

Office for Aging Advisory Council

February 9, 2026

In attendance: Sandy Sanzo, Suzanne Sullivan, Robert Hoover, Youjung Lee, Laura Walker, Katie Legg, Maria Motsavage

OFA staff: Mary Turbush, Lucia Esposito

Motion made by Sandy and second motion by Youjung to approve previous meeting's minutes. Noone opposed.

Director's Report:

- MOW Main office was moved from Binghamton Tabernacle Church to Conklin Community Center. Volunteers have transitioned well. We were able to increase their mileage reimbursement. New staff person starts today replacing a retired staff member.
- We moved Yesteryears out of Isbell Street located at Binghamton Housing Authority. We now have one location for Yesteryears in Endwell (same building as BW senior center).
- We are getting more requests for caregiver consultations from employers who are seeking info about Caregiver Services.
- HEAP opened
- Three senior centers are adding My Senior Center systems – a system that allows for check in by the participants. It will tell us what activities they participated and when they ate at the center. This will allow us to keep track of data more efficiently. JC Senior Center has been using this system for years.
- We are working with Dartmouth University on a new pilot that would use AI technology to engage in social isolation connections via text or voice call. This would be geared toward the very isolated older adults. The AI technology engages in conversations, daily check ins. Lucia is testing it while we wait for IRB approval.
- CASP – medical program that connects clients to community-based services as referred by their primary care. We work closely with Endwell Family Physicians. We met with a new medical provider in Kirkwood. Other counties around NYS are hoping to pilot it.
- Clean outs – now a permanent program at OFA depending on funding. This service is used for clients who have major hoarding issues and need to have their homes cleaned out in order to accept other services in the home.
- UHS Mental Health Program – we have seen 20 people so far. This program was extended for another year. Clients get in home assessments and then receive continued peer support.
- Extermination Services – new program started 2 weeks. This is for clients with infestations (bed bugs, cockroaches etc). Clients must own the home, must sign a waiver and follow the instructions.
- Renovations are planned for BW senior center (Men's bathroom) but are paused due to HUD funding being on pause.
- Northern Broome Senior center –There are moisture issues. We had a sump pump put in and the floor will be stripped and waxed on Presidents Day.
- Shopper Service Contract was extended with Faith in Action Volunteers. They were the only one to bid on the contract. There are a few agencies that have interest in bidding next year. We are looking for a more creative approach to shopping than the standard shopper service.

- OFA will be piloting an OFA shopper program for one-two clients using OFA staff.
- We are looking for overnight respite clients who need 3 days – 2 weeks (Willow Point; Good Shepherd). Katie Legg suggesting doing a video about the service.
- We have room for 2 additional Advisory Council members. Mary reviewed the resume we received. A vote was done about accepting Sarah into the Advisory Council. Noone opposed. Sarah will be referred to legislature for approval.
- Committee members are encouraged to bring gaps or concerns they are seeing to the council for discussion.
- Maria recommended that OFA consider a new housing representative for the council since Jerry Willard has completed his tenure on the OFA council. Lucia will reach out to SEPP.

Next meeting: Updates will be Emailed due to Director being at training 04/13/26