

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014**

At a meeting of the **Health and Human Services Committee**, held Monday, December 15, 2014, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Mocerri-Chair, Boyle-Vice-Chair, Klinefelt, Mijac, Miller, Sauger, Tocco and Flynn (ex-officio).

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Mocerri called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Sauger, to adopt the agenda, as presented. **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Boyle, to approve the July 31, August 12, September 22 and October 14, 2014 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

HEALTH

Update from Daniel Spitz, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner

Dr. Spitz updated the committee on operations of the Medical Examiner's Office, noting that accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) had been achieved in the spring, as directed by the Board of Commissioners. NAME has an ongoing process for maintaining accreditation and the process and guidelines are being followed. Dr. Spitz provided a summary for 2014, including statistics for drug related deaths.

The following commissioners spoke: Flynn and Mocerri.

MOTION

A motion was made by Klinefelt, supported by Sauger, to receive and file the update provided by Chief Medical Examiner Daniel Spitz, M.D. **The Motion Carried.**

Contract with Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)/Health

MOTION

A motion was made by Klinefelt, supported by Boyle, to forward to the Finance Committee a recommendation to approve awarding of a contract to the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) for the provision of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) for the period January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015; payments to ACCESS for services rendered will not exceed \$180,000 for the term of this agreement; all funding for this agreement is provided by the Michigan Department of Community Health.

Bill Ridella, Director/Health Officer, provided an overview of the contract.

Chair Mocerri called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

Budget Amendment-Family Planning Program/Health

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Klinefelt, to forward to the Finance Committee a recommendation to approve an increase in budgeted revenues and expenses in the Family Planning Program by \$209,703 to account for an increase in allocation from the Michigan Department of Community Health; further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission's approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County's Contracting Policy or the County's Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately.

The following commissioners spoke: Miller and Mocerri.

Chair Mocerri called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

ANIMAL SHELTER

Animal Control Services Agreements/Animal Shelter

Jeff Randazzo, Chief Animal Control Officer, provided an overview of the contract, stating that it specifically establishes the fees for animal control services that are provided.

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Mijac, to forward to the Finance Committee a recommendation to approve annual service agreements for animal control services provided by Macomb County Animal Control for the contract life beginning on January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for the following cities: Eastpointe, Mt. Clemens, Roseville, Sterling Heights and Warren.

The following commissioner spoke: Flynn.

Chair Mocerri called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Budget Amendment/Fiscal Grant Funds-Early Head Start Services/ Community Services Agency

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Sauger, to forward to the Finance Committee a recommendation to approve an increase of \$2,870,950 in Community Services Agency revenue and expense in the Fiscal Grant Fund to expand Early Head Start services; further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission's approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County's Contracting Policy or the County's Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately.

Joe Cooke, Division Director, summarized the budget amendment.

The following commissioners spoke: Miller and Mijac.

Chair Mocerri called for a vote on the motion and **The Motion Carried.**

Community Services Agency 2013 Annual Report

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Klinefelt, to receive and file the 2013 Annual Report for the Community Services Agency. **The Motion Carried.**

AREA AGENCY ON AGING 1-B

Quarterly Update from Area Agency on Aging 1-B

MOTION

A motion was made by Klinefelt, supported by Boyle, to receive and file the quarterly report submitted by the Area Agency on Aging 1-B. **The Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE SERVICES IN MACOMB COUNTY

Introductory Message

Chair Mocerri provided an introduction to the presentation on Immigrant and Refugee Services in Macomb County stating that - given the high growth rate of the immigrant and refugee population - it was important to address the issue and to highlight the organizations which provide basic and other vital services which allow immigrants and refugees to integrate and thrive here.

Organizations that volunteered to give brief overviews of their services and highlight challenges and opportunities faced by immigrants and refugees are:

- State of Michigan Office of Refugee Resettlement
- Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan
- Lutheran Social Services of Michigan
- U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants-Detroit
- Chaldean Community Foundation
- ACCESS
- Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
- Chaldean American Ladies of Charity

Commissioner Mocerri noted that Christine Sauve of “Welcoming Michigan” and Mary Lane of “Welcome Mat Detroit” could not attend today’s meeting as they are in Los Angeles attending the National Immigration Integration Conference. However, they have been an integral part of planning this public discussion. In addition, members of OneMacomb (Steve Gold and Pam Lavers) also could not be here since they are attending the same conference, but expressed their support.

Background of Refugee and Immigrant Community in Michigan and Macomb County

Al Horn, Director of the Refugee Services Office, which is housed in the Department of Human Services for the State of Michigan, covered the following topics: definition of a refugee and the process for achieving refugee status; FY12 arrivals for top five states in the United States; state/federal partnerships and the mission and vision of the Refugee Assistance Program. Statistical information was provided.

Overview of Refugee Resettlement Services in Macomb County

Jeralda Hattar, Director of Immigration and Refugee Services, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, stated that the refugee resettlement organizations in Metro Detroit are all part of a national group that has a cooperative agreement with the federal government to resettle refugees in the United States post arrival. She highlighted some of the services and programs, which included the Reception and Placement Program (R&P), the School Impact Program and the Preventative Health Program.

Additional Inputs on Refugee Resettlement Services in Macomb County

Amanda Beyer, Quality Assurance Specialist for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, and Tawfik Alazem, Director, U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants-Detroit, were present. Mr. Alazem thanked the residents of the County for their many acts of kindness and for making Macomb a good place for these individuals to come; he noted that the rate of self-sufficiency within 180 days is 78 percent.

Chaldean Community Foundation Overview

Sharon Hannawa, Program Manager, gave background information on the foundation and the individuals that are serviced, and highlighted some of their programs.

MIRC Overview (including Welcoming Michigan Overview)

Abril Valdes, a local attorney in Macomb County, spoke about the areas that she focuses on and the services that she provides, as well as the services provided by the Michigan Immigrants Rights Center (MIRC). She noted some changes that will be taking place in the immigration law area.

ACCESS Overview (including Healthcare for Immigrants)

Madiha Tariq, Public Health Manager, provided background information on ACCESS and highlighted some of the services provided in the Sterling Heights office.

Chaldean American Ladies of Charity Overview

Jane Shallal, Grants Program Manager, spoke about the services her organization provides to bring safety and stability to individuals, orphans, widows and families in need.

Welcome MAT Detroit Overview

Chair Mocerri indicated that MAT provides a searchable, on-line database that is actively maintained and serves as a resource to community members and elected officials and leaders; it offers resources and a calendar of ethnic and international events and networking and connecting events.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following commissioners spoke: Boyle and Klinefelt.

FUTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Mocerri commented on challenges that must be faced in the future for the refugee and immigrant community, which include expanding public transportation in Macomb County, more innovative programs to provide additional affordable housing, expansion

of emergency healthcare provisions and elimination of enrollment difficulties, and recalibration of job placement programs.

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Boyle, to receive and file the information provided on immigrant and refugee services in Macomb County. **The Motion Carried.**

RESOLUTIONS

Adopt Resolution Urging Macomb County Community Leaders to Engage and Support Macomb County's Refugee and Immigrant Population and Take Action on Key Issues that Impact the Refugee and Immigrant Community
(offered by Mocerì)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A motion was made by Boyle, supported by Mijac, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution urging Macomb County community leaders to engage and support Macomb County's refugee and immigrant population and take action on key issues that impact the refugee and immigrant community. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Adopt Resolution Urging the Michigan State Legislature to Appropriate a One Time Supplemental Allocation of \$43 Million to the Statewide Community Mental Health Network (offered by Mocerì)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Boyle, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution urging the Michigan state legislature to appropriate a one time supplemental allocation of \$43 million to the statewide Community Mental Health network.

Chair Mocerì noted that this resolution is in response to a letter received from the County's Community Mental Health Executive Director.

She called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

HHS COMMITTEE CHAIR ITEMS

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Mijac, to receive and file the information provided as follows:

Article: "By 2060, a Much More Multiracial Michigan Will Emerge"
(Detroit Free Press);

Research Report: Racial Inclusion is Key to Growing a Strong New Economy (Policy Link) and

Announcement: Welcoming Michigan Looking for ESL Volunteers.

The Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Mocerri thanked committee members for their participation on this committee.

Commissioners Mijac and Klinefelt and Board Chair Flynn thanked Chair Mocerri for her leadership and the work she did as chair of this committee.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Boyle, to adjourn the meeting at 11 a.m.

The Motion Carried.



**Corinne Bedard
Committee Reporter**