

**Health & Human Services Committee**  
**August 26, 2025**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Committee Chair Anthony Doldo, Legislators Robert Cantwell, Tina Bartlett-Bearup, Karen Freeman, Christopher Boulio, Frances Calarco, Corey Grant, Board Chair William Johnson

**Others Present:** Legislators Philip Reed, Michael Montigelli, Daniel McBride, James Nabywaniec, Patrick Jareo, Robert Ferris, Steel Potter, County Administrator Ryan Piche, Deputy Administrator Dylan Soper, County Attorney John Sabik, Conf. Asst. for Fiscal Affairs Kristy O'Shaughnessy, Community Services Director Tim Ruetten, Public Health Director Steve Jennings, former PH Director Ginger Hall, EMS Coordinator Paul Barton, Veterans Service Agency Dave Pavey, County Auditor Stefanie LaPier, Human Resources Director Valerie Nugent, Recycling & Waste Management Supervisor Kyle Ratigliano, Confidential Secretary Jill Jones, Confidential Secretary Jaimie Lee

Chairman Doldo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Health Director Steve Jennings introduced former Director Ginger Hall and EMS Coordinator Paul Barton to give a presentation on the Jefferson County Mobile Integrated Health Program. Mrs. Hall and Mr. Barton reported that the Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program is a community paramedicine initiative launched in 2022 as part of a statewide pilot supported by the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. Local partners include hospitals, home care providers, and multiple EMS agencies. The program addresses reduced Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) availability and aims to improve patient outcomes, reduce unnecessary Emergency Department (ED) visits, and decrease hospital readmissions.

Ms. Hall related that training was developed for EMS providers to conduct home visits, focusing on patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, CHF, COPD, and fall risk. She said the services for those visits include education, assessments, medication management, wound care, venipunctures, and bridging care until home care admission. She said documentation is integrated with CHHA systems. They advised that the Program outcomes show significant reductions as follows: 69% in ED visits, 76% in hospital admissions, and 83% in EMS/911 transports. In 2024, Jefferson County recorded a 57% reduction in readmissions, 50% fewer 911 calls, and 60% fewer transports for MIH participants. The average caseload is 36–40 patients, with over 1,000 visits completed annually. In addition, they said successes include helping patients remain at home longer, addressing unique patient challenges, and offering durable medical equipment supplies through a loaner closet. Ms. Hall said current funding covers \$80 per visit under a grant through 2026, though long-term sustainability depends on insurance and Medicaid coverage. She encouraged support for Senate bill (S5333) which is under consideration to make community paramedicine permanent in New York State.

YMCA Chief Executive Officer Shawna Cutuli updated the Committee relative to YMCA programs and services at the new Arsenal Street facility. She said the YMCA's mission is to strengthen families, promote healthy child development, and support community well-being through programs emphasizing caring, respect, honesty, and responsibility. The new Downtown Community Center offers diverse facilities and programs for children, adults, seniors, and military families, with a strong focus on childcare, wellness, and disease prevention. Ms. Cutuli said over 65% of expenses support children's programs, providing 48,000+ hours of care annually across 11 sites. The YMCA serves 14,000 members, is a top county employer, and hosts major community events that bring in participants from outside the community. Through the Gateway Scholarship Program, \$150K–\$200K in assistance is provided yearly to ensure access for over 1,500 individuals. She said the YMCA continues to play a vital role in strengthening the health and well-being of citizens in the North Country.

Chairman Doldo offered Privilege of the Floor however no one present wished to speak. The Committee approved the minutes of the July meeting as written.

Chairman Doldo introduced a resolution Authorizing an Agreement with Michele L. Carr for Provision of Related Services in Connection with the Program for Preschool Children with Disabilities and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Boulio seconded by Legislator Calarco and there being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

There being no further business of the Committee, on a motion by Legislator Grant seconded by Legislator Bartlett-Bearup and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Piche", written in a cursive style.

Ryan Piche  
Clerk of the Board