

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Ellner & Russo

Wednesday

February 12, 2025

(Immediately Following the Physical Meeting at 6:30PM)

The meeting was called to order at 7:19 PM by Chairwoman Addonizio who requested that Legislator Russo lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislator Ellner, Legislator Russo, and Chairwoman Addonizio were present.

Item #3 - Approval – Fund Transfer 24T536 – Department of Social Services – Cover Projected Costs through Year End 2024

Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner Sara Servadio stated this is to cover Daycare expenses through the last quarter of 2024.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 24T536; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #4 - Approval – Fund Transfer 24T537 – Department of Social Services – Cover Projected Costs through Year End 2024

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated this is Code Blue funding.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated Code Blue is when the temperature goes below 32 degrees and the County provides housing for the homeless.

DSS Commissioner Servadio added when there is a significant storm, they close the shelter and put everyone in hotels.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if any of this funding goes to private organizations such as Brewster Cares.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated Brewster Cares is the organization that oversees the County's Code Blue Program.

Legislator Birmingham stated Putnam County is the 25th richest County in the Country by median income, but there is poverty, and we need to help.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Fund Transfer 24T537; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A007 – Department of Social Services – Safe Harbor Allocation

Chairwoman Addonizio stated many people do not believe that human trafficking happens in Putnam County.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A007; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #6 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A008 – Department of Social Services – Child Advocacy Center Contract Renewal

DSS Fiscal Manager Kristen Wunner stated this is the final year of a three (3) year grant award.

Legislator Crowley questioned how many cases are at the Child Advocacy Center annually.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated in 2024 there were approximately 175.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A008; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #7 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A009 – Department of Social Services – Child Advocacy Center Contract Renewal

DSS Fiscal Manager Wunner stated this is another big funding source for the Child Advocacy Center. She stated it is a three (3) year grant for approximately \$1.2 million.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A009; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #8 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A010 – Department of Social Services – Code Blue Allocation

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated they received more money from the State than anticipated.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A010; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #9 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A011 – Department of Social Services – ARPA Adult Protective Services Grant Allocation

DSS Fiscal Manager Wunner stated this is a grant that was awarded during COVID that was extended.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A011; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #10 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A012 – Department of Social Services – State Aid Pass Through to Provider Agencies

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A012; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Item #11 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A013 – Department of Social Services – NYS Rental Supplement Program

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A013; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #12 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A016 – Health Department – Community Health Survey

Epidemiologist Allison Kaufman provided the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if the information from the responses could be broken down more granularly.

Epidemiologist Kaufman stated they could, but the numbers would be very low and it would also be more expensive.

Health Department Senior Fiscal Manager Bill Orr continued the presentation. He stated initially, the Health Department had planned on partnering with Putnam Hospital at minimal cost, for this survey. He explained that it did not work out. He explained how he came up with the funding for this survey to result in zero fiscal impact.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the nursing vacancies are still being looked at to fill.

Senior Fiscal Manager Orr stated that is correct.

Legislator Montgomery questioned what the cost would be to separate the survey data into the east and west side of the County.

Epidemiologist Kaufman stated it was an approximate increase of \$20,000.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated the needs in the survey increased in every line from 2018 to present.

Epidemiologist Kaufman cited COVID as a reason.

Legislator Sayegh questioned the lack of an adequate sample size from the survey done in partnership with the hospital.

Epidemiologist Kaufman explained the difference in sample sizes with surveys.

Legislator Montgomery stated the glaring need is childcare. She stated it is a topic in the State budget this year. She questioned if there is grant funding available that could help.

Epidemiologist Kaufman stated they have tried in the past, but this is a very broad topic. She stated it would require staff that the Health Department does not have, such as a grant writer.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A016; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #13 - Other Business

a. Approval – Victim Services Grant Renewal – Department of Social Services

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to wave the rules and accept the Other Business; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated this is a three (3) year contract that is up for renewal.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the grant period begins October 1, 2025 and the renewal must be submitted next month.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve the Victim Services Grant Renewal; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #14 - Adjournment

There being no further business at 7:51 PM Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Ed Gordon.

THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY:

A key component of a Comprehensive Community Health Assessment
(CHA)

Q & A

Q: What is a Community Health Assessment (CHA)?

A: A descriptive summary of the county population, its health status, and the factors that influence health. The CHA is an amalgamation of several component assessments, including the Regional Community Health Survey.

Q: What is the purpose of doing a CHA?

A: The CHA enables data driven development of the County's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and informs program planning not only at PCDOH, but also at other county departments and community-based organizations.

Q: How does the CHA benefit Putnam County?

A: Findings from the CHA are shared with community partners, elected officials, department heads and the public, enabling agencies countywide to tailor programs and services to meet the current needs of residents more efficiently. In addition to PCDOH, the Departments of Social Services and Mental Health, the Office for Senior Resources and Cornell Cooperative Extension have utilized data from the 2022-2024 CHA to inform their planning and seek grant funding for programs.

Q: How often are we required to do a CHA?

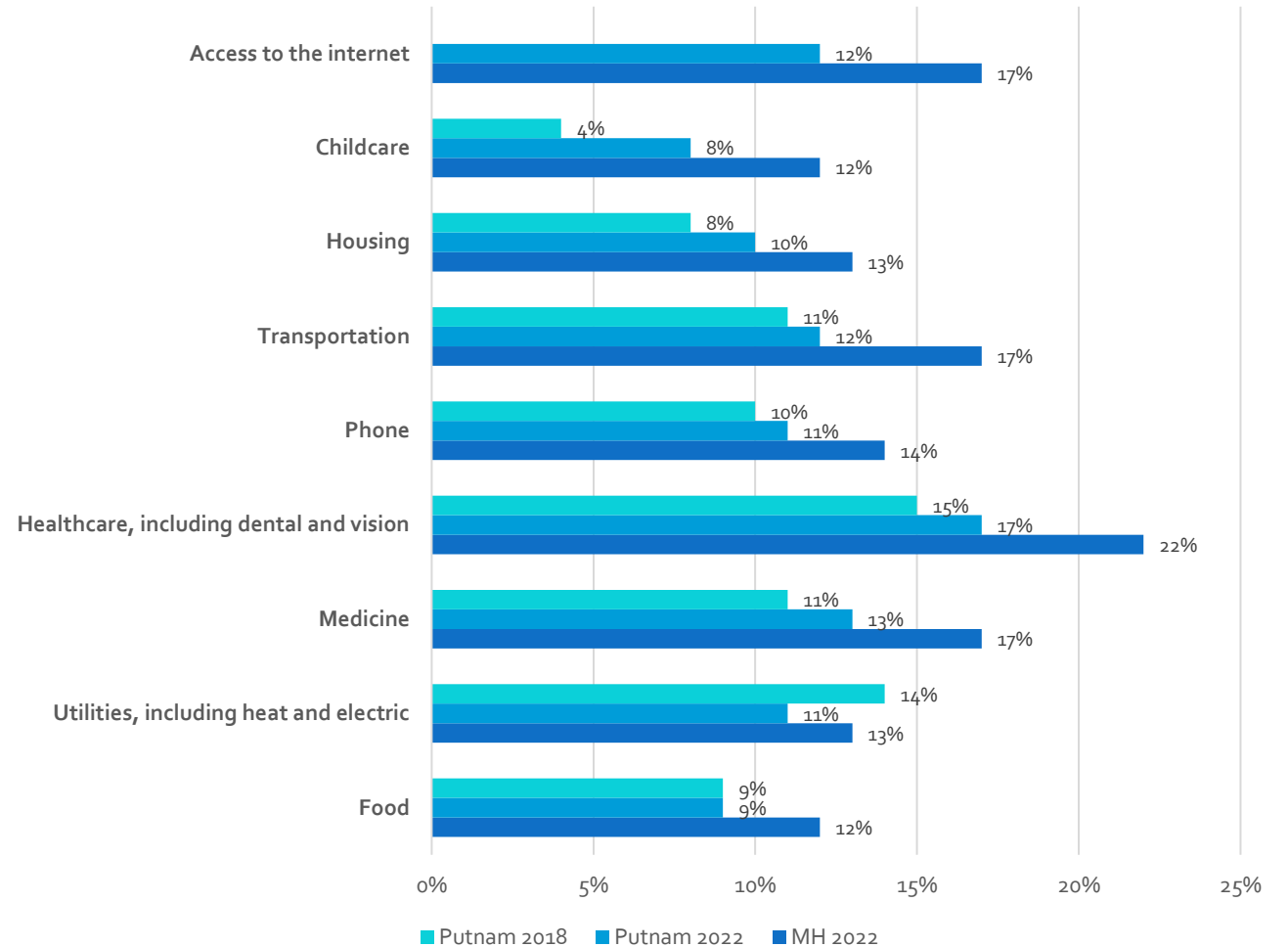
A: PHAB requires that local health departments (LHDs) complete a CHA every 5 years. NYSDOH requires LHDs to complete a CHA every 3 years, but a full CHA (including primary data collection- for example, the Regional survey) is only required every 6 years. The next full CHA is due at the end of 2025.

THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY

The Regional Community Health Survey has been a vital source of data in the last two iterations of the CHA.

- ❖ The survey instrument was developed collaboratively by the seven LHDs in the Mid-Hudson Region
- ❖ Questions assess quality of life, self-reported health status & health behaviors, and resident ability to meet basic needs
- ❖ While we can add or remove questions from the survey, most questions remain the same, giving us the ability to evaluate trends over time
- ❖ Since this is a regional survey, we can compare Putnam's results to our neighboring counties and the region as a whole

In the past 12 months, have you or any other member of your household been unable to get any of the following when it was really needed?



SURVEY SPECS

- Proposed contract is with Siena College Research Institute (SCRI), same vendor used for previous surveys. SCRI administers regional, statewide and national surveys for a wide portfolio of clients including the New York Times and the NYSDOH
- SCRI conducts phone surveys from a call center staffed with professional interviewers and equipped with a computer assisted telephone interviewing system
- Contract includes a robust sample (600 responses), weighting of data to ensure it is demographically representative of the county population, and deliverables included a dataset consisting of frequency data by question with cross-tabulation by population characteristics in an excel format
- The large sample size is expected to provide a margin of error of about 4%, and allow for some inferences to be made in differences in results based on population characteristics (i.e.: income level)

BUDGETARY AMENDMENT

- The amount required to conduct the survey in Putnam County is \$48,000
- The attached budgetary amendment utilizes health department funds from the 2025 Performance Incentive Initiative Grant of \$23,286
- In addition, two transfers are in process:
 - Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act (ATUPA) fines collected of \$13,025
 - Monies accrued from two of our nursing vacancies
 - \$5,844 from Budget Line 11401000-401011120
 - \$5,845 from Budget Line 11401000-40101116