

February 26, 2004

HUMAN SERVICES  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT NO. 2

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. CHAIRMAN HOLT PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

1. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 1E-32)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, current law and regulation permits hospitals to provide funds for the local share cost of staff through a contribution by the hospital to the County, and

WHEREAS, Sheehan Memorial Hospital and Buffalo General Hospital agree to fund the entire local share of two workers, including salary, fringe benefits, overhead and equipment cost, and

WHEREAS, these staff will enable Medicaid applications to be processed more expeditiously through face to face contact with patients and family members at the hospital.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Social Services and/or the County Executive are authorized to enter into agreements with Kaleida Health Systems and with Sheehan Memorial Hospital, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following budget amendments are hereby authorized in the 2004 Adopted Grant Budget:

**Department of Social Services, Department 200, Fund 282, Project 228**

<b><u>ACCOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>
801	Personal Services	\$77,304
805	Fringe Benefits	22,680
826	Other Expenses	10,000
886	Allocated Indirect Expense	<u>46,224</u>
	Total Appropriations	<u>\$156,208</u>
447	Donated Funds	\$78,104
685-2001	Interfund - DSS Fed/State	<u>78,104</u>
	Total Revenues	<u>\$156,208</u>

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the following positions are hereby created effective January 1, 2004 in Department 200, Fund 282, Project 228:

Number	Title	Job Grade
2	Senior Social Welfare Examiner	7

(a B-100 is attached)

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following budget amendments are hereby authorized in the 2004 Adopted Operating Budget:

**Department of Social Services, Department 200, Fund 120**

<b><u>ACCOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>INCREASE</u></b>
880-2009	Interfund – Social Services Grants	<u>\$78,104</u>
	Total Appropriations	<u>\$78,104</u>
649	Federal Aid – Social Services Administration	<u>\$78,104</u>
	Total Revenues	<u>\$78,104</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, the Erie County Comptroller and the Director of the Division of Budget, Management and Finance.

(5-0)

2. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 1E-39)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Federal Mental Health Act of 1996 prohibits employers with more than fifty employees that offer mental health benefits from imposing aggregate lifetime and annual limits that differ from those limits imposed for physical health care and treatment, and

WHEREAS, with respect to mental health care and chemical dependency services, the Federal Mental Health Act of 1996 fails to require parity for deductibles, co-payments, co-insurance and frequency of coverage, and

WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of Mental Health, in any given year over 50 million American adults or 20% of the population suffer from a mental disorder, and

WHEREAS, according to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, over 20% of children in this country have behavioral, emotional or mental health problems that, without appropriate treatment, may lead to school failure, alcohol or substance abuse, family disruption, violence, physical health problems or suicide, and

WHEREAS, New York State private insurance companies currently limit the number of inpatient and outpatient mental health visits per year and charge higher deductibles, co-payments and co-insurance costs for mental health and chemical dependency services than for physical health services, and

WHEREAS, A recent study conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers estimates that the passage of parity legislation also known as Timothy's Law would only increase premiums by \$1.26 per employee per month, and

WHEREAS, thirty three other states have already enacted legislation to end the discriminatory practice of providing differing levels of benefits or coverage based upon whether a patient's illness or condition is mental or physical, and

WHEREAS, New York State Assembly Bill A.8301 previously approved and New York State Senate Bill S.5329 would ensure that mental health and chemical dependency coverage is provided by private insurance companies in New York State on terms comparable to other health care and medical services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature supports New York State Senate Bill S.5329, also known as "Timothy's Law", and recommends passage of this Bill by the New York State Senate, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be furnished to the New York State Governor, New York State Assembly, New York State Senate, and Erie County Department of Mental Health.  
(5-0)

3. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-6)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature does hereby confirm the appointment of Mr. Kevin J. Helfer as the Commissioner of Social Services for Erie County effective February 10, 2004.  
(5-0)

4. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-16)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Health has received a continuation grant award in the amount \$72,170 for TB Elimination Activities, and a one-time supplemental award for \$20,860 for TB Prevention and Control Activities, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these grant awards are to provide follow up of active TB cases, suspect cases, persons receiving preventive therapy for TB and persons exposed to TB; outreach services, and targeted screening and preventive therapy for at risk groups, and

WHEREAS, due to a reduction in funding by New York State, it will be necessary to delete one full-time position of Sr. Public Health Aide, JG III (position number 816406), effective February 1, 2004, and one regular part-time position of Sr. Caseworker – PH, JG IX, (position number 816408), effective August 31, 2004, and transfer one full-time position of Public Health Educator, JG VIII, (position number 816407) to the Public Health Campaign, Project #203, effective February 1, 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Campaign, Project #203, has sufficient funds to cover the salary and fringe benefits of the Public Health Educator position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into contracts with the New York State Department of Health to accept a continuation grant award in the amount of \$72,170 , and a one-time supplemental award for \$20,860 for TB Prevention and Control Activities which is budgeted as follows:

**TB Elimination Grant  
Project #205  
9/1/03 – 1/31/05**

SFG	REVENUE	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	REVISED BUDGET
582	State Aid Tuberculosis	\$ 258,709	\$ -165,679	\$ 93,030
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$ 258,709</u>	<u>\$ -165,679</u>	<u>\$ 93,030</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
800	Personal Services	\$ 155,267	\$ -80,149	\$ 75,118
805	Fringe Benefits	57,123	-44,019	13,104
810	Office Supplies	3,300	-3,300	0
814	Medical Supplies	3,796	-3,796	0
824	Travel & Mileage	7,050	-6,050	1,000
826	Other Expenses	13,655	-13,655	0
830	Contracted Services	2,000	-2,000	0
880-2700	I/F-Health Grants	11,393	-11,393	0
880-5100	I/F- DISS	125	-125	0
	Lab & Technical			
933	Equipment	<u>5,000</u>	-1,192	3,808
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$ 258,709</u>	<u>\$ -165,679</u>	<u>\$ 93,030</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the deletion of one full-time position of Sr. Public Health Aide, JG III (position number 816406), effective February 1, 2004, and one regular part-time position of Sr. Caseworker – PH, JG IX, (position number 816408), effective August 31, 2004, and transfer one full-time position of Public Health Educator, JG VIII, (position number 816407) to the Public Health Campaign, Project #203, effective February 1, 2004, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Health, the Department of Personnel, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Department of Law.

(5-0)

5. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-17)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature authorized the acceptance of a grant award from the New York State Health Department in the amount of \$1,050,265 on December 11, 2003, Comm. 25E-14, and

WHEREAS, in order to develop and deploy a system that will be used to provide early warning of disease outbreak, it is necessary to expand the ongoing efforts of the emergency department triage data collection system to include all hospitals in the Western New York region. This will allow public health officials an early indicator of disease outbreak, and

WHEREAS, in order to develop and deploy this system, it is necessary to contract with CUBRC, in the amount of \$180,645 and

WHEREAS, funds are included under Account 830 – Contractual, for this project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with CUBRC in the amount of \$180,645 for the purpose of developing and deploying a system that will be used to provide early warning of disease outbreak, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the contract with CUBRC is a special service which must be provided immediately and continuously, and therefore, the RFP procedure required under Section 19.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code, is hereby waived, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Health, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Department of Law.  
(5-0)

6. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-34)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has already appropriated funds for the Administrative Division and the Congregate Dining Program (III-C-1), the Home Delivered Meals Program (III-C-2), the

Area Agency on Aging Program (AAA), and the Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (III-D) grants for the period January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004; the Community Services for the Elderly (CSE) and the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP) grants for the period April 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005; and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) grant for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, and

WHEREAS, the Department has reviewed the budgets, minimum match requirements and actual costs of carrying out the programs' objectives, and

WHEREAS, the County budgets for these programs are in need of revision, and

WHEREAS, no additional County funds are needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the budget for the Administrative Division, Project 939, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS				
Account	Description			
881	DISS Charges	\$200,437	- \$118,670	\$ 81,767
886/6309	Interfund Transfers-Grants	1,777,030	<u>118,670</u>	1,895,700
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u>\$0</u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the III-C-1 grant, Project 144, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$115,419	<u>\$39,005</u>	\$154,424
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u>\$39,005</u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$15,500	<u>\$39,005</u>	\$54,505
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u>\$39,005</u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the III-C-2 grant, Project 146, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$86,080	<u>\$3,269</u>	\$89,349
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,269</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$0	<u>\$3,269</u>	\$3,269
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,269</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the AAA grant, Project 149, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$225,687	<u>\$32,100</u>	\$257,787
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$32,100</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$40,130	<u>\$32,100</u>	\$72,230
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$32,100</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the III-D grant, Project 151, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$8,282	<u>\$3,518</u>	\$11,800
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,518</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$2,500	<u>\$3,518</u>	\$6,018
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,518</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the CSE grant, Project 153, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$171,062	<u>\$11,051</u>	\$182,113
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$11,051</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$9,780	<u>\$11,051</u>	\$20,831
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$11,051</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the EISEP grant, Project 154, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$304,130	<u>\$26,567</u>	\$330,697
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$26,567</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$11,004	<u>\$26,567</u>	\$37,571
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$26,567</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the RSVP grant, Project 158, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
REVENUES				
Account	Description			
686/6300	Interfund Revenue	\$43,371	<u>\$3,160</u>	\$46,531
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,160</u></u>	
APPROPRIATIONS				
880/5100	Interfund Expense	\$3,000	<u>\$3,160</u>	\$6,160
	TOTAL CHANGE		<u><u>\$3,160</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, the Comptroller's Office and the Department of Senior Services.

(5-0)

7. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-35)

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has already appropriated funds for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) grant for the period July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Corporation for National Service has made available an additional \$3,435 in funds for the 2003/2004 RSVP grant to provide support services to 1,150 RSVP volunteers working in community agencies throughout the county, and

WHEREAS, the County budget for this program is in need of revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the budget for the RSVP grant, project 776, for the period July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004, be revised as follows:

	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Account Description			
664 Federal Aid	\$85,875	\$3,435	\$89,310
TOTAL CHANGE		<u>\$3,435</u>	
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
800 Personal Services	\$88,979	-\$1,893	\$87,086
805 Fringe Benefits	22,042	8,590	30,632
821 Dues & Fees	350	35	385
822 Rental	3,500	500	4,000
823 Repairs & Maintenance	168	12	180
824 Local Mileage	42,532	-5,099	37,433
825 Out of Area Travel	1,500	-1,293	207
826 Other Expenses	9,836	-1,128	8,708
832 General Liability	3,400	-39	3,361
880/5100 Interfund Expense - DISS	3,000	3,750	6,750
TOTAL CHANGE		<u>\$3,435</u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, the Comptroller’s Office and the Department of Senior Services.  
(5-0)

8. Item Page -2004 (Comm. 5E-36)  
**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature has already appropriated funds for the Congregate Dining (C-1) grant for the period January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003, and

WHEREAS, one of the nutrition sites, the Salvation Army, served more meals during 2003, and the related contracts for clean-up reimbursement needs to be amended to fully reimburse the agency, and

WHEREAS, the County budget for this program is in need of revision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to amend the contract with the Salvation Army as detailed below, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the C-1 grant, project 762, for the period January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003, be revised as follows:

		CURRENT		AMENDED
		BUDGET	CHANGES	BUDGET
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
Account	Description			
826	Other Expenses	\$1,239,121	-\$2,475	\$1,236,646
830/193	Salvation Army	54,977	675	55,652
880/5100	Interfund Expenses	15,000	<u>1,800</u>	16,800
	<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>		<u><u>\$0</u></u>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, the Comptroller’s Office, the County Attorney and the Department of Senior Services.  
(5-0)

9. Item Page -2004 (Intro. 5-6)  
**WEINSTEIN**

WHEREAS, New York State's \$2.44 billion Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) allocation is based on the State's caseload and expenditures from the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1995, and

WHEREAS, because New York State's caseload and expenditures were significantly higher in FFY 1995 than in subsequent years there has been excess TANF funding ("TANF Surplus") above the amount needed to support the Federal share of the Family Assistance Program, and

WHEREAS, the annual surplus has been \$1.5 billion or higher since 2000 and will again be approximately \$1.5 billion for allocation in the 2004-2005 New York State Budget, and

WHEREAS, in past years the TANF Surplus provided additional funding for children and family services, transitional and employment initiatives, local administration and legislative programs aimed at helping low-income families obtain self-sufficiency, and

WHEREAS, the Governor is proposing to use the estimated \$1.5 billion TANF Surplus in the 2004-2005 budget for a variety of programs and initiatives, some of which do not directly impact low-income families, and

WHEREAS, Erie County along with many other counties throughout New York State are suffering under the burden of Medicaid and other Federal and State mandated programs, and

WHEREAS, the TANF Surplus could be used to reduce or eliminate the counties burden from Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body is committed to providing efficient, effective services to the residents of Erie County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body urges New York State to pass a budget that provides mandate relief to Erie County and the other counties of this great State, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body urges New York State to use the TANF Surplus, projected to be \$1.5 billion dollars in SFY 2004-2005 to pay the local share of Family Health Plus and Child Health Plus, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of the Erie County Legislature to New York State Governor George E. Pataki, New York State Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, the Western New York delegation of the New York State Legislature, Erie County Executive Joel A. Giambra, Erie County Comptroller Nancy A. Naples, Erie County Budget Director Joseph Passafiume and Commissioner of Family Services and Community Health Kevin Helfer.

Fiscal Impact: Positive for Erie County  
(5-0)

**DEMONE A. SMITH**  
**CHAIRMAN**