

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
PRESIDING OFFICER

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ROSE WALKER
CHAIRWOMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

March 4, 2013
3:38 p.m.

REGAL REPORTING SERVICES
516-747-7353

A P P E A R A N C E S:

ROSE MARIE WALKER
Chairwoman

FRANCIS X. BECKER
Vice-Chairman

VINCENT MUSCARELLA

NORMA GONSALVES

JUDI BOSWORTH
Ranking

DELIA DeRIGGI-WHITTON (Not Present)

CARRIE A. SOLAGES (Sitting in for Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton)

ROBERT TROIANO

WILLIAM J. MULLER, III
Clerk

LIST OF SPEAKERS

GREG MAY 5
ANNA SUSSA 8
TINA DIAMOND 24

1 Health & Social Services Committee - 3-4-13

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3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I call the Health
4 and Social Services Committee to order, and ask
5 the clerk to please take the roll.

6 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Troiano?

7 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here.

8 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Solages,
9 substituting for Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton?

10 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Here.

11 CLERK MULLER: Ranking Member Bosworth?

12 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Here.

13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Venditto?

14 LEGISLATOR VENDITTO: Here.

15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Muscarella?

16 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.

17 CLERK MULLER: Vice Chairman Becker?

18 Chairwoman Walker?

19 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Here.

20 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.

21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: There are nine items
22 on the agenda today, the first is Clerk Item 76-
23 13, which is an ordinance supplemental to the
24 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
25 the Health Department.

2 May I have a motion, please?

3 LEGISLATOR BECKER: So moved.

4 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

5 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Moved by Legislator
6 Becker, seconded by Legislator Muscarella.

7 The item is before us.

8 Mr. May.

9 MR. MAY: Good afternoon, Madame
10 Chairwoman. Would we be able to call all the
11 items together? Ms. Ana Sousa from the Health
12 Department will be here for all of them.

13 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: We certainly can. I
14 was going to do that. Usually it ends up that
15 she speaks about each one individually. But if
16 you'd rather us call them all together.

17 MR. MAY: However you'd like. Your
18 choice. Ms. Ana Sousa is here to answer all the
19 items.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: We'll call them all
21 together.

22 The next is Clerk Item 77-13, which is an
23 ordinance supplemental to the annual
24 appropriation ordinance in connection with the
25 Health Department.

2 Clerk Item 78-13, an ordinance
3 supplemental to the annual appropriation
4 ordinance in connection with the Health
5 Department.

6 79-13 is an ordinance supplemental to the
7 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
8 the Health Department.

9 80-13, an ordinance supplemental to the
10 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
11 the Health Department.

12 81-13 is an ordinance supplemental to the
13 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
14 the Health Department.

15 82-13, an ordinance supplemental to the
16 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
17 the Health Department.

18 83-13, an ordinance supplemental to the
19 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
20 the Health Department.

21 99-13, an ordinance supplemental to the
22 annual appropriation ordinance in connection with
23 the Health Department.

24 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

25 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Second.

2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: So moved by
3 Legislator Becker, seconded by Legislator Becker.

4 MS. SOUSA: Hi. Good afternoon. I'm
5 Anna Sousa, Deputy Commissioner for
6 Administration.

7 With regards to Item 76-13, this is a
8 supplemental appropriation in the amount of
9 \$7,130. It's for the children with special care
10 needs grant. This is basically a cost of living
11 adjustment award that was recently granted by the
12 New York State Department of Health. It's just
13 to add onto the original funding. So, in total
14 now, we're going to have a total funding of
15 \$96,027 for this grant.

16 Any questions?

17 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions from
18 the legislators? Legislator Becker.

19 LEGISLATOR BECKER: For special needs
20 children?

21 MS. SOUSA: Yes.

22 LEGISLATOR BECKER: And what
23 specifically is that?

24 MS. SOUSA: Specifically what this grant
25 does -- or program, it provides information and

2 referral to families of children up to the age of
3 21 who have a medical diagnosis and who may have
4 special care needs. This program links the
5 families with these children to needed services
6 in the community and facilitates access to health
7 care coverage.

8 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Do we have one
9 vendor or one organization that we would
10 appropriate that money to to do that or that to
11 help supplement the county itself?

12 MS. SOUSA: This particular grant is to
13 cover for salaries of early intervention service
14 coordinators that meet with the families --

15 LEGISLATOR BECKER: And who work for the
16 county, I gather?

17 MS. SOUSA: Yes.

18 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Thank you very much.

19 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
20 legislators?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 Any public comment?

23 (No verbal response.)

24 Item 77-13.

25 MS. SOUSA: This item is a supplemental

2 appropriation in the amount of \$146,133 for the
3 comprehensive Prenatal/Peri-Natal Services
4 network. The mission of this network is to
5 improve birth outcomes and reduce infant
6 mortality in Nassau County. This is a network of
7 over 40 agencies who work together to improve
8 birth outcomes. It's accomplished through
9 outreach, needs assessment, advocacy, education,
10 and coordinating delivery of services. It serves
11 all of Nassau County, but specifically focuses on
12 Roosevelt, Hempstead Village, Uniondale, Inwood,
13 Freeport, and Westbury/New Cassel.

14 It's an amendment for an additional nine
15 months; we've been extended. It will take us
16 through September 30, 2013. It basically covers
17 for staff of two and a half FTEs.

18 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Have we seen
19 positive outcomes from this?

20 MS. SOUSA: Yes, we have. The goal is
21 to have positive birth outcomes, and the reports
22 based on the outreach, yes, we are seeing
23 improvement.

24 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Okay. Thank you.

25 Any other questions or comments from the

2 legislators?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Any public comment?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: I'm sorry.

7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Legislator Troiano.

8 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Thank you for
9 mentioning that. I think you said most of the
10 money or much of the money is distributed to some
11 of the minority communities in Nassau County. Do
12 you know how much of the 149,000 goes to those
13 communities, 146,000?

14 MS. SOUSA: Actually, it goes to cover
15 the salaries of the health employees that
16 participated in network and make sure there is
17 outreach, education, and dissemination to these
18 communities. So it's really to cover for
19 salaries, it's not to disseminate to the
20 communities.

21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Apparently you've
22 done some tracking to determine that those
23 numbers in the network I guess are based in those
24 communities.

25 MS. SOUSA: Yes. Yes. I don't have it

2 with me, but if it's something that you would
3 like to get more information on, I would be more
4 than happy to supply it.

5 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: I would like to see
6 that. Thank you.

7 MS. SOUSA: Okay.

8 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you very much.
9 If you could get back to the committee, as a
10 whole.

11 MS. SOUSA: Okay.

12 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: No other questions
13 or comments on 77-13?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 78-13.

16 MS. SOUSA: 78-13 is a supplemental
17 appropriation in the amount of \$19,894 for our
18 rabies programs. This is a program that is run
19 by New York State Department of Health, and it is
20 mandated by New York State Public Health Law.
21 The primary objective is to protect the residents
22 of Nassau County from rabies. And the funding
23 provides rabies post-exposure treatment and
24 preparation and shipment of animal specimens to
25 New York State facilities. It is one year of a

2 five year renewal.

3 Just to let you know, fortunately we have
4 had -- in 2012 we had 162 specimens sent to the
5 state and 82 residents were recommended for post-
6 exposure.

7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.

8 Any questions? Legislator Bosworth.

9 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you. Hi.
10 Good afternoon.

11 Just a question about the expenditures
12 covered in the grant. In the backup it shows
13 that the county will be using the grant to cover
14 salaries and fringes. So I just was curious if
15 salaries and fringes are considered
16 administrative expenses, because I know in some
17 grants administrative expenses are disallowed.
18 So I just wanted to know how that pertains to
19 this grant.

20 MS. SOUSA: Just let me look at the
21 details.

22 It is my understanding that it is for
23 salary and fringe, the salaries for the
24 individuals that do take care of the specimens,
25 in preparing them for upstate. With regards to

2 the other expenses, I believe it's to cover for
3 the supplies with regards to dealing with the
4 specimens - shipping the specimens upstate and
5 also the waste management of having to haul out
6 the rest of the body, the animal bodies.

7 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: If I could just
8 ask for when we get to Full Leg if I could just
9 have more information about where it says in the
10 grant that salaries and fringes are disallowed or
11 if it doesn't say that.

12 MS. SOUSA: Okay.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: If you could just
14 check, more specifically.

15 MS. SOUSA: Okay.

16 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: I appreciate that.

17 MS. SOUSA: Sure. No problem.

18 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other questions
19 or comments? Legislator Troiano.

20 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Thank you.

21 Have we received an awards letter at this
22 point?

23 MS. SOUSA: For this particular grant, I
24 believe we have. It says that we have -- it's
25 not so much an award letter, but it's an award e-

2 mail that we did receive.

3 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: And it specifies
4 the final amount?

5 MS. SOUSA: It specifies an annual
6 amount of \$19,893.48. It also specifies the
7 total for five years. This is part of a five
8 year award that we've received of \$99,467.40.

9 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any public comment?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 Item 79-13.

13 MS. SOUSA: Item 79-13 is in regards to
14 a supplemental appropriation in the amount of
15 \$535,000 for the Tuberculosis prevention and
16 control program. This is 100 percent grant
17 funded through the New York State Department of
18 Health.

19 The TB program provides comprehensive
20 services to protect the public from the spread of
21 TB. Services include surveillance, case
22 management, directly observed therapy and
23 education to ensure patient compliance with
24 medication therapy.

25 Last year we served, in terms of clients,

2 we made 4,000 visits. We had approximately 33
3 cases identified in the county last year.

4 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thirty-three you
5 said?

6 MS. SOUSA: Yes, 33.

7 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any questions?
8 Legislator Bosworth.

9 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Just really an
10 informational question. Is 33 cases more or less
11 than usual or pretty much what you usually see?

12 MS. SOUSA: It's similar to 2011. It's
13 on the downtick from 2010 where we had 43 cases.
14 So we had 43 in 2010, 29 in 2011, and 33 in 2012.

15 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Do we know how many
17 we've had to this point this year?

18 MS. SOUSA: No. I don't have that
19 information, but I can certainly get it for you.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you.

21 Any other questions or concerns?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Any public comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 Item 80-13.

2 MS. SOUSA: 80-13 is in regards to a
3 supplemental appropriation for \$8,489,985. This
4 is funds that we are receiving from the federal
5 government for the Ryan White Part A Program.
6 The government provides these funds for the
7 comprehensive health and social services for
8 people living with HIV and AIDS in Nassau and
9 Suffolk Counties.

10 Nassau County, through an inter-
11 governmental agreement with Suffolk, is the
12 designated grantee. This award includes \$433,336
13 of funds for the minority AIDS initiative. And
14 the purpose of these funds is to evaluate and
15 address the disproportionate impact on HIV/AIDS
16 and the disparities in access, treatment, care,
17 and outcomes for the racial and ethnic
18 minorities.

19 In total, we have 4,700 clients were
20 served in the 2012/2013 grant year, and it is
21 expected to be the same amount served for this
22 ongoing grant year.

23 The grant also allows for five percent
24 administration cost, and we use that fund to
25 cover part of the staff salary that administers

2 this grant.

3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Carrie.

4 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Good afternoon.

5 MS. SOUSA: Hi.

6 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Nice to see you.

7 Thank you for being here today.

8 The first question I have for you is,
9 first, have we received an actual award letter
10 from the federal government on this program?

11 MS. SOUSA: With regards to this one, we
12 have not received an actual awards letter, it's
13 forthcoming. We are putting through the
14 appropriation in order to continue services to
15 the existing HIV/AIDS clients. But it is
16 forthcoming. We are expecting it. This is a
17 program that we had for multiple years, so we
18 don't foresee that there be a turndown of the
19 award.

20 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Do we know if we're
21 being funded at the highest level, that is the
22 eligible metropolitan area, or the lower level,
23 the transitional grant area?

24 MS. SOUSA: That I don't know. I would
25 have to get back to you.

2 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Okay. So when your
3 office does receive the award letter, if you
4 could please provide to the minority caucus and
5 also my legislative office a copy of the award
6 letter and specific information as to which
7 level, that would be very, very, very helpful.

8 Do we know the full level - excuse me -
9 the full amount of the grant?

10 MS. SOUSA: I believe this is the full
11 amount. This is the annual award.

12 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: And of that amount,
13 which percentage or what number can we say is
14 being dedicated to Districts 1, that is the
15 district represented by Kevan Abrahams, my
16 colleague, District 2, Legislator Robert Troiano,
17 and District 3, yours truly. What percentage or
18 what number of the funding is going to those
19 areas?

20 MS. SOUSA: Unfortunately, I don't have
21 those details, but I will be more than happy to
22 share it with out, along with the award letter
23 and the information that you asked for.

24 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you. As a
25 point of order, my legislative office, on

2 February 14, was able to have a very successful
3 AIDS forum. I have a copy of the press release,
4 which also has a link to the YouTube footage of
5 the entire forum. I would also like to provide a
6 copy to yourself and to your office. I think
7 it's very important to realize that the minority
8 community has never left crisis mode when it has
9 come to this issue, although the CDC has had a
10 change in the classification of HIV/AIDS from
11 chronic -- excuse me -- from life threatening now
12 to a chronic disease. It's very important that
13 we continue to raise awareness and continue to
14 raise resources for prevention methods. I would
15 like to share that with your office. And if you
16 could please advise which other agencies or
17 offices we could share that with as well, that
18 would be great and helpful. And if you could
19 please send information to my office.

20 And I would also like to thank Legislator
21 Delia DeRiggi-Whitton for allowing me the time.
22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: If I could just ask
24 you to provide that information to the entire
25 committee.

2 MS. SOUSA: Okay. No problem.

3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Is there any public
4 comment?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 Item Number 81-13.

7 MS. SOUSA: 81-13 is a supplemental
8 appropriation for the HIV surveillance and
9 partner notification program, in the amount of
10 \$287,255. This program is funded through a grant
11 from the New York State Department of Health.
12 New York State Law mandates laboratories and
13 health care providers to report all individuals
14 with HIV infection to the Health Department.

15 The law requires health departments to
16 notify partners and contacts of their exposure to
17 HIV. Other components of the program include
18 risk reduction counseling, testing, and linkage
19 to medical evaluation and care, as well as social
20 mental health referrals, as needed. Services
21 also include health education to at-risk
22 populations, and no cost confidential counseling
23 and testing, as well as linking those individuals
24 to the full range of medical and support
25 services.

2 In 2012, we had 91 new cases, as well as
3 99 partner notification assignments.

4 This particular funding is for the first
5 year of a five-year grant program that just was
6 awarded on a competitive basis. So that was good
7 news for us, that we were able to get it.

8 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Legislator Bosworth.

9 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: I think Carrie
10 made the compelling point that unfortunately AIDS
11 is alive and well --

12 MS. SOUSA: Yes.

13 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: in our county as
14 well as in so many other places.

15 This grant, does this program obligate
16 the county to provide testing services for
17 HIV/AIDS?

18 MS. SOUSA: What we do is we refer them
19 to the clinics for testing services. If, in the
20 event that they are not able to get quick
21 testing, we will be able to draw the blood in and
22 send it up to New York State or Wodsworth
23 (phonetic) Laboratory.

24 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Our clinical
25 health lab, that's still closed, isn't it?

2 MS. SOUSA: Yes. Anything that is
3 drawn, we refer it up to New York State. We also
4 refer them to the NUMC clinics in order to be
5 able to get that service there.

6 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Is there any sense
7 of when our clinical health lab might be
8 reopening?

9 MS. SOUSA: Not at this point.

10 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

11 MS. SOUSA: You're welcome.

12 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Other legislators?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 Any public comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 Item 82-13.

17 MS. SOSUA: 82-13 is a supplemental
18 appropriation in the amount of \$154,733 for the
19 community health worker program. Again, this is
20 funded through a New York State Department of
21 Health grant. This program provides case
22 management and advocacy services for at-risk
23 pregnant women and their families in the Village
24 of Hempstead and the community of Roosevelt.
25 Outreach to pregnant women includes visiting

2 churches, local agencies, and street outreach.
3 The home based case management service is well
4 structured and comprehensive. Clients receive
5 information and referral assistance, coordination
6 of services, education, advocacy, and crisis or
7 emergency intervention.

8 We track our client's attendance to
9 scheduled prenatal care appointments. We make
10 sure that they keep all of their appointments.
11 The goal is to ensure that babies born to mothers
12 go to full term and are at least a minimum of
13 five and a half pounds birth weight.

14 We, right now, have an annual caseload of
15 170 clients. This grant is actually a nine month
16 extension, which will take us to September 30.

17 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any comments from
18 the legislators?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Any comment on 81-13?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I'm just going to
23 backup because someone did have a question about
24 80-13.

25 MS. DIAMOND: I have a comment on all

2 the grants that we're talking about.

3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Okay.

4 MS. DIAMOND: Tina Diamond, Farmingdale,
5 New York.

6 I just want to know that these grants are
7 not affected by the sequester that's in place and
8 they will be forthcoming from the government
9 agencies that are giving us these grants.

10 MS. SOUSA: We haven't received -- this
11 one is from New York State so it's not coming
12 from the federal. It's not a pass-thru. It's
13 from New York State. And we have not received
14 notification this was going to be impacted.

15 MS. DIAMOND: Okay. Thank you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Thank you. And I
17 apologize I didn't see your hand raised before.

18 Item Number 82-13.

19 MS. SOUSA: We just went over 82-13.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: I'm sorry. I
21 apologize.

22 83-13.

23 MS. SOUSA: 83-13 is a supplemental
24 appropriation in the amount of \$53,277 for the
25 child, family and safety grant. This is 100

2 percent grant funded through the New York State
3 Office of Children and Family Services.

4 The child fatality review team reviews
5 all deaths of children who reside and die in
6 Nassau County and whose death is unexplained for
7 or unexpected. The review is done in order to
8 better understand the causes of childhood deaths
9 in the county and then to make recommendations
10 based on the findings to reduce future
11 preventable child fatalities.

12 The grant was initially awarded in 2007.
13 This particular appropriation and funding is to
14 tag on another six month extension to the grant
15 that will take us through July 31, 2013.

16 Just the last point to add. In 2012
17 there were 12 child fatality cases that were
18 reviewed.

19 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: That was 2012?

20 MS. SOUSA: 2012. It was a decrease
21 over the past four years. So we started off with
22 18 in 2009 and in 2012 it was 12 cases.

23 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Certainly 12 too
24 many.

25 MS. SOUSA: Absolutely.

2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
3 legislators?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Any public comment?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 The final item is Item 99-13.

8 MS. SOUSA: Item 99-13 is a supplemental
9 appropriation in the amount of \$6,015 for the
10 sexually transmitted disease intervention
11 services grant. This is an additional cost of
12 living adjustment award. So that award, in
13 addition to our original award, brings this grant
14 to \$81,015. It was funded through the New York
15 State Department of Health. The mission of the
16 grant is to reduce the spread of sexually
17 transmitted diseases through surveillance,
18 verification of treatment, contact
19 investigations, and education.

20 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Obviously we keep
21 statistics on this too. Have our numbers gone
22 done?

23 MS. SOUSA: For Chlamydia and Syphilis
24 the numbers have gone up. I just have a general
25 statement that its increased. And for gonorrhoea,

2 it's about the same as in prior years.

3 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Do we have any
4 thoughts on what we might be able to do, as far
5 as education and so on and so forth?

6 MS. SOUSA: The division director in
7 front of the STD, HIV group, Carolyn McCummings
8 (phonetic) actually has initiated a very broad
9 outreach program for the year. Just in the past
10 two months she and her team have been going out
11 to various forums, be it at schools or community
12 events, in trying to spread the news. Not the
13 disease, the news.

14 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Not the disease,
15 right.

16 MS. SOUSA: Last month was condom month.
17 There was distribution of condoms as well as
18 education. So they are doing a great job in
19 trying to get the news out; hopefully we see an
20 impact as a result of it.

21 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: You can only imagine
22 if you didn't have that education and getting the
23 word out and trying to do all we can to stop the
24 spread of STDs, it's sad to think the numbers are
25 still going up.

2 Any other comments? Legislator Solages.

3 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you very
4 much.

5 Is it possible that you can please notify
6 my office and the office of my colleagues in the
7 future about some of these activities? I was
8 just speaking with Legislator Delia DeRiggi-
9 Whitton and we did not receive notice about that.
10 I only had received notice about that because at
11 the forum that I was able to have on February 14.
12 To my understanding, Ms. Cummings and I think
13 also Ray Thomas also now is in that office.

14 MS. SOUSA: Yeah.

15 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: I'm sure they're
16 working a lot of great, innovative stuff. We
17 would like to learn more about that. Maybe if
18 they can come later in the month, that would be
19 great.

20 MS. SOUSA: That's not a terribly
21 unreasonable task to do. They're very excited
22 about their program, so I'm sure that they'll be
23 excited to notify.

24 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: And regarding --
25 the program regarding the pregnancy, the early

2 pregnancies, we would also like to receive
3 information about that program, as to who to
4 contact about that program.

5 Based on representations made by Ms.
6 Cummings, have the schools provided access to
7 this organization? Based on my experience, some
8 of the schools have been very hesitant as to
9 allowing these groups to come in.

10 MS. SOUSA: I believe some schools have,
11 but I'm not exactly sure which ones. I do know
12 that she has attended some health fairs at the
13 schools where she will bring some information and
14 speak to the students, but I'm not exactly clear
15 which ones they are.

16 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: In a circumstance
17 where a school is not providing access, what
18 different avenues or what different methods do
19 you have to gain access to those schools?

20 MS. SOUSA: What we try -- what my
21 colleagues tries to do is go out into the
22 community where there is access to all ages and
23 try to spread the news of the education outreach.
24 I don't know -- at this point I would have to get
25 back to you with regards to what other additional

2 aggressive methods they use in order to try to
3 get into the schools.

4 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Have you used
5 social media to your advantage?

6 MS. SOUSA: No. Not that I'm aware of.

7 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Have you reached
8 out to the counsel of pastors, churches?
9 Churches are very important, especially in the
10 minority community.

11 MS. SOUSA: That I believe --

12 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Have you reached
13 out to those entities?

14 MS. SOUSA: That Mr. Thomas and Ms.
15 McCummings are definitely doing.

16 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Thank you very
17 much.

18 MS. SOUSA: You're welcome.

19 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Any other
20 legislators have any questions, comments, or
21 concerns?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Any public comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 There being none, all those items are

2 before us - Items 76-13, 77-13, 78-13, 79-13, 80-
3 13, 81-13, 82-13, 83-13, and 99-13.

4 All those in favor?

5 (Aye.)

6 Any opposed?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Any abstentions?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 The items pass unanimously.

11 Legislator Becker.

12 LEGISLATOR BECKER: I just want to
13 compliment you on how well prepared you are
14 today. We really appreciate it very much. All
15 the information was extremely helpful. I want to
16 thank you and compliment you for being so well
17 prepared in answering our questions so well.

18 MS. SOUSA: You're welcome. But I can't
19 take the all the credit. Mary Ellen Laurain, who
20 is not with us today and who usually comes here,
21 did a great job of briefing me, so I have to give
22 her some of the credit.

23 LEGISLATOR BECKER: But you did a good
24 job.

25 MS. SOUSA: Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: We'll tell her --
3 you send the message back that we did miss her,
4 but we're very happy to have you here.

5 MS. SOUSA: Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: And we hope she's
7 fine and she's not ill or anything.

8 MS. SOUSA: Nope. She's on a well
9 deserved vacation.

10 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Wonderful.

11 The items pass unanimously.

12 There are no other items before us.

13 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Move to adjourn.

14 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Motion to adjourn by
15 Legislator Becker.

16 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

17 CHAIRWOMAN WALKER: Seconded by
18 Legislator Muscarella.

19 All in favor?

20 (Aye.)

21 Any opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 We are adjourned.

24 (Whereupon, the Health and Social
25 Services Committee adjourned at 4:06 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of New York, do hereby state:

THAT I attended at the time and place above mentioned and took stenographic record of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcript of the same and the whole thereof, according to the best of my ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____, 2013.

FRANK GRAY