

WARREN/HAMILTON COUNTIES OFFICE FOR THE AGING
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Deanna Park ♦ Director

WARREN/HAMILTON COUNTIES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: May 6, 2025

LOCATION: VIRTUAL

ATTENDANCE: Deanna Park, Rose Ann O'Rourke-Taft, Betsy Bain, Roberta Bly, Ginelle Jones, Denise DiResta, Nina Mastrianni, Beth Hunt, Brian Wells, Abigail Eichler

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:01AM

MINUTES: Accepted by Beth Hunt & Ginelle Jones

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Staffing Updates
 - a. Meal Site Cook – Lake Pleasant
 - b. Meal Site Cook – Warrensburg, transferred to Johnsbury
 - c. Part Time Keyboard Specialist – Retiring November 14th, this position will not be filled
2. Meal Site Updates –
 - d. Warren County Congregate Sites are open five days a week, with the exception of Salvation Army. Hamilton County Congregate Sites are open five days a week.
3. Senior Picnic – Held September 24th, there were 100 more seniors this year than last year; Tentative Date of Thursday September 25th next year
4. Medicare Open Enrollment – Oct 15th - Dec 7th
5. 4 Year Plan – Due April 1st, 2024, not released until last month.
6. Meeting with State Senators/Assembly Persons Held Oct 8th – Discuss growing aging population and need for funding to support this.
7. Fort Hudson Health Systems – received letter that they have closed their Certified Home Health Agency and will be working with Eddy Visiting Nurse & Rehabilitation Association to expand coverage to clients in Warren and Washington Counties.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Staffing Updates
 - e. Services Assistant – MaryAnn McCarthy retired in February and Kira Wilkins started 4/14/25
2. Meal Site Updates –
 - f. Johnsbury/Warrensburg Consolidation – all meals prepared at Warrensburg location, meals then transported to Johnsbury for HDM and congregate meals.
 - g. Lake Pleasant Meal Site – currently closed
3. Senior Picnic – Will be Thursday, September 25th
4. 4 Year Plan ('24-'27) - Submitted 2/7/25, 1st Revisions Submitted 3/26/25, Awaiting Approval (document provided)
5. NYSOFA Nutrition Audit – Completed 3/18-3/19, Awaiting Written Report but two items mentioned:
 - h. Under 60 contribution amount needs to reflect the actual cost per meal. Increased to \$12.25/meal effective 4/7/25. This will be reviewed annually.
 - i. Congregate locations need to be open to public (Cedars meal site currently is not. We will be working with them to address this).
6. 2026 Proposed Federal Budget Reductions (document provided) – Encourage advocacy to congressmembers, political figures
7. Caregiver Support Group – 4th Thursday of every month at Municipal Center

8. Annual Report for Program Year 2024 (document provided) – Will present to Warren County Health Services Committee and Hamilton County Board of Supervisors

COMMUNITY PARTNERS REPORT:

Supervisor Hunt

- No Updates

Hamilton County DSS

- Noted there are also proposed cuts in the 2026 Federal Budget to DSS
- Mentioned good YouTube video about Ombudsman program done by Greg Olsen

Supervisor Wells

- No Updates

Supervisory Bain

- No Updates

Warren County VA

- Mentioned Veterans & Surviving Spouses & PACT, refer to VA services;
- Asked about OFA Picnic, will be September 25th(Thursday)
- Will have FMC for Veterans & Spouses in the amount of \$50.

Warren County DSS

- No Updates

Warren County Public Health

- Mentioned flu vaccine strains have not been chosen for vaccine for '25 yet.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:35AM

NEXT MEETING: July 17th at 11:00AM, VIRTUAL