



Health & Human Services Committee

Committee Meeting

60 Central Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
<https://www.cortlandcountyny.gov>

~ Agenda ~

Thursday, May 8, 2025

11:00 AM

Room 302

WebEx Meeting Information

<https://cortlandny.webex.com/cortlandny/j.php?MTID=mb1d8a4d390553eb83507b868bc9ff942>

Thursday, May 8, 2025 11:00 AM | 1 hour | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2330 529 2627

Password: MKpipayg725

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 233 052 92627

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Committee Member Douglas Bentley	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Reed Cleland	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member William McGovern	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Christopher Newell	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Member Jason Prentice	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Vice-Chair Keith VanGorder	☐	☐	☐	
Committee Chair Ronald J. Van Dee	☐	☐	☐	

Minutes Approval

1. Health & Human Services Committee - Committee Meeting - Apr 10, 2025 11:00 AM
2. Health & Human Services Committee - Special Meeting - Apr 24, 2025 3:30 PM

Committee Update

1. Update from Manager of Age-Well Center

Resolutions

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Authorize Agreement with Response4Help - Office for Aging

WHEREAS, the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP) and the National Family Caregiver Support (Title IIIIE) programs provide critical services to frail older adults; AND

WHEREAS, the Office for Aging requires the services of outside service providers and private organizations to fulfill its charge; AND

WHEREAS, the Office for Aging wishes to enter into a contract with Response4Help medical alert services for the provision of Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS); AND

WHEREAS, the total amount of all EISEP and Title IIIIE contracts shall not exceed the available funds allocated to each program:

Total Allocation for EISEP PERS units is \$10,800

Total Allocation for Title IIIIE PERS units is \$5,400

; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or the Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, and subject to appropriation of funding by the Legislature, be and hereby is authorized to execute said agreement.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

Authorize Agreements for Advancing Tobacco Free Communities Program - Health Department

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health has awarded Cortland County funding of the Advancing Tobacco Free Communities Grant (ATFC), Contract C40621GM for \$1,675,000 for the contract period of 5/1/2025-4/30/2030; AND

WHEREAS, the ATFC grant requires Cortland County to provide funding to one or more community organizations within its catchment area (Cortland, Tompkins and Chenango Counties) in support of addressing work plan deliverables related to tobacco use and exposure in multi-unit housing and/or tobacco waste in the environment; AND

WHEREAS, that recipient organizations should serve individuals/communities most impacted by tobacco-related morbidity and mortality; AND

WHEREAS, \$35,000 will be allocated to one or more community organizations within the ATFC catchment area between 5/1/2025 to 4/20/2026; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County will release an application seeking proposals from eligible organizations which will be reviewed with approval from the New York State Bureau of Tobacco Control; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, are hereby authorized to sign agreements with the approved agencies.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

Authorize Agreement Healthy Alliance Foundation, Inc. Social Care Network/Healthy Alliance IPA, LLC - Health Department

WHEREAS, the Health Department recommends entering into an agreement with the Healthy Alliance Foundation, Inc. ("Healthy Alliance") and the Healthy Alliance IPA, LLC ("IPA") to collect data for social determinants of health; AND

WHEREAS, Healthy Alliance has recently been designated as a Social Care Network ("SCN") Lead Entity to establish, contract and coordinate a network of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and other organizations providing or arranging for health-related social needs (HRSN) services as part of the New York Health Equity Reform (NYHER) 1115 Waiver Demonstration Amendment (the "1115 Demonstration Waiver"); AND

WHEREAS, IPA is an independent practice association approved by the New York State Department of Health to arrange for the provision of health and health related services to members of

managed care organizations (MCOs) and other community members outside of the 1115 Demonstration Waiver; AND

WHEREAS, the Health Department wishes to participate in certain initiatives to advance the objectives of the 1115 Demonstration Waiver and other key aspects of the operations of the SCN and IPA including but not limited to collaboration and performance monitoring of SCN and IPA participants and data sharing; AND

WHEREAS, the data collected can assist on the scope of the Community Health Improvement Plan/Community Health Assessment by using the shared data in prevention strategies within the community; AND

WHEREAS, there would be no cost to the County; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, is hereby authorized to sign agreements with Healthy Alliance Foundation, Inc. and the Healthy Alliance IPA, LLC to collect data for social determinants of health.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

Authorize Agreement with New York State Department of Health for Data Sharing - Health Department

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services in New York State report prehospital care data to the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) including but not limited to, overdose and opioid use; AND

WHEREAS, the de-identified data elements will be provided to the Cortland County Health Department via the Biospatial platform and ImageTrend Elite Viewer for EMS ePCR responses within the Cortland County Health Department's authority for all EMS data elements; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Health Department will be able to use contemporary Emergency Medical Services (EMS) electronic pre-hospital care report (ePCR) data as a contributing data set in the creation of an Aggregate Data Product to identify and assess public health concerns within the their authority; AND

WHEREAS, there would be no cost to the County; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Administrator and/or Chair of the Legislature, upon review and approval by the County Attorney or designee, are hereby authorized to sign agreements with the New York State Department of Health for Data Use for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) electronic pre-hospital care report (ePCR) data.

ON MOTION OF VAN DEE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

Authorize Adoption of Cortland County Indigent Burial Policy

WHEREAS, The Cortland County Department of Social Services pursuant to Section 141 of the Social Services Law of the State of New York is responsible to provide for the care, removal and burial of the body of any recipient of public assistance or care including stillborn infants, who shall die, or of any person found dead in the welfare district, if the deceased leaves no funds sufficient to pay the expense of burial and there are no known relatives or friends or personal representatives liable or willing to accept responsibility for such expense; AND

WHEREAS, the Cortland County Department of Social Services has established a limit on the amount of money that can be spent on the burial of indigent persons within Cortland county and the limits defined below constitute an “indigent burial”; AND

WHEREAS, Cortland County indigent burial rates have not been adjusted since April 2017 when Resolution No. 126-17 established such rates; AND

WHEREAS, local funeral homes are working with Cortland County to provide essential services at reduced rates; AND

WHEREAS, if money is spent above the limits established herein, the burial is not an indigent burial and the Cortland County Department of Social Services is prohibited from providing any money to the funeral directors of services rendered to a deceased indigent person; AND

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and necessary at this time to revise said rates; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, Resolution No. 126-17 be and hereby is rescinded effective June 30, 2025 at 11:59 PM; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this County Legislature hereby authorizes the following rates and procedures, with an effective date of July 1, 2025:

1. **General Policy:**

- A. Indigent burials must be prior approved by the Cortland County Department of Social Services (hereinafter Department) at the time funeral arrangements are made. If funeral arrangements need to be made on a holiday or a weekend, the Department must be contacted on the next business day. In no case will the Department be liable for more than the amounts listed below. A member of the family or a representative will be required to complete a written application and face to face interview with the Department to determine eligibility for a Social Services burial unless the Department waives this for good cause.
- B. Cortland County **will only authorize payment for direct burials or cremations with no services.** The only exception is for a Veteran’s funeral for which Cortland County will pay an additional \$1,000 to the above rates for a one (1) hour service including sundry items either at the funeral home or graveside.
- C. All burials and cremations, as well as any ancillary services provided herein, are to be in compliance with all local and state laws governing such practices.
- D. No funeral home will charge the Department more than the rates charged to the public for any item or service. All funeral homes providing indigent burial services will submit a list of their public rates to the Department by January 31st of each year. Whenever rates are adjusted, the Department will be notified.
- E. Within 48 hours of receiving approval from the Department for an indigent burial, funeral homes will provide the Department with a copy of the contract signed by the family.
- F. If the decedent has a life insurance policy, the beneficiary of that policy is a responsible party of the deceased, and the value of the policy is greater than the cost of burial/cremation, the application will be denied.

2. **Base Rates:**

A. **Burials**

Stillborn to 6 months -	\$638
Seven months Adult -	\$2,169

B. **Cremations -** \$2,169

C. Anatomical Donations -

\$2,169

The base rates shall be recalculated by February 1st of each subsequent year using the US Department of Labor Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Northeast) previous calendar year average up to a maximum annual increase of 4%. The Department shall issue a letter to the funeral home directors each year on or about February 1st outlining the adjusted rate amounts.

Included in the base rates are the following items:

- A. Preparation of remains
- B. Use of preparation room
- C. Transportation within 10 miles to cemetery
- D. One courtesy death notice in the newspaper

The Department will not pay for the vault, urn or grave opening/closing for a cremation. Cremains will be returned to family.

3. Additional Allowances to Funeral Homes:

The following incidental burial items will be reimbursed at actual cost with properly documented receipts when applicable:

- A. Minimum casket required
- B. Minimum outer enclosure
- C. Minimum oversized vault
- D. Cemetery equipment
- E. Cemetery grave opening/closing charges up to \$800
- F. Winter vault storage
- G. Crematory costs
- H. Outside professional services up to \$500
- I. One death certificate provided to the Department, if required
- J. When determined necessary, a disaster pouch and a sealed metal casket

- 4. **Transportation:** Transportation of deceased from place of death to the funeral home or crematory and from the crematory to the funeral home shall be at the rate of \$2.00 per mile for those miles in excess of ten (10) miles from the funeral home not to exceed 30 miles. Transportation from the funeral home to crematory is not reimbursable. Transportation of deceased from funeral home to place of interment shall be at a rate of \$2.00 per mile for those miles in excess of ten (10) miles from the funeral home not to exceed 30 miles. When anatomical donation is chosen, transportation costs to the State University of New York at Upstate Health Science Center, Syracuse, New York will be paid. When it is necessary to transport a body back to Cortland County, mileage at the rate of \$2.00 per loaded mile will be allowed from place of removal to funeral home with prior approval and at the discretion of the Department. Mileage back to Cortland County applies only in those cases where a Cortland County resident has been placed in a nursing home or hospital outside of the County.
- 5. **Cemetery Plots:** The Department will not pay for cemetery plots. Exceptions may be considered with proper documentation that no indigent burial plots are available within Cortland County.
- 6. **Supplementation:** Family or friends may not supplement the cost of the burial/cremation in any manner. Relatives or friends assume responsibility for the entire cost of burial/cremation arrangements should they wish to arrange a more expensive funeral or upgrade merchandise for the deceased beyond amounts in this policy resolution.
- 7. **Headstones:** These are not to be placed on plots that are either donated or purchased by the Department unless they are prior approved by the Department. With prior approval, the family or

arranging party will be allowed to place a flush grave marker on the plot, at their expense, provided that the grave marker falls within the following guidelines: granite gray, no larger than 24"x12"x4", includes deceased's name and dates of birth/death only, and cost does not exceed \$1,200 (not including installation if required). For approval, the family or arranging party must submit to the Department a purchase order indicating size, stone type, lettering and cost to the arranging party.

8. **Benefits Due:** If through Social Security, life insurance or other sources, there are funds available, the Department will pay the difference between the combined assets/resources and the above stated maximum burial allowances. If the decedent has assets/resources equal to or above the maximum rates as adjusted each year, the Department will not contribute toward the burial/cremation. Where the Department is eligible to claim assets/resources, such as bank accounts and Veteran's benefits, the Department will pursue these assets after paying funeral homes the maximum allowable burial expenses.
9. **Billing and Remittance:** Claims for burials approved by the Department must be billed to the Department on a Cortland County voucher accompanied by an itemized billing statement and receipted bills as applicable. Vouchers must be submitted to the Department within thirty (30) days of the date of services. In the event that circumstances delay the submission of vouchers beyond thirty (30) days, consideration will be given if the funeral director can submit appropriate documentation justifying the circumstances leading to the late submission. All burial allowances receiving prior approval from the Department will be paid to the funeral home within thirty (30) days of receipt of all required items.

ON MOTION OF CORPORA

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

Reject Bids for Opioid Settlement Funds RFP

WHEREAS, Cortland County advertised and received bids for the Utilization of Cortland County Opioid Settlement Funds for Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, and Harm Reduction Initiatives; AND

WHEREAS, the County received bids from the following:

Family & Children's Counseling Services
165 Main Street, Suite B
Cortland, NY 13045

Access to Independence of Cortland County, Inc.
26 North Main Street
Cortland, NY 13045

IPRO
1979 Marcus Avenue
Lake Success, NY 11042

Cortland County Mobility
60 Central Ave, Suite 114
Cortland, NY 13045

Rural Health Institute of New York
45 Crandall Street
Cortland, NY 13045

National Opinion Research Center
55 East Monroe Street, 30th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603

; AND

WHEREAS, based upon evaluation of the bids it has been determined that it is in the County's best interest to reject all bids; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Cortland County Legislature be and hereby formally rejects the bid proposals received for the Utilization of Cortland County Opioid Settlement Funds for Prevention, Treatment, Recovery, and Harm Reduction Initiatives.

Discussion Items

1. DSS First Quarter Stats 2025

Monthly Reports

1. Mental Health Monthly Report
2. CCHD Monthly Report

Adjournment