

# **Division of Community Resources Monthly Report**

## **April 2023**

### **Workforce Development**

- ✓ The bi-weekly recruitment events have been strong from October thru March, and will break now from April thru September with spring and summer events.
- ✓ The Center for Workforce Development's (CWD) annual Countywide Job Fair will be held May 4, 2023 at Resorts World Catskills. Space is limited to 60 businesses and vendors and there are only a few spots remaining. Resorts World is sponsoring the food. If a business is interested they should call 845.794.3340.
- ✓ The County sponsored pilot Construction Trade program is starting April 10<sup>th</sup>, running Monday's & Wednesday's from 5:30 to 9:00 pm. This is a partnership with BOCES and SUNY Sullivan. The agreement allows for a maximum of 15 participants. This will be a short term, non-credit training that can lead to employment.
- ✓ Workforce Innovation & Opportunities Act (WIOA) updates: Virtual Career Centers are underway and CWD staff received training; Coursera for online learning is in place; Virtual Reality Training & Solutions is also being rolled out by DOL to provide students with training in high-demand jobs; DOL adding Digital Literacy to all Career Centers which was developed in response to the needs for job seekers who lack digital literacy skills to be able to obtain jobs and retain employment. Staff attended the Youth Forum in Albany.
- ✓ A Request for Proposal #R-23-06 was issued on March 10, 2023 under the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) for in-School and Out-of-School Youth Services to be contracted with qualified organizations that can assist the Center for Workforce Development and the Workforce Development Board. The RFP is due back April 14, 2023.
- ✓ The CWD has hired a new Student Intern through the County initiative who will start on March 27. The Intern will work with the Youth Coordinator. An Employment & Training Specialist is being promoted to a Job Developer. A new Employment & Training Specialist has been hired and will start April 5.

- ✓ The CWD has begun planning the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). This program provides 6 weeks of paid work for eligible youth between the ages of 14-20. It is anticipated that between 35 and 50 youth will be employed. Applications will be available April 1. Crew Leaders will be hired as well to provide supervision and training. This program is provided under an MOU between CWD and Department of Family Services (DFS) through funding from the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA).
- ✓ CWD hosted the March 2023 First Friday Breakfast through the Chamber of Commerce to education businesses on services we offer and programs available to businesses. Calls were received from business interested in services.
- ✓ The Disability Resource Coordinator position will work to support and expand partnerships, collaboration, service coordination, and service delivery across multiple education, workforce and disability systems. The increased coordination with systems and the business community will help to create sustainable career paths. Participants collecting SSI or SSDI are able to go to work under this program. This position is fully funded by a grant through DOL under NY SCION.  
**Update:** A new hire has been confirmed for this position to be filled effective April 10<sup>th</sup>. Training and certifications are required and will be completed within a few months so that services can begin again.
- ✓ The Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant (DR-NDWG) for \$259,990 put “Clerk” positions in place for COVID related back log is continuing with great success. There are 13 rotating positions that have provided support to County departments including CWD, DFS, Public Health, Veterans and Human Resources.  
**Update:** There were 21 participants were hired, with 16 receiving full time employment, with 48% of them being hired by the County. This grant ended March 31, 2023.
- ✓ The CWD’s Business Services is placing emphasis on working individuals who have a more challenging time finding employment. These individuals may have disabilities, have limited income or no income, they may be an ex-offender or may have another barrier that makes it difficult to secure and retain employment. There are CWD services that can provide support to businesses such as on-the-job training (OJT), classroom training or tax credits.  
**Update:** Effective March 27 a CWD staff has been promoted to Job Developer.

Career Center data updates:

Social media - 676 followers; February 2023 had a reach of 5,584 people with 652 Facebook page views

Job Fair statistics:

February 3 – Monticello High School – 18 attendees (FB Reach of 1.4k);

February 10 – Catholic Charities, ADAPT of the Hudson Valley – 16 attendees, 2 confirmed hires (Facebook reach of 2.5k)

February 24 – The ARC of the Greater Hudson Valley, Combined Energy Services – 14 attendees (Facebook reach of 1K).

CWD provided services to 4 new businesses in the month of February, and 40 current businesses in this same time period.

CWD assisted 340 participants that came into the Career Center for the month of February 2023.

### **Labor Market Data for January 2023 compared to January 2022**

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase 6.3% (1,700) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase 7.6% (1,600) in total private sector jobs.

Sullivan County had the fastest growth year over year in the Hudson Valley region for private sector job gains (7.6%). Sullivan County had the highest nonfarm growth rate among small counties in NYS at 6.3% followed by Greene County at 3.5%. Sullivan County had the highest private sector growth rate among small counties in NYS at 7.6% followed by Greene County at 6.9%.

*Please note:* The net month (December '22 – January '23) showed a loss of -2.1% (-600) nonfarm jobs and a loss of -2.6% (-600) private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the largest job gains were:
  - Leisure & Hospitality at 19.4% (600)
  - Trade, Transportation & Utilities at 7.0% (300)
  - Education at 4.3% (300)
  - Business and Professional Services at 11.8% (200)
  - Natural Resources, Mining & Construction at 8.3% (100)
  - Manufacturing at 5.3% (100)
  - Government at 1.7% (100)

Financial Activities, Other Services and Information showed no job growth in January 2023 over January 2022.

- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 3.7% (341,800) in total nonfarm jobs and 4.3% (333,100) in private sector jobs.

The largest jobs gains were found in:

- Education and Health Services at 5.5% (113,100)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 10.8% (82,400)
- Professional & Business Services at 4.1% (54,000)
- Natural Resources, Construction & Mining at 6.6% (23,900)

- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 1.5% (13,900) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 2.2% (16,900) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Education and Health Services at 3% (6,200)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 6.3% (4,900)
- Natural Resources, Mining & Construction at 7% (3,700)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at 1% (1,800)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Government at -2% (-3,000)
- Information at -7.5% (-1,000)
- Other Services at -2% (-800)

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.9% for January 2023 down from 4.1% in January 2022.

January 2023 had 36,900 people in the labor force (35,500 employed & 1,500 unemployed). This reflects an increase of 700 employed and number reporting as unemployed was flat for an overall increase of 600 people in the labor force compared to January 2022.

There is an increase of 200 in the labor force from December 2022 to January 2023. This reflects a decrease of -100 employed and 400 reporting as unemployed.

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for January 2023 is 3.5% compared to 3.6% in January 2022.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.6% in January 2023 compared to 5.6% in January 2022.
- ✓ The January 2023 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 3.2% for Nassau, Rockland and Saratoga Counties to a high of 7.6% for Bronx County. Sullivan

County with a 3.9% rate ranked 16th in the State along with Monroe and Ontario counties.

- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for January 2023:
  - # 1 Rockland County at 3.2%
  - # 4 Putnam County at 3.3%
  - # 6 Westchester County at 3.4%
  - # 7 Dutchess County at 3.5%
  - #11 Orange County at 3.7%
  - #13 Ulster County at 3.8%
  - #16 Sullivan County at 3.9%

### **Labor Market Data for February 2023 compared to February 2022**

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase of 4.4% (1,200) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase 5.6% (1,200) in total private sector jobs.

Sullivan County had the fastest growth year over year in the Hudson Valley region for private sector job gains (5.6%). Sullivan County had the highest nonfarm growth rate among small counties in NYS at 4.4% followed by Greene County at 2.8%. Greene County had the highest private sector growth rate among small counties in NYS at 5.9% followed by Sullivan County at 5.6%.

*Please note:* The net month (January '23 – February 2023) showed no job growth.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the largest job gains were:
  - Leisure & Hospitality at 15.6% (500)
  - Business and Professional Services at 11.8% (200)
  - Manufacturing at 10.5% (200)
  - Financial Activities at 12.5% (100)
  - Trade, Transportation & Utilities at 2.3% (100)
  - Education at 1.4% (100)

Natural Resources, Mining & Construction, Government, Other Services and Information showed no job growth in February 2023 over February 2022.

- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 2.7% (255,000) in total nonfarm jobs and 3.1% (244,800) in private sector jobs.

The largest jobs gains were found in:

- Leisure & Hospitality at 9.6% (74,900)
- Education and Health Services at 3.3% (71,400)

- Professional & Business Services at 3.5% (45,800)
  - Natural Resources, Construction & Mining at 6.6% (24,000)
- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 0.9% (8,400) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 1.3% (10,400) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Education and Health Services at 1.6% (3,400)
- Natural Resources, Mining & Construction at 5.8% (3,100)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 1.6% (3,100)
- Other Services at 2% (800)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Government at -1.3% (-2,000)
- Information at -7.5% (-1,000)

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.6% for February 2023 down from 4.3% in February 2022.

February 2023 had 36,900 people in the labor force (35,500 employed & 1,300 unemployed). This reflects an increase of 900 employed and a decrease of -300 in the number reporting as unemployed for an overall increase of 700 people in the labor force compared to February 2022.

The total labor force remained flat from January 2023 to February 2023. However, there was a decrease of -300 reporting as unemployed.

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for February 2023 is 3.3% compared to 3.8% in February 2022.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.5% in February 2023 compared to 5.4% in February 2022.
- ✓ The February 2023 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 2.9% for Tompkins County to a high of 7.5% for Bronx County. Sullivan County with a 3.6% rate ranked 16th in the State along with Monroe and Ontario counties.
- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for January 2023:
- # 2 Rockland County at 3.0%
  - # 5 Putnam County at 3.2%
  - # 7 Westchester County at 3.3%
  - # 7 Dutchess County at 3.3%

#10 Orange County at 3.4%  
#12 Ulster County at 3.5%  
#16 Sullivan County at 3.6%

### **Veterans**

- ✓ January – 48 Veterans/Dependents/Widows received 91 services
- ✓ February – 43 Veterans/Dependents/Widows received 106 services
- ✓ March through the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 67 Veterans /Dependents/Widows received 150 services

### **Transportation**

- ✓ The expansion of two Move Sullivan routes has been going well.
- ✓ Move Sullivan average daily ridership:  
January - 235 rides  
February – 266 rides
- ✓ There were 84 para-transit rides provided in January and 65 in February 2023
- ✓ County Transportation:  
January:  
45 Veterans transported to Castle Point or Albany  
70 Shoppers  
86 Medical transports  
February:  
35 Veterans transported to Castle Point or Albany  
66 Shoppers  
77 Medical transports

### **Community Assistance Center (CAC)**

- ✓ The CAC continues to distribute test kits throughout the county.
- ✓ The team continues to provide referral and assistance to callers looking for vaccines and/or information.
- ✓ The CAC remains active providing food assistance deliveries as well as connections to community resources.
- ✓ The Thursday Food Bank deliveries to the pantries are continue twice a month. Salvation Army box deliveries continue unchanged.
- ✓ Provide monthly assistance to HV Food Bank mobile pantry in Town of Freemont
- ✓ A member of the Sullivan Catskill Food Security Coalition

## **Office for the Aging - Monthly Report: February 2023**

### Highlights:

- ✓ Monthly meetings with NYSOFA, Aging Association, Local Program Operations ongoing.
- ✓ Resignation of RSVP Coordinator, recruitment ongoing for replacement.
- ✓ Ongoing communication with RSVP Advisory Council and planning for 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition event.
- ✓ Ongoing-temporary relocation of all staff while office is expanded and renovated. Appointments with clients can be conducted by appointment in the Government Center, at the Transportation Building, in client homes or other community locations as needed.
- ✓ There is an increase of 3 – 5 individuals per week seeking Medicaid application assistance with updated eligibility requirements now in effect. OFA Staff and one volunteer are aiding with demand.
- ✓ Continue to work with community partners to inform staff of resources available to clients we serve, i.e. Alzheimer's Association, Independent Living, ATI, etc.
- ✓ Conducting interviews in conjunction with Cornell Cooperative Extension in search of filling vacant caregiver coordinator position. Position still unfilled, ongoing discussion of strategies to increase recruitment of eligible candidates.
- ✓ Participated with other CBO's at Golden Gems at Sleepy Hollow monthly meeting.
- ✓ Ongoing participation with Food Security Coalition.
- ✓ Monthly Hoot mailing list increasing, expanding to 12 pages in May.

### **EISEP (Expanded In-home Services for Elderly Program)**

<b>EISEP February 2023</b>	<b>Total</b>
CASE FILES already open for full EISEP-type services including PCA	29
Plus, new CASE FILES opened in February	0
CASE FILES closed EFFECTIVE February	8
CASE FILES total open as of 2/28/2023 includes 3 "bridge" clients pending MLTC	21 EISEP [+3 non-EISEP]
CASE FILES open still without aides as of 2/28/2023 [does not include "bridge" clients]	5
CASE FILES reassessed in January	2
WAITLIST currently active as of 2/28/2023	15

- ✓ Assisting clients eligible for Medicaid transition smoothly while maintain or increasing services in the interim.

### **Legal Services**

- ✓ Currently no provider for Legal Services, in ongoing conversations with NYSOFA Area Service Representative (ASR) to develop strategy to maintain this service. E-MDT is a resource available for complex potential

abuse/exploitation cases. Attorney from E-MDT met with OFA staff to discuss two specific cases for further actions.

### **HIICAP**

- ✓ Client interactions – 21

### **NY Connects**

- ✓ Client interactions -24
- ✓ Continued planning and implementation of 2023 grant expenditures.

### **Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS)**

- ✓ 21 clients receive PERS medical monitoring through the OFA.

### **Nutrition Program**

- ✓ In March reopened two congregate sites for sit down meals, Mamakating (Mondays & Wednesdays) and Livingston Manor (Wednesdays).
- ✓ Beautiful Valentine cards were made by Kat Scott and Liberty Rotary purchased gifts through a grant they received.
- ✓ Liberty Rotary Community Friends project ongoing, 31 participants so far. This project would enable seniors who are isolated to become Pen Pals.
- ✓ Totals for February 2023
  - Homebound meals: 1285 units for 86 clients
  - Congregate meals: 1018 units for 80 clients
  - Total meals: 2303 units for 166 clients
  - Homebound deposits: \$1,270.00
  - Congregate deposits: \$85.00
  - Total deposits: \$1,355.00

(Care Packages); 608 Units were sent to 152 Clients.

### **Transportation**

- ✓ SCT Medical Trips-77
- ✓ RSVP-35 trips
- ✓ Shopping Bus trips—66

### **Youth Bureau**

1. Participated in SALT's PARFACT meeting.
2. Participated in the United Sullivan meetings.
3. Participated in OCFS Youth Development meeting.
4. Participated in the Hudson Valley Youth Bureau's monthly meeting.
5. Participated in the planning committee meeting for the Annual Making Healthful Decisions Conference.
6. Weekly Youth Bureau Bulletins emailed.
7. Submitted a portion of the 2022 Youth Bureau claims.
8. Monthly co-hostess with Thunder 102 promoting the Youth Bureau.
9. Consistent posting on Youth Bureau Instagram page.
10. Participated in the Hudson Valley Youth Bureau Association Bylaws Committee.
11. Assisted in coordinating the Internship Program.
12. Participated in Sullivan County Wellness Committee meeting.

13. Participated in Sullivan County Youth Advisory Board meeting.
14. Added statistical data to Sullivan County's mapping of youth programs.
15. Participated in Cornell Cooperative Extension lunch room "chat".
16. Participated in ANYSYB budget briefing.
17. Posted Internship Coordinator position.
18. Recorded PSA on Bold Gold regarding upcoming "Making Healthy Decisions Day" at Bethel Woods which the Youth Bureau is a collaborating partner.
19. Multiple consulting with recipients of State and County funding regarding vouchering for 2022.