

# Division of Community Resources Monthly Report

## October 2022

### Workforce Development

- ✓ *According to the press release:* “Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) has entered into a \$10 million partnership with the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals to expand opportunities for professional credentialing for direct support professionals in the developmental disabilities field throughout New York State. The three-year agreement will help professionalize the direct support professional workforce and address worker shortages. OPWDD's partnership with the [National Alliance](#) will provide access to three levels of direct support professionals credentialing and its frontline supervisor certification through participation in its E-Badge Academy. The project is supported by federal funds OPWDD is receiving through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The National Alliance credential is competency-based and modeled on the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services' Direct Service Workforce Core Competencies and the National Alliance Code of Ethics.”
- ✓ Work Readiness Training, LLC was awarded a contract to provide leadership development services to WIOA eligible juniors and seniors at Fallsburg High School starting in September. The program will provide 6 to 8 experiential learning leadership activities incorporating non-profit and business opportunities for civic engagement, service learning and work readiness programs. Students will present at the end of the school year to the Fallsburg School Board of Education and the Workforce Development Board. A total of 30 youth are slated to be served. The program is underway.
- ✓ The Director of CWD is now on a monthly Training & Development Committee which consists of many local businesses, agencies and the Chamber of Commerce. Virtual and in-person trainings are being put together by these groups for areas needed such as soft skills training, public speaking, etc. CWD is working with other members of this committee to put an event together for February on how to create an inclusive and diverse work environment.

✓

- ✓ Performance negotiations with NYS Department of Labor are underway for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for program years 2022 and 2023.
- ✓ The Center for Workforce Development (CWD) is under a second audit by the NYS Department of Labor (DOL) for WIOA PY21 funding. Due to Covid, the NYS Dept. of Labor is behind in their audits and is now looking to catch up on departmental audits from Financial Management, Procurement, Property Management and Monitoring. Audits are now being completed through zoom meetings with all documentation being transmitted electronically through secure sites.
- ✓ The Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant (DR-NDWG) which the CWD applied for and received \$259,990 to put “Clerk” positions in place for Covid related back log is continuing with great success. There are 13 rotating positions within the CWD budget and have continued to supply participating county departments with Clerk’s to assist with their departmental Covid related needs. The departments participating are CWD, Social Services, Public Health, Human Resources and Veterans. The program was extended to March of 2023. To date, 20 people have participated in the program. There are 7 people currently enrolled as Clerks, 10 have found employment outside the program, 3 were not successful and were referred for other services.

### **Labor Market Data for August 2022 compared to August 2021**

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase 12.2% (3,400) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase 12.1% (2,800) in total private sector jobs.

Sullivan County had the fastest growth year over year in the Hudson Valley region for private sector job gains (12.1%).

Sullivan County had the second highest nonfarm growth rate among small counties in the NYS at 12.2%

*Please note:* The net month (July ’22 – August ’22) showed flat growth for nonfarm jobs and a loss of -0.4% (-100) private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the largest job gains were:
  - Leisure & Hospitality at 48.9% (2,300)
  - Government at 12.8% (600)
  - Other Services at 16.7% (200)

- Information at 100% (100)
- Natural Resources, Mining & Construction at 7.7% (100)
- Manufacturing at 5.9% (100)
- Business and Professional Services at 5.9% (100)

Education & Health Services showed a loss of -1.4% (-100) jobs. Trade, Transportation and Utilities along with Financial Activities showed no job growth in August 2022 over August 2021.

- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 4.9% (441,500) in total nonfarm jobs and 5.4% (411,800) in private sector jobs.

The largest jobs gains were found in:

- Professional & Business Services at 7.8% (99,900)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 11.7% (94,500)
- Education and Health Services at 4.7% (92,900)
- Trade, Transportation & Utilities at 3.5% (49,800)

- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 3.5% (31,700) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 4.5% (34,500) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Professional and Business Services at 9.4% (10,600)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 9.9% (9,900)
- Education and Health Services at 3.0% (6,000)
- Other Services at 8.9% (3,500)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Government at -2.0% (-2,800)
- Financial Activities at -3.3% (-1,500)

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.3% for August 2022 down from 4.6% in August 2021.

August 2022 had 39,900 people in the labor force (38,600 employed & 1,300 unemployed). This reflects an overall increase of 2,900 people in the labor force compared to August 2021.

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for August 2022 is 3.5% compared to 4.6% in August 2021.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.9% in August 2022 compared to 6.7% in August 2021.
- ✓ The August 2022 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 2.6% for Hamilton County to a high of 9.5% for Bronx County. Sullivan County with a 3.3% rate

ranked 16th in the State along with Chenango, Dutchess, Livingston, Madison, Nassau, Rensselaer and Schuyler counties.

- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for August 2022:
  - #11 Rockland County at 3.2%
  - #11 Putnam County at 3.2%
  - #16 Sullivan County at 3.3%
  - #16 Dutchess County at 3.3%
  - #27 Ulster County at 3.5%
  - #29 Westchester County at 3.6%
  - #29 Orange County at 3.6%

### **Transportation**

- ✓ Two additional routes were added to Move Sullivan effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. Some changes are being made to routes to better serve communities. Those changes are effective September 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

- ✓ The CAC has been coordinating the countywide mask and test kit distribution.
- ✓ 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 now twice a month. Salvation Army box deliveries continue unchanged.

### **Office for the Aging - Monthly Report: August 2022**

#### Highlights:

- ✓ Continue to assist with CAC efforts distributing masks and test kits, answering phones, providing referrals and information and vaccination access.
- ✓ Participating in case review with EMDT & APS regarding mutual clients.
- ✓ OFA newsletter. "The Monthly Hoot" has been successfully received so far, distribution includes libraries, town halls, OFA clients via meal delivery, supermarkets, restaurants, other county buildings and direct mail.
- ✓ Participation as board member at large of Association on Aging in NY.
- ✓ Continue to participate in Sullivan County Food Security Roundtable efforts.
- ✓ Along with Division, participated in various community outreach events.
- ✓ Farmer's Market Coupons- we have depleted original allocation of 680 booklets and received a second allocation of 100 booklets.
- ✓ Transition of meal contract to Jail to be effective October 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ✓ Processed close to 100 HEAP applications to date

- ✓ Required annual Public Hearing is scheduled for November 1, 2022 in conjunction with screening of *All the Lonely People* documentary film about social isolation. This will take place at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre. Partnership with film producers, NYSOFA, and support from Cornell Cooperative Extension. Public Notices have been placed in Democrat, River Reporter and our newsletter and press release forthcoming.
- ✓ Received a very large shipment of animatronic pets from NYSOFA, prior two shipments depleted and individuals are benefitting greatly from the companionship these provide.
- ✓ Received 3 Elli-Q devices from NYSOFA- tablet/robot like devices designed specifically to interact with older adults in a way to benefit their wellbeing and connectiveness.

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

<b>EISEP AUGUST 2022</b>	<b>Total</b>
CASE FILES already open for full EISEP-type services including PCA	29
Plus, new CASE FILES opened in August	0
CASE FILES closed EFFECTIVE August	0
CASE FILES total open as of 8/31/2022	29 EISEP [+ 3 non-EISEP]
CASE FILES open still without aides as of 8/31/2022 [does not include “bridge” clients]	17
CASE FILES reassessed in August	2
WAITLIST currently active as of 8/31/2022	17

- ✓ Still facing aide shortages, have received all fully executed contract modifications to facilitate incentive of higher hourly rate for aides – this will hopefully incentivize aides to cover Sullivan County home care cases.

### **Legal Services**

- ✓ There were no referrals to legal services this month. An RFP for a new Legal Services provider due to retirement of current provider was issued and we received no initial responses by the due date. Updated RFP with slightly increased cap has been issued, still awaiting responses.

### **HIICAP**

- ✓ client interactions – 25
- ✓ No specific HIICAP events have taken place in August. Any information or resources that are HIICAP related have been disbursed through other events.
- ✓ HIICAP has started to prepare for the Annual Election to start on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **NYConnects**

- ✓ Client interactions -39
- ✓ Outreach at libraries concluding with great feedback. This and other opportunities for community outreach events ongoing.

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

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

## **Nutrition Program**

- ✓ Nutrition department continues to help unload Food Bank delivery twice monthly for ECAC, and delivers care packages when needed.
- ✓ 12 new clients were assessed for HDM; 9 clients were eligible and added to the roster.
- ✓ Children from Camp Tel Yehudah made small hand decorated gift bags and donated them to our HDM recipients.
- ✓ Totals for August 2022  
Homebound meals: 2162 units for 95 clients  
Congregate meals: 1573 units for 77 clients  
Total meals: 3735 units for 172 clients
- ✓ Homebound deposits: \$1,703.00  
Congregate deposits: \$144.00  
Total deposits: \$1,847.00

## **Transportation**

- ✓ SCT Medical Trips-87
- ✓ RSVP-43 trips
- ✓ Shopping Bus trips--80

## **RSVP**

- ✓ Planning the Annual Recognition Event held on September 12th at the Villa Roma.
- ✓ Recruitment Efforts: recruited 1 new volunteer for Hospice; 4 new volunteers at the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance; 1 new volunteer in our RSVP Needlework for Veterans Program, 1 new volunteer has taken on assignments at the Federation for the Homeless and Garnet Health; and 1 new volunteer is looking for assignments at Radio Catskill and Literacy of America.
- ✓ Community outreach: Met with the Forestburgh Seniors who have joined our network to distribute information to our seniors.
- ✓ Continue with "Community Spotlight" showcasing the work our RSVP AmeriCorps Volunteers are performing throughout our community.
- ✓ Donated blankets to the Veterans Service Agency to be distributed to area Veterans. Donated 2 cases of Hygiene items to the IOU Main Street Thrift Store for distribution to area residents in need.
- ✓ Attended AmeriCorps Seniors Office Hours and held RSVP Advisory Council meeting.
- ✓ As part of our Recognition Event we wanted our volunteers to share with us why they became a volunteer. Below please find a sampling of some of the quotes received. Next month you can find our Recognition Event program online where you can find more photos and quotes of our volunteers.

"My husband Tom and I have lived in Sullivan County since graduating from college and coming to work for the Monticello Central School District. Teaching and raising our daughter made for a pretty full schedule and we were not able to volunteer much. Now in retirement we have the time to give back to our community. Food is so important in our own lives so what better giveback than

delivering home delivered meals 2x a week. We enjoy checking in with our customers and they make us smile each week!"

**Tom and Jeanne Druse**

"I'm a volunteer driver for the RSVP Medical Transportation Program. My mission is to bring home bound seniors to their doctor's appointments or procedures. For me, it's a give back and personal reward that I can only begin to describe. They are all different. Since I'm bringing them to see a doctor, they are generally very nervous. I try to make them feel comfortable with music and light conversation and have them talk about the nicer things that they have experienced. I also let them know that I won't be leaving them there at the doctors, and will sit and wait with them in the waiting room until the visit is over. As far as reward - One 98-year-old, very frail, 4 foot nothing women, at the end of our trip, would always give me a big hug, a peck on the cheek and a thank you. Rewards don't get much better than this."

**Joseph Stifano**

"I choose to volunteer to give something back to my community and build on existing experiences."

**Merri White**

"I was brought up that way if you were brought up in the community that you give back to the community where you live. You make it a better place than you found It."

**Martha Johnson**

"I'm a positive person who believes you get out of life what you are prepared to put into it. My greatest strength is my passion to continue learning and growing. At RSVP I was looking for opportunities to connect with the community. I wanted to challenge myself to try something different while at the same time putting to good use the social and professional skills I developed over the years. The projects I have been tasked with at the Sullivan County Historical Society & Museum and Time and the Valleys Museum allow me to utilize my organizational skills and creative spirit. I enjoy the camaraderie with the people I interact with. It's a definite win-win situation for me!"

**Elsie Kopcha**

**Youth Bureau**

1. Leading member of the "Systems of Care for Youth" study in cooperation with DSS and Community Services.
2. Weekly Youth Bureau Bulletins emailed.
3. Consistent posting on Youth Bureau Instagram page.
4. Participated in Mixer hosted by Sullivan Renaissance to highlight the summer interns and allow them a forum to talk with adults and practice the skills they have learned.
5. Attended NYS Office for Children and Family Services training to learn more about Raising the Lower Age of Juvenile Delinquency and STSJP.
6. Attended Understanding Wellness - Growing Resilience Summer Series through Cornell University.

7. Eight claims were submitted to NYS OCFS for reimbursement.
8. Met with Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce to finalize meeting with area businesses.
9. Attended Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce monthly mixer.
10. Met with SC CFWD regarding collaboration of services.
11. Attended Cornell University Food and Movement Matter in our Schools training.
12. Attended Cornell University Student Wellness Policies: How They Impact the Classroom.
13. Met with SC youth and brainstormed what internship looked like to them.
14. Site visit – Town of Thompson
15. Attended ANYSYB Municipal YBs membership discussion.
16. Attended Mental Health Association in New York State webinar “Youth Mental Health Support and Training”.
17. Committee meeting and member of the HVYBA Bylaws Committee.
18. Attended Evergreen planning event as committee member
19. Met with Monticello Central School and Monticello St. John Street School regarding partnership for internship opportunity and programing.
20. Attended multiple RSVP advisory meeting.
21. Attended the SALT lunchroom.
22. Worked with summer intern in the Communications Department regarding YB web page re-vamping.
23. Attended SC Wellness Committee Health Fair.