

Division of Community Resources Monthly Report

January 2024

Workforce Development

- ✓ The minimum wage in New York State will increase effective January 1, 2024. Westchester County, Long Island and NYC will increase to \$16.00/hour. Sullivan County and rest of the State will increase to \$15.00/hour.

Minimum wage for Home Care Aides will increase to \$18.55/ hour in Westchester, Long Island and NYC. Sullivan County and the rest of the State will go to \$17.55/ hour.

- ✓ The County Legislators approved and funded the Welding Trade Class for County residents. The class held at BOCES ran from October 10 through December 21. The adult students met Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30pm to 9 pm. Nine of eleven students completed the course and received a number of industry recognized certifications through Lincoln Tech. Four students graduated with employment. The remaining five will receive job placement services from the Center for Workforce Development (CWD).
- ✓ The CWD has been working for last few years with partners to provide Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training which is in high demand. While SUNY Sullivan were able to develop an approved program, they have been unable to secure an instructor. Recently, a meeting was held with HC Staffing and Training who work with the DV Job Corps. They can provide an instructor and BOCES will allow the use of their training space at Garnet Medical Center Catskills. A proposal has been received and is under review.
- ✓ The CWD will be assisting Delaware Valley Job Corps with a recruitment event for their Patient Care Technician Trade program. A January date will be announced.
- ✓ The CWD holds in-house recruitment events from March through November at the Career Center. For the month of November 9 businesses participated and 83 potential hires attended these events.

For 2023 there were 10 in-house events held serving 31 business and were attended by 224 job seekers.

- ✓ The CWD sent an email blast to County departments and vendors offering a presentation/review of services of the CWD and other departments under the Division of Community Resources. This is being conducted for outreach purposes to bring awareness of what services are available with new and changing staff. To date 7 presentations have been completed and 3 are scheduled.
- ✓ Workforce Innovation & Opportunities Act (WIOA) updates: Bi-weekly, statewide calls for Directors are held; NYS Department of Labor (DOL) is rolling out Virtual Career Centers; Virtual Reality Training & Solutions; Digital Literacy to all Career Centers; Community Colleges as Group Program Sponsors.
- ✓ Career Center data updates:
 - Social media:
 - 882 followers; November 2023 had a reach of 7,960 people with 680 Facebook page views, a reduction from October.
 - Center Services:
 - The CWD provided services to 29 business customers and listed 120 jobs in the month of November.
 - The CWD assisted 636 participants that came into the Career Center for the month of November 2023.
 - Welfare to Work caseload profile November 2023:
 - Total Caseload - 285
 - TANF – caseload 163
 - Medical issues – 8%
 - Disabled – 31%
 - Pregnant/Newborn – 2%
 - Needed in Home – 4%
 - No Child Care – 12%
 - Criminal Justice involved – 12%
 - Cases closed – 12
 - Safety Net – caseload – 122
 - Medical issues – 16%
 - Disabled – 26%
 - Needed in Home – 2%
 - Criminal Justice involved – 96%
 - Cases closed – 16

Labor Market Data for November 2023 compared to November 2022

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase in total nonfarm jobs of 4.1% (1,200) and an increase of 5.6% (1,300) in total private sector jobs.

Please note: The net month (October 2023 – November 2023) showed a loss of -0.3% (-100) nonfarm jobs and a loss of -0.4% (-100) in private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the job gains were:
 - Leisure & Hospitality at 16.2% (600)
 - Information at 100% (100)
 - Financial Activities at 12.5% (100)
 - Mining, Logging & Construction at 7.1% (100)
 - Professional and Business Services at 5.3% (100)
 - Manufacturing at 4.8% (100)
 - Trade, Transportation & Utilities at 2.1% (100)
 - Educational and Health Services at 1.4% (100)

For Sullivan County the sectors that showed no job growth were:

- Other Services

For Sullivan County Government sectors that showed job losses were:

- Government at -1.7% (-100)

- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 1.0% (100,200) in total nonfarm jobs and 1.0% (79,000) in private sector jobs.

The largest jobs gains were found in:

- Education and Health Services at 5.7% (126,400)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 2.5% (22,5000)
- Government at 1.4% (21,200)
- Other Services at 1.0% (3,700)

For NYS the sectors that showed no growth were:

- Professional and Business Services

NYS saw job losses in:

- Information at -8.9% (-26,500)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -2.0% (-26,400)
- Mining, Logging and Construction at -2.2% (-8,800)
- Manufacturing at -1.4% (-6,100)
- Financial Activities at -0.2% (-1,300)

- ✓ Within the region, Sullivan County's private employment sector grew the fastest year-over-year, up 5.6 percent. The second fastest growth was recorded in the Dutchess-Putnam Metropolitan Division (+2.8%) followed by Orange-Rockland-Westchester labor market area (+0.3%) and the Kingston MSA (+0.2%)
- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 0.7% (6,500) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 0.8% (6,500) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Education and Health Services at 4.8% (10,400)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 6.5% (5,800)
- Other Services at 3.7% (1,500)

For the HV region the sectors that showed no job growth were:

- Government

The Region's job losses were in:

- Mining, Logging and Construction at -8.4% (-5,100)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -1.6% (-2,800)
- Professional Business Services at -1.4% (-1,600)
- Financial Activities at -1.3% (-600)
- Manufacturing at -1.9% (-800)
- Information at -4.7% (-600)
- Financial Activities at -0.7% (-300)

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.5% for November 2023 up from 2.9% in November 2022.

November 2023 had 38,900 people in the labor force (37,500 employed & 1,400 unemployed). The number of employed individuals increased 5.0% (1,800) and the number of unemployed increased by 27.3% (300) leaving the labor force with a net gain of 5.7% (2,100).

The total labor force increased 0.5% (200) from October 2023 to November 2023. There was an increase of 0.3% (100) in employed workers and an increase of 7.7% (100) in the number of unemployed workers.

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for November 2023 is 3.5%, an increase from 2.7% in November 2022.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.0% in November 2023 compared to 3.8% in November 2022.

- ✓ The November 2023 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 2.8% for Saratoga County to a high of 6.1% for Bronx and Hamilton Counties. Sullivan County with a 3.5% rate ranked 20th in the State along with Cayuga, Chenango, Madison, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester Counties.
- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for November 2023:
 - # 4 Putnam County at 3.2%
 - #10 Dutchess County at 3.3%
 - #10 Rockland County at 3.3%
 - #20 Sullivan County at 3.5%
 - #20 Ulster County at 3.5%
 - #20 Westchester County at 3.5%
 - #28 Orange County at 3.6%

Transportation

✓ **County Transportation:**

Month 2023	Veterans Medical Centers	Veterans In- County Medical	Senior Medicals	Shopping Buses
January	45		86	70
February	35		77	66
March	33		108	67
April	46		82	68
May	52	7	91	89
June	41	14	92	97
July	42	8	71	73
August	51	18	93	111
September	51	69	74	130
October	59	22	91	166
November	50	17	98	131
December				

Move Sullivan 2023	Average Daily Ridership	Monthly Ridership	Monthly Paratransit
January	235 (21 days)	4,929	84
February	266 (19 days)	5,057	65
March	286 (22 days)	6,301	85
1st Quarter Totals		16,287	234
April	315 (20 days)	6,291	120
May	330 (22 days)	7,267	143
June	362 (22 days)	7,952	110
2nd Quarter Totals		21,510	373
July	416 (19 days)	7,901	163
August	450 (23 days)	10,358	198

September	416 (19 days)	7,895	164
3rd Quarter Totals		26,154	525
October	425 (21 days)	8,932	154
November	413 (20 days)	8,254	173
December			
4th Quarter Totals			
Annual Totals			

Community Assistance Center (CAC)

- ✓ The team continues to provide referral and assistance to callers looking information and/or resources.
- ✓ Continue distribution of test kits.
- ✓ The CAC remains active providing food assistance deliveries as well as connections to community resources.
- ✓ The Food Bank deliveries to the pantries are bi-monthly.
- ✓ Support HV Food Bank monthly mobile pantry efforts in Fremont, Yulan and Foxcroft Village.
- ✓ A member of the Sullivan Catskill Food Security Coalition.

Office for the Aging November 2023 Monthly Report

Monthly Accomplishments	
<u>OFA Director:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued participation on Food Security Coalition. • Continued participation on New York State Master Plan on Aging Levels of Care subcommittee. • Continued participation on Empowering Towards Independence Forum planning committee, now postponed until March 2024. • Legal Services contract with Rural Law Center in effect, will begin taking referrals. • Senior Needs Assessment wrapping up, final report due around first of the year 2024- Surveys, marketing, promotion visits and focus groups. Over 600 responses received. • HIIICAP- open enrollment October 15-December 7th. Over 260 individuals assisted with navigating Medicare plans. • Monthly Hoot distribution continues to increase via mail, email and drop off locations. • Over 240 applications processed to date as HEAP alternate certifying site.

- Continued distribution of free COVID test kits to community organizations.
- Participated in Hospice of Orange and Sullivan County Annual partner event.
- Leadership training ongoing for Director, Coordinators and Managers with supervisory responsibilities.
- Presented in-service to staff at CWD regarding OFA services.

RSVP:

- Welcomed new volunteer and retired business owner the RSVP Driver Team.
- Over 1100 volunteer hours logged and set to be reimbursed this month.
- Successful outreach through Monticello Seniors Visit, Golden Park Mini Health Fair and radio show 'Ciliberto and Friends' about RSVP and OFA services.
- Sizeable donation of blankets, gloves, hats, and more to St. Peter's Catholic Church in Liberty, United Methodist Church in Liberty, and to local nursing homes through Third Judicial District's Holiday Donation Drive.

Nutrition:

	Units:	Clients:	Contributions:
Homebound:	1,609	91	\$1,320.00
Congregate served at home:	904	43	
Congregate served at sites:	225	35	\$380 (collected at our 2 active congregate meal sites)
Guests served at sites	3	3	\$13.50
Total:	2,741	172	\$1,713.50

- Full Time Nutrition staff continues to fill vacancies due to vacations/sick time, staff shortages.
- Continuing to work closely with Transportation Dept. to work on re-opening additional congregates sites.
- SC Jail provided a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings for all our seniors. We still continue to supplement the meals with care packages comprised of items from Hudson Valley Food Bank deliveries twice monthly to the Community Assistance Center.

Transportation:

- 93 SCT (Sullivan County Transportation) Medical Trips
- 131 SCT Shopping Trips
- 47 RSVP Medical Trips
- 4 OFA Staff provided Medical Trips
- 55 Congregate Nutrition Site Transportation

HIICAP:

- 56 Clients entered for November, over 260 assisted during annual election, data entry still being caught up.

NY Connects:

- 76 Clients served.

PERS:

- 21 clients currently receive PERS through CSE, EISEP & IIIE funding

EISEP:

TOTALS

Open casefiles w PCAs as of 11/01	15
New casefiles opened 11/01–11/30	2
Casefiles closed 11/01–11/30	8
Casefiles with no PCA as of 11/30	3
Casefiles on hold as of 11/30	3
Casefiles reassessed 11/01–11/30	2
Casefiles waitlisted as of 11/30	3
New inquiries / screenings 11/01–11/30	5
Screened clients waitlisted as of 11/30	1
Screened clients on hold as of 11/30	16
Screened clients closed as of 11/30	3

Sullivan County Youth Bureau:

- Meeting with Sullivan West Central School regarding Youth Internship.
- Participation in Healing Community Study.
- Attended NY State Youth Bureau Conference held in Syracuse.
- Advisory Board meeting held.
- Government Day for Sullivan West.
- Continued involvement with several community organizations to spread information on Youth Bureau resources.
- Youth Bureau e-blasts and social media ongoing, increase in followers and engagement.
- Review and processing for applications for State Funding and submission of claims ongoing.

IN PROGRESS FOR NEXT MONTH

- Continue to work on opening additional Congregate sites in conjunction with Sullivan County
Transportation and Jail kitchen. Posting for PT Nutrition Site Operator added to Center for
Workforce Development's Hot Jobs.
- Continued participation in Long Term Supports Subcommittee of Master Plan on Aging-
Statewide collaborative planning effort between OFA & Dept. of Health.

- Continued RSVP site additions ongoing. Recruitment efforts have increased especially for medical transportation.
- Redesign of brochures and informational materials for several programs. Working to create materials in alternative languages.
- Ancillaries to be ordered for EISEP clients bi-annually, order planning underway.
- Policies and procedure review ongoing for all programs and functions and currently being updated and improved.
- Planning underway for a RSVP Driver recognition event with RSVP Advisory Council.
- Resolutions for renewals of Transportation and Nutrition MOU's.