

**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
JUNE 10, 2008**

Members

In Attendance: Lois Bronz, Chair, Judy Myers, Ken Jenkins, Vito Pinto, Bernice Spreckman, Bill Burton, and Jose Alvarado.

In Attendance: CEO: Bill Randolph DSS: Kevin Mahon, Iris Jenkins DCMH: Grant Mitchell, Mark Giuliano BOL: Harry Spreckman, Olivia Rhodes & Melanie Montalto;

Items Discussed: The Mental Health Court & various state programs that provide funding to low income families outside of TANF funding.

Minutes

Chairwoman Bronz called the Community Services Committee meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

Dr. Grant Mitchell, Commissioner of the Department of Community Mental Health discussed the details and success of the Westchester Mental Health Court, which allows mentally ill prison bound defendants to serve their time in a long-term treatment facility. Dr. Mitchell provided a handout on the Mental Health Court which is on file and available for review.

Kevin Mahon, Commissioner of the Department of Social Services discussed various programs throughout the country that provide additional funding to their poorest residents to prevent them from returning to receiving TANF funding. Commissioner Mahon explained that many of the states that have started these incentive programs are trying to increase their participation rates that they do not lose federal funding. Commissioner Mahon stated that Westchester County provides families who are ending their Family Assistance funding with an extra month's rent, transportation passes for a couple of months and pay their Con Edison bill for a couple months in order to help them get a good start at supporting themselves.

Moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Burton the Committee on Community Services adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

A complete audio recording of the meeting is available for review upon request.