



Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA
Clerk

JAMES J. ROWLEY
Chairman

TAMMY BARBER
Deputy Clerk

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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES – OCTOBER 17, 2023 **COLLEEN A. GUNNIP, CHAIR**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Chase, Ms. Kuhn, Dr. Kelly, Mr. Bush

ALSO ATTENDING: See attached list

Chair Gunnip called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m. *The minutes of the previous meeting had been distributed, and there were no objections to waiving the reading. There were no corrections to the minutes, and the minutes were approved.*

1. HEALTH: Michelle Mignano, Deputy Commissioner
a. 2023 Transfer Resolution (\$250,000)

- Requesting a transfer from 101 to 408
 - Has been corrected for the 2024 budget
 - Will be long-term dependent on contract Pathologists for weekend and holiday coverage
- Chief Medical Examiner (ME) and Director of Operations are continuously recruiting

Questions/comments from the Committee:

- Has there been conversation about hiring on the 101 line specifically for weekends and/or holidays?
 - No because there is a solid foundation of contractors
 - Contractor availability tends to be on weekends and extended into holidays
 - Need people currently on the payroll in the middle of the week
- Weekends and holidays are more intermittent?
- No regular needs on weekends?
 - The department is 24/7
 - Do not look at 101 for coverage, contractors are accessible on weekends and holidays
 - Many contractors work in other ME offices

Additional comments from Health Department:

- Hiring on the 101 is challenging; it is PhD level work
 - Have 4 open positions for Forensic Pathologists

A motion was made by Dr. Chase to approve this item.

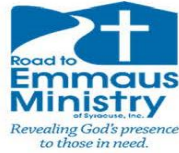
Additional question from the Committee:

- Is the Health Department actively recruiting Pathologists?
 - Yes, continuously recruiting
 - Would be recruiting even if fully staffed

Mr. Bush seconded the motion. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

2. ROAD TO EMMAUS MINISTRY OF SYRACUSE, INC.: Sheila Austin, Executive Director, RN.
a. INFORMATIONAL: Organization Mission & Work

Emmaus Ministry Newsletter on file with the Clerk



Background and progress of Road to Emmaus Ministry of Syracuse, Inc.

2009

- Began as an outreach ministry of St. James Church located on the south side under the direction of Father John Manno
 - Augmented Catholic Charities' existing programs, primarily at shelters for men and women, and Bishop Foery Foundation

2012 - 2015

- Expanded into a mobile ministry for those in need throughout the south side neighborhoods, encampments, and under bridges

2016

- Incorporated as a 501 c (3) on April 15
 - Opened the St. Marianne Cope Center for Outreach at 4335 S. Salina Street, providing meals, showers, food pantry, children's activities

2019

- 127 E. Glen property was donated to Emmaus Ministry
 - The buildout was completed, and we opened for service on December 23

2020 – 2022

- Fully operational through COVID without incidence of outbreak while accommodating the massive increase in meals needed in the community

2021 – 2022

- Purchased prior outreach center at 4335 S. Salina Street and opened a free dental clinic in August 2022
- Purcell's Paint 4400 S. Salina Street was donated to Emmaus Ministry – development projected out to 2025-2026

2023

- Medical Clinic at 4335 S. Salina Street opened May 2023
- Currently waiting on the city for our building permit to break ground for the expansion to the 127 E. Glen property to accommodate growing meal service and children's programming along with case management services

- 2019-2022 meals served
 - 2019 – 12,000
 - 2020 – 34,000
 - 2021 – 57,000
 - 2022 – 66,000
- Dr. Strife is the Dental Director
- Dr. David Mason is the Medical Director
- Will be adding 4,000 square feet to E. Glen property for confidential meeting offices, dining, and programming

Questions/comments from the Committee:

- How many people do you see for medical and dental?
 - 360 Dental; many Ukrainian refugees
 - 60 Medical; local to 13205 zip code



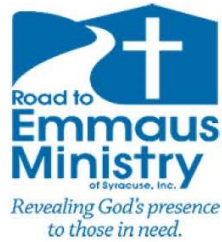
**St. Marianne Cope Center for Outreach
127 E. Glen Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205
Services & Programming
315-928-5191**

Meal Service	6 days/week
Case Management Access	3 days/week
Children’s Activities	Bimonthly
Legal Assistance	Bimonthly
Haircuts	Monthly
Pantry Bag distribution	Monthly
Vision & Hearing Screening	Monthly
NYS Health Navigator	Monthly

**St. Marianne Cope Health Services
4335 S. Salina St., Syracuse, NY 13205
Dental & Medical Ministries
315-961-3067**

Dental: Monday 1 – 4 PM & Friday 10 AM – 4 PM
Medical: Tuesday & Thursday 10 AM – 2 PM

- Meal Service is 6 days per week, 2 meals per day



**St. Marianne Cope Center for Outreach
and
St. Marianne Cope Health Services**

**Services and Programming Stats
January 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023**

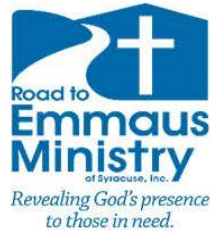
1. Meal Service:
Households served: **10,714**
Number of meals served: **58,549**

2. Food Pantry Bags Distributed: **629**

3. Case Management Contacts: **614**

4. Children's Activities Programs:
Packs distributed: **571**
In-house activities: **119**

5. Clinic visits:
 - a. (Majority from 13205 zip code; 6 outside of 13205)
Dental: **362**
Medical: **45 ***



Operations and Services Breakdown
January 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023

A. Staffing / Volunteers – Outreach Center:

Executive Director: Volunteer
 Staff: 7 part-time positions
 # Volunteers: 101
 # Volunteer hours: 7,093

B. Services – Outreach Center:

Meals served	58,549
Pantry bags	629
Haircuts	38
Lawyer visits	32
Vision screening	19
Hearing screening	14
Foot care	7
Crisis management	62
Housing	91
SNAP	35
Document Acquisition	11
Advocacy	160
Referrals	48
Health Insurance	28
Unemployment	1
Relationship building	147
Job application	2
Death in Family	1
Bus passes	160
Showers	24

- Would like for Legislators to experience the beauty of Emmaus Ministry

Questions/comments from the Committee:

- Where does the funding come from?
 - Primary funding from foundations, private donations, National Grid
 - Conducted 2 capital campaigns
 - Have never received money from Catholic Charities or the Diocese

- Are most of your volunteers from various parishes?
 - Yes
- Do you have liaisons from the Health Department you work with and county social services to help with case management?
 - Yes
 - Mary Radford (Emmaus Caseworker) would like to thank Jennifer Robinson from Onondaga County Department of Social Services for helping her get to the right people
- Deputy County Executive of Human Services was introduced as a contact to assist Emmaus with possible funding opportunities
- From case management standpoint, is there any longitudinal follow up to see the effects of treatment referrals?
 - Yes, almost every day
 - Ongoing relationships while guests come for meals and other services
- Do you have veterans?
 - Have about 20-25 veterans on a regular basis for meals
 - Veteran guests are very quiet, not many seek services other than dental
 - Dental not advantageous through the VA
- Besides Caseworker, do you have people that specifically provide mental health and addiction therapy?
 - Direct them to Helio Health for drug addiction and arrange for transportation
 - Well aware of available services and have regular communication with Helio Health and Liberty Resources
- Do you have an informal connection with My Father's Kitchen?
 - Know of their work
- This is an amazing program; cannot believe what has been accomplished in less than 20 years
- Are you near the valley?
 - Yes, 4 blocks up from Seneca Turnpike
- Do most clients reside in 13205 zip code?
 - Yes; some from 13207, some from the Northside
 - Do not ask questions or request registration in order to receive services
- Blessing Box pantry (Lodi/Burnet) is open on Sunday for anyone, no questions asked; would be a good referral source

Chair Gunnip requested a tour after the winter season

3. **ADAM LEVINE & ELIZABETH DAY**: Adam Levine, Associate Professor of Health Policy Management at Johns Hopkins; Elizabeth Day, Researcher at University of Oregon, Cornell Project 2Gen
 - a. **INFORMATIONAL: Services & Research**

Chair Gunnip stated that the Commissioner of Child & Family Services previously met with and provided Onondaga County policies and procedures to Mr. Levine and Ms. Day.

Mr. Levine presented the following:

- Partner with NYS Association of Counties (NYSAC)
- Purpose is to connect child and family research and policy to Upstate NY counties
 - Can provide short, tailored research briefs on a wide variety of topics
- Work is funded by William T. Grant foundation
- Service is free to the county
- Grant is almost up, will hopefully get extended

- Thank you to Legislator Gunnip for the opportunity to speak today

Ms. Day presented the following:

- Focus on whole family perspective to research policy and practice to assist decision makers
- Have met with many decision makers throughout Upstate NY counties discussing issues with youth and families
 - Biggest issues include:
 - Youth mental health
 - Child care (including workforce, education)
 - Retention and morale of Caseworkers
 - Grandparents raising grandchildren
- County policy makers can request specific research topics or ask what other counties may be doing
- All information and research collected can be found on the Cornell Project 2Gen website by clicking on the following link <https://2gen.bctr.cornell.edu/>

Comment from Deputy County Executive of Human Services:

- Good to have this contact and helpful to know what other areas are doing through connections with NYSAC
- Contract with Syracuse University to do research around 2Gen project

Questions/comments from the Committee:

- Did you present at the NYSAC conference?
 - Did not this year, but did last year

*Ms. Kuhn left the meeting

- Good job
 - Thank you

A motion was made by Ms. Gunnip, seconded by Dr. Kelly, to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TAMMY BARBER, Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**
DATE: **OCTOBER 17, 2023**

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Michelle Mignolo	OC+ID
Joe Jmora	Fin Ops
Patricia Waddell	Comptroller
Alt. Revenue Com.	OCMEO
Commissioner Urzger	OCMEO
Jim Beebe	Leg
Ben Yaus	Law
John DeSantis	Leg.
Kevin Meaker	Clay Town Councilor
Ann Rooney	Human Services