8955

OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES



Dana Boylan, Esq.
Executive Director

Keith Gerber

Runaway/Homeless Youth Service Coordinator

Cherie Edmonston

Fiscal

Alok Raman

Contract Specialist

Theresa Drye

Program Coordinator

Sheila Riera

Administrative Assistant (PT)

Mission Statement

The mission of the Nassau County Youth Services is to promote self-esteem, positive values and morals, citizenship, dignity, as well as physical, social, and mental well-being among the youth of Nassau County through youth and community development. Our guiding principles are empowering youth, strengthening families, creating healthy alternatives, developing communities, and establishing partnerships and service integration. It is important that young people have an opportunity to learn and grow within communities that represent the kind of world in which they live. We need to support and replicate programs that work, experiment with initiatives, cross systems programming, and build capacity for programs for youth most in need. We move forward to create opportunities for young people creating a culture of responsibility, service, and citizenship through the development of partnerships among government, the non-profit sector, schools, businesses, and other community organizations.

Site Visits –

Program site visits were completed for 31 contract agencies in 2019. Four agencies were not visited as they only operate a summer program and scheduling prohibited a visit in 2019. All agencies were assessed using the Program Review form that looks at program capacity and functioning.

Technical Assistance to contract agencies –

New language in 2019 contracts stated that agencies must engage in technical assistance to improve capacity. The Nassau County Department of Human Services then facilitated technical assistance trainings throughout the year on January 17, 2019, April 10, 2019 and November 6, 2019 with the goal of assisting agency compliance and improving and increasing capacity of Contract Agencies. Topics included Board Development, improving fundraising efforts, updates from the Fiscal Department regarding new procedures and claims processing and partnerships with academia and other organizations. Featured speakers included Angela Zimmerman from Molloy College, Jennifer Rutledge from Delphi Consulting Inc. and Gabriel Marquez from the County Comptroller's Office.

Comprehensive Agency Report –

OYS completed the Comprehensive Agency Report that contains data attained from agency administrative and program visits, Census data, and data from other sources such as the Center for Governmental Research Report. (CGR Report)

RFP Process –

During the months of July, August and September of 2019, The Nassau County Office of Youth Services conducted its first Request for Proposals (RFP) process to determine which agencies would be funded by the Office of Youth Services. Eleven agencies currently funded by OYS

were included in the RFP process. Twenty applications were received and there were fourteen awards including four organizations that had not been previously funded by OYS. These agencies include Leadership Training Institute (LTI), P.E.A.C.E. Afterschool Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Cedermore Corporation. Each of these 14 organizations were awarded a three year contract. This is the first time multiyear contracts have been given. A group of six independent reviewers reviewed all applications to determine who would receive multiyear contracts. In October 2019, Award letters were sent to all contract agencies notifying them of the length of contract they would receive. 2020 Contracts were sent out in October 2019. All vendors uploaded the necessary documents via the Vendor Portal.

Staff Training –

OYS staff attended the Association of New York State Youth Bureaus Youth Development Conference on October 7th and 8th 2019 in Albany, NY.

Community Collaborations –

OYS continues its participation in community collaborations such as the Nassau County Heroin Prevention Task Force, the Long Island Youth Safety Coalition and the RHY Advisory Council.

OCFS –

In January 2019, the Nassau County Office of Youth Services completed the OCFS Child and Family Service Plan (CFSP) Annual Plan Update (APU) in conjunction with the Department of Social Services. This plan delineates how services will be delivered by the county.

In 2019, the OCFS Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Plan (RHY) was re-incorporated as part of the CFSP. In November 2019, the Office of Youth Services completed the OCFS Resource Allocation Plan (RAP). This plan dictates how state aid will be used by the county. Applications are entered into the Quality Youth Development System (QYDS) and the RAP agreement is signed by the County Executive and County Treasurer.

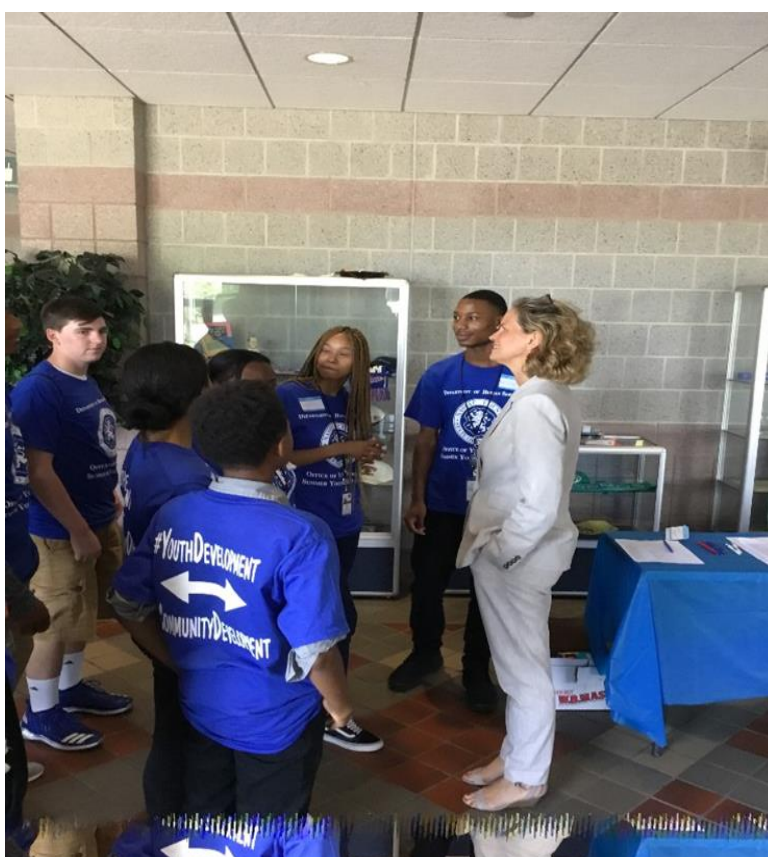
Board of Directors –

The Youth Board of Directors is currently comprised of nine men and nine women. The Board convened for six meetings during 2019 due to a delay in the selection of a Chairperson and failure to maintain a quorum. Rizwan Qureshi was selected and appointed by the County Executive in January, 2019. The Board of Directors has been working on updating its Bi-Laws. The Board played a role in the Office of Youth Services Summer Youth Employment initiative but was not as active as it would have liked.

Summer Youth Employment –

For the second consecutive year, through the combined efforts of the Nassau County Department of Human Services, Gateway Youth Outreach, Hispanic Brotherhood, Bank of America and the United Way, 46 young people were employed at OYS and Community Based Agencies throughout Nassau County for the months of July and August, 2019.

There, the youth gained real-life work experience that will benefit them both in the short term, and long term as they transition through their career.



The program kicked off with an On-Boarding Day on Friday, June 28, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Mitchell Field Athletic Complex Field House. Participants were greeted by County Executive

Laura Curran, Deputy County Executive Kyle Rose-Louder, Commissioner of Human Services Carolyn McCummings and Executive Director of the Office of Youth Services, Dana Boylan.

The Youth were provided presentations on the topics of proper work attire, resume writing, conduct in the workplace, and financial literacy. There were other learning experiences facilitated by co-sponsors and supporters intended to enhance vocational knowledge by exposing them to various employment environments and possibilities. These workshops will assist young people to prepare for real life work experiences and job opportunities. Following the On-Boarding Day, youth employees worked between 20-40 hours per week for six weeks at community based not-for-profit agencies located throughout Nassau County. This arrangement benefited both the host organization and the youth. The organization received much needed summer help and the youth gained valuable work experience.

On Wednesday July 31, 2019, the youth employed through the Summer Youth Employment Program, participated in a Team Building Day at Nassau BOCES Outdoor Education Center. The youth were divided into teams and participated in a variety of Team Building exercises and obstacle navigation.



CAREER EXPLORATION

Summer Youth Employment Program

ATTENTION YOUTH AGES 16-18!

**NEED A SUMMER JOB AND THE OPPORTUNITY
TO EXPLORE A POSSIBLE CAREER INTEREST?**

Contact us TODAY!

Nassau County Office of Youth Services in collaboration with **Hispanic Brotherhood, Inc.** is looking for youth who want to work this summer for the Career Exploration Summer Youth Employment Program! Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 16 to 18 years old
- Have working papers
 - Have a photo ID
- Have a social security number
- Have a checking account for direct deposit (*if possible*)
 - Have a birth certificate or passport
- Live in Rockville Centre, Oceanside, Hempstead & South Hempstead
 - Meet household income limit guidelines

If interested, call **Awilda Rosario** for additional information.
516-766-6610 | rosario.a.hbrvc@gmail.com

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS

MAY 31, 2019



Program funded by Nassau County Office of Youth Services



EMPLOYERS

HIRING SUMMER HELP?

EMPLOY A YOUTH AT NO COST TO YOU!

\$0.00

WHAT YOUR BUSINESS PAYS TO HIRE A WORKER FOR SIX WEEKS DURING THE SUMMER.

**YOUR
BUSINESS**

RECEIVES AN EXTRA SET OF HANDS TO HELP BOOST PRODUCTIVITY, FRESH IDEAS AND THE ABILITY TO HELP INFLUENCE OUR FUTURE WORKFORCE LOCALLY.

The *Career Exploration Summer Youth Employment Program* is a collaboration between Nassau County Office of Youth Services and Hispanic Brotherhood, Inc. We are seeking local employers to provide an amazing work experience for youth ages 16 to 18. This program runs for six weeks from July 8 through August 16th. Prior to being hired, youth are required to attend an On-Boarding Day provided by OYS.

CONTACT US TODAY!

Dana R. Boylan, Esq. *Executive Director*

Nassau County Office of Youth Services | 516-227-7115 | Dana.Boylan@HHSNassauCountyNY.US

Marguerite Keller *Assistant Director*

Hispanic Brotherhood, Inc. | 516-766-6610 | hispanicrvc@aol.com



Program funded by the Nassau County Office of Youth Services

Boys Youth Development event –

The Nassau County Department of Human Services, Office of Youth Services conducted the second annual “Four C”s (College, Career, Character, and Courage) Youth Development Conference on Monday, October 21st, 2019 at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. The conference was aimed at boys from 9th to 12th grades and focused on creating college pathways and career options as well as character development. There were panel discussions and breakout workshops with the goal of helping boys develop skills and empowerment. Over 300 boys were in attendance for the event. Four Youth Ambassadors facilitated an Anti-Vaping presentation.

There was also a presentation by the Long Island Advocacy Center regarding their efforts to decrease the racial disparity in school suspension rates. Statistical research has shown that despite similarities in academic settings, some young men are not achieving the outcomes of others. We must develop new initiatives to tackle community-wide issues that go beyond the ability of individual funded programs to address are especially likely to need future support, beyond what the County can be expected to provide in this economic environment.





Nassau Haven Open Houses –

and estimates that no less than 4,000 youth run away from home, are thrown out, pushed out or are homeless each year in Nassau County.

In Nassau County, provision of Runaway and Homeless youth services is a collaboration between the Nassau County Department of Human Services, Office of Youth Services, Family and Children's Association and Long Island Crisis Center to provide support and assistance to adolescents and their families experiencing difficulties in their lives. Some of the services we provide include safe, temporary shelter for youth, family mediation, crisis intervention, community education, and transitional housing, among many others. The Nassau County Department of Human Services provides the administrative oversight, Long Island Crisis

Center operates the 24 hr. 7 day per week Runaway Hotline, and Family and Children's Association operates the county's only emergency shelter for Runaway and Homeless youth (Nassau Haven) and the county's only Transitional Independent Living Program (Walkabout)

Nassau Haven hosted Open Houses on April 4, 2019 and November 7, 2019. A total of 24 agency staff and school personnel attended the open houses. Attendees were given a brief orientation of the Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) system of services and were given a tour of the house. Representatives from OCFS came to Nassau Haven and Walkabout on August 14, 2019 for a site inspection. Both programs performed very well, and OCFS was impressed with Nassau County's RHY services.



Anti-Vaping Initiative –

In August of 2019, OYS summer youth employment participants acted as a focus group for an anti-vaping presentation. The youth provided feedback and were recruited to facilitate the presentation with their peers. In September, 2019, the Office of Youth Services began its Anti-Vaping Initiative in cooperation with the Nassau County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Disabilities Services Behavioral Health Campaign. Led by a Fordham University, School of Social Work Graduate Intern, 13 young people have been trained as ambassadors to present an anti-vaping educational presentation. As of December 31, 2019, they have done 14 presentations to schools and five youth service organizations to a total of 837 participants. This initiative will continue until May, 2020.

Suspension Disparities Initiative –

The Long Island Advocacy Center, Inc., (LIAC), is a private, not-for-profit agency, incorporated in 1984 as a 501(c)3. LIAC's mission is to protect the legal rights of students and individuals with disabilities. LIAC is a bi-county agency dedicated to protecting the legal rights of students and individuals with disabilities. LIAC empowers parents and students to take an active role in their children's education. Through mediations, negotiations and representations at school meetings, LIAC helps families and schools work together in the best interest of families and students. Staff Attorneys and advocates are committed to helping parents of public school children navigate the education system and address school-related issues with the most appropriate programs and services to ensure their future success.

Recent data reveals that in NY State, students lost 686,000 days of instruction to suspension in a single year. Students who missed 20 days or more in a single year have a dramatically reduced chance of graduation. In Nassau County, black students are suspended



disproportionately more often than their peers. In one Nassau County High School black male students were suspended at a rate of 52.9% in the 2016-17 school year. While that number represents an extreme, the problem remains extensive and pervasive. Suspensions deprive a student of classroom instruction, even though students who are suspended tend to be the most in need of academic engagements. School suspension and expulsion increase the likelihood that students will have low academic achievement, be held back a grade, not graduate, drop out of school, receive a subsequent suspension or expulsion, and become involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, a systemic problem often referred to as the school to prison pipeline.

An area of focus for LIAC is reducing suspension disparities in Nassau County. Significantly, when suspended students receive representation and advocacy the time spent out of school decreases, and the quality of educational supports and services increases. LIAC provides legal representation to families and students ensuring that schools treat them fairly and due process rights are protected. Moreover, educational advocacy is advanced to ensure that students receive what they need to thrive in school, including appropriate social-emotional, behavioral and academic services. Recognizing the lost educational time represented by suspensions is crucial. Legislative initiatives are underway to end the reliance on suspensions as the default means of student discipline and establish a framework to instead use proven restorative approaches to help create supportive educational environments. Further, community outreach efforts have been extended to provide vital information to families in need and partner with community resources to further support families and children. In this way, LIAC will work toward disrupting the school to prison pipeline, allowing students to stay in school, learn and become productive members of the community.

December 2019 Update:

The initiation of the Reducing Suspension Disparities Grant has permitted direct representation to families who may have previously gone unassisted in Nassau County. There has been a seven-fold increase in direct representation in targeted communities when compared to the same time frame as last year. (September 2018-December 1, 2018 as compared to September 2019-December 2019). The advocacy and representation of families is often multifaceted and complex as are the families in need of services.

A recent referral from a community-based agency helps illustrate the complexity of an individual student and family's circumstances as well as the resulting educational impact. The young person is currently facing a yearlong suspension and related proceedings in Family Court. The Adverse Childhood Experiences, which inform her behavior, requires additional intervention in the context of her education. Thus, while academic milestones have been met, social-emotional advancements and adjustments are lacking. Cognizant of the trauma which has crafted the current circumstances, with LIAC's assistance and the parent's accord, a

referral for evaluation has been made and negotiations have commenced to facilitate potential consideration of an educational environment that would be better equipped to meet her needs as opposed to continued exclusionary discipline. While the outcome remains unclear, without representation, this young person would certainly have continued an out of school suspension until the next school year, only to return not having addressed any of the circumstances which led to the suspension in the first instance, clearly putting her at risk for additional suspensions, missed school and escalated involvement in the juvenile justice system, potentially leading to eventual placement.

Significantly, LIAC's intervention may prevent the Courts from placing a child, saving taxpayers approximately \$966.00 per day or \$352,663.00 per year per youth (Justice Policy Institute report: Sticker Shock: Calculating the Full Price Tag for Youth Incarceration, December 2014). As a result of the work of LIAC attorneys and advocates many of these youth may be diverted from future court involvement and incarceration and instead prepared to graduate and contribute to the economic development of their communities.


Another young person came to the LIAC's attention through direct contact from the parent. In this circumstance, the young man was living in a targeted community and facing the potential for a significant suspension from school as a result of an altercation. Having a history of suspensions, there was concern of significant time out of school would be sought by the District as a result of the newest infraction of the Code of Conduct. Following consultation, negotiation was undertaken with the district to have the student return to school following a short suspension with all compensatory instructional time to be provided. While resolution appeared achieved, complications altered the return to school; LIAC was able to assist in addressing the new obstacles to his return, connect the family with community support and advocate that all required accommodations be advanced.

The advocacy and representation has extended to students on both secondary and primary levels of education. A nine-year-old, suspended for an altercation, benefited from both representation and advocacy. Despite his inability to read or write at grade level and the parents verbal request for evaluations, no evaluations had been conducted to determine specific academic and social-emotional needs. Represented by LIAC, he was ultimately returned to school following days rather than weeks, evaluated and an educational plan crafted to provide

the needed services. LIAC's involvement helped to minimize time missed from school and assisted in recognizing unmet needs, that with appropriate services can now be addressed, thus decreasing the likelihood of future disciplinary action.

Further, the Reducing Suspension Disparities Initiative has afforded LIAC the opportunity to coordinate with community services providers throughout Nassau County to advance the project, provide training to staff working with potential clients, and creating space and opportunity to meet with affected families. Meetings have been created and attended to highlight the complexities of suspension as well as the disproportionate nature of the statistics in Nassau County with both community leaders and families. Thoughtful and productive conversations are being initiated with communities about school culture and environment as students often experience school buildings as places of conflict rather than places of learning. Legislative and public policy advocacy is advancing to address the punitive rather than restorative nature of current legislation. The direct representation, advocacy and outreach will continue to help disrupt the disproportionate nature of school suspensions in Nassau County.

NASSAU COUNTY RESIDENTS



Black Students are suspended more often than their White peers.

Know Your Rights!

You may be eligible for:


FREE ADVOCACY & LEGAL ASSISTANCE if you are the family of a child who is in need of representation for a current suspension and have been affected by Black/African American Suspension Disparity.

CALL LIAC at 516-248-2222 Ext. 14 or 13

#SUSPENSIONREFORM #SUPPORTNOTSUSPEND

In Partnership with:

STATE OF
BLACK
LONG ISLAND
Equity Council

 Urban League of Long Island

United States Merchant Marine Academy visit

On June 4, 2019, The United States Merchant Marine Academy extended the opportunity to our office to bring a group of high school juniors and seniors. Sixteen students were able to attend The, “Day Visit”, that included an admissions orientation briefing, lunch with the Regiment of Midshipmen, and the opportunity to attend afternoon classes. Younger students only participated in the admissions orientation briefing.

The United States Merchant Marine Academy offers students a FREE four-year education, room, board, books and uniforms. In exchange, graduates serve in a paid position in the maritime or transportation industry and as a U.S. Naval Reserve Officer, or as an Active Duty Officer in any of the armed forces.



The Academy at Kings Point is a place where students receive the leadership development and technical expertise to launch brilliant careers. Their unique curriculum provides the training and experience students need to become leaders of character and confidence. Nuclear engineers, naval architects, astronauts, executives, politicians, admiralty lawyers, armed forces officers are made at Kings Point and graduates have an incredible track record of building rewarding careers.

Youth Literacy Initiative-

The conceptual idea of an innovative program at Northern Parkway School in the Uniondale School District, coined The Dreamkeepers is based on the work of researchers Dr. Vanessa Siddle Walker and Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings. In the book, “Their Highest Potential – An African American School Community in the Segregated South” Siddle Walker shares the story of one school community in the segregated south. This school, Caswell County Training School, succeeded in providing nurturing educational

environments and thrived with parental support even when faced with enormous obstacles. Siddle Walker’s research shows that the teachers and principal of this school believed their jobs extended well beyond the classroom and because the educators were genuinely interested in teaching the whole child (academically and socially), students had no choice but



to be successful. Coupled with this research and conceptual model for change was the book “The Dreamkeepers - Successful teachers of African American Children” by Gloria Ladson-Billings. Ladson-Billings wrote: Culturally relevant teaching fosters the kinds of social interactions in the classroom that support the individual in the group context. Students felt a part of

the collective effort designed to encourage academic and cultural excellence. As members of an extended family, the students assist, support, and encourage one another. The entire group rises and falls together. Thus, it is in everyone's best interest to ensure that the others in the group are successful.



The Dreamkeepers program at Northern Parkway School consists primarily of six teachers and one administrator (Dr. Sheilah Jefferson-Isaac) who will use a “Whatever It Takes” model of community, accountability, and culturally relevant teaching, to embark on an educational journey with the same cohort of over 120 African American and Latina/o students, for the next four years. They are reimagining what education can look like and feel like for students, known as The

Dreamchasers. They are committed to providing experiences for students that enhance their critical thinking, communication skills, creativity and foster collaboration. The Dreamkeepers are excited that Dana Boylan Esq., Executive Director of Nassau County Office of Youth Services and Community Liaison Theresa Drye have partnered with them to support their reading goals for the next few years. On Wednesday, May 22, 2019, The Dreamkeepers had their first reading celebration featuring Author Ama Karikari Yawson, author of *Sunne’s Gift: How Sunne Overcame Bullying to Reclaim the Gift*. The students thoroughly enjoyed this interactive storytelling experience and look forward to meeting more authors in the future.

Meredith Vs. Fair

On January 21, 2019, the nation's commemoration of the MLK Holiday, the Nassau County Bar Association and its Diversity & Inclusion Committee presented *Meredith v. Fair: A Re-enactment of the Landmark Decision* performed by youngsters from the Nassau County Chapter of *Jack & Jill*. Nassau County Executive Laura Curran was on hand for the re-enactment which brought to life the legal campaign to integrate the University of Mississippi.

In 1961, James Meredith, a veteran of the US Air Force, applied to attend college at the then-segregated University of Mississippi. Despite his qualifications and his being a resident of the state, as an African-American, he was denied admission to "Ole Miss" solely because of his race.

Meredith turned to the NAACP Legal Defense & Education Fund and was ably represented by Constance Baker Motley. Constance Baker Motley, a brilliant court room advocate, was the first African-American woman to argue a case before the United States Supreme Court. In 1966, she would become the first African-American woman to be named a United States District Court Judge. Appointed by President Lyndon Johnson, from 1982 to 1986 she would serve as the Chief Judge for the Southern District of New York.

During the protracted litigation which followed, Motley and Meredith faced numerous obstacles and the reenactment offers a portrait of their struggle. Both client and counsel endured the obstinance of judges who were blinded by prejudice and the humiliations inherent in Jim Crow. The integration of Ole Miss was not without violence, and people lost their lives including Medgar Evers who was assassinated in 1963. The case was an important civil rights milestone but, above all else, it is a human drama which demonstrates that behind every court case there is a human being with a story to be told.

Written by Kathy Hirata Chin and her husband the Hon. Denny Chin, Judge of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the re-enactment was first presented in 2016 at the Thurgood

Marshall US Courthouse in Manhattan. The late Supreme Court Justice is a character in the drama as are such historical personalities as Judge John Minor Wisdom, US Senator James Eastland and Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett.

The events reenacted are historically accurate. The script is derived from transcripts, depositions and court decisions related to Meredith's quest to be admitted to the university. The words heard by the audience were actually spoken in federal courthouses in Mississippi and Louisiana decades ago.

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee first performed the re-enactment on May 2, 2018 with a company of practicing attorneys and sitting judges. During the January 21st re-enactment, as the words of the script were being spoken by performers ranging in age from nine to sixteen, the presentation took on a special poignance for the audience and a new significance for the young cast.

Being a true story about how law, education, and the human spirit all came together so that James Meredith could obtain a college degree, these young performers were given the opportunity to walk, ever so briefly, in Motley and Meredith's footsteps. For the youngsters participating in this project, the reenactment was an eye-opener. As the Hon Linda Mejias, Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, observed, it "changed the lives of these kids forever."

The company of young performers were moved by the story they were portraying and afterwards reflected on the experience, each in his or her own words:

I liked being a part of the play because it was fun. I learned a lot, and I got to re-enact an important moment in history. Austin Walker, 4th grade

It was really a great opportunity for me to learn about such a monumental case in American history that my school doesn't teach me—plus it was so much fun!

Asha Brown, 9th grade

It was an educational and fun experience to learn about a case that has left an imprint on African-American history.

Darien Ward, 9th grade

Playing the role of John Minor Wisdom not only showed me the hardships African-Americans faced at a higher-level, but playing this role showed that there were good people who knew how to fight for what was right.”

Alexander Carmenaty, 11th grade

It was empowering as well as educational to learn about yet another strong African-American woman who played a prominent role in the civil rights movement as well as the desegregation of schools across the South.

Taylor Ward, 11th grade

Many of the adults who participated in the re-enactment that was held at the NCBA in May 2018 thought the January 21st production was far superior. Kindness aside, the youth of *Jack & Jill* brought something special to their performances that made this re-enactment stand apart from its predecessors.

Of particular note was the inspired idea of adding music to the performance. The script of the re-enactment was bracketed by the stirring renditions of first “*Lift Every Voice & Sing*” at the beginning of the reading and then by the *Star-Spangled Banner* at the conclusion of the performance.

Lift Every Voice & Sing by James Weldon Johnson is universally acknowledged as the Black National Anthem. An affirmation of the African-American struggle for dignity and equality, on this day the song vividly foreshadowed the efforts of Motley and Meredith from the outset of

the story. At the end of the presentation, the audience then heard the *Star-Spangled Banner* in the hope that, with the legal battle over, everyone could now be included in the promise that is America. Both songs were beautifully sung by Taylor Ward and Asha Brown of *Jack & Jill*.

Meredith v Fair raises issues which not only resonate more than half-a-century later but which transcend the boundaries of time and the generations. The young performers who participated in *Meredith v. Fair: A Re-enactment of the Landmark Decision* emerged from the prestaton inspired by the sacrifices made by those who came before them. It is our sincere belief that the man who was the conscience of the nation during the Civil Rights era would have been pleased.



Long Island Nets Basketball Game-

On Friday November 15, 2019, Two hundred youth and adult chaperones attended the Long Island Nets basketball game. At the game, you were given a presentation by Long Island Nets representative Alton Bird. Youth also received Nets Jerseys and participated as part of the High Five lines.



Social Media –

In 2019, the Office of Youth Services has maintained Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts in order to expand its exposure through the use of social media.

Vision for 2020 –

The Office of Youth Services will continue monitoring of contract agencies through program and administrative site visits. OYS will also continue its supplemental programming such as a Girls Event scheduled for March, 2020, continuation of the anti-vaping campaign, Suspension Disparities Initiative and Youth Literacy initiative. OYS will continue its participation in the Summer Youth Employment Initiative. The Office of Youth Services will also look to replicate, for the 3rd time, the Four “C”s Boys event conducted on October 21, 2019. OYS will continue to provide technical assistance opportunities to the contract agencies in 2020 in the areas of fundraising, board development and other capacity building opportunities. OYS will continue to build and maintain community collaborations to enhance service provision. OYS will complete all required OCFS submissions. The Board of Directors will continue to convene in 2020.

####

OFFICE FOR THE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED



Matthew Dwyer
Director

Joel Kessler: (Program Coordinator/ OPC Staff Supervisor)

Helene Weinberger

Francis Murtagh

Duwanna Cullum

Michael Kilbride

WEP {Work Experience Program}

Trainees and Volunteers

Mission Statement

The Nassau County Office for the Physically Challenged serves as the Disability Rights Advocacy agency for this County's population of over 250,000 adults and children with disabilities. In doing so, it plays a leadership role in the provision of programs and services to enhance the independence and productivity of citizens with disabilities, developing and advocating for legislation on the local, State, and Federal levels of government, and working with the business community, health systems agencies, educational institutions of higher learning and school districts, transportation providers, cultural and arts centers, local municipalities, and private and non-profit disability and rehabilitation organizations to remove attitudinal and architectural barriers to consumerism, employment, education, and independent living.

Misuse of Accessible Permits



Violations (tickets) for MISUSE of accessible permits are on the rise. Police officers, parking enforcement agents and volunteers are in the field and enforcing permit regulations and misuse of accessible permits, under NYS law. Permits are issued to individuals with doctor certified mobility issues. Permits are not issued to families, they are not specific to cars and they are not heirlooms to be passed on. Tickets for violations of misuse start at \$255.00 and go up for continued misuse. If an accessible permit being misused by and individual other than the permit holder (friend, sibling, parent, etc.) is confiscated by law enforcement agent(s), that permit can permanently REVOKED by NYS. The selfish misuse of accessible permits denies and hurts those truly in need of these valuable parking spaces, that allow them to shop, work, go to school and enjoy the benefits of the community. Education and outreach remains the focus of the OPC and law enforcement in an effort to minimize the abuse of accessible permits.

How Do I File a Complaint?



I'm in a wheelchair and I can't get into a local restaurant, because there is a six-inch step; can you help me? My bank doesn't have any accessible parking for the disabled; what should I do? The main entrance to my City Hall is inaccessible to me independently, twenty-five years after the implementation of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act); How do I file a complaint and to whom? My co-op board refuses to honor my request for reasonable accommodation, as entitled by the Fair Housing Act; what do I do now? I'm hard of hearing; went to the movie theater but they did not have auxiliary listening device available; aren't they required by law? A government building has no accessible bathrooms for the public; isn't it required? I'm disabled, can I get a reserved parking space in front of my home? These are just a few of the questions that come to OPC each day. While some answers are simple and easily resolved, most require research, knowledge of the law and knowing the enforcement jurisdiction. OPC never says "sorry we can't help"- OPC says, "while we are not an enforcement agent, let's see if we can assist you in resolving your concerns." Education – Outreach- Assistance – Resolution --- The OPC way.

Program Accessibility (Parks & Recreation)

When a service, program or activity is conducted in a location that is not physically accessible, the requirement of service and program access may be achieved through barrier reduction or by providing the service, program or activity through alternative means. The priority however, is always on providing the program or service in the most integrated setting possible; that is, assuring that people with disabilities can access the program or service along with non-disabled co-workers, friends and colleagues. This includes recreation activities such as beach access, playgrounds and ballfields provided by government agencies. Nassau County is proud of our ongoing inclusion efforts, especially in the area of recreation. The new (federal compliant) dune walk-overs at Nickerson beach with the addition of over 200 yard of accessible matting allows individuals with mobility issues to now access and enjoy the beach and ocean. There is always more to do; but working together, Nassau Parks and Recreation, DPW and the Office for the Physically Challenged continue to advance accessibility in all areas of community life.

Here are some photos of walkway with increased accessibility at Nickerson Beach:



The following correspondences are from constituents, addressed to OPC Director Matt Dwyer, and the Office for the Physically Challenged staff:

Hi Matt,

Today was my 1st time at the beach this summer and all I cloud say is thank G-d for Matt. You are right, the incline is very manageable...no problem. The walkways are such a blessing. It's hard to believe that after 25 years it finally got done and you get the credit in my book!!! I am so grateful that I do not have to dread that walk down to the ocean walking on the sand. You are a special person and I hope we meet at some point.

Best to you and your family,

N. Schoen

Dear Office for the Physically Challenged,

You are the best office that we have in local government! You have been so kind, and so efficient. You are a blessing to help all in need. I thank you for your service, and happy you are there to help. I never had such fast service from any government agency ever! I am so proud of you! Keep up the great work.

Sincerely,

J. Orlen

September is Emergency Preparedness Month

Emergency preparedness is important to everyone; single, married, family, etc. Being prepared is increasingly important if you, a family member, neighbor or friend are disabled with limited mobility, illness requiring ongoing medical assistance, blind or deaf/hard of hearing. Emergency preparedness is about being prepared to shelter in place, evacuate on a moment's notice and

if necessary, to relocate.

Whether a natural disaster/emergency such as a hurricane, flood, blizzard or manmade emergency/disaster such as blackout, gas leak or terrorist attack, YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED, to the best of your ability:

Emergency Preparedness

People with Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs



- Identification, cash, ATM & credit card, important documents.
- Emergency contact info and if possible, a predetermined meeting place for family and friends.
- Medication (3-5 day supply), glasses and any assistive devices needed.
- Extra clothing, blankets, etc.
- Dry/canned food and water (1week) flashlights, batteries, candles, matches.
- Electronic back-up for phones and devices.
- Don't forget about the pets.

You may not be able to prevent emergencies or disasters, BUT you can prepare to minimize the effects.

Get prepared – Stay prepared-----

September is Emergency Preparedness Month.....

Are you PREPARED?

Why People Hide their Disabilities at Work

The Harvard Business Review reports that, according to The Center for Talent Innovation's "Disability and Inclusion" study, "Approximately 30% of the professional workforce fits the federal definition of having a disability – and the majority are keeping that status a secret. Only 39% of employees with disabilities have disclosed to their manager; even fewer have disclosed to their teams (24%) and almost none (4%) have revealed their disability to clients." Many disabilities are "invisible," including depression and other mental health conditions, ADHD and more, and workers are reluctant to



share their status due to the desire to conform, avoid harassment or inhibit career growth. But living a life of greater authenticity can lead to higher levels of workplace satisfaction, reduced stress, nervousness, anxiety and isolation. Setting the stage for employee disclosure at your organization can positively affect the workplace culture and help employees thrive.



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH 2019

NCDHS EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH 2019



Anuradha “Anu” Dwarakanathan,
Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(May)**



Gail Sneyd, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(June)**



Timothy Ortiz, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(July)**



Samantha Cools, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(August)**



Daniel Kozak, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(September)**



Rebecca DiGiovanni, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(October)**



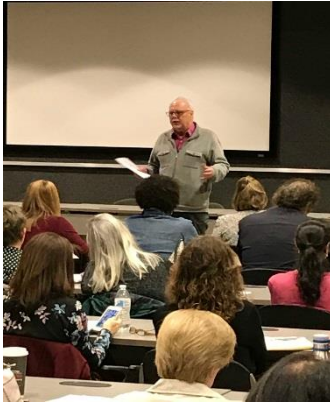
Maria Bruning, Nassau County
Department of Human Services
Employee of the Month **(November)**

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HUMAN SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

Human Services and the Office of the Nassau County Comptroller Fiscal Management Seminar



Scenes from “A Discussion on Mental Health” at the African American Museum of Nassau County, Hempstead



Scenes from “A Discussion on Mental Health” at the African American Museum of Nassau County, Hempstead (Cont’d)



Scenes from the Office for the Aging Older Americans Month 45th Annual May Luncheon and Conference at the Long Island Marriott in Uniondale



**Scenes from the Office for the Aging Older Americans Month
45th Annual May Luncheon and Conference at the Long Island
Marriott in Uniondale (Cont'd)**



Scenes from the Summer Youth Employment Programs On-Boarding Day Kick Off



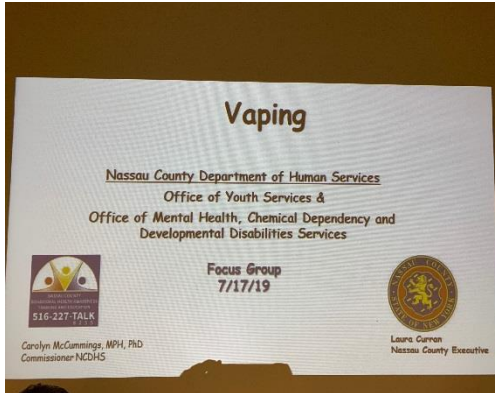
Scenes from the Summer Youth Employment Programs On-Boarding Day Kick Off (Cont'd)



Scenes from the 11th Annual Children's Art Expressions Reception



Nassau County Office of Youth Services Anti-Vaping Initiative:



Office for the Aging End of the Summer Soiree



Office for the Aging Stand Down Event



Department of Human Services Ice Cream Social



Department of Human Services Ice Cream Social (Cont'd)



Department of Human Services Ice Cream Social (Cont'd)



Department of Human Services Ice Cream Social (Cont'd)



Department of Human Services Ice Cream Social (Cont'd)



Scenes from the 2nd Annual Department of Social Services & Human Services Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration



Scenes from the 2nd Annual Department of Social Services & Human Services Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration



Scenes from the Second Annual “4 C’s College, Career, Character and Courage” Conference



Scenes from the Second Annual “4 C’s College, Career, Character and Courage” Conference



Scenes from Veterans Stand Down



Scenes from the 10th Annual Conference on Co-Occurring Disorders



NCDHS Retirees

**The Nassau County Department of Human Services bid
farewell to some outstanding individuals who have served
Human Services well!**

20 YEARS	STEPHEN J. HLADKI	DRUG ABUSE TECHNICIAN II
11 YEARS	BETH LIMMER	COMMUNITY LIAISON SPECIALIST I
20 YEARS	ANN MCCARTHY	PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER II
21 YEARS	FRANK MURTAGH JR.	PROGRAM COORDINATOR
12 YEARS	DONNA REED	COORD, SENIOR CITIZEN SVCS PROJECT
18 YEARS	JOSE RIVERA	CUSTODIAL WORKER I
11 YEARS	ROSEMARY SMITH	ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT II
23 YEARS	DOLORES GIUGLIANO	CLERK TYPIST I

**Thank you for all your wonderful years of service! Enjoy
Retirement!**

