

CONTRACT AGENCIES COMMITTEE

Of the

Suffolk County Legislature

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Contract Agencies Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, New York, on May 17, 2007.

Members Present:

Legislator Cameron Alden - Acting Chairman
Legislator Dan Losquadro

Members Not Present:

Presiding Officer William Lindsay - Chairman
Legislator Jon Cooper.
Legislator Lou D'Amaro
Legislator Ricardo Montano
Legislator Lynne Nowick

Also in Attendance:

Legislator John Kennedy - District #12
Barbara LoMoriello - Deputy Chief of Staff/P.O. Lindsay's Office
Greg Moran - Aide to Legislator Nowick
Linda Bay - Aide to Minority Leader
Bob Martinez - Aide to Legislator Montano
John Ortiz - Senior Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office
Beth Wahl - President/William Floyd Community Summit
Nancy Marks - Treasurer/William Floyd Community Summit
Alan Inkles - Director/Staller Center at Stony Brook University
Louis Grossman - Director of Maryhaven
Susan Dickinson - Vice-President of Finance/Maryhaven
Sal Bush - Executive Director/Selden-Centereach Youth Association
Joy Meyer - Office Manager/Selden-Centereach Youth Association
Marsha Spector - Executive Director/SNAP
Carol Edgar - Associate Executive Director/SNAP
Mary Ann Pfeiffer - Executive Director/YES-Youth Enrichment Services
Maryann McGrath - Director of Development/YES
Mary Gravina - Assistant Vice-President of Counseling Services - Hospice
Care Network
Susan Morrow - Chief Financial Officer/Hospice Care Network
Ann Moran-Smith - Smith Haven Ministries
Deena Cohen - President/MADD
Margaret Rebholz - Vice-President/MADD
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 10:06 AM*)*

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good morning. Welcome to the Ad Hoc Committee on Contract Agencies. We don't have a real lot of Legislators here this morning, but you were scheduled at ten o'clock, right? So we're going to get started. Because it's mainly just testimony, we have some pretty standard questions to ask you and then we'll disseminate that to everybody.

So as we do with every meeting, we'll start with the pledge, and we'll have Jon lead us in that.

Salutation

I also take a moment of silence in recognition of those that have given their lives for this country and also just to keep in our thoughts and prayers and in our minds the people that have put themselves in harm's way and are serving all over the world at this very moment.

Moment of Silence Observed

Thank you. Okay, so you're from the William Floyd Community Summit? Come on up. The first question would be did your budget pass?

MS. WAHL:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yours did, right, so you're happy.

MS. WAHL:

Yes, very.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, good. Hi, John.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Good morning, Mr. Chair. How are you?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

This is actually a fact-finding mission that we go on. We were -- the Legislature was criticized, and I think it was misdirected at us, but New York State has a big problem with some of their appropriations where they give groups money and they don't really keep track of it and it's not included in their budget. Everybody that gets money, actually, from Suffolk County, there are strict guidelines as to what they can do with the money and there's strict guidelines how the money is handed over. And also the accounting, who gets the money, that's always included in a resolution; even if it's in the budget, there's a line in the budget that would state the name of the group.

What we're trying to do is get a handle on whether there's any duplication of services, whether there's areas that we have services in and then other areas where we don't have services in. So we are trying to get in as many not-for-profit agencies that have gotten either grants or have contracts with Suffolk County, we're trying to bring them in and ask them pretty much the same questions for each group. So what we usually start with is a quick and brief overview of your agency, what you do, what geographic area you services, you know, that kind of thing.

MS. WAHL:

My name is Beth Wahl and I'm the President of the William Floyd Community Summit. This is Nancy Marks who's our Treasurer.

We're a community-based organization made up of representatives from many organizations within

the community; Churches, schools, libraries, all the different fraternal organizations in the community have representatives that come. Then below that, we have eight subcommittees, beautification, youth services, historical, quality of life, those type of things, that actually do the work where we -- where we request funding from the County, the town, the State.

Some of the projects that we have done over the years within the community are we've hosted several community rallies where several thousand people attend. We were the first community in the Town of Brookhaven to hold a visioning process, four day process which started the major revitalization of Neighborhood Road and actually brought about changes in the codes in the Town of Brookhaven based on our visioning process. We've hosted National Night Out Programs for the community. We also lease from the County at no charge the old Smith Point Toll booth and operate it as a Tourist Center; we've done that for the last three years and our lease was just renewed for another three.

We've done many beautification projects within the community, planting numerous gardens and any area they could find, they just plant Daffodils and in the spring the whole area looks beautiful. They've -- we have bronze statues that are dotting the community and are trying to find locations for many more, and some of the funding from the County has gone to purchase those statues.

Also, they created a bird sanctuary out of an old sump that was abandoned and was just a mosquito area and so they made a bird sanctuary out of it. They also created an apertum on the school property which is basically an outdoor science lab for the students of the William Floyd School District who can come and see the different varieties of trees.

Our Youth Services Committee is very involved each year in raising money that allows children in the high school who couldn't afford to go to the senior prom to go, they buy their tickets, they pay for their movies, getting the girls hair done, renting the boys tuxes, things like that. They also, in cooperation with the Town of Brookhaven Youth Bureau, run a Summer Youth Program for middle school children each year in the summer four nights a week which is attended by approximately a thousand children. This year we're -- in the fall, we're planning to do a Family Fun Day where there will be activities for the youth of the community as well as things for their parents to learn about the community.

So that's an overview, you know. We're involved in many, many different community activities.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

We have a series of questions.

MS. WAHL:

Sure.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

How many employees does your agency have?

MS. WAHL:

None, we're strictly volunteer.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Approximately how many volunteers, rough guess?

MS. WAHL:

Approximately a hundred, a hundred and fifty.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Are you aware of any other agencies that provide similar services to the same population?

MS. WAHL:

There are many community groups that work within the community at -- they're not doing similar things, but we're all trying to do things to improve the community, you know. So they're certainly not doing the youth programs and putting bronze statues and those types, but there are many groups within the community.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah, as any community would. How much funding do you actually receive from the County?

MS. MARKS:

Well, as far as 2006 is concerned, we received 28,000 which went to statues and trees and gardening, those type of projects.

MS. WAHL:

No, that 28 was for community development --

MS. MARKS:

Right.

MS. WAHL:

-- and it went directly to the Town of Brookhaven, as that does.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Was that downtown revitalization?

MS. WAHL:

Yes, the downtown -- yes, each year the different --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So that really wasn't to you.

MS. WAHL:

Well, we fill out the grant, it's in our name.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, okay. So 28,000 Downtown --

MS. WAHL:

Which is being used -- we're doing a revitalization of Neighborhood Road and we have several projects, that's going to be putting a gazebo at a nutrition center, putting in some permanent chess tables, things like that, at that nutrition center.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. '07, do you know?

MS. MARKS:

Excuse me?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

From 2007, do you have any idea?

MS. MARKS:

In 2007, actually there's a \$2,000 grant that we're still waiting for, we've done all the paper work, it's for the Youth Services. We're going to be spending the money first and then getting reimbursed for that.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Did you get an approved contract?

MS. WAHL:

I just filled it out. The money actually is going to the Suffolk County Youth Bureau and they will reimburse us, it's for the Summer Youth Program, to buy supplies for the Summer Youth Program.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

John, do you know if that's a Legislative grant that was in the budget or --

MS. WAHL:

It was an Omnibus grant from Legislator Browning, but --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

It was omnibus?

MS. WAHL:

Yeah, but somehow there was a little bit of a mix-up and it ended up that it was going to go from the County to the town because the town runs the Summer Youth Program, but then the town said they couldn't do it because we didn't have a contract with them, which we didn't understand because all of our other money goes directly to them. So now instead it's at the Suffolk County Youth Bureau and I just sent in all the final -- they have their own contracts and everything and I just sent in everything and we will buy the equipment and they will reimburse us.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good. That process -- the reason why I ask, that process is a little longer. If it was a Legislative grant, a lot of those smaller grants we're taking on right here in the Legislature, so. But that's going to go through the County Executive's Office and the Youth Bureau.

MS. WAHL:

Right, yes.

MS. MARKS:

Okay.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So obviously, for 2007, you're getting \$2,000; what would be the consequence if you didn't receive the funding, no Youth Program?

MS. WAHL:

Well, there would be a Youth Program without a lot of the equipment that they could be using. As you can imagine, with a thousand kids using the equipment, it needs to be replaced.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And there's a thousand kids in the program, roughly?

MS. WAHL:

Uh-huh.

MS. MARKS:

Now, also, there was \$10,000 that we received in January, it was actually approved in 2006, but as far as accounting purposes, it's classified as a 2007 grant. I don't know how you would calculate that.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Ours would probably be 2006.

MS. MARKS:

Okay.

MS. WAHL:

Okay, that was Omnibus money.

MR. ORTIZ:

Right, the 10,000 they received was accounted back to 2006.

MS. WAHL:

Okay.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, that's in addition to the 28,000, downtown rehabilitation?

MS. WAHL:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so you've got also 10,000; and that was for?

MS. WAHL:

That was for Neighborhood Road to purchase trees.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Beautification, then, right?

MS. WAHL:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Do you receive funding from any other sources like Federal, State, town?

MS. MARKS:

There is no funding from the Federal Government. We do receive from the State depending on what grants would be available at the time. In the past we have received State grants for the Beautification Committee which have gone towards bird sanctuaries or the gardens or statues, depending on what was available at the time.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Now, your total budget is?

MS. MARKS:

Well, we -- our operating or administrative costs would be approximately 4,000 a year that we have, between insurance and stamps and some printing, things like that.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

But how much would -- how much would be like your total budget?

MS. MARKS:

We raise anywhere between ten to 13,000 a year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And that's in outside fundraising?

MS. WAHL:

Yes, it's outside fundraising.

MS. MARKS:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And then you just said a small amount goes to your admin expenses, printing. So about, what did you say, three or \$4,000.

MS. MARKS:

Yeah, about three or \$4,000, it depends.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And that's for printing and insurance?

MS. MARKS:

Correct.

MS. WAHL:

Phone bills, you know, that type of thing.

MS. MARKS:

We have a phone at the Tourist Center, things like that, so.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And if everybody is a volunteer, your CEO does not make more than 20% of the agency's total budget.

MS. WAHL:

No, unfortunately.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

What's that, a wish list?

MS. WAHL:

Yes. It actually costs me more than 20% to volunteer.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

John, anything you could think of?

LEG. KENNEDY:

No. I know the organization, as a matter of fact, I know the principals --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

You have to use that microphone; sorry.

LEG. KENNEDY:

No, that's okay. No questions. Actually, I know Ms. Marks from years of work with her and I know that the organization does a lot of good work down in the community. You know, I'm comfortable that, you know, the grants they're receiving are going towards direct purposes and I'm glad they came in to chat with us. Thank you.

MS. WAHL:

Thank you.

MS. MARKS:

Thank you for having us.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Have you ever been audited?

MS. WAHL:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

No, okay. All right, thanks for coming in.

MS. WAHL:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Have a great day.

MS. MARKS:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, I'm going to end up butchering up your last name; Inkles?

MR. INKLES:

It's actually Inkles; thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good morning, and thanks for coming down. And as I stated to the group that was here previous, basically what we're trying to do is get to know as many people as we can that are contract agencies or whether they receive grants from Legislators.

At the beginning of this year, or actually at the end of last year when we were going through the budget process, we were criticized, and I think rather unfairly, for some Legislative grants that we gave out and also some contract agencies that the County deals with. And I think that what happened was, and this is speculation, New York State, their system is a lot different than ours. They can't track and they don't have the names of the groups that they give money to in their budget and they were under attack at that point in time, and I think they're going to change their system to look more like ours. Ours has always been an open system whereby you can't give money out unless you had the name on a resolution or if you had it in a line item on the budget; so we've always been a fairly transparent process in Suffolk County. But it is good to get to know who we are giving money to, that way if during the budget process a question does arise, as it did on a number of groups last year, at least we should have the answers or can have the answers for those things. We're also looking for areas that we do serve and how we serve those areas and if there's any overlap in service, and also to maybe identify areas in the County that are underserved or not served at all.

So that's basically why we've got the groups coming down. What I'm going to do is give you a couple of minutes and you give us an overview of what you do and then we have a whole question and answer fact sheet that we'll fill in the blanks with questions. Thank you. So if you can just state your name for the record.

MR. INKLES:

Sure. I'm Alan Inkles, I-N-K-L-E-S, I'm the Director of the Staller Center at Stony Brook and also serve as the Director of the Stony Brook Film Festival which is part of the Staller Center at Stony Brook University.

The grant that we have received is a grant for the Stony Brook Film Festival which, again, is part of the Staller Center; we're a year-round operation, part of SUNY Stony Brook. The festival began -- I began it just about 12 years ago. I felt there was a need in this area of Long Island to bring independent, cultural films that were not getting their way certainly to the region, certainly our local region, and we developed it over the last 10, 11 years to become a really big player in the Regional Film Festival circuit. We do a lot of films from all over the world, a lot of independent films, some Long Island films.

We have a thousand seat theatre and one of the nice things -- like one of those old theatres that you and I used to go to and our kids bear to remember because there's very few left in New York, and I don't think there's anything left on Long Island of that size -- our main theatre where we do live shows year-round becomes our film festival theatre, holding a thousand seats. What's wonderful about that and what this grant and others have done for us is because we have such a large theatre, when you go to other festivals like the Tribeca Film Festival and the Hamptons Festival and others around the country, a lot of the folks who get in are folks who have a lot of money, folks who know a few people in the movies because the theatres are 100 or 200 seats. With our thousand seat theatre, we're able to charge \$55 for a pass to get you into every single movie, which is probably the cost of what it cost me to get into one movie at Sun Dance two years ago.

We like the fact that this is really a festival for the people. We bring in films that we know our audience is going to like, we had over 15,000 attendees last year, \$7 individual movie tickets. So we've become for Long Island, even though there are a couple of other festivals and some very good ones on Long Island, a real bona fide festival for this community. And we stretch from probably -- I'm probably answering some of your questions, I apologize, but we stretch from probably --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

No, no, no, you should answer all the questions,

MR. INKLES:

Well, it saves time. While the bulk of our audience comes from, I'd say a 30, 40 mile radius, Suffolk County, to close to the East End to Nassau border, we do get a lot of folks from Nassau County, from the east end, from New York, from New Jersey, from Connecticut, but by and large, we really serve our demographic. And it's great to see folks from all walks of life coming to films, and the films that we present are films that cross the gamut of dramas to comedies to foreign language. And it's amazing how many different folks we see coming in and coming back all the time for the films, and it's really grown.

And one of the things we've been able to do also, it's talked about in the film festival circuit, is we bring a lot of our film makers in. We have some stars and celebrities, but it's not really just about that, it's about bringing the every day film maker in from all over the world to come out to be here and being able to fly them in and have them here and be there to answer questions and talk to the audience members is a big part of what we do and, again, what this grant helps us do.

Again, what makes it work I think and makes it unique is that we're part of -- I'm the Director of the Staller Center, when I'm programming the films, I'm not looking to see what film I can bring in this year to make my mark in programming, I'm looking to see what film is going to work for our Long Island audience and then work for the future. I've done this festival for 12 years, I've been the Director of the center for almost 19 years now, so there's a symbiotic relationship to the work we do all year round from Bernadette Peters to Iceland Dance Company to {Polabolis} that comes in throughout the year, a lot of the same people are coming back entrusting us for the film festival. So we're sort of unique. Even though you hear about another film festival growing every five minutes in another part of the country, we serve a big audience, we probably serve more of Long Island than any -- I don't want to say probably, I'm sure we serve more of Long Island with our film festival than any other film festivals on Long Island; and that's not to knock them, I just think they have different missions.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, your festival lasts how long?

MR. INKLES:

It's ten days, it's July 19th to the 28th this year; it's always the last two weeks of July.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So this actually provides cultural programs. It would expand the attracting of Suffolk County as far as it could be a destination to come to Suffolk County, play some golf, see the beaches, go to the cultural film festival.

MR. INKLES:

There's also panels, sir, panels and festivals and parties, so you can make a night of it. A lot of folks will come out on a Friday, come out and see a film, go to a party, meet David {Strathorn} or a Lili {Sobieski} or Timothy Hutton who's out for a film, and then we -- a lot of them will stay at the local hotels, either Three Village Inn or Holiday Inn and we hold rooms, about 50 rooms we hold over the first weekend at both the hotels for guests coming in, in addition to the rooms we'll take for our own guests that are the film makers that we're bringing.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

If this is the first time you're walking in to the Suffolk County office and you're making a pitch for funding, what benefit would you show us that this would be to provide funding to your organization?

MR. INKLES:

I think -- as I was saying, I think the real great thing about it, when I -- last year we had a film called Heaven's Fall, an opening night. It's a Thursday night, middle of July, it's a film you've never heard of before, it's a drama, it's got Timothy Hutton in it, it's got David {Strathorn}, {Lili Sobieski}, actors, but you don't know they're coming out. They're actually here for the film which is a great bonus, but on a Thursday night, which was a beautiful evening in July, we had a thousand people sitting in the audience watching a dramatic film that will probably never get to the theatres.

So to me, what I think is so great is that we're able to, at a time when people are always talking about Long Island, the great beaches which we have and all the great outdoor things, we're able to provide some culture. And these are really intelligent films, these are sophisticated films that are not the typical, you know, Spiderman III which you can see at any theatre, which is great. But we're able to bring an audience out and it continues to amaze me and my film makers, because when I travel to these festivals, the thing you really notice about these regional festivals around the country is they're not very well attended. You know, it's like going to a contemporary music concert or going to, you know, a dance event in a community that's not rich in culture, and Long Island is certainly rich in culture and I think we play a nice roll in that. And I love the fact that the people who are coming to this festival are not people flying in on their jets and coming in and having their parties; we have a couple of those people, but it's really for our community. It really is a great cultural event in the middle of the summer for 14 or 15,000 Long Islanders, mostly Suffolk County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And I don't want to put words in your mouth, but do you think there's an economic benefit also?

MR. INKLES:

I think clearly. You know, I'm going to a meeting next week out in East Hampton, Steve Levy is putting together a summit about film making. I would say at least 10 or 12 film makers, just to go to that extreme, who have been here over the last ten years, have come back or have come to Long Island to shoot some of their films. I have two film makers, one's from LA and one's from Texas who in the past two years actually shot a movie here because when they were out here they did some traveling around and saw some sites. So in that extreme, we're actually bringing in some business that way.

We're also providing -- all the local restaurants are involved with us, we've got a lot of the media outlets involved. So certainly during those 10 days, the community comes to life the way it does in Tribeca and the way it does in the Hamptons which is also a very important festival for Long Island. But I don't think we cross over that much because I really feel, and I've been to there, there's not a lot of folks from this part of Suffolk County that are really going out to the Hampton Film festival. I think it serves a great purpose, it's a great festival, it's important, you know, for the film world, but by and large a lot of the folks are from the Hamptons out there or they're coming in from out of State for it. We tend to really be about 90% people, as I said, within a 30, 40 mile radius.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Do you have any employees?

MR. INKLES:

I do. My -- I run the Art Center and my staff of 11 people, who are my production manager and my theatre manager and technical director in the summer turn their hats upside down and become hospitality coordinators, travel coordinators, projectionists. So my staff of 11 full-time employees that are State employees -- in addition to a lot of students that we hire, of course -- become the film festival value staff, so it's the same people who work for me that are on my payroll year-round.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And approximately how many students part-time do you employ?

MR. INKLES:

I would say we probably have during the film festival, leading up to it for the five or six days getting ready, putting the films together and say a week afterwards, for a month, we probably have anywhere between let's say 15 and 20, maybe 20, 20 paid -- 15 to 20 paid students part-time and then another 20 or 25 volunteers; volunteer ushers, volunteer ticket takers, valet collectors, and those range from young people to retired folks of the community who help out all the time.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And maybe John can help me on this because if we asked you, you know, what your budget is, things of that nature, John, how much of that is relevant? Because his budget is going to be for a year-round operation where we only fund, you know, like, a very small portion of that for the film festival.

MR. ORTIZ:

That goes to the issue of, you know, like when we talk about volunteers and one person is being paid and how much, you know, that goes towards their administrative costs; this is for one event.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So it's a tough -- it's going to be a tough question for you to answer, but -- well, I'll do one that's real easy; how much do you actually get from the County?

MR. INKLES:

Fifteen thousand dollars.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Is there a consequence if you didn't receive that County funding?

MR. INKLES:

Well, you know, I was talking about it last night with my financial director, we were meeting about the festival and we were talking about -- for example, we bring the film makers in at a cost to us and I think it's very important. What makes it more than just going to a movie, you're going to get there and talk to the film maker afterwards, before, in a public event or a private event with them. We spend about 20 to \$25,000 a year for the festival bringing all the people in, flying them in,

putting them up, transporting them back and forth; that's a big part of the budget that I think if we didn't have this grant -- we didn't do as much of this before we started receiving the grant and a couple of other sponsorships. We're now able to bring all the film makers out and take care of their costs where a lot of festivals can't do that, and it really makes a difference, I think that's part of it.

Also, the big thing is we've not raised our pass price in three years. You know, I used to joke that for \$945 less than Tribeca you can come to our festival and see the same amount of movies, but that's a big thing. I think the two big things we would lose is we could not bring the film makers in, and that would affect us adversely, too, because if we didn't bring them out I may not get certain films. Sometimes the lure of coming out and being here is to be here and be part of it; if I told -- we have a new Christopher Plumber premiere, he's going to be out here, if I told the director we couldn't fly him out and bring out Christopher Plumber from New York, we might not have gotten that film.

So I think the two big things we'd be hurt by without this grant is we may not be able to bring as many films out and bring the film makers with them and we probably -- well, not probably, we would definitely have to charge more money for these passes. So these are certainly able to keep the price so that all of Suffolk County folks can get in rather than make it a price that limits people from being able to get into it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And how much was it again for the --

MR. INKLES:

Fifty-five dollars gets you in to all 40 films over ten days, and each individual film is \$7 a movie and \$5 for students and senior citizens, which is just -- you know, they call me, what is that, Crazy Eddy, is that -- you know, to go back to those days. But you know what? I want the house full. A lot of it really has to do with the fact that I want to support Long Island and get them in here, but it's a selfish reason, too. We've got a thousand seat theatre and it doesn't look so great when there's 200 people sitting there on a Thursday night. So there's two reasons, I want it full and the way to do it is to make it a no-brainer; people look at this and say, "You know what, I'm coming to it." And what I really like to see is when you're coming out of a show, this is not an elite group of people going to movies or going to my Art Center, you know, it's the same thing during the year also. I feel very strongly that we're part of the State, we're involved with the County with grants and local government.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That was the next question, how much do you get from Federal, State or other --

MR. INKLES:

Well, you know, again, it goes back to your question you said to John. You know, our budget for the film festival is about \$175,000 to put the entire festival on. What that doesn't include is what you were bringing up earlier, I've got 11 full-time employees that I'm not figuring in to that budget because they're on my payroll year-round. But you probably would have to double that at least, and maybe triple it, if you were bringing in these people specifically to do these jobs. So that 175 includes all the students we're hiring and all the films we're bringing in, all the costs and marketing and advertising, which we do a lot of bartering for that, too. It's a very small budget when you think of, you know, a hundred, \$200,000 to put on this film festival, but it really doesn't paint the whole picture, it's probably more like around a half of million dollars if we were paying for the building. When you say Federal support, State support; I don't pay rent, you know, for this film festival because it's part of the university, so that probably gets into gray areas.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

John, could you just make a couple of notes and, you know, how I should break this up? Because

part of what we want to ask is, you know, what's the total program cost, the budget for it. And then one of the questions also is does your CEO make more than 20% of the agency's total budget, so that answer --

MR. INKLES:

I wish -- can I say wish? No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That would be no on that one. But as far as how we can categorize, you know, how much that total budget should be, you know, I want to put some footnotes in, because I'm going to put down approximately \$500,000 and then we'll footnote it.

MR. INKLES:

I think that, by the way, is -- you know, a lot of the things we do, we do a lot of advertising, hopefully you see the banners and the signs we put up and the ads, and a lot of that, again, is in addition to being bartered and traded as sponsorship with corporate sponsors, a lot of that would be cut without this money, and I think that's important, too, because we've got to get the word out to people, too. I mean, the last thing you want to cut, and it's the easiest thing to cut, is your marketing and we continue to reach -- raise the marketing budget as we bring in more money for the festival.

MR. ORTIZ:

The Audit & Control database states that this money is used for printing and marketing of their brochures.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MR. INKLES:

And that's a big piece of the puzzle, obviously. That's, you know -- that's probably -- you know, we send out over 50,000 brochures to all of Suffolk County and Nassau County, too, on a subscription-base and that's the big piece, like anything we do. That gets in about -- I'd say 60 to 70% of all of our ticket sales and past sales come from direct mail, and that just has been for us for the last 20 years in live programming and our film, and it's a nice, full-color brochure. I don't know if you've seen them or have them, I have samples of them here and it's got the County on them; this is last year's

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

In big letters? You don't need a magnifying glass, right?

MR. INKLES:

No, you've got it pretty good, nice size logo. So these are both -- can I pass these to John? I'm sure you've seen them from last year. And then, of course --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So do you receive any other funding, then, from the State, the Federal grants?

MR. INKLES:

No, there's no other grant. We get -- there's some town sponsorship but that's not for the film festival, it's during the year. For this current Stony Brook Film Festival, last year we got some money from the Federal Government in a \$10,000 National Endowment Grant for last year's festival, but not -- we've not got it this year; they're talking about doing something for us during the season rather than the film festival.

So other than the support we get from the State, of course being the university, that they provide, no other dollars have come in for this year's festival from other official offices.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So again, we're going to have to footnote that the physical plant is supplied by the State, the salaries for the employees are provided by the State, because we like to have a little bit of a multiplier effect.

MR. INKLES:

Absolutely. I'm glad to say it, to tell you all of this, I appreciate it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah. If we give 15,000 and we can see that, you know, other entities are piling on and our total 15,000 might end up, you know, a couple of hundred thousand dollars, you know, that always makes it a lot -- you know, a lot better I think. And now do you -- you said you do fund-raising also; so outside fund-raising, you sell advertisement, that kind of thing?

MR. INKLES:

We don't specifically sell advertisements in our programs. What we do is we have corporate sponsorships and those sponsors -- we never sell ads, we basically bring on sponsors, and that goes the same way for our live season, too. So we probably have about 10 or 12 other organizations from Jet Blue to HBO to Village Voice, these are -- some are cash sponsorships, some are trade sponsorships for media, for airline tickets, and all of that is really what makes this work.

And then when you do the math, the hard dollars of almost \$200,000 to put this festival on, in addition to all the physical plants and salaries, we don't bring in more than around 50 or \$60,000, maybe \$70,000, in ticket sales, the rest of it is made up from corporate, grants, and also we have some private donors, we have some obviously some wealthy community members who also provide private gifts to the festival.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And so the corporate and the private sponsors, rough idea?

MR. INKLES:

I'd say including -- it's probably about 130,000, 140,000 of the budget.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's with us or without us?

MR. INKLES:

Including yours, I'd say about \$140,000.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So then we back out the 15 that we give -- what do we give you, 15?

MR. INKLES:

Fifteen, that's right. So say about another 120, 125,000 in trade and dollars.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah. Okay, and then ticket sales you said are about 50?

MR. INKLES:

About another \$60,000, right. And we just about break even each year with the festival; if we have a little bit extra it goes right back to the next season, but it's usually just about even.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

If there's a loss who eats that, New York State, pretty much?

MR. INKLES:

I'm sorry?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

If there's a loss, New York State eats that?

MR. INKLES:

If there's a loss, I have money I raised for that throughout the year and I have -- for the live season. The nice thing, again, is because this is part of my whole operation, if there's a loss, which we haven't had in about four or five years -- about five years ago we had a 10,000 deficit, we made it up with other fundraising throughout the year -- it's an all-funds budget which allows me to do that and it's all documented in my reports for the State.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

This next one is a little bit tricky for us.

MR. INKLES:

Like these others weren't.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

No, everything with you because yours is a unique situation, but what percentage of overall budget goes towards admin; how would we figure that, John?

MR. ORTIZ:

If you looked at the total picture of the Staller Center, it would be -- you could do that, but for just the film festival, I don't think you could apply an administrative -- you know, you could say a percentage of his time for this one festival and then divide his salary.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so the answer is that is to be determined at a later date, if we had to?

MR. ORTIZ:

I'll follow up.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good. John, do you have anything else?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Just two questions. First of all, thank you very much for coming in. And it does sound, you know, like, you really are providing a unique service for us. And certainly the synergy, I guess, that you describe is probably something that, you know, were we to get some hard objectives as far as what's being purchased in meals, tourist things up in Port Jefferson perhaps or in Setauket, there's probably, you know, a tremendous bounce to the economy as far as what's going on in this ten day period. I'm just a little confused with what I'm seeing here, and maybe that's because this is the first time I've had the privilege to sit at this committee, but you characterized your grant at 15,000; I see on the sheet here that I have, the financials, that it's at 25,000, is that.

MR. INKLES:

I think that was last year's gift; am I right in thinking that?

MR. ORTIZ:

Yeah, 25,000 in '06, 15 for this year.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Fifteen for '07? I see. And is the Staller Center a separate entity? In other words, is it a 501C-3 not-for-profit that operates this, or is it just part of the overall municipal entity, State entity that we

know as Staller Center?

MR. INKLES:

Absolutely, the Staller Center is a part of the State. We do have -- the Historic Foundation is a 501C-3 which is a grant giving recipient organization for the university and that covers all the university, there are no separate ones. For example, the grant that would come in here, I'm not sure if this went to -- did this go to the State or it went to the -- this went to the Historic Foundation; was this made out to -- I'm sorry, I don't know that, I apologize for not knowing the answer, if John may know it.

MR. ORTIZ:

It goes directly to you from the County.

MR. INKLES:

To the State. So we -- because it's a grant, we can't accept -- if this was a private gift, the private gifts in corporation is going to our 501C-3 the Stony Brook Foundation, which basically was set up years ago for the university to make it all work because we can't receive corporate and private gifts. So this grant goes to the State, we are a State organization. I work for the State University of New York and Staller Center is part of that and the film festival is part of the Staller Center, if that answers that question.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. Okay, that's it, just a couple of those procedural questions. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Allen, thanks a lot for coming down.

MR. INKLES:

Thank you. I really appreciate it. Thanks for the opportunity. If there's anything more we can add, just please let us know.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I think we all are, but if we're not on the mailing list, if you get it out to our district offices, you know, then we can --

MR. INKLES:

I'll double check with the office and we'll call and make sure everyone gets them. And please come out, it really is -- you know, I go on about it, but we're very passionate about it, it's really taking over a nice niche and hopefully you'll see a lot about it in the paper next month or the month after.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, do you mail that to the libraries? Because --

MR. INKLES:

We do.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, good, okay.

MR. INKLES:

Oh, the libraries get everything, absolutely. You know, we could always do more and we should be doing more and that's what I think a lot of this goes to, as John was saying. I think it went -- this money really helps get it more printed, more out, we drop this off at a lot of locations, we're involved with Long Island Pulse this year, they're going to get a lot more out. We want the County to really know this is going on here; a lot of people do know, but a lot don't.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Great. Thank you very much.

MR. INKLES:

Thank you, Gentlemen, and Ladies. Thank you, John.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, Mr. Grossman? Good morning. And you're from Maryhaven, right?

MR. GROSSMAN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

The reason why we actually established this subcommittee was some questions came up during our budget procedure as far as what some of our not-for-profits do and what some of our contract agencies do. Also at that same time, unfortunately, New York State was going through a period of time where -- I'm not going to call it a scandal, but the way they handle their grants and their contract agencies is a lot different than the way we handle them.

Suffolk County has a transparent system whereby you can't get money unless you're denoted to get that money in a resolution, or if it's in the budget or in an Omnibus, it would be a line item with your name and the amount so any citizen can take a look and see where their tax dollars are going. New York State has a different procedure whereby they give out grants and they give out money and contracts and you really can't find the name or the amount anywhere written down. So we were mixed in, so to speak, with New York State and criticized a little bit for the way we handle our grants programs and it was characterized as just complete giveaways.

That's why what we try to do is get in as many of the contracts agencies or grant recipients that we can this year before we go into our Operating Budget in October, and we're going to get just a sense from you, you know, what you do, how much money you get from other agencies, things of that nature, how many people you have on the payroll so that we get to know you a little bit better, we can understand what you're doing for the County. We're also looking at if there are any overlaps in service that maybe we can have some economies there, if there are some gaps in service that maybe we're going to have to, you know, provide for services that would cover those gaps.

So I think the Presiding Officer sent you kind of a list of things that we were going to ask, and if you want to do a little presentation first to us and then we'll fill in the gaps with the questions that we might have.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Okay. I have a pretty -- I guess it's a little bit more than a brief overview of our organization which is quite of a comprehensive not-for-profit, we're a 501C(3).

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, if you have that typed up --

MR. GROSSMAN:

Yeah, I do.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- what I can do is I'll make copies and I'll put that in to the record.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Shall I bring it up?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah. Linda?

MR. GROSSMAN:

Here's two copies, it might help in terms of questions.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And Mr. Grossman, who's with you today?

MS. DICKINSON:

Susan Dickinson, I'm the Vice-President of Finance for Maryhaven.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

D-I-C-K --

MS. DICKINSON:

I-N-S-O-N.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, thank you.

MR. GROSSMAN:

So I guess just briefly, Maryhaven is a comprehensive human service agency that provides services to approximately 2,500 individuals a day. We offer services in an educational, residential educational program, we provide residences and day programs for developmentally disabled adults, and we have a series of mental health programs. We also operate a transportation company that moves about 1,500 individuals to and from programs.

Our operating budget is approximately \$60 million a year, of which actually a very small portion of it comes through the County. Maryhaven -- there's a breakdown. We're employing, what do we have, 990 full-time?

MS. DICKINSON:

Yes, we have -- sorry, I'm looking at my own notes and I can't find them. We have 990 regular staff and about 270 per diem staff who work on-call for us in our programs. Our budget has about 1,180 FTE's in it.

MR. GROSSMAN:

About 65% of our funding streams are derived from the Medicaid reimbursement for a variety of the services that we provide. And I did present a little more detail in the material that kind of addresses all of the services that we offer.

*(*Legislator Losquadro entered the meeting at 10:51 AM*)*

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Do you receive any other grants from Federal, State or towns?

MS. DICKINSON:

We get funding from the State through the Office of Mental Retardation Developmental Disabilities.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's on top of the Medicaid?

MS. DICKINSON:

Yes, that is direct grants with them.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. DICKINSON:

We also have some funding through {VESID} which is in the form of grants and fee-for-service and we bill school districts. And there's a Federal program for lunch and breakfast which runs through the State, and there's also a Federal program that runs through the State and the school districts to us called the 611 Grant.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, and that's Federal and State?

MS. DICKINSON:

The Federal Government gives it to the State who gives it to the school districts who give it to us.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so it's passed through. Now, do you go outside fund-raisers like a golf outing or cocktail parties or anything like that?

MR. GROSSMAN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And about how much do you raise through that?

MR. GROSSMAN:

I would say traditionally we net somewhere around 425, \$440,000 a year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Now, I guess this would be for your financial officer; what percentage of your overall budget goes towards admin?

MS. DICKINSON:

About 8% over the years has been our admin percentage.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Does your CEO make more than 20% of the budget?

MS. DICKINSON:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Do you?

MS. DICKINSON:

I wish; no, I don't.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Who else provides the same type of services, that you're aware of.

MR. GROSSMAN:

There's an array of agencies that provide some of the services at Maryhaven; I would say we're probably one of the more comprehensive agencies. But some of our sister organizations might be the AHRC's, Developmental Disabilities Institute, Independent Group Home Living Program, although they don't really do much with County contracts. AHRC Suffolk has some of the vocational work programs similar to Maryhaven, I know that DDI does some similar education programs but it's

more of a day program, we provide a residential school program, age 6 through 21.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And the geographical area that you service is all of Suffolk County, right?

MR. GROSSMAN:

Yeah, predominantly Brookhaven with some programs in Riverhead. Our MH programs are pretty much in the Riverhead area.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So it wouldn't really come out to like the western end, Huntington and Babylon?

MR. GROSSMAN:

No.

MS. DICKINSON:

Except for some transportation, we do transportation in the western end of the County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Otherwise Brookhaven, Riverhead.

MR. GROSSMAN:

It's predominantly Brookhaven.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And how much money do you actually receive from the County?

MS. DICKINSON:

The County funding is, again, all on State Aid approval letters, 1.7 million. A portion of that will go away with the conversion to the Pros Billing which is Medicaid billing, they're going to be replacing some of those contracts with Medicaid funding, and that is supposed to happen June 1st but it's about two years in the making, so we'll see.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Otherwise, I'm going to ask what consequence would be from not receiving County funding, but part of the consequence would be that we're in violation of the Constitution of New York State and a whole bunch of laws that go along with that. Say, for instance, that wasn't the case, what would happen; are there programs that would have to be shut down if you didn't receive that money?

MS. DICKINSON:

Absolutely. That money is going to fund our work center which provides work opportunities for mentally ill, developmentally disabled individuals and, you know, gives them a sense of purpose. And it also funds the transportation program in large part that allows people to get to and from these day programs, whether it be work or another type of day program. And as you know, in Suffolk County there isn't much public transportation.

MR. GROSSMAN:

I think the work programs in the system are probably the poorest funded programs in terms of subsidizing the actual earnings or income that we can provide by doing contract services. For example, we'll do Assembly work, we'll do -- we digitize records, we do contract packaging work using a disabled work force. The combination of the earnings and the support that we get from the County enables us to operate that program, but quite frankly it operates at a loss. We have been operating that program ever since I've been part of the agency which is 35 years.

Most of the other day programs over my tenure has been really shifted over to Medicaid funding. The workshop would be sorely impacted if we didn't have the support from the County, and we see about 180 individuals that come in each day and feel good about working. We also do a fair amount of job placement work in the community; we probably have about 120 individuals involved in some form of competitive employment throughout Suffolk County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, you use the 60 passenger buses but you also use vans for transportation; do you own those vehicles or do you subcontract out?

MR. GROSSMAN:

No, we run our -- we own them and we operate our own transportation company.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So you don't sub any of it out?

MR. GROSSMAN:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MR. GROSSMAN:

And that's a not-for-profit corporation, also.

MS. DICKINSON:

Actually, there is a very small piece, an older transportation piece that we do sub out to Sunrise Bus in Riverhead, it's a -- I don't have the number, so it's a very, you know, small piece of it. The major part of our transportation contract we do ourselves.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Legislator Kennedy?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Part of this question goes to, I guess, BRO.

And by the way, thank you very much for coming in. As a matter of fact, I'm familiar for a variety of reasons, particularly with your sheltered workshop efforts, and it has progressed. Many years ago General Electric used to be the big recipients, everybody made fuses, now these days, you know, it's progressed. And there are the sheltered work opportunities, as you said. Friendly's was a big opportunity, I guess, for folks to come in and to do job splitting and there was job coaching that went on along with them.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Right, absolutely. It's a great program.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yes, your agency does excellent work as far as trying to provide those opportunities. But my question to BRO is let's speak about this funding specifically; is this County funding or is this pass-thru that is coming from State Department of Health being administered by us which we in turn then distribute to the agency?

MR. ORTIZ:

It's 100% State funded, we just choose the agencies that we want to fund.

LEG. KENNEDY:

This is part of the overall package that's done by the Health Department's Community Mental Health

Division in an effort to go ahead and meet the needs of our handicapped population throughout the County.

MR. ORTIZ:

That is correct.

LEG. KENNEDY:

But what we -- we are a portal, in essence, then, for funding that's originating at the State level.

MR. ORTIZ:

Correct, and it was 1.68 million for this year over which 800,000 is for transportation.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And of that, then this agency is receiving this share of that which they spread then throughout the agency towards the various initiatives? How do you apply this funding since it's pass-thru funding; does it go towards administration or the operations of the sheltered workshop or for your residences or for the education piece or for operating the transportation company? Is there any schematic or formula as to how this moves across?

MS. DICKINSON:

It's very specific in the contract what the funding is for, so the piece of the funding for transportation is used for transportation. There is a piece of overhead that is included as part of that which, as I said, is about 8% of the cost, and so each component, the work center, the supported employment, there's a psychosocial club, each of those has a specific dollar amount associated with it under the contract.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So there is, in essence, a sub budget that breaks out the category under this umbrella amount --

MS. DICKINSON:

Correct.

LEG. KENNEDY:

-- that the department, I guess --

MR. GROSSMAN:

It's not arbitrary.

LEG. KENNEDY:

No, no, I --

MR. GROSSMAN:

We have to assign it the way the contract is written.

LEG. KENNEDY:

The transportation piece you utilize primarily to go ahead and move your clients from the residences you maintain to the work sites or to the clubs; how does that operate?

MS. DICKINSON:

It's actually both from our residences and people that live in other places in the community.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Or other agencies.

MS. DICKINSON:

And they go to other day programs, not just ours.

LEG. KENNEDY:

How many residences do you maintain, approximately? These would be group homes, seven to ten resident group homes in the community; approximately how many do you have?

MS. DICKINSON:

Thirty?

MR. GROSSMAN:

Yeah, 30, 32. And those are all for developmentally disabled individuals. Maryhaven doesn't provide housing for the individuals needing mental health services.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So it's OMRDD --

MR. GROSSMAN:

It's only OMRDD residences.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And you say you have about 2,500 clients daily that you're providing service to across the whole gamut or range.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Uh-huh.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So does that represent, I guess, the universe? Your agency then is serving about 2,500 clients, or are there, you know, intermittent day schedules where you may have a larger universal number?

MR. GROSSMAN:

No, that's pretty much -- that's a fair number.

LEG. KENNEDY:

It's about 2,500, okay. All right, that's all the questions that I had. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thank you, Legislator Kennedy. Again, thanks a lot for coming in, unless Legislator Losquadro has anything.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thanks a lot for coming in. What it's going to provide hopefully is a documented record of what we actually do with -- and it's tens of millions of dollars of taxpayers dollars, what we actually do with those monies. And we took I think what would be characterized as unfair criticism for squandering the taxpayer's money. As your agency just pointed out and your testimony just points out, it's something that we have to do for society and to walk away from those kind of responsibilities is -- that's not a tenable option.

MR. GROSSMAN:

Well, I can assure you that the money that we receive is put to good use and there's not much left when the year is over. So we thank you for all the support that we've gotten over the years.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thank you for coming in.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

All right, next on our list was the Selden-Centereach Youth Association.

MR. BUSH:

That's us.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Maryann Ann or Maryann? I don't see -- YES.

MS. PFEIFFER:

It's the wrong --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, you're on there, okay.

MS. PFEIFFER:

They have the wrong title, the wrong name.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, you're on at 11:30; you knew that?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Yep.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, good. And as I stated for the other groups that came in, hello and thanks a lot for coming down. Basically why we're doing this is to get to know all the people that -- or try to see as many as we can, contract agencies or people and associations that are recipients of our grant funds. We were criticized when we went through the budget process for squandering taxpayers' dollars, so we're making a permanent record of who we have been giving money to, what the purposes are and if we're going to do something different in the future we can use this information that we've gathered to do that.

Some of the questions that you were provided with earlier, we're going to try to establish, number one, what your group or organization does, what areas you serve, also if there's an overlap, things of that nature, other groups that might provide that service. So that will give us a blueprint that we're providing certain services, where we're providing those services. There might be an overlap, there might not, there might be gaps in Suffolk County as far as the provision of those services.

So with that, if you want to give us -- well, number one, you have to tell us who you are because I have Sal?

MR. BUSH:

That's correct.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I've got you down, but who did you bring with you?

MR. BUSH:

Joy Meyer, she's our office manager.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

M-E-Y-E-R?

MS. MEYER:
That's correct.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Joy, I don't think your microphone is on, is it?

MS. MAHONEY:
Just pull it closer.

MS. MEYER:
I think I have to pull it closer because I'm so short.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:
So you're on, just give us a little overview.

MR. BUSH:
Well, okay, good. Good morning, thank you for inviting us. My name is Sal Bush, I'm the Executive Director of the Selden-Centereach Youth Association, and my Office Manager here with me today is Joy Meyer; she's been with our agency for more than 25 years and worked in a number of capacities. I'm going to let her give a summary of what we've done, how long we're doing it and the people we've served and then I will chime in after that. Joy?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:
Thank you.

MS. MEYER:
Okay, thank you. In 1971, rising at-risk behaviors, young people loitering in front of stores and nowhere to go for social interaction and recreation, a group of concerned parents and our community business people established the Selden-Centereach Youth Association. The youth center, headed by the then Director Sister Mary Ellen Law, provided children, teens and young adults, ages 7 to 21, with a safe environment, a place staffed by social workers who were there to offer counseling, vocational counselors to assist in job readiness and youth workers who would engage the youth in games of pool ping-pong and fuse ball.

Incorporated in 1972, we were receiving funding from Suffolk County and the New York State Division for Youth. We offer children and families of the Middle Country Central School District services and programs that were unique and customized to meet their needs, and they are free. Our current Treasurer and former Board Chairperson Joan {Heizelman} utilized our services in the early 80's and her experiencing the value of our agency, she wanted to join our board and was elected 22 years ago and she's still on our board today. And today, SCYA partners with the Middle Country Central School District, Middle Country Public Library, Long Island Cares, Red Cross Community Service and other agencies to assist our families through the various programs and services. We offer a Teen Tutoring Program that serves over 200 children during the school year. We have a Helping Hand Food Pantry that last year alone 768 individual were served. We do holiday assistance with the Town of Brookhaven, through their Interface Program we served 150 families.

Last year in counseling we had 37 families, and these are all free programs. We also have a before and after school program. In the Middle Country School District, we serve all ten of our elementary schools and are currently serving over 600 children in that program. And the Middle Country Central School District has a large population of working, disadvantaged families unable to afford escalating costs of private before and after care. We have a lot of single parent households, a surprising 25% of district families earn less than \$25,000 per year; 65% of the 12,000 families having school-age

children, 45% of those households are single-parent families. The majority of our programs are free.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, that before school and after school program, how many people do you service on that, approximately?

MS. MEYER:

Currently we have 600 children enrolled.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

How many employees does your agency have and are they full-time, part-time, they're all volunteers; just give us a breakdown.

MR. BUSH:

Currently we have about 64 employees, the majority are part-time and four full-time workers.

MS. MEYER:

We have three full-time workers.

MR. BUSH:

Three full-time workers; I count myself twice.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

A basic question that we've been asking many of the agencies, and you heard Legislator Alden refer to it earlier; are you aware of any other agencies that provide similar services within your geographic area? Now, obviously you provide a lot of different services, including food pantries so I know that there's churches out there who do those sort of things. So give us a little -- you know, a brief overview of groups that might provide similar services, but I think it would also be helpful to let us know, especially with the food pantry, do you see a continuing need for all the services that you provide or are there any that there are overlaps with that other agencies are handling that you're no longer seeing a need for?

MR. BUSH:

I will -- because Joy is our resident expert on providing food to the families and the young people, so I'm going to let her handle that specific question. But in general, because of the size of not only our district but the County itself in the Town of Brookhaven, there are a number of agencies, I think 19 in the Town of Brookhaven, that provide similar services to ours, but strategically we are, you know, miles and miles apart, and that is a problem, not having the transportation. So the population is spread out.

We don't have overlapping services. Basically for our agency, Middle Country District is our targeted area of service and under the guise of the Brookhaven Youth Bureau Director, each one of the contract agencies or community agencies are set in a school district environment, so it uniquely is designed to service that. So from that standpoint, we don't have any other agencies that are in our school district that's providing the same services that we're providing, you have to cross the school district boundaries or the community lines in order to get services. And we do a lot of inner agency referrals, so if someone comes to us and they're not in our particular community, we'll refer them to the agency that's in their particular community, it might be on the north shore, it might be on the south shore, east or west, we will refer them to those agencies and we work closely ensuring that nobody falls through the cracks.

Joy can share with you her vast experience and she was one of the persons who initiated this. What

we found in providing services to young people is that food is an essential element of having young people participate in your program. And we also found of having parents get involved, knowing that there is cash or food that's available, this is absolutely an enticement for young people to come in, we make sure that they eat and the parents, when times are hard, that they have a place in their community where they can go in confidence, receive staples of food and be able to provide for their families until they get back on their feet. Joy?

MS. MEYER:

Well, in addition to just serving Middle Country, I don't turn anybody away from that food pantry. I've had people come from all over, Islip, I've had Bay Shore, they couldn't get food in their pantries. I have a listing, not only do I give them enough for two days worth of food, if we have it, but I will give them a listing of all the food pantries and the soup kitchens in their area, so this is not limited to Middle Country. We have clients that live in their cars. So, I mean, our food pantry is quite small by some means, but by others we serve so many with so little food that we have, but we are -- never turn anybody away from that food pantry.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And what was the number, 780?

MS. MEYER:

Last year was 700 and I believe it was 68, 768. And it's more, I have new clients coming in. I keep a record year to year, I assign a number so that it's easier for me to keep track because I report also to Long Island Cares because we do get food from them, so I keep numbers. But every year I can tell by looking the families that come back, the families that are still growing and still coming back. We also not only stop at food pantry, but when they come in repeatedly, we offer other services, how to get more help, if they're living in a car, we have a social worker talk to them. So it doesn't stop at food pantry, it goes on and on and it's throughout the agency.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

What's the total amount of funding that you receive from the County.

MR. BUSH:

Total amount of funding we receive from the County specifically was \$154,866. We do have a similar disbursement which is pass-thru that includes the money from the Office of Children & Family Services and we also get a small amount of money from the Town of Brookhaven. But our largest portion of our single disbursement contract comes from the County which is \$154,000.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And what were those other amounts from Federal, State and town?

MR. BUSH:

From the Town, Brookhaven we got \$27,000 last year and from the State of New York 57,000, for a total contract of two hundred and thirty-nine thousand, five hundred and thirty-four dollars -- thirty-six dollars.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, since you gave us the total budget amount there, what percentage of that overall budget goes towards your administrative expenses?

MR. BUSH:

Well, under that total amount, approximately -- what is it?

MS. MEYER:

It's approximately 45% of that is administrative.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Does that include salaries for the part-time employees?

MS. MEYER:

That's all the -- that's the salaries. Actually, I called to get information, so I was told that was just to add salaries together.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Are those -- but those are salaries for individuals who provide program services.

MS. MEYER:

Absolutely, yes.

MR. BUSH:

Yeah.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That's one of the areas that unfortunately received a little bit of misinformation there. Salaries that go towards program services are not counted towards your administrative costs.

MS. MEYER:

Actually, that would be you, me and Patty.

MR. BUSH:

So if you're saying that --

MS. MEYER:

That is administrative, 45%; would that be the Executive Director, office manager and bookkeeper?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yes.

MS. MEYER:

That's it.

MR. BUSH:

Then that's it.

MS. MEYER:

But we all provide -- it confused me, because we all provide services, we all do direct services also, in addition.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

In addition to --

MS. MEYER:

Yeah, we don't have just one hat to wear.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

A little difficult to break that one down, then. If you could give us maybe some sort of accounting of how much of your time you spend on program services, how much of your time you spend on administrative services.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Actually --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I'll turn that over to Legislator Alden.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- you can go a little bit different. You said your overall budget is how much?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Two thirty-nine?

MR. BUSH:

No, our County, he asked specifically what our County was.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Right, but what's your overall budget?

MR. BUSH:

Our overall budget is \$775,000.

MS. MEYER:

No, that's not your budget.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, does --

MR. BUSH:

Oh, you're saying agency budget, County budget, State budget?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Agency.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Agency budget.

MR. BUSH:

Agency is \$775,000.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. That does not include the food that you get and distribute from Island Harvest and a couple of the other ones?

MR. BUSH:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So --

MS. MEYER:

Most of our food is donated. I mean, we do purchase food from Long Island Cares.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, you purchase it?

MS. MEYER:

Some.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That would be included in your budget.

MS. MEYER:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Rough idea on donations?

MS. MEYER:

Last year in 2005 we raised \$2,046.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's outside fund-raising?

MS. MEYER:

Outside fund-raising.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

All right. And food that would have been donated to your organization?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Approximate value?

MS. MEYER:

Through Long Island Cares mostly. We do have -- like the school will donate food.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Give us a guess how much you get donated.

MS. MEYER:

As far as money-wise, what it's worth?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah.

MS. MEYER:

Oh, my goodness.

MR. BUSH:

Well, if you take -- no, Long Island Cares you keep in.

MS. MEYER:

Long Island Cares goes by poundage. We had three thousand pounds of canned goods.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

You know what? We can just put down --

MS. MEYER:

I'm sorry.

MR. BUSH:

If we say -- a general ballpark figure would be about \$5,000, if we had to put a number to it, because they deal in tonnage.

MS. MEYER:

They give you an allotment in poundage.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And you think that that would translate into about four or \$5,000?

MS. MEYER:

Yeah, oh yeah.

MR. BUSH:

Oh yes. That's lowball, but yeah, if we had to put a number to it, I would be comfortable with that.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, approximately \$5,000. Okay, now, the three people you mentioned before, what's the total salaries for those?

MS. MEYER:

One hundred and nine thousand, three hundred and three dollars and ninety-two cents.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so if you have an \$800,000 budget, John's better at math than I am, that's in the --

MR. ORTIZ:

I already did it, it's about 12%.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Your CEO, do they make more than 20% of the agency's total budget?

MR. BUSH:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Back to Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That's fine. When you put that 239 number out there, sort of we're under the impression that that was the total budget for the agency. When you're doing that accounting, we're looking for the overall budget of the agency that you administer.

MS. MEYER:

Okay.

MR. BUSH:

Overall agency budget, right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So in this case, that's \$77,000.

MR. BUSH:

For the agency, because the difference in -- from the 239 of our contract, that's our total contract that's allocated by -- from the County, the town and the State, that's what it is. The other monies are actually self-sustaining monies that are generated from the parents who participate in the before and after school program which is a self-sustaining program.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

It still goes towards the overall budget of the --

MS. MEYER:

Yes.

MR. BUSH:

Right, yes; yeah, exactly.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That you administer, though.

MR. BUSH:

So we weren't clear as to -- and we had made a couple of calls to the Presiding Officer to get a clarity, because based on where the funds are coming for, do you want the contract or do you want overall agency budget that's dealing with 990 which --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No, we were looking for the overall agency budget that you're responsible for administering.

MS. MEYER:

Okay, we have those numbers.

MR. BUSH:

They're here, too.

MS. MEYER:

We have it.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That \$239,000, that's obviously a sizeable portion of your overall budget; what would be the consequence of not receiving that money, what programs would you not be able to --

MR. BUSH:

Well, it would be in the fact because the other monies that we're able to generate to provide services, in order to provide the services that the community needs, we have to come up with creative ways to address that, either by writing grants, by getting sponsors or getting donations from community residents. Most of the parents felt, in support with the school district, they said, "You know what, instead of waiting for a grant to come through, let's set up something that will be there in order to meet the needs of these families who need their children to be in a safe environment," and so that gave rise to us developing the before and after school program which is self-sustaining. That program couldn't have existed if we didn't have the base line money of the 239 in order to work towards developing that other program. So the additive effect would be we would probably be out of business because that is a contract, the other one is if no one shows, nobody gets paid, the program would collapse.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Okay.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's a good way to sum it up.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yeah, so it not only obviously would affect the programs that it directly funds, but you're saying that it would -- it would dry up your entire client base and the other programs wouldn't be able to continue?

MR. BUSH:

Correct.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, actually unless -- oh, Legislator Kennedy, sorry.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Just a quick question, Mr. Chair. Thank you for coming in, and obviously you're providing a lot of good services. And I admire the fact that you're trying to go ahead and go towards a range of needs that families come to you with.

Having been on a day-care board many years ago, the before and after programs are important. And it was always a challenge to be able to try and get the times, I guess, that families needed, so I'm just curious, what's the time range that you operate? Some before school programs start as early as six, 6:30 in the morning.

MR. BUSH:

Ours start at seven and end at six, and that's five days a week every day that school is open. And we're actively in partnership with the school to actually hire, most of our part-timers are teacher's assistants, therefore they're familiar with the needs of the young people and the young people are familiar with them. And as Joy had said earlier, is that we have them in ten of the elementary schools so there's no bussing, so there's not another hit to the school. And it has been provided before by a number of other agencies, but because our nature of our business is not-for-profit, we're not in it to make a buck, we're in it to ensure that the kids get quality service and the parents can afford it, so.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So you do a sliding scale or something to that effect?

MR. BUSH:

Well, we do even better than that. Each school is provided a slot of scholarships for parents who can't afford it and if they are eligible for Department of Social Services services, we will walk them through that process. And sometimes they're caught in a quandary of family issues where there might be a divorce, there might be some abuse going on where we will provide a scholarship based on the recommendation of the principal. And then the scale that we actually provide is almost 40 to 50% lower than the public cost at a Tutor Time or another private service provider.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yeah, it's a challenge to go ahead and find safe child care at any location, so that's certainly -- there's another issue that we have been called on to deal with in a variety of different manners, and I throw it out there just as a general question of curiosity. Benefit packages; does your agency provide any type of a benefit package for any of the employees, be it full or part-time?

MR. BUSH:

My manager wants to answer that, but I preface my comments with the following. I have been at this particular agency for nine years and I have never had benefits; the budget could not handle benefits so I've depended on my wife from her job to provide the benefits for us. Staff, Joy, like I said, has been there for 25 years and during my nine years up until recently, she never took advantage of benefits. Because of the great desire in order to meet the needs of the community, we look for alternative ways to do that. And with saying that, Joy, you can share your story.

MS. MEYER:

Through the years, I did have health benefits when I became full-time. I started one day a week, now I'm full-time, but when I started full-time I was given health benefits, but then there were some

budget cuts back in the day and our bookkeeper was going to have to be let go and I didn't know how to do all her books, so I gave up my health benefits for her, to keep her on. I did not have health benefits until 2003, and the only reason I took them is because I got divorced and I lost my other means of benefits. So I have them now, you know, and I'm the only one in the agency who has any health benefits at all.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Actually that wraps it up. Thank you very much for coming down, unless there's something else you --

MR. BUSH:

Could I just add one thing? I just saw it and I actually brought my book; I guess it will give the committee a perspective. Back in 1974, the County, at that time, to the Selden-Centereach Youth Association provided us \$38,919, and we averaged that cost out to our current budget of the 154,000 that we're getting from the County and basically we came up with a number of about \$3,000 just from the County budget a year. So over the last 32 years we've received basically a \$3,000 a year increase that brought us to the current number. We started out with 38,000 and since 1974 our total budget is \$154,000. And again, with you gentlemen looking to find information and substantiate the need for the Legislature to continue to do the good work you do, in your individual districts you know our needs, we come to you when we have problems and whatever that need is.

I'm an advocate for young people and when a child needs a baseball mitt, a glove, a uniform, whatever they need, that's what the Legislators are there for and I support you 100%. If it's a hundred dollars you can give and make a difference in that child's life for a basketball game, a soccer game, that's invaluable because it's all preventive services, you can't put a number on it. So, continue to do the good work you do and stay strong because you're doing the right thing, allocating money to those programs.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

We're trying, sometimes we take in some hits but we're still standing. But thank you very much for coming down.

MS. MEYER:

Well, we thank you, too.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thanks for the services you provide.

MS. MEYER:

Thank you.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thanks.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And now we have Marsha with SNAP, you're up next.

MS. SPECTOR:

Good morning. My name is Marsha Spector, I was the founder of SNAP 25 years ago and I have been Executive Director for the past 22 years.

I have written remarks and I have copies for you after my presentation.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And who do you have with you?

MS. EDGAR:

Carol Edgar, Associate Executive Director, I'm the CFO.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, thanks. Go ahead.

MS. SPECTOR:

SNAP was actually created by Suffolk County in 1979 to deal with what was then a growing epidemic of adolescent pregnancies and we were created specifically to take the heat off the County because it was such a controversial issue, still is a controversial issue, and we were charged with essentially managing adolescent pregnancy and adolescent sexuality issues for Suffolk County.

We were formed originally as a task force by the County Executive and we began receiving funding from the Legislature in 1985. We are Suffolk County's designated agency for adolescent pregnancy prevention and services, and we've always received really wonderful bipartisan support from the Legislature and we're very grateful for that.

Our charge is to help Suffolk adolescents prevent premature sexual activity and pregnancy, to ameliorate the negative consequences of adolescent child bearing by helping pregnant and parenting adolescents become self-sufficient, effective parents and to bring additional pregnancy prevention resources to Suffolk County.

In 1985 when we began receiving funding, there were 4,179 pregnancies to adolescents ages 10 through 19 in Suffolk County. Today -- well, in 2004, excuse me, the last year for which there are statistics --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Could you just repeat that first number?

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah, and I have it in writing, I'm going to give you a copy of my report.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Okay.

MS. SPECTOR:

But in 1985, there were 4,179 pregnancies to young women ages 10 through 19. We had the highest number of pregnancies in New York State and one of the highest rates. In 2004, there were 1,882. We have worked very hard to reduce the rate of adolescent pregnancy and it has dropped, in fact, by 50%; we're very proud of that, our programs have been very successful. Nonetheless, it's still a big problem, we still have about 900 babies born to adolescents each year. We did a study several years ago, and I'm hoping to do an updated study this summer, which looked at the cost of adolescent pregnancy for Suffolk County and the last time we looked at those numbers, the consequences of adolescent child bearing cost Suffolk County \$15 million a year and that number was confirmed by the Department of Social Services. Because 80% of young women who bear children as adolescents become Public Assistance cases, and over time that number obviously multiplies, particularly if they have additional children. So we work very hard at preventing first pregnancies and particularly hard at preventing second pregnancies.

Every child that's born in Suffolk County to an adolescent costs the County somewhere between 20,000 and \$100,000 just the first year, from the moment the woman goes into labor until the child's first birthday, and that include costs for the hospitalizations, cost for Public Assistance. If

she's living at home with her parents it's \$20,000, if she's in a shelter, which would be the other extreme, it's \$100,000, and that's an old figure, so those numbers have gone up.

We specialize in serving particularly vulnerable populations in targeted high risk communities in Suffolk County. In addition to provide sexuality education for young people and their families, we provide an array of services focusing on helping youngsters develop competencies and articulate a positive vision of the future. The two big risk factors in adolescent pregnancy are poverty and poor self-esteem, and so if you go to poor communities, that's where you see the high rates of adolescent pregnancy. And a lot of the young people we work with just don't have any positive role models. Often times their mothers became pregnant as teenagers, everybody around them is pregnant as a teenager, there aren't a lot of positive male role models for the young men and we fill a huge void for those young people.

We provide a variety of programs, most of our programs are school-based. We provide classroom education, we do usually a week long series in a class and the school helps us choose which topics they would like us to focus on. In addition to adolescent pregnancy and adolescent sexuality, we look at peer pressure, we look at self-esteem issues, we look at helping young people develop healthy relationships because, again, they don't have a lot of positive role models in healthy relationships. And we encourage them to think about a future, to set goals for themselves and to realize that pregnancy is going to get in the way of their goals, but that they can reach their goals if they keep plugging away, if they stay in school, if they get good grades. We do a lot of college exploration work, a lot of career exploration. We bring in people who have good jobs who they can relate to, people who look like them and we work a lot with them around self-sufficiency issues.

We have developed a program called Healthy Choices which we provide in school districts throughout Suffolk County, those are in the classroom. After school we provide programs which we call Men of the Future and Women of the Future, and those are leadership development programs. We have programs for boys and programs for girls that meet separately and then come together at various times during the year. With the girls we focus on leadership development, on assertiveness training, on career exploration; with the boys we do something similar but we also focus very much on violence prevention. We're dealing with a lot of gang activity where sexual initiation is a big part of joining a gang. The guys are supposed to get a girl pregnant as a way of showing their manhood, the girls are supposed to submit to sexual activity as a way of also becoming accepted by the gang.

In addition, we work a lot with parents. We do parent education programs in about a half of dozen communities where we help parents begin to dialogue with their kids. Parents really want to be the primary sex educators of their children, but often times they just don't know how to start those conversations. They're a little bit confused about their own sexual activity. There's a lot of conflicting values in this country around sexuality, there's a lot of sexual activity outside marriage which is appropriate for many people in a contemporary society, but we have a lot of pressures, particularly religious pressures around how people should be acting and people are very confused.

We also work a lot with teen parents. We provide a program called STEPS which stands for Successfully Teaching Effective Parenting Skills. We still have 900 babies born a year to adolescents and some of them to very young adolescents, and these young women and their partners would like to be good parents to their kids, they really try but they're basically still adolescents and they really don't know how to do that, so we work a lot with them.

In addition, we provide information referral, we provide advocacy. We do a lot of work in the community, we actually started as staff to a network of service providers, so we still have a very active role in our network of about 250 agencies and individuals. We do quarterly meetings of the network where we try to avoid duplication of services to identify areas where there are gaps in services to bring additional resources. We bring information to them, we do periodic conferences, workshops and other special training events.

We do HIV/AIDS training for the County. We do teacher training, we do a lot of Superintendents

Days. We run a Case Management Committee -- Case Managers Committee, excuse me, for case managers who work with pregnant and parenting teens, it's a very difficult job to do and they come to us for support and guidance and education on how to work with pregnant and parenting teens. We do a lot of staff training and then we do policy development and research. We advise, we do technical assistance, we provide grant training to other agencies. We gather agencies together to form consortium, and then as consortium members we look for other sources of funding to supplement what is available in Suffolk County.

We served -- excuse me -- in 2006 about 5,000 young people on our County contract, 2,500 males and 2,400 females, roughly. In addition, we served 511 adults who participated in community education and professional staff training. Our organization currently employs 19 full-time and seven part-time employees. We require a minimum Baccalaureate Degree because the schools require us to have that. A number of our staff people are Master's level trained in guidance and counseling and they're school certified. And we've been very fortunate in that the graduate schools are turning out more graduates in counseling than the schools can employ, so we get a lot of wonderful young staff who stay with us for a number of years until they move on to school positions. But we maintain a very high level staff and we have to do that because we're working in school districts.

In terms of agencies that provide similar services, we're in kind of a unique position because we don't take a position on abortion, we believe in early prevention, we like to get to kids hopefully before they become sexually active and certainly before they become pregnant, to work with them around avoiding the risks associated with early sexual activity, and we work with teen parents after they become pregnant to help them become better parents. Because we don't take a position on abortion, it makes us a lot more comfortable for school districts, comfortable for other organizations that know that we are middle of the road. There are some organizations that do provide similar services, for example, Planned Parenthood, but they probably would not be allowed in to a lot of the school districts where we work.

The consequences of not receiving County funding, we work hard at trying to find other sources of funding, but our County funding provides our Countywide services. When we are able to get other sources of funding, they generally are restricted to a specific community or a specific target group and that funding generally lasts just for a couple of years, it's not stable funding over time. All of the County work that we do, our Teen Parent Conference, our Community and Professional Education, our teacher training, our work shops and seminars that we provide, the technical assistance we provide and the programs that we provide in what are considered non-highest risk communities would all have to be eliminated.

We get no Federal funding, although some of our State funding has Federal money in it. Our State funding amounts to \$1,411,000; that includes \$270,000 to subcontractors where we are the lead agency with the State and we subcontract portions of our funding to local agencies and departments. And in fact, we subcontract to the Department of Health Services in Suffolk County on a couple of our grants. We get \$10,000 from the Islip Community Development Agency.

In outside funding efforts, we have really struggled with fund-raising because we deal with a very controversial issue and people are not too keen on giving to this issue, and when they do give to this issue they tend to give with a political bent, so either they're donating money to Planned Parenthood because they believe in pro-choice issues or they're donating to the right-to-life organizations because they believe in right-to-life issues and we're kind of in the mushy middle, so we really, really struggle with fund-raising. We don't raise a lot of money. What we do try to do to supplement our County funding, though, is to identify fee-for-service work, where a school district in Nassau County, for example, will pay us to come in and do programs and then pay us for those programs.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Marsha, to put a dollar on outside fund-raising, approximately --

MS. SPECTOR:

In 2005, we raised about \$500, we netted about \$500 in traditional funding, fund-raising.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's fine.

MS. SPECTOR:

And then \$10,000 in fee-for-service work. I have to just share with you that this year, our board is becoming a little bit more active and we did a fund-raiser in March, we raised \$2,000 and it's going all to the bank to pay our interest payments on late payments from our funding sources, which is really sad.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Your funding sources are us.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah; you and the State, not just you, but you and the State. Two thousand dollars just between June -- just between January and March.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Does that mean that you've floated a short-term note in order to go ahead and absorb what was in anticipation of what might come from us for '07?

MS. SPECTOR:

Yes, yes.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So in other words, there was an amount in the '07 adopted that you saw --

MS. SPECTOR:

Yes.

LEG. KENNEDY:

-- but because as of this point now, May 17th, you still haven't seen remittance on that yet.

MS. SPECTOR:

We have seen remittance from the County as of three weeks ago, I think,

MS. EDGAR:

Yeah, we just -- we got our contract and our advance the end of April and our vouchers are now being processed.

LEG. KENNEDY:

When did you first get the contract in the mail?

MS. EDGAR:

The end of April, maybe the 26th or something around that time.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Is the first time that you saw contract from us, from the County?

MS. EDGAR:

Yes, yes.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah.

MS. EDGAR:

Every year it gets later and later.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And you raised two grand and that had to go to interest.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yes, every penny of it. It's really sad.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

It is and I will comment. I have been in discussions with several agencies in and around my district that have been in the same situation, had to have lines of credit extended to them; a very, very difficult situation, and I applaud your efforts to be able to persevere through that. You are aware that there is a timely payment bill that has been laid on the table to have us follow suit with what some other government municipalities and the State have done, I think it's a long time coming. And I am hopeful that not only will we get that passed, but that these agency -- these departments within the County will fall into compliance with that 30 day payment schedule very quickly because it creates an environment not only unfriendly to business and commerce for the private organization, but the not-for-profit organizations are hit especially hard because there is no cushion by which you can absorb; obviously by nature you are not-for-profit.

So again, I applaud your efforts there. What a shame to have to have money that was earmarked by the good graces and generosity of individuals to have to go towards just sustaining your operating costs.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah. It pains us a lot, too, because this is the first year we've had to borrow money in 22 years. Carol Edgar has been our fiscal person for almost 20 years and she's remarkable; this year we just couldn't avoid it, we just had to borrow money and, you know, it hurts us too.

I would be very interested in talking to you about the bill because I've been very active on the State level with a similar exercise. There has been a State contracting bill on the books for about 15 years but it has a lot of holes in it and the State has taken advantage -- some State agencies have taken advantage of those holes that I hope are not in the County bill, I'd like to see it and comment.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, I would like to discuss that with you. Obviously you seem very knowledgeable on the subject, so make sure that you get information to Linda who is sitting over there.

MS. SPECTOR:

Sure, I would appreciate it. The United Way New York -- I'm on the board of the United Way New York State and they have been the lead agency in contracting legislation on the State level and I'd be happy to share the bill that's in the State.

One thing I do want to tell you, though, is that it's not the payment, it's the contract. Once the contract is signed, the payment, particularly the Youth Bureau has been pretty good over the years in paying us, it's waiting for the contract because they can't give us any money until there's a signed contract.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

We approved the budget in --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

November.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- back in November of last year, so.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And as Legislator Losquadro and Alden are saying, I just heard recently from agencies in my district as well that as of today have yet to see ironically what actually is State pass-thru money. So we are not even embargoing direct County funds, we're embargoing State pass-thru money with this process associated with an attorney trying to get some boiler plate language that could come off a Blumberg package; not too nifty.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah, we applaud your efforts to --

LEG. KENNEDY:

Certainly not our finest moment.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So in that line of -- what percentage of your budget goes toward admin expenses?

MS. SPECTOR:

Eighteen point three percent.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Eighteen point three?

MS. SPECTOR:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And does your CEO make more than 20% of the agency's total budget?

MS. SPECTOR:

I wish I could say yes, but 6.6%.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Everybody's answer is that they wish they could have more. All right, actually, Legislator Kennedy?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yeah, I -- your presentation is excellent. And as a matter of fact, I can see that you have refined a way to go ahead and deal with what is a difficult subject, I guess, in order to go ahead and even have dialogue sometimes in this forum.

I don't want to do the math because it may speak for itself, but you said something important as far as the agency's policy in that you are neutral on abortion. So in other words, you have a referral that comes to the agency, you work with that child, I guess, and the family for whatever the variety of choices will be, but if they --

MS. SPECTOR:

We don't usually work with individual young women at that time. Generally we get maybe two or three calls a year tops and generally we will refer them to the Health Department. First, you know, we try to ascertain if, in fact, there is a pregnancy because in younger adolescents, they don't have a lot of information about how their bodies work and their bodies are not necessarily working on a regular basis.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Uh-huh.

MS. SPECTOR:

So we want to make sure that she's, in fact, pregnant, and generally we'll refer her back to the County Health Department to confirm that pregnancy and then they make the referral from there.

LEG. KENNEDY:

That's the other question that I had; you mentioned in your overall budget that, in fact, SNAP subs to the Department of Health?

MS. SPECTOR:

Yes, we're their funding source.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I don't understand.

MS. SPECTOR:

We have a grant from the New York State Department of Health.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Uh-huh.

MS. SPECTOR:

It's referred to in the vernacular as a community-based Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Project, it comes out of the Department of Health's Bureau of Child and Adolescent Health. We are the lead agency and we provide a range of services that I've described. One of the requirements on that grant is to provide access to family planning and so we subcontract to family planning for those services. We have a -- it's called a triage, it's not quite a school-based clinic because there are different regulations around licensing for that, but we provide a triage program in Wyandanch High School where nurses and nurse practitioners from the Health Department do the examination and then the referrals are made to the Martin Luther King Health Center for follow-up. There's no contraception given on-site, but the prescription might be faxed to the health center or the physical exam results will be faxed to the health center and they follow-up.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. Just one other question, Mr. Chair, if I can shift over to BRO. Is this funding pass-thru money or is this County funding that is augmenting what are some direct State funds?

MR. ORTIZ:

I'm pretty sure this goes through the youth bureau, so it would be a hundred percent County funding.

LEG. KENNEDY:

This is a hundred percent County funding?

MS. SPECTOR:

Well, no, a piece of it is -- I believe a piece of it is matched, it's YDDP funding.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

How much?

MR. ORTIZ:

I'll have to check into that.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yeah, I would be curious to see because I think that's important for some of the dialogue here,

particularly with what we're looking at when we're discussing with agencies.

First of all, again, I believe that this is an extremely healthy process and thank you for coming in and for -- thank you more importantly for the service that you do.

MS. SPECTOR:

Thank you.

LEG. KENNEDY:

You know, thank you for giving me the opportunity to understand more about it. But first and foremost, thank you for the excellent job you do.

And one other thing that comes to mind, and I apologize, I'll keep it brief, but for a variety of reasons, I know in particular about community-based HIV and AIDS service agencies working with impacted populations here in Long Island. You mentioned that you have a component that is a direct hands-on or informational; tell me just a little bit about that.

MS. SPECTOR:

The Youth Bureau has charged us with doing the staff work for a committee that was established many years ago in the Youth Bureau on HIV and AIDS. And the committee is no longer that active, but we do the HIV/AIDS continuing education for Youth Bureau agencies.

In addition, we have some funding from the State to do HIV/AIDS work in Bay Shore and Central Islip. While most of the work that we do is in those communities, the truth is that we do HIV/AIDS work everywhere we go because they're the same root causes as is adolescent pregnancy. So increasingly we have merged adolescent pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and STD work in the work that we do. And in fact while pregnancies have gone down significantly, Chlamydia rates are through the roof. So, you know, we're preventing pregnancies, we're definitely preventing abortions, but we really need to much more aggressively address the issue of STD's.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Do you do any instruction with the new inoculation program that's -- no?

MS. SPECTOR:

We haven't, but it doesn't mean that we won't in the future.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MS. SPECTOR:

Yeah, the {gartisol}.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yes. Thank you again so much. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Before you go; Carol, how much do you receive from the County?

MS. EDGAR:

Two hundred fifty-five -- 255,514, YDDP funding.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thank you.

MS. SPECTOR:

I also just want to draw your attention, there was an article in Suffolk Life about us yesterday and

I've included that in your information.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Great. Thank you very much for coming down.

MS. SPECTOR:

Thank you.

MS. EDGAR:

You're welcome. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And I want to echo the sentiments of my fellow Legislators, thank you for the work that you do.

MS. SPECTOR:

Thank you.

MR. ORTIZ:

Legislator Alden, before we go to break, the Staller Center complete budget is \$1.7 million. So if you took a portion of his salary for administration purposes for the film festival, it would be well under 10%.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good. Thank you. All right, Mary Ann? And Mary Ann, who have you brought with you today?

MS. PFEIFFER:

I brought my Director of Development because unfortunately my Administrative Assistant who's actually my chief financial person is -- she has cancer, so she's been in and out, so we really figured the Director of Development should know where the money is, right?

Anyway, first of all, they have our wrong name, that's not the name of my agency, and they have the wrong address, so I'm not really sure where they got that information. And we never got the letter, we got a call from the County asking us if we were coming.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Youth Enrichment Services.

MS. PFEIFFER:

Right. It's YES, it's not Central Islip YES. The actual incorporated name in the 1980's is West Islip Youth Enrichment Services, and in 1991 we began to service Bay Shore, Brentwood and Central Islip as well as West Islip, right.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So did you legally drop the West Islip, is it just --

MS. PFEIFFER:

No, we do business as YES, but it is our legally incorporated name. All of our County contracts have West Islip Youth Enrichment Services, and that's PO Box 105 West Islip, New York, 11795. So it was kind of a mixed bag of things, but we do service Central Islip.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. PFEIFFER:

And this is Maryann Mc -- I'm Mary Ann Pfeiffer, I've been with -- I've been the Executive Director of

YES since 1989; I hate to say that publicly.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, you were about 14 when you started.

MS. PFEIFFER:

Thank you; no, 10, 10. And this is Maryann McGrath, she's our Director of Development and she was actually about 10 when I first met her, she was a youth at -- who came up to the agency in 1989; so you actually were 10, very good.

MS. McGRATH:

Yes, I actually was.

MS. PFEIFFER:

And she now is a major player at YES; left Wall Street to come back and work in the community, just to say thank you to her.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I believe she's a Stony Brook grad?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Tomorrow she gets her Master's Degree in Public Policy.

MS. McGRATH:

Tomorrow is my graduation, actually.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Congratulations. Good.

MS. McGRATH:

Thank you.

MS. PFEIFFER:

She's very good; she's a spitfire, but that's another story.

I guess then I should tell you a little bit of background. Youth Enrichment Services is in their 20th year, they were founded in 1987 to service the community of West Islip. I was hired in 1989, the budget was about \$48,000. In 1991, the Town of Islip, which was a main funding source at the time -- no longer, we've grown a lot -- but at the time they were, they went through a reorganization process, and instead of having eight youth agencies that they would contract with and also for that pass-thru from the County, they eliminated five and went with three. YES was selected to be one of the three in a competitive bidding process among the agencies and we began to serve the highest risk areas. And by the way, they really are for youth needs in the County, Bay Shore, Brentwood, Central Islip and West Islip. Today our budget is well over \$1 million, when we do receive Federal money, State money, County, town and private money.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

How much; well over one million, what is the number?

MS. PFEIFFER:

The number is 1,224,457 for the operating budget of 2007. That's not from the County, unfortunately.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN,:

No that's --

MS. PFEIFFER:

One, two, two, four, four, five, seven, point three three to be technical.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Sorry, go head.

MS. PFEIFFER:

Youth Enrichment Services provides all of their services free of charge to the youth and families residing in our four designated communities. We have a packet that we can leave. Our programs include daily after school care for middle school age kids, we do not want to -- we do not do elementary because there are programs in the community, so we don't want to duplicate -- those programs, however, are pay. LEAP, Town of Islip LEAP provides for Bay -- excuse me, Central Islip and Brentwood; SCOPE provides also in Central Islip; the YMCA in Bay Shore provides for Bay Shore, and West Islip has an {ASCAS} Program for elementary age. We provide daily after school care for 6th, 7th and 8th graders at every single middle school in all four areas as well as at our sites and at intermediate school for Central Islip as well for 5th and 6th.

We have over a thousand kids a day in after school programming, from 2:30 to 5:30, it is entirely free. Additionally, we provide a Saturday Enrichment Program for grades 1 to 4. We provide evening programs, tutoring in every one of our communities; we provide open gyms and recreation. We have over a thousand youth volunteers that do everything from the tutoring to working in our after school programs to working with other community organizations. We have a Work Readiness Initiative that we work very closely with the Department of Labor, we place over 100 kids a year, about 80 get placed right in YES to work with us. We are an AmeriCorps site. We have summer programs, all free of charge for grades -- they have to have finished kindergarten and it goes right up to the age before they turn 22, and most of those are for employment purposes. We employ kids whether they dropped out and/or graduated and are doing nothing right in our programs. So that's middle school, high school.

We do the Summer Nights Program with Smithtown, interestingly enough, the Veterans Association. Wherever there's a program and we can go for free we go. We pay no rent, we pay no utilities, we use town facilities, the schools have been gracious, all four of our school districts we have collaborations and funded programs, so we have a policy, we don't pay rent even when school budgets go down, and one of mine did go down by one vote, but we won't pay rent. And again, our schools are very supportive because we provide services right in them after school, the highest time of need for middle school kids.

We work with the Probation Department. We get phone calls every day anywhere from pregnancy to, "My child is suicidal," mental health, eating disorders, cutting. I was just sitting there thinking about that, the kinds of phone calls since January, and gangs, maybe, "My child is going to be in a gang." I mean, there are parents out there that really do care in communities that are high at risk and there have to be the programs. We have family nights and if you were to come to them, we do invite people who fund us, and I know it's hard to get to them, and there will be a room of 200 parents with their kids, that's how important. So I think that a lot of people perceive some of the communities we work with as not being interested and I think that's very, very mistaken. These parents are great parents, they want their kids in, they know the importance of supervising their children.

That's just an overview. I think the thing we're most proud of is that we really reach out and we really work hard at bringing money so we never have to charge fees. And there is no income guideline except when we work with the Department of Labor due to their regulations by Washington DC. And the Suffolk County Department of Labor is great because they really have a 5% window they can play with for kids who may not meet that economic but we really need to get in to a program. So it's kind of good because even if you live in Brightwaters, you are entitled, if you so choose, to be in our programs. And I think that's important for our communities because we have such -- and you know this being in those areas of service, we have a very wide range of wealth to the highest poverty indexes sitting in Brentwood and Central Islip to some of the most affluent

homes in Suffolk County, in Brightwaters and West Bay Shore. So I think that it is important that all of our programs be available. The majority of our services obviously are -- the majority of our participants are obviously from our harder hit areas.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Aside from Mary Ann squared here, how many employees does your agency have?

MS. PFEIFFER:

I know I have all of this. We have seven full-time, 55 part-time, 13 AmeriCorps members, we have three senior citizens through the Urban League Senior Employment, we have five Department of Labor Social Service people that are placed to work with us -- I'm giving you the whole picture -- we have 65 Department of Labor Youth Workers and we have six Site Coordinators, a lot of them we use through the school districts and they're kind of a consultant basis.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Did somebody else get that? Because I didn't.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yeah. I lost --

MS. PFEIFFER:

We have it in the packet.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, you do; you're going to give us a packet?

MS. McGRATH:

Yes, we have it for you in a packet.

MS. PFEIFFER:

So the breakdown is, like out of our part-time, we have like 15 part-time teachers who work for us that we hire that work in the school districts. We have 1,100 youth volunteers, but for the main part of it, that first part, we have everything broken down.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

How many youth volunteers did you say?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Over a thousand, and they would volunteer in and out throughout the year. Some of them might have only done five hours; they have to have done two to be recorded for the year, they have to have showed up somewhere. And we have 107 adult volunteers, that would include the Children's Commission, somebody that might come in and do something even if it's one day. We just keep an entire computerized system, so we're able to report -- because we have Federal money, we have State money, there's a lot of accountability on what we're doing.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So you're not Enron or Global Crossings.

MS. PFEIFFER:

No, not yet.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Good accounting practices here. Are you aware of any other agencies that provide similar services

to the same population?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Yeah, I just jotted some notes down because when you say that, I know SNAP had a difficult time with that. I think that we are the only -- I know we are the only middle school providing after school care -- and as you know, the famous time is between the hours of like three and seven that these kids need to be supervised -- I know that. And we're also the only one providing all of our services and programs free of charge, and that doesn't mean the other ones are bad.

But there's the YMCA in Bay Shore, they do a lot more with elementary at that age of daily care. Urban League does some things, they might do once or twice a week; we work with Urban League. All of these organizations we also work with; Adelante does some programming, because we work a lot with drop-outs, Adelante does some, we work together, we're in a lot of grants together; you know, EOC will come in. I think that we are the main youth agency, when you think of like Selden/Centereach, I think that we are the main -- our focus are the kids and that's -- you know, we do a lot of referring out, "Oh, you need food," we don't do a food pantry, I think that's a great idea, but we refer to where they need to go. Do you know what I mean? We're really focused on those youth services and those youth programs in a traditional sense of the word.

And so there are a lot of different organizations, but I don't really know of any one doing like eight middle -- you know, ten after school programs every day for free in those four areas.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, you already gave us your total budget amount; what portion of that do you receive directly from the County? What's the amount from the County?

MS. PFEIFFER:

About \$123,140, so we need more; no, I'm teasing. I didn't really think of it that way until I looked at the entire budget. And that includes 22,500 directly to us from our County Legislators, our three County Legislators and then the pass -- the rest of it is pass-thru through a contract that the County does with the town to fund YES and some other agencies.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

What was that amount that was from the Legislature then?

MS. PFEIFFER:

The direct?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yes.

MS. PFEIFFER:

From my three Legislators, packaged?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yes.

MS. PFEIFFER:

Twenty-two thousand five hundred.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So it's about \$100,000 of pass-thru money?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Yes, that's what the town informed me, because they do it in a block grant of about 290 which includes some of the County, some of the State and some of the town. So when we get it, they

don't really break it down for us until we ask.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I know it represents approximately 10% of your overall Operating Budget, what would be the result of not receiving that money, what programs would it impact?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Well, I mean, I had to think about that. Would I just say, okay, 10% less kids with a waiting list anyway wouldn't make sense, you really can't do that. So when we thought about it, two of our programs that we really are using this money for, one is the Bay Shore Middle School After School Program, I know I've spoken to Legislator Alden about it, that we need to get that funded more, because right now that would definitely be gone, and the Mulligan Intermediate Program would have to go, just because those are their main funding sources.

So those are two real programs and those are about 300 students, about 220 daily in attendance, 300 enrolled. I mean, it takes a little bit more money to provide that program, but without that 123, we have State regulations, school-age child care licensing that says 15 kids per staff person, so you cannot change that formula. You can't say, "All right, now we're going to have less staff," it just doesn't work that way in licensing.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, one question will lead to the next. How much does your agency raise throughout outside fund-raising?

MS. PFEIFFER:

Last -- in 2006 we raised \$79,612 in outside funding-raising.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Now, I should be able to do the math here, but I'm not going to crunch these numbers so I'll just ask you; what would be the remaining balance, then, how much do you receive from other agencies, Federal, State, town? I know if I added those two numbers up and then subtracted from that one 1.2 million number I could get it, but --

MS. PFEIFFER:

Okay, from the Federal we receive a total 427,425; from New York State total including Department of Ed, Developmental Disabilities and OCFS, putting that all together, 340,660; Suffolk County we said was 123,140; Town of Islip was 253,620. And then the fund-raising -- we're putting down last year's because we're in May, we think that we're going to be higher this year because our Director of Development is going to -- we're doing a big 20th Anniversary gala, so we're going to hit over a hundred thousand this year in fund-raising. We work very hard at that and we still know that there's money out there, we just need to know how to get it better.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Of that total budget that you've quoted us, what percentage of that goes towards your administrative costs?

MS. PFEIFFER:

The total administrative, 12%.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So I guess we can extrapolate from that that your CEO doesn't make more than 20% of the overall budget.

MS. PFEIFFER:

Seven point four percent, and that would include fringe and everything, to be very exact.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you. Legislator Kennedy, do you have any questions?

LEG. KENNEDY:

(Shook head no).

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

We're all set?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

We're wrapped up.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I think we're good. So once again, thank you very much for coming down. Thank you for your dedication and for the services you provide to the families in the Town of Islip, and they are families in need.

MS. PFEIFFER:

And thank you, because I know that even though it's 123,000, it is important when asked the question what would you do if that money weren't there. So I think the Legislature for doing that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you very much.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thanks again. All right, our schedule actually had a little break in it so that we could go over -- there's a senior citizen program, so we're going to take a break now and we'll come back at around two o'clock and hopefully pick up the last three agencies that are on our schedule for today. And we do have a list here of agencies that we want to invite in and we need a few more, I guess, proposed agencies to bring in. So when you get a chance, if you can just take a look at this list and add some to it, otherwise we'll come back at two o'clock. Thank you very much.

*(*The meeting was recessed at 12:11 PM*)*

*(*The meeting was reconvened at 2:08 PM*)*

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good afternoon and welcome back to the Ad Hoc Committee for Contract Agencies. Good afternoon.

MS. GRAVINA:

Good afternoon.

MS. MORROW:

Good afternoon. I'm Susan Morrow from Hospice Care Network, I'm the Chief Financial Officer.

MS. GRAVINA:

Mary Gravina from Hospice Care Network, Assistant Vice-President of Counseling Services.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Susan, you're the Chief CFO?

MS. MORROW:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. As I've been telling the other contract agencies, we established this committee to -- basically it was in response to some criticism that we caught when we went through our last budget cycle. It happened to coincide with a time period, New York State was being exposed for a not very transparent system in giving out grants and some contracts and some people labeled us or threw us in with that same label, you know, that we did things in a secretive manner; that's hardly the case. We've always had -- if any contract agency was going to receive funding in the budget, they're enumerated on the line, their names are in there, the amount that they're getting is right in the budget. When we do it in a grant form, it's in resolution form, the name is in there, the amount is in there. So it hasn't been hidden ever in Suffolk County from the public.

But there were some questions that came up during the budget process who some of the agencies were, what they provided, whether there was overlapping services being provided, things of that nature, so we thought that this would be a good way to get a lot of information going into the next budget cycle, get a chance to meet some people that we didn't meet, and also take a look at areas in Suffolk County that might be serviced, might be duplication of services or there might be an identification of areas that are not being serviced.

So having said that, we sent out an invitation to you and other groups that have gone before you. We're hopefully going to get as many contract agencies in as we can this year. I think you were provided with, you know, like a short list of things that we're going to touch on, so I'll give you a couple of minutes to just give us an overview of your agency. I know there's not a lot of Legislators, there's actually only one here; there's other people on the committee and unfortunately some of them are at the doctors and some of them had some other types of pressing matters. But we are making a recorded -- a full record of -- and this is verbatim minutes that we take, so all the Legislators will be able to avail themselves of the information that we gather, also the County Executive or the news media, if they wanted to look at any of this information. And I think it's going to come in and play a little part in our next budget cycle where we try to make sure that we're doing the right thing by the people of Suffolk County and providing the right level of services, but also taking in to consideration the taxpayer's ability to pay.

So having said that, go ahead and give us an overview.

MS. MORROW:

Okay. I'd like Mary, our Program Director, to introduce herself and she'll start responding to some of your questions. Did you introduce yourself?

MS. GRAVINA:

Yeah, I did.

MS. MORROW:

Oh, you did, I'm sorry.

MS. GRAVINA:

Hospice Care Network is a certified health care agency that provides end-of-life care to patients and their families living in Nassau, Suffolk and Queens County. The grant we receive from this County specifically is for our Bereavement Program which is available to children and their families, regardless of their affiliation with hospice prior to the death of their loved one. So we, in essence, provide extensive bereavement services to our patient families for 13 months following the death, and then we also open our services up to members of the community who perhaps have experienced a sudden trauma death, a violent death, some anticipated deaths, but not to the point where their family member was on our program.

MS. MORROW:

What I'd like to add is that we are paid for hospice services by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies. The program that Suffolk County has been kind enough to fund over the years is really the community portion of our bereavement program. We're required to provide bereavement to hospice patient families as part of our arrangement with Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance, but as an extension of that program we offer to the community, as Mary indicated, bereavement services to those in need who have lost a loved one, adult or child, whose family -- whose patient or whose loved one was not on hospice. So this is an extension of our program which is quite unique and we have been fortunate enough to receive some funding to help support some of those service expenses.

We currently have 275 employees within our agency servicing all three counties of Hospice Care Network. And within the employee structure, we have a set number of employees, there's three to four employees that service the Children's Bereavement Program within the Suffolk County geographic area.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And they're full-time?

MS. MORROW:

They're full-time for -- well, full-time and part-time employees, so they have a share of services between both the Community Bereavement Program and also our Hospice Bereavement Program.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, could you actually break it down, the number of employees, full-time, part-time.

MS. MORROW:

I don't have the exact number of full-time and part-time employees off the top of my head.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

A rough guess?

MS. MORROW:

A rough guess, I would say that we would have probably 190 to 210 full-time and the balance being part-time and what we call per diem work.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So about 75 part-time per diem?

MS. MORROW:

I would say about 75 part-time.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Are there any other agencies that you're aware of -- and more -- what's more relevant to us is Suffolk County, so the area that you service in Suffolk County, if you are aware of any other agencies that provide a similar service?

MS. GRAVINA:

I'm certainly aware of other hospices that provide a portion of what we provide, but our programs -- we design our programs based on the need of the community. Some of the other programs that I'm aware of will service community members if their groups or their individual counseling session are not full. The only other programs that I know of in the area are a fee-for-service, private clinicians, mental health agencies that provide similar work. Our work is offered, our services are offered free of charge.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, but Krista House and there's --

MS. GRAVINA:

Well, Krista House is an in-patient facility that doesn't necessarily -- we're talking about bereavement services.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Right.

*(*Legislator Kennedy entered the meeting at 2:16 PM*)*

MS. GRAVINA:

Specifically for children. Now, as a matter of fact, we have a contract with Krista House so the families that are on hospice that have loved ones that die at Krista House, they fall under our bereavement.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So the unique part of your program is that it's for children, the bereavement services for children isn't duplicated anywhere else that you can think of?

MS. GRAVINA:

Well, I think the unique part of our program is that we service children that had no affiliation with hospice prior to the death. So many of the other hospice programs that we know of provide bereavement services for children if their loved one was on their program before the death.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So -- and then just in general, does Krista House and what other end-of-life providers are you aware of?

MS. GRAVINA:

Other hospices?

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Hospices, yeah.

MS. GRAVINA:

Good Shepherd Hospice, VNS, Brookhaven.

MS. MORROW:

East End Hospice. But whether or not they have a children's bereavement program open to the community, we're aware that there may be some, as Mary mentioned, if their sessions are available, their slots in their sessions, they may open their bereavement to community children. But in general, they're generally in-house for hospice family members only.

MS. GRAVINA:

And our experience has been they often offer one group per age group per year; so if they have a group for 4 to 7 year olds, it's offered once a year, whereas ours is offered every eight to ten weeks.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. How much funding do you receive from the County?

MS. MORROW:

Well, we're budgeted this year for 15,000. In prior years, fiscal years, we were approved for -- it ranges from 35 to 50,000, but that's been cut this year to 15. We do not receive any funding from any Federal, State, Town or other village contracts.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And if you didn't receive the \$15,000 grant from the County of Suffolk, what would be the

consequence?

MS. MORROW:

The consequence of that is depending on our financial ability to continue the program to that extent, we may need to in the future shrink the number of children, the size of the groups that we have, the number of groups we're able to offer, if we're not able to go out and raise additional funds to support those expenses.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So Federal, State, Town and Village are none, right?

MS. MORROW:

None, that's correct.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Annually, how much does your agency raise through outside fund-raising events?

MS. MORROW:

Outside fundraising efforts raise about \$1.4 million annually.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And what percentage of your overall budget goes towards admin expenses?

MS. MORROW:

Fifteen percent.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Fifteen?

MS. MORROW:

Uh-huh.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Does your CEO make more than 20% of the agency's total budget?

MS. MORROW:

Not at all.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Everybody laughs at us when we ask that.

MS. MORROW:

I do have to say, I did chuckle when I saw that the first time around, but I'm sure there's a reason for it.

MS. GRAVINA:

We thought we'd apply for her job.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, actually, that's part of our criteria now, that we're not going to fund agencies if their CEO -- or we have to really look at it seriously if their CEO makes more than that percentage. What is your overall budget?

MS. MORROW:

Overall budget is 31 million for the entire agency.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, and you don't have that broken down by how much is in Suffolk County as opposed to the rest?

MS. MORROW:

Agency-wide broken down by County? No, I do not, I'm sorry to say. But in Suffolk County, but the percentage of patients serviced by Suffolk County is probably about 40; about 40% of our patient population is serviced by Suffolk County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Forty percent of your --

MS. MORROW:

Thirty-five to 40%. We have office locations in each County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

You just have the one in Bay Shore, right, in Suffolk County?

MS. MORROW:

We have the one bereavement center in Bay Shore.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, okay. You have other centers in Suffolk County that you --

MS. MORROW:

No other centers, there's a bereavement center and office.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Where else would you work out of, then, if there was a client say -- from the west end that makes -- you know, that makes sense, but say for somebody who was out a little bit further east, Mastic-Shirley or --

MS. MORROW:

We do service out in that geographic area. And our main office, which is also our Nassau Center, is very close to the border of Suffolk County, it's in Woodbury. So our staff are out in the field during the course of the day and through, you know, communications and e-mail and through their computers that they're going to be receiving shortly, they can stay connected to the office very easily and be out on the road to travel and visit patients on a daily basis.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So you would make house calls, basically.

MS. MORROW:

Yes.

MS. GRAVINA:

We make home visits, yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. MORROW:

So they're out in the field most of the day.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Or if it's appropriate, a hospital or something along those lines?

MS. MORROW:

And if we're talking a group of children, frequently we'll do an off-site group; if a school calls us and has a group of children --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So you would use --

MS. MORROW:

Their facility, right.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- facilities provided by like a church or a school or things of that nature.

MS. MORROW:

Or a school, right. Wading River, we have done Little Flower, we've done groups for them out in their area because it's too far for them to come to Bay Shore for group, so we'll go there.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

John, did you have any questions?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you. I'm sorry, I got in late and you may have talked about this initially when you spoke. Two things; one, in previous years you indicated you had received 50,000, I guess, and 35,000, this year you're slotted for 15. Have you had to adjust the number of hours or the number of groups that you're delivering based on these higher amounts previously to where we are this year?

MS. MORROW:

We have not made any adjustments at this time. What we have done is raised the consciousness of our community to help support the efforts of the bereavement groups that are taking place.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So your fund-raising then may have replaced what these previous reductions --

MS. MORROW:

We're hoping that our fund-raising will replace. It was late in receiving information with regard to the budget changes that took place, but we're very actively going out with our Development Director in having specific events geared towards supporting the Children's Bereavement Program, whether it be in Suffolk, Nassau or in Queens, but particularly in Suffolk to replace those dollars.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I'm familiar with Good Shepherd Hospice Services from personal experience. Do you do that type of care as well directly to the terminally ill individual?

MS. MORROW:

(Shook head yes).

LEG. KENNEDY:

Now, is this -- so in other words, if you have a child that's terminally ill you're targeted towards that, or is it a child of a terminally ill individual?

MS. GRAVINA:

We do both, we do both. The program that is funded through the County is for the children of terminally ill, but we also have a pediatric program, so we service dying children as well. We also

have a perinatal program where we service mothers who choose to carry to term a child that's going to die.

LEG. KENNEDY:

It sounds like tough work, but I'm glad that you are there to do it because it's a big need. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I just have a couple of more. Thirty-one million overall budget, you've raise 1.4 million outside funding-raising, you get a small amount from us; where does the rest of the budget come from?

MS. MORROW:

The rest of the budget comes from Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. MORROW:

Paying for the hospice services within the policy constraints of the policy holder for private insurance and under Medicare and Medicaid as a beneficiary of that benefit.

MS. GRAVINA:

I think it might just be important to note, too, that even with our patient families, there is no reimbursement through Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance for bereavement.

MS. MORROW:

We're required to provide bereavement services without the reimbursement for those services built in to our reimbursement with Medicare and Medicaid and private insurance. We're mandated provided but it's not built in to the reimbursement rate.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Just as far as how you came into being, it was -- the people that originally occupied that location, did you take them over or merge with them?

MS. MORROW:

Actually, in August 1st of 1996, two entities, two hospices came together and formed one united hospice; it was Hospice of the South Shore --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Right.

MS. MORROW:

-- and Hospice Care of Long Island, and they were predominantly in Nassau and Queens, Hospice of the South Shore was predominantly in Suffolk, and the two entities came together and became Hospice Care Network serving all three counties.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Did you know that was a funeral parlor that you're in?

MS. GRAVINA:

It was also the Entenmann's Bakery.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

At one time, right. But right before Hospice of the South Shore got in there it was a funeral parlor.

MS. MORROW:

It's a beautiful, beautiful home.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

It is. My uncle, unfortunately, was laid out there, though, back in the 70's. All right, I don't think we have any other questions for you. Thank you very much for your service to the community and thanks for coming in today and answering some questions.

MS. MORROW:

Thank you.

MS. GRAVINA:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And you're Ann?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Hi, come on up. Ms. Ann Moran-Smith from Smith Haven Ministries.

As I have been telling all the agencies that have come before us, the reason this committee was formed, when we went through the last budget process there were some questions as far as not all the Legislators knew who some of the contract agencies were and what they provided, so this was thought to be a good idea to acquaint Legislators with the different agencies that serve the people in Suffolk County. Also, we were under attack, and wrongfully so, for how we spend the people's money in Suffolk County.

At the same time we were going through our budget process, there was an investigation into how New York State gives out their grants. New York State uses a different procedure than we use, theirs is a little bit clouded, a little bit more secretive. In Suffolk County we're pretty much very open and transparent, if some agency is going to get money, whether it be through the budget process or through a Legislative grant, they -- if it's a budget they have to have a line item with their name on it, the amount of money to identify how much money is going to that organization. If it be through a Legislative grant, it has to be through a resolution that would state the name of the organization and the amount that goes to that organization.

So we have always been a very transparent system here in Suffolk County and we took some unwarranted criticism as far as how we gave out grants and what the purposes were. This is to clarify all that so that in the future when some people point their finger at us and say, "What are you doing with the people's money," we have actually established a documented record, now here's exactly what we're doing with the people's money and we can go forward from that point.

So I'm fairly sure that the Presiding Officer's Office supplied you with a list of things that we wanted to touch on today.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Sure.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So if you want to very briefly give us a description of your agency, the programs, what population and then, you know, we'll do a question and answer to fill in the blanks.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

I'm from Smith Haven Ministries, this is actually our 49th year of service to Suffolk County, and we do have a variety of programs. Seabury Barn, which is a short-term emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth between the ages of 12 and 17, is a Suffolk County program. Also, our Youth

and Family Services is a Suffolk County program; we provide counseling to youth and their families under that program and we also provide camp scholarships for families in need, Particularly families where a grandparent or a great-grandparent is raising their grandchildren or great-grandchildren to give a summer respite to that family.

We have a Case Advocacy Program which helps people obtain benefits which they need and which are available within the County structure; that program is not funded by the County. We have a Community Information and Referral Program which provides services to people who are in need of services which we don't provide but are provided by other resources in the County -- in the community. We do an Adult Counseling Program for people who are not eligible for the Youth and Family Services Program and that's for adults over the age of 21 who are in need of counseling, really for a variety of mental health issues.

We also have an Emergency Food Pantry that is not funded by the County, and we feed about 11,000, between 10 and 11,000 people a year through our Emergency Food Pantry. We're also a Project Warmth Agency, we assist people with their heating bills, we assist people with medication prescriptions, payments for those, and holiday toys, Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program, clothing, blankets. We have a volunteer program where we give internships to local university and college students to come in and learn their professions in our agency. Overall, we see typically between 21 and 23,000 people a year in our office which is on Route 112 in Coram, and the Seabury Barn Shelter is actually located in Mt. Sinai.

I'd be glad to answer any questions that you have. We also like people to know that we're not a church, that we were formed as an interfaith coalition. We service everyone, religion is not an issue when clients come in to our agency. And I would be happy to answer any questions you have. I do have the list of questions.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good. Okay, so we'll just run right down. How many employees does your agency have?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We have 25.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Full-time?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Twelve are full-time, 13 are part-time.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Are there other agencies in the area that you're located that provide similar services?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Seabury Barn, which is our shelter for runaway and homeless youth, is the only shelter of its kind in Suffolk County. Our Youth and Family Services Program, there are other agencies within Suffolk County that do -- that do provide counseling, however not in the Coram area.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

But what would those agencies be? Sometimes we use this question just to get in our mind like what you actually do.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Sure. Like Patchogue-Medford Youth Services does provide some limited counseling and the County Mental Health Center in Farmingville provides counseling as well. As far as I'm aware, none of the other agencies provides the summer camp scholarships that we provide.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Would they be similar to like what the YMCA -- you know, runs those kinds of programs?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We actually provide scholarships to sleep-away and day camps, and some of the sleep-aways are located in New Jersey, some are Upstate, the day camps obviously are local, and we work with private camps to provide those scholarships to our clients at no cost to the clients.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Do you run the camps or you just send them to a camp?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

No, they are established camps.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, okay. How much money do you actually receive from the County?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

For our Seabury Barn Program, which is the emergency shelter, we receive \$424,000 for 2007. Our Youth and Family Services Program is 117,000 and that contract has not yet been signed. It's been approved by the Suffolk County Youth Bureau and I believe by the County Attorney, but it's still in Mr. Sabatino's office; you might have heard a lot about that today, I'm not sure, but we're still desperately waiting. We've never had to wait this long ever, till May, we've always gotten our contracts signed in February or March.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Actually, we've heard some nightmare testimony that people have actually had to front the money --

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

I've borrowed money, I've borrowed every penny I can.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And borrowed money and then they had fund-raisers just to pay the interest on the money that they had to borrow and it ate up all their private fund-raising, so.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We borrowed our line of credit, we've borrowed from private individuals who in the past have lent us money at no interest, and now we're just about out of money to borrow, to float that program. And like I said, we have never had to wait until the middle of May ever before, and my board president asked me to be sure to say that when I came today so that you would be aware of it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

All right, it's a point well taken by us. What would be the consequence of not receiving that County funding?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Seabury Barn, which is the shelter, would close, without County funding we would not -- the Ministries could not continue that program. And that program is mandated by the State, that each County have a shelter for runaway and homeless youth.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Right.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Our Youth and Family Services Program would also close if we did not receive County money. The

agency would stay open, but it would have a very different slant and very different programs and be much smaller.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

How much funding do you receive from Federal, State, Town or Village?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We don't receive any Town, Village or direct State money. The money for the Youth and Family Services program is actually a hundred percent State money that comes through the County and the Seabury Barn Shelter money is 60% State money that comes through the County and 40% County funds. The only Federal funding we receive at this point comes actually through Long Island's United way and it's emergency food and shelter funds through the FEMA Department and that money can only be used to purchase food for our pantry. And that fluctuates, this year it's 36,000, it's usually between 30 and \$36,000 a year that can only be used to purchase food and disposable diapers.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Annually, how much does your agency raise through outside fund-raising efforts?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We've -- through grants, contributions, our special events, we raise -- and food and toys which we raise, it comes out to about \$161,000 a year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

If you backed out the grants -- grants from corporations?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

I'm sorry, not grants, I meant contributions, donations, food and toys.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Good; how much?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

It would be about \$161,000 a year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Of that, 118,000 is actual food and toys that comes in, tangible items. In grants we get about between 50 and \$60,000 a year in grants which is a separate category.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And that would be from like the State and things that you said before, or --

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

That's private corporations --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Or that's from corporate?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

-- foundation grants, United Way, things like that; that's non-government money.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. So 118,000 food and toys, 50,000 would be donations, basically, or grants as you called them.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Correct.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. What percentage of your overall budget goes towards admin expenses?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Seven percent.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Does your CEO make more than 20% of the agency's total budget.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

No, it's been consistent.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

No, and we chuckled on that one as well.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And what's your total budget?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Our total budget for '07 is 791,000, of which about 541,000 comes from Suffolk County.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

But that's through --

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Through those two programs, the Seabury Barn Program and the Youth and Family Program.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

You said about five --

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Five forty-one.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Forty-one? Okay. Legislator Kennedy.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just a couple of questions about the funding split.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Sure.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Youth and Family -- and this is either for you, John and/or for yourself, ma'am. So the Youth and Family is 100% State money?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

That's what we're told by Suffolk County Youth Bureau, yes.

LEG. KENNEDY:

DFY funding, I would imagine? And as of today, you haven't seen a contract nor seen one cent of that.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Correct. We were told that the line for rent, insurance and several other items was crossed out on the contract by Mr. Sabatino and we were asked to submit additional documentation, and this is after -- I mean, we've had the contracts for about 25 to 30 years now. We were asked to submit documentation on why we needed that money, yes, so we did, we did that within two --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I could tell you why you need it, it's a Suffolk County requirement.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Within two days. Well, the insurance certainly is and the rent, without the space we wouldn't have the program. We got that back to the Youth Bureau who got it to Mr. Sabatino within two days, then I got a call about two days later from the Suffolk County Budget Review Office.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Budget Office.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

They were a little confused, they thought that Seabury Barn, our Youth and Family Program and the Ministries were all in a building that was shared with Mt. Sinai Congregational Church, and I explained to them that the Ministries is located in Coram in an office building that we rent space from, we pay a landlord. And that that Seabury Barn, although Mt. Sinai Congregational Church is our landlord for Seabury Barn, we rent the space from them, it's not shared space. Seabury Barn is its own program and its own building, they're just our landlord, we don't have an affiliation with them at all.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Was the person that you got that call from named John, by any chance?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

No, uh --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

I'm only kidding, because John is sitting right there.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Okay, I'm sorry.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Let me just say that it's unfortunate that you're getting, I guess, having to re-explain what obviously you've explained over 20 or 30 years so the budget folks, and clearly it sounds like, you know, all these items conform are unnecessary. There are different venues we'll explore to go ahead and see if we can do something to get you your money.

My concern, though, was primarily, I guess, we're seeing folks who are coming today with a variety of different streams of funding, in some cases it's 100% County money, in other cases it's 100% State or Federal money. Seabury Barn, though, I'm familiar with as well and clearly, yeah, it's not located in Coram, it's up there as you go up to Stony Brook, I know it well. Is there any funding that comes through the Probation Department? Because on occasion you will get referrals from Family Court or other types of situations where it's a child known to Probation Department or a family known to the Probation Department. It's not just runaways who happen to not necessarily be associated with the court system, right?

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

Under the State regulations, the runaway and youth, Homeless Runaway and Youth Act, we cannot accept youth who are on regular probation. We do accept and have many youth who are on what's called PINS Probation, Person In Need of Supervision, we can accept them. But under the State law, the kids who are on regular probation cannot be mixed in with runaways at a runaway shelter, but we do have many referrals of kids who are a PINS Probation.

LEG. KENNEDY:

So my question then goes over to BRO; the 60% State funding that they're getting, is that State probation or is it State DFY, is it a blend?

MR. ORTIZ:

The numbers I have in front of me, it's appropriation 7323, it's through the State.

LEG. KENNEDY:

But we don't know which department in particular that's coming through.

MR. ORTIZ:

That's what the Youth Bureau gets.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

We're actually --

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay, that's easy enough for me to find out in a different manner, we don't have to go ahead and go out there today.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

If it helps, we're licensed and we are overseen by not only the Suffolk County Youth Bureau, but the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, OCFS.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Sure, certainly. Okay. Yeah, and as a matter of fact, you usually have a waiting list; your beds are always full and as a matter of fact there's usually a waiting list in order to place them.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

And also for the Youth and Family, we always have a waiting list in that program as well for the Youth and Family Services.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. Well, again, thank you very much for coming out. It's good to hear, I guess, the good service that you're doing.

MS. MORAN-SMITH:

I appreciate the opportunity. Thank you so much.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thank you. All right, we have MADD, come on up.

MS. COHEN:

Yes. I'm sorry, I just came from Shoreham speaking in a school, I'm exhausted. I don't know where I am.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so we have Ms. Cohen, right?

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And --

MS. REBHOLZ:

Margaret Rebholz.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And Ms. Cohen, you're the --

MS. COHEN:

President.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Vice-President.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And let me get the spelling of -- you're Margaret?

MS. REBHOLZ:

Margaret Rebholz, R-E-B-H-O-L-Z.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. And I'll just start by making a statement why we're actually here. When we went through the budget process last year, and that's back in October leading in to November when we adopted the budget, there were some questions that came up during the deliberations where we should, you know, allocate the -- and there's scarce funds that we have in Suffolk County, but where we should make the allocation. So some of the groups people weren't -- Legislators weren't aware of what they did, what geographical areas they serviced, whether there was overlaps, things of that nature in the service, whether there were areas that weren't being serviced; that was one reason. A second reason was we were criticized for basically squandering the people's money, the people's tax dollars.

We were caught in a situation where Upstate, New York, the New York State Legislature does this a little bit differently than we do, they have some money that seems to go out and it's not really accounted for. In Suffolk County we've got a very transparent system whereby if you are listed in the Omnibus or if you are listed in the budget there's a line item, it gives your name, it gives the exact amount that you are approved for in the budget. If you are the recipient of a Legislative grant, it has to be in a resolution form, your name, again, the name of the organization is in there, the amount of money that the organization is getting is enumerated right there on that resolution, so we have a very, very transparent situation that we use in Suffolk County, or our process, very transparent.

Yet we were still criticized and one of the reasons -- not reasons, but so to rectify that a little bit, we decided and the Presiding Officer decided to put together a subcommittee to have the people in that we have been giving money to, we're going to try to get to know you, we're going to make a record for the public as well as for other Legislators of what you do, what geographic areas you serve, all the particulars in your organization, things of that nature, so that in the future when we go to do the budget this year, hopefully we'll have the answers to some of the questions that came up last year and also if somebody criticizes us for squandering money, we could just turn over the transcripts and say, "Okay, you go through and you tell whatever kids or whatever group of adults or whoever it is that has been receiving government grants and government contracts, you tell them who you

want to cut and where you want to actually affect the quality of life." Because most of the things that we've been dealing with, most of these contracts deal with quality of life in Suffolk County.

So having said that, if you want to give us a brief description of what your agency does and where you're located, things of that nature, then we'll do a little question and answer to fill in some of the other blanks that we have.

MS. COHEN:

Okay. Mothers Against Drunk Driving is a 501C-3 non-profit organization, it's headquartered in Irving, Texas. It's a national organization that is volunteered driven and structured with one governing board of directors. Every state in each local office is tied to the national organization. In New York State, MADD has a State office in Albany, a local office on Long Island and one in Rochester.

On Long Island, MADD serves Nassau and Suffolk Counties, services are open to all who need them. MADD Long Island has one full-time employee and two part-time employees. There are other organizations that address some issues related to drunk driving, but none that offer the comprehensive array of programs that MADD has available, including support groups for victims, nationally accredited, award-winning programs designed for youth and certified victim advocates available to support victims and survivors.

The total amount received from Suffolk County's \$26,000, and I'll give you the following sources; \$16,000 from the District Attorney's Forfeited Asset Sharing Program which is restricted to pay the rent in our office; \$5,000 from Suffolk County Stop DWI Office for speaking engagements set up by their office to educate residents within the County; \$5,000 from the Suffolk County Youth Bureau restricted to providing youth programs within Suffolk County. The rent money is truly integral to operations and without it, MADD Long Island would need to evaluate its ability to retain our current location. The current location is centrally located and ideal for providing services to both counties. A reduction in the funds from the other two sources would curtail educational activities. Federally, we receive \$28,269 from {VOCA} to fund a part-time victim advocate position. From the State, we receive \$12,500 from Legislative grants, \$10,000 of which was restricted to completing the garden of awareness. The budget for 06-07 called for unrestricted revenues, the revenues discussed above is all considered restricted and is not included in this figure, to equal \$134,058. To date, MADD Long Island has raised \$35,378, and our major fund-raiser is scheduled for June 3rd of 2007. The discrepancy in revenue is made up from the MADD New York State Office through fund-raising efforts across other areas of the State and country. Seventy-six percent of MADD's funds are spent on community programs and services, other expenses include management and operating costs; 7% as well -- seven percent, as well as costs associated with fund-raising, is 17%.

MADD's national CEO does not make more than 20% of the agency's total budget. MADD Long Island does not have a CEO, nor do we have an Executive Director; I'm it, Margaret's it. That's it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So on a local level, you don't make more than 20% of the agency's budget?

MS. COHEN:

I don't make anything, I'm a volunteer.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Margaret, you're a volunteer, too?

MS. REBHOLZ:

Volunteer. Just so that you understand, when Deena had mentioned that we have one full-time employee and two part-time, that one part-time is on that grant money who is a part-time victim's advocate.

MS. COHEN:

Yeah, that's on a {VOCA} Grant.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Is your budget broken down, then, by the Nassau/Suffolk or the local budget is a total of how much, the total budget?

MS. COHEN:

A hundred and thirty-four thousand, fifty-eight dollars.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

One thirty-four fifty-eight?

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's Nassau-Suffolk's total budget.

MS. COHEN:

That's Nassau-Suffolk's total budget, that's MADD Long Island, that's it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And I don't know if you broke it out, but for just Nassau and Suffolk the total that goes to admin costs? Your full-time employee wouldn't be included in that, your part-time employees because they provide programs, so that would be like postage or rental, space rental or anything like that?

MS. COHEN:

The space rental is paid for by Forfeiture Funds from Tom Spota.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. COHEN:

He gives us \$16,000 to cover our rent and that's all from Forfeiture Funds, it's not local money.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

John, so would that be considered admin?

MR. ORTIZ:

I wouldn't think so.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So we're getting down close to zero percent of your budget for admin.

MS. COHEN:

Yeah.

MR. ORTIZ:

Yeah, because it's all volunteer work.

MS. COHEN:

It's all volunteer work.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So zero percent. And if we didn't give you the money, obviously --

MS. COHEN:

We wouldn't exist.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- you wouldn't exist. John, you have a question or two?

LEG. KENNEDY:

Yeah, thanks, Mr. Chair. I'm just curious as to whether or not -- your location is here in Suffolk County or is it in Nassau?

MS. COHEN:

Yes. No, no, it's in Suffolk County.

MS. REBHOLZ:

No, 110.

MS. COHEN:

In Huntington Station. It's 33 Walt Whitman Road, so we're pretty much on the border of both counties to make it easily accessible for victims of both counties.

LEG. KENNEDY:

But is the rent completely covered with the money from Spota?

MS. COHEN:

Yes, absolutely completely, we don't lay out any money towards the rent.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay, but do you get any Asset Forfeiture then from Ms. Rice in Nassau?

MS. COHEN:

No, we don't.

LEG. KENNEDY:

No; huh, that's interesting.

MS. COHEN:

Nassau County has been giving us zero.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Is that right?

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

LEG. KENNEDY:

But nevertheless, they're part of your catchment area.

MS. COHEN:

Well, there are -- yes, yes, because there are victims in both counties and that is our interest is servicing the victims of drunk driving.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And have you ever had occasion to approach them to see if they wanted to participate in any way as

far as funding goes?

MS. COHEN:

Yes, we have.

LEG. KENNEDY:

And I take it's not been a receptive ear?

MS. COHEN:

No.

LEG. KENNEDY:

That's unfortunate.

MS. COHEN:

Very unfortunate.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Nevertheless, I mean, we know, you know, the good service that you do and we're glad that you're out there and do provide the help and, you know, you provide a lot of important awareness for us. We've all had the opportunity to come to some of your events and I know you perform critical work. So thank you, I thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Are you able, with the assets you have right now, to provide the services that are requested of you? Because I know the schools ask you to come in and do programs, civic associations, libraries, etcetera, etcetera; are you able to or do you turn people down?

MS. COHEN:

We turn nobody down.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, so.

MS. COHEN:

We really don't. Margaret and I go out, we speak in the schools and we speak at other functions, other organizations. We don't get paid, so it's our materials, educational materials that our monies, our donations are paying for.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay. Now, you also say you have one full-time, two part-time, you're not counting the two of you.

MS. COHEN:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So that's two in the volunteer column; you have more volunteers than that?

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Approximately how many?

MS. REBHOLZ:

Active? Working?

MS. COHEN:

Active, yeah. Working volunteers, otherwise we have about 300, but active --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Three hundred overall volunteers.

MS. COHEN:

Active, working volunteers, I'd say maybe 20.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, but otherwise you do have on a list, there's 300?

MS. COHEN:

Yes, we have people that do tabling events. For instance, if --

MS. REBHOLZ:

Senator {Fuschillo} has a senior gathering.

MS. COHEN:

Senator {Fuschillo}, right, has what he calls his Golden Gathering and he wants volunteers calls to be there to hand out information about MADD, answer whatever questions that can be answered, there are volunteers that cover that. We have a volunteer coordinator and he puts volunteers in different places to speak, fire departments have their fairs or at their health awareness days they call on us to be there and give out information on drinking and driving. As you say, other civic organizations, and that volunteer really organizes the other volunteers that are not as involved as Margaret and myself, but they go out and do tabling events, they're taught what MADD is and what they need to say and do to answer questions and they're at most of those events.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, if somebody had a serious problem, and we're talking about a victim and their family, would you actually refer them out to, you know, some professional counseling --

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- or other types of counseling that might be available?

MS. COHEN:

Yes, yes. We have a support group that Margaret runs once a month, it's the last Tuesday of every month in our office and that's where victims and surviving victims come to vent, say whatever they need to say, get it off when other people don't want to hear it anymore, we're there, Margaret is there and helps them through the grief process. If we see that there is somebody that's really in trouble, way beyond what any of us can handle, we're not counselors, we recommend them -- we give them three names and recommend them to please go for more help than we can give.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, we've seen a rash of young drivers killed and maimed and seriously injured in a very short period of time, and when I say -- I'm going to go back even a year, so in that Nassau-Suffolk -- a lot in Suffolk County, though, too. Has that increased the number of people that are seeking your services?

MS. COHEN:

Absolutely.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So recently you've seen a spike up as far as people that are coming in?

MS. COHEN:

Yes, yes. We're in court, we go to court and we help them through the judicial process because that could boggle your mind, and most people have no clue what's ahead of them when they get to court, so we're there with them and help them through that.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Now, this is a survivor that's trying to get medical attention and things like that.

MS. COHEN:

Either a survivor, you know, that has been injured --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Right.

MS. COHEN:

-- or a family member survivor.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. REBHOLZ:

A fatality.

MS. COHEN:

You know, for somebody that's been killed from a fatality.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

But you don't supply legal assistance to the drunk driver.

MS. COHEN:

No.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

No. No, I just wanted to make that clear.

MS. COHEN:

No, absolutely no.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

These are victims that you take care of.

MS. COHEN:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Innocent victims. We both lost our child through a drunk driving crash. We've been trained by the Justice Department to be victims advocates, we're both advanced victims advocates and we both have death notification training which was done by the Justice Department. So we can help the

victims through the court process, not only from what we learn from walking through those, but if you lost somebody or something like that, it's very hard to understand what's going on in the court system as it is and then when you're really not paying -- you know, you're not all there because of your tragedy --

MS. COHEN:

Your mind is not working.

MS. REBHOLZ:

So we're there all the time. We're also called and notified by the Police Department, there was just a case where somebody was arrested for their tenth DWI and the Police Departments, the towns and villages, all of them, they have been known to call us and we show up in court just to try to pressure. You know, the judge knows who we are and we're just hoping that he's going to make the right choice, but this is all volunteer from us.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, as an educational -- you're used as an educational tool for the Judge when he's deliberating what to do with somebody that's been either arrested for or convicted of drunk driving.

MS. COHEN:

Some Judges, some Judges will, you know, be more open with us than others and ask us. Some Judges, just by our mere presence in the courtroom, after going for so many years, they know who we are. When I first started going to court I used to give my card to the Court Officer and say, "Can you just let the Judge know there's a representative from MADD in the courtroom?" Now I walk in and they nod when I walk in because I've been going there so many years, they all know me. They know we're watching.

MS. REBHOLZ:

A lot of the Probation Officers --

MS. COHEN:

The Probation Officers.

MS. REBHOLZ:

They'll ask us or -- you know, the Court Officers I should say, they'll ask us what case we're on today, you know, which one is this?

MS. COHEN:

Yeah, and what's happening with so and so.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Because they always know we have our paper work on us.

MS. COHEN:

And, you know, our mere presence in the courtroom has made a difference in getting these offenders, you know, to be prosecuted.

MS. REBHOLZ:

We also, here in Suffolk County, once a month we speak at a Victim's Impact Panel in Hauppauge right across the street for everybody who is charged with a DWI. And in Riverhead I did -- last month I did three and Yaphank I did another three, and all in the last three weeks.

MS. COHEN:

Yeah, that's speaking to people on probation for DWI, all offenders speaking -- we speak with them

and let them know what they could have done.

MS. REBHOLZ:

It's an hour order that they have to --

MS. COHEN:

One hour.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Yeah, one hour and I speak to them and really just explain to them what they did; you know, that they can't drink and drive.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Legislator Kennedy and I, on behalf of the other Legislators, would like to extend our thank you and really, great job that you're doing.

MS. COHEN:

Thank you.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So our appreciation for the job that you do, and thanks for coming down today and enlightening us on what you do.

MS. COHEN:

You're welcome. In fact, I want to leave you with some information that I just got, that every 40 minutes somebody is killed in a DWI.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That's nationwide or --

MS. COHEN:

Yeah. Oh, thank God it's not just here.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Yeah.

MS. COHEN:

Yeah, that's nationwide, but every 40 minutes is --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Oh, no, that's not good.

MS. COHEN:

That's not good.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

We have some bad statistics here and I thought that they would change more than they did when we went to almost a zero tolerance in Suffolk County, because at one time, you know, we would let plea bargains take the center state, but more or less what they're doing in Nassau County too is going after and actually prosecuting I think for even first-time offenders. I think that that's a message that has to go out there, you know, that we're not going to tolerate people driving drunk and putting the population and other young people and women, children's lives in jeopardy.

MS. COHEN:

You're right. I wanted to ask you another question about, you know, other agencies that might be coming here. There is another agency that is trying to -- I don't know how to say it the right way, circumvent the law that has been placed in New York about the Crime Victim's Bureau. They just want to have every case referred to them, and I know they get a lot of money from the County and they -- they have no idea what we do and there is no way they can service a victim the way we do. So I just --

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, if you feel comfortable putting the name on the record; if not, we're going to end the meeting in a minute, you know, I'll take the name from you, but we can certainly look into what's going on.

MS. COHEN:

I would appreciate it. Well, it's, you know, Parents for Megan's Law and they want to take over every organization, every victim-based organization and just do all the crime victim reporting for every agency in the County. And then the Police are supposed to -- let me start from the beginning. The Police are supposed to report to each agency, if it's a drunk drink driving crash they're supposed to notify the victim that MADD is there to help them. If it's a domestic violence, they're to notify the victim that there's an agency to help them; whatever crime, there's an agency that is involved. This other agency wants to take it all over and use their funding to do that, I mean, that's got to take an astronomical staff.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, there's a whole bunch of issues that are raised there and AME has a -- that's Association of Municipal Employees, they send a representative to every one of these meetings, she's sitting behind you, so I'm sure that she's going to have some questions and, you know, we'll talk a little bit after that about some of the implications there. But if that's a Suffolk County function --

MS. COHEN:

Yeah.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

-- then Suffolk County should actually live up to, you know, and do what they're charged with doing.

MS. COHEN:

Yeah. It's the Police that are charged with doing that and somehow the person running Parents for Megan's Law thinks that she needs to take it all over. Parents of Murdered Children, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, all of these things she thinks she needs to do.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Well, you've made us aware and we can -- certainly either John or I are probably on one of the committees that would be relevant to that, maybe Public Safety, but we'll pass it on at least to the Chairman of Public Safety and look into it a little bit further with the Police Department and whatever other appropriate municipal departments or agencies that we should -- so we'll take a look.

MS. COHEN:

Okay, thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

But again -- oh, go ahead, sorry.

MS. REBHOLZ:

I just have one thing. I know when you all meet, if you are very interested in what we actually do or you would like to hear a victim's statement or a panel, we'd be happy, when you are all in

session, to come and present it. It's something that we did, Deena and I went to every precinct house in Suffolk County for each inspection and we were out there at ten or twelve o'clock at night and we just gave all your patrol officers and everybody a version of a victim's impact panel.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Can we --

MS. REBHOLZ:

And it would be something that we would be willing to do for you so you might understand a little bit more what we do.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Can we pass that along to the Presiding Officer, that that's -- they're making the offer to come down and do like a five minute presentation before the full body about, you know, what they do and how they can be even more beneficial and maybe make the other Legislators aware of what's going on.

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Yes.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So that might be a good idea, you know, like for a future General Session that we have. Great, thank you for the offer.

MS. REBHOLZ:

Okay, thank you.

MS. COHEN:

Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Thanks for your work.

MS. LOMORIELLO:

Take care. Nice to see you guys.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Hi, John.

MR. ORTIZ:

To answer a question that was brought up earlier this morning about SNAP, that they're not 100% County funded; the County receives \$4.44 per youth population in the County, it works out to be \$1.9 million that's given to the Youth Bureau to offset the cost of programs. But that doesn't mean that if we spend that extra dollar we get reimbursed or if we cut a dollar we lose, that's a set amount that we get every year.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So if we don't spend it for the intended purpose, we can comingle it in the Operating Budget.

MR. ORTIZ:

Correct.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay.

MR. ORTIZ:

And it works out to about 11% of the total program costs.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

That we're actually getting money for?

MR. ORTIZ:

Yes. It's 1.85 million, plus some of the other programs like the one, the hospice care is 60% State-aided but, you know, that's a small dollar amount.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

So it's a per capita check that New York State would just send us just because we have X number of children?

MR. ORTIZ:

Right, that's -- they mention the YDDP funding and that stands for Youth Development Delinquency Prevention Funding and it's based on the youth population.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

And that's something that New York State, they've kept in their budget year after year?

MR. ORTIZ:

As I can see the last three years we've received it.

ACTING CHAIRMAN ALDEN:

Okay, thanks.

All right, I don't see anybody else. We are done with the groups that were invited in today, so thank you very much. Great job, again, thank you. We stand adjourned.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM*)*

{ } - Denotes Spelled Phonetically