

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 June 14, 2007.

Members Present:

Presiding Officer William Lindsay - Chairman

Legislator Lou D'Amaro

Legislator Ricardo Montano

Legislator Lynne Nowick

Legislator Dan Losquadro

Members Not Present:

Legislator Cameron Alden - Vice-Chair

Legislator Jon Cooper

Also in Attendance:

Barbara LoMoriello - Deputy Chief of Staff/P.O. Lindsay's Office

Justin Littell - Aide to Legislator D'Amaro

Linda Bay - Aide to Minority Leader

Bob Martinez - Aide to Legislator Montano

Lori Gellerstein - Aide to Legislator Cooper

Kevin Cepelak - Aide to Legislator Cooper

John Ortiz - Senior Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office

Doug Cohen - President/Hauppauge Youth Organization

Elizabeth Geary - Executive Director/Community Programs Center
Of Long Island, Inc.

Denise Ferrara - Director/Early Discovery Center

Rosemarie Stein - Madonna Heights/Assistant Executive Director
- SCO Family of Services

{Umparo Robayo} - Director of Finance/SCO Family of Services

Terry Alessi-Miceli - President/Hauppauge Industrial Association

Seth Needelman - Bayport-Blue Point Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Ruth Appelhof - Director/Guild Hall of East Hampton

Jeanine Diner - Deputy Director/Guild Hall of East Hampton

Rita Broglie - Sachem Teen Center, Inc.

Joan Noguera - Nassau/Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless

David Berner - Friends of Smithtown Library

Eddie Morris - Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame

George Waldbauer - Police Athletic League

Margaret Pew - Police Athletic League

Laura Ahearn - Executive Director/Parents for Megan's Law

Debbie Felber - Assistant Director/Parents for Megan's Law

Shelly Cohen - Chief Financial Officer/Parents for Megan's Law

All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM*)*

P.O. LINDSAY:

Good morning, everyone, this crowd of hundreds. This is a meeting of our Ad Hoc Committee on Contract Agencies. If we could start off by rising and a pledge to the flag.

Salutation

HAUPPAUGE YOUTH ORGANIZATION

Okay. Sir, you are from Hauppauge Youth Organization?

MR. COHEN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Come on forward. Are you Doug Cohen?

MR. COHEN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Take yourself up here at the table, Doug. You can just pull that mike to you and turn it on. Thank you for coming in this morning. I just kind of give a brief description of what we are trying to do with this Ad Hoc Committee.

The County contracts with literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies to provide a whole variety of services to our citizens and the Legislature, for the most part, is a proponent of the system. And over the last few months we've been criticized a little bit that we spend money frivolously, so we decided that we would systematically have in as many agencies as possible to just see where our money is being spent and that's what this is all about.

Maybe you could start off, Doug, by describing your agency, the programs you provide, what geographical area you serve. I know it's a youth organization, how many kids you have in your programs.

MR. COHEN:

Sure. Thank you, Legislator Lindsay. And I appreciate the invitation to speak about our group.

*(*Legislator D'Amaro entered the meeting at 10:07 AM*)*

I'm the President of the Hauppauge Youth Organization. The Hauppauge Youth Organization is approximately a 25 year old organization that serves the children of the Hauppauge School District, that is our boundary. We have families and children from the Hauppauge, Smithtown and Commack Townships or hamlets, but our borders are the Hauppauge School District. We serve approximately 1,500 families and roughly 2,000 children yearly from the Hauppauge School District. There is a fair amount of overlap of children from one sport to another, so those numbers are a little hard to keep track of.

The programs that we administrate are Little League Baseball through the Hauppauge Little League, which is one of our satellite organizations; HYO Football, which is a Youth Football League; HYO Basketball which is a girls and boys youth basketball league; HYO Girls Softball; and a small unit of ours which is HYO Women's Softball which was originally designed as an activity for the mothers of children participating in the HYO Youth Sports.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you have any employees?

MR. COHEN:

We do not, we are a 100% volunteer organization.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. How many volunteers are involved?

MR. COHEN:

The HYO Executive Board consists of nine volunteers. The satellite organizations, that being the Little League, the football, the basketball, the girls softball, each have their own boards averaging approximately eight to ten volunteers on each board. And of course, the hierarchy beyond that are coaches, division managers --

P.O. LINDSAY:

So it would be fair to say that you literally have hundreds of volunteers involved.

MR. COHEN:

Hundreds, all the way down to coaches and assistant coaches.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Anybody want to -- you guys want to ask some questions?

LEG. NOWICK:

Yes. Good morning and thank you for coming and letting us learn a little bit about this organization. Can you tell me how much funding that you receive from the County?

MR. COHEN:

We have been receiving Youth Bureau grants, the order of magnitude of approximately \$30,000.

LEG. NOWICK:

Yearly?

MR. COHEN:

Yearly. We have also received several one-time DPW grants that have gone towards the improvement of our sports complex which is on Simeon Woods Road and Kings Highway behind the Dennison Building.

LEG. NOWICK:

So those were separate grants from the member item grants?

MR. COHEN:

That's correct.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Could I just stop you a minute?

LEG. NOWICK:

Sure.

P.O. LINDSAY:

That's County property, am I right?

MR. COHEN:

That is County property. We have a five year licensing agreement that renews, I think it's for a dollar, although I'm not sure I've ever written that check.

LEG. NOWICK:

Would that still be considered a grant if it's County property, improving County property?

LEG. MONTANO:

No, I think that's the Capital Budget, right?

LEG. NOWICK:

Yeah, yeah, okay. Do you receive funding from any Federal or State or Village contracts?

MR. COHEN:

We do not. Other than the Youth Bureau grants, we are 100% member funded.

LEG. NOWICK:

And you have -- you have fund-raisers?

MR. COHEN:

The individual organizations have fund-raisers. For instance, the Little League will have a fund-raiser, the football league will have a fund-raiser. Each individual satellite organization that we administrate over decides on how much fund-raising they need, depending on --

LEG. NOWICK:

Well, approximately, do you know what you raise altogether, have any idea?

MR. COHEN:

Very difficult for me to say that without some further research.

LEG. NOWICK:

Do you have an annual budget that you go by?

MR. COHEN:

We do, and if I may, I have that printed out, I would like to pass it out if you're interested in seeing that.

LEG. NOWICK:

And roughly, you can just tell us?

MR. COHEN:

The annual budget for HYO, the parent organization, is approximately \$45,000. The bulk of that goes into the maintenance and operation of the complex. I would like to point out the license land from the County is at our expense completely for upkeep, for the yearly upkeep, maintenance of the grounds, trash removal, water, electricity is completely at our expense. And we are, I believe, fairly unique on Long Island as being a youth organization that has very limited access to town and County parks, and unique in having to maintain and fund most of the fields that we rely on on a yearly basis. For instance, the Town of Smithtown has probably 30 or 40 baseball fields for the Smithtown Little League that are completely under the management of the Town of Smithtown, their upkeep, grooming of the fields, cutting of the grass, water for irrigation, trash removal; whereas Hauppauge has only access to two baseball diamonds from the Town of Smithtown and zero facilities from the Town of Islip. We do have some use of the school fields, but generally they're not maintained particularly well and we are always negotiating with lacrosse, soccer and other sports this time of year for use of those fields.

LEG. NOWICK:

Sounds like you're the step-child.

MR. COHEN:

A little bit.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Could I just say something? I'm sorry.

LEG. NOWICK:

Yeah, sure, go ahead.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Doug, I don't think that's totally unique anymore. We have stewardship agreements with a lot of different youth groups and I know some of the other towns do, too.

MR. COHEN:

Okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

For example, Connetquot, which is your bordering youth group, the complex they use is Town of Islip facility and they maintain that themselves in total. You know, Raynor Park, Triangle Soccer and St. Joe's Baseball maintain those two fields; I mean, we rebuilt them, there's no doubt about that, but they're supposed to maintain them.

MR. COHEN:

Okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

I'm sorry.

LEG. NOWICK:

No, no, that's okay. I might as well just finish. Are there similar agencies or services that service the same population?

MR. COHEN:

There are similar agencies that service different sports. There is no duplication of the sports that we administrate. So while there is a Hauppauge Soccer Club, they administrate over soccer; there's a Hauppauge Lacrosse Club that administrates lacrosse.

LEG. NOWICK:

Do you charge for young people, do you have any charge for them to be part of this?

MR. COHEN:

For the individual sports, there is a membership fee that contributes towards some of the expenses of umpires, officials, some uniforms.

LEG. NOWICK:

Oh, that's right.

MR. COHEN:

Yes, that's correct.

LEG. NOWICK:

What would that be?

MR. COHEN:

What is the amount?

LEG. NOWICK:

The membership, per young person.

MR. COHEN:

It depends on the sport and the age, but it can range anywhere from \$50 to approximately \$100 --

LEG. NOWICK:

A year.

MR. COHEN:

-- depending on the sport. Per year, that's correct.

LEG. NOWICK:

And you have -- and you service about 2,000 children?

MR. COHEN:

That's correct.

LEG. NOWICK:

So your budget, then, is bigger than 45,000, right?

MR. COHEN:

Well, the \$45,000 is the budget for HYO, predominantly for the maintenance of the complex, the sports complex and for general liability insurance and some very small amounts of administrative costs.

LEG. NOWICK:

And the fee covers the umpires and referees?

MR. COHEN:

Yes. So each sport is somewhat self-sufficient in terms of their own expenses. Our Youth Bureau grants do go towards subsidizing things like uniform costs, football protective gear, helmets, baseballs, softballs, but most of the individual needs of the sports are funded through the membership fees of the children participating in those sports.

LEG. NOWICK:

Those fees cover uniforms?

MR. COHEN:

Partially.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just curiously; do you use wooden bats or metal?

MR. COHEN:

We use, I would say, 99.9% metal bats.

LEG. NOWICK:

I think we've covered everything. If anybody else has questions?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Good morning. Actually, this was more to John from BRO. I'm just looking at this contract agency list and it says for 2007 adopted, 68,000; is there a disconnect there that I'm missing?

MR. ORTIZ:

The Omnibus added \$35,000 for them over what was adopted last year.

MR. COHEN:

If I may speak?

LEG. MONTANO:

Yes, would you?

MR. COHEN:

We were trying to finish a Capital Project --

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay.

MR. COHEN:

-- and asked for the additional funding which was the completion of a parking lot and a playground at the complex.

LEG. MONTANO:

Was this the 35,000 you referred to earlier as DPW?

MR. COHEN:

Actually, no. The DPW grants -- if you don't mind me just expanding on that a little bit.

LEG. MONTANO:

No, please do. I was just curious about it.

MR. COHEN:

Around the year 2000, we embarked on the revitalization of the complex which is described in the handout. The last two elements of that Capital Project were the expansion of the parking lot to get the cars off of Simeon Woods Road and Kings Highway, and also the addition of a playground facility in the middle of the complex. We reached out to the Legislators to help us fund that through the Youth Bureau grants and not through the DPW grant. So the 68,000, 65,000 approximately, is an anomaly; our funding is typically in the order of 30,000.

LEG. MONTANO:

In the 30's, right. Okay, I was just curious about that. Thanks.

MR. COHEN:

Sure.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So of the 42 -- so your budget is 45,000 of which 30,000 comes from the County.

MR. COHEN:

That's correct.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. So needless to say, without the \$30,000 -- and really, Hauppauge Youth Organization is just an umbrella group for the individual sports organizations.

MR. COHEN:

That is correct.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MR. COHEN:

Yes, without the \$30,000, we would have to distribute that budget across the membership and

people would be paying 100 to \$150 per sport instead of 50 to \$100.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just one question.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go right ahead.

LEG. NOWICK:

So you're the volunteer president?

MR. COHEN:

Yes, I am.

LEG. NOWICK:

Well, I don't live in Hauppauge, but I think that that's a wonderful thing that you volunteer and service 2,000 young people and give them something to do other than being on the street. So, congratulations to you.

MR. COHEN:

Thank you. We're extremely proud of what we have been able to do in the last six or seven years. I have been in front of this Legislature several times asking for funding and other support and Suffolk County has helped us dramatically and, again, we're very proud of the end result.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. I don't have any other questions. Lou, are you -- do you have anything?

LEG. D'AMARO:

No, I'm fine. Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thank you very much for coming in, Doug. I appreciate it.

MR. COHEN:

Yes, thank you.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS CENTER OF LONG ISLAND

P.O. LINDSAY:

Community Programs Center of Long Island, Elizabeth Geary?
Elizabeth, maybe you could introduce yourself and your colleague.

MS. GEARY:

Thank you. Thank you, Legislator Lindsay and colleagues on this Ad Hoc Committee and Legislators. I'd like to introduce Denise Ferrara; Denise Ferrara is the Director of the Early Discovery Center in Ronkonkoma, New York. And my name is Elizabeth Geary and I'm the Executive Director of the Community Programs Center of Long Island, and agency that has three program areas, including Early Discovery Center, the Children's Community Head Start Program and Dayhaven Adult Day Services. I'd like to read an introduction or --

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go right ahead.

MS. GEARY:

Okay. Just to give you a little bit of a profile of our agency, the Community Program Center of Long Island was founded in 1980 to provide affordable, accessible, dependent care; that means for children and elders who otherwise would be more of an obligation to their parents or their sons and daughters who have been become family care givers. What we do is provide daytime care so that they can go to work with a feeling of confidence that their children or their loved elder is safe, being well taken care of, being well educated and being well helped to function as well as possible.

We have, as I mentioned, two locations; one is at 400 Sheep Pasture Road in Port Jefferson and the second location is at 2210 Smithtown Avenue in Ronkonkoma. Our Child care Program, Early Discovery Center, operates in both locations. In 2006, Early Discovery Center in Port Jefferson served 93 children; of these, 62% were sponsored by DSS, the Department of Social Services, Funding for Working Families. That same year, our Early Discovery Center in Ronkonkoma where Denise is the Director, served 219 children; of these, 24% were sponsored by the Department of Social Services.

We also have the Federally-funded Head Start Program that was started in 1984; in that same year, our Adult Day Services Program was started, so 1984 marks the beginning of our reputation as the largest intergenerational provider on Long Island. In the Head Start Program we serve 159 children and families who live on incomes that are lower than the Federal poverty rate. Of the children served in 2006, 18% also had a diagnosed disability.

Our Social Model Adult Day Program, Dayhaven, also operates at both locations. Dayhaven served more than 125 frail, older adults with Alzheimer's or related dementia. Approximately 66% of those adults pay privately for the service, 34 are covered through a Medicaid long-term home health care program called The Nursing Home Without Walls, and that essentially indicates the fact that if they weren't coming to our program, they would probably be placed in a nursing home at a much more costly level of care and much more humanly unsatisfying perhaps.

The average age of those we serve in Dayhaven is 81, and that 81 is really kind of skewed because it's brought down by the fact that we started a program for people with early on-set Alzheimer's, people in their 40's, their 50's and their 60's who have been faced with an absolutely diminishing disease. Dayhaven not only serves the frail, older adults, but we also provide services to sport their family care givers so that they can, as I mentioned, go to work with a sense of peace and confidence. On average, Dayhaven delays nursing home placement by one to two years, about one-third of the participants that we serve have been in programs for as many as three to six years. All the programs have a broad, geographic range because some families and caregivers choose the site based on the fact that it's where they live, others choose the site based on the fact that it's where they work. So it's a very broad span. The Head Start Program is exemplifying that in that we actually serve 13 school districts at these two locations.

Our agency employs approximately 110 people; 75 are regular full-time employees and 35 are part-time employees. That number is supplemented each year with a goodly number of per diems and especially temporary workers in the summer. That's the introduction. Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead, Lou.

LEG. D'AMARO:

First I have to find the switch on my microphone.

MS. GEARY:

That's okay.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Good morning.

MS. GEARY:

Good morning.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Thank you for coming in. The folks that you're servicing in these facilities, especially the elderly, if your facility was not available to them, would they be on Medicaid and placed in a nursing home?

MS. GEARY:

Conceivably, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

What is the --

MS. GEARY:

We're a social model program so we're very cost effective for families to get a full day of care for their loved one. And there aren't a great number of social model programs in relation to the population that needs that service, so if we weren't there it would be a major devastation for 125 families currently.

LEG. D'AMARO:

In other words, the adults that you're helping, they live at the facility?

MS. GEARY:

No.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay.

MS. GEARY:

No, they live with their family caregivers, it's their son, their daughter, their spouse. And basically the family says, "I want to keep Mom," or my wife, "home for as long as possible, but I need to go to work, I need to maintain my own health. So I will have Mom go to a center where she will be supported in terms of her cognitive functioning, she'll be safe, she won't be allowed to wander, she'll be able to eat nutritiously, she'll be able to recreate and have socialization with her peers. And then at the end of the day she'll come home, the kids will come home from school, we'll have supper and we will have gotten another day of Mom's presence at home where we want her." If it didn't exist, the choices that families would make would more quickly go to higher and more expensive levels of care; might go to home care, much more expensive; might go to Medicaid and either choose nursing home placement or some other alternative.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So some of the adults are private pay, they're paying their own --

MS. GEARY:

Some are private pay.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Some are Medicaid.

MS. GEARY:

Some are Medicaid.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Medicaid will pay for that?

MS. GEARY:

It's a funny thing. In Social Model Adult Day, we contract with agencies that are called long-term

home health care programs, they contact directly to us and then the Medicaid funding that we receive is like a pass-thru from them to us. Less you think that's a rich source of funding, I need to say that the current level of reimbursement for this service under Medicaid is \$35 for up to nine hours of care a day.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay. So you have private pay on one end of the spectrum, you have Medicaid on the other. In the middle would be the population you're serving that I guess meet income guidelines that you have for subsidizing. Is there a sliding scale that I would have to pay or is it either you're private pay or you're not?

MS. GEARY:

No. Unfortunately, it's either private pay or you're not, or from time to time we get grant funding that enables us to offer respite care, occasional respite care; right now we have that money.

LEG. D'AMARO:

How do you decide -- so in my mind, the group of folks that fall in between the private pay and the Medicaid is really where the County is helping to fund your organization; is that pretty accurate?

MS. GEARY:

Not for that -- not specifically for that program.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Yeah, I know there's a lot of mix and match and all that, right.

MS. GEARY:

But yes, in the total budget, the fact that the County is giving us money helps us to keep all three programs operating.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Now, how many people fall into that middle category of the 125 adults?

MS. GEARY:

Well, the 125 who are coming to us are all paying. My experience is that people will choose to send their loved one to the program, pay the full private pay rate which is \$57 a day without transportation, and they will choose to send only two days instead of the three to five they think they need. If there was -- right now, if there was dedicated funding to support the program, we would -- we would be able to have them on a sliding scale.

LEG. D'AMARO:

I didn't understand. In other words, in the -- if you're on Medicaid you're paid for, if you're private paying, obviously paid for, but in between there are individuals at the facility that are not paying and not Medicaid.

MS. GEARY:

Very -- I would say there's nobody who is not paying anything.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay.

MS. GEARY:

For example, there's a man who is a younger man with dementia, his wife is working, he is there two days a week; she needs to go away on business, we gave him the three days a week that he needed to complete the whole week. We have another family just like that where the caregiver says, "I can afford to pay for two days," so then we scholarship them for three days. But there's no funding to support that other than the grants that we get.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Right, I understand. So that three day period that the person is in your facility they're not paying for --

MS. GEARY:

Right.

LEG. D'AMARO:

-- and Medicaid is not paying for.

MS. GEARY:

And Medicaid is not paying for it, no.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So it's either through your fund-raising efforts or through your grants that it's paid for.

MS. GEARY:

Exactly, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

How many individuals do you have like that?

MS. GEARY:

How many actually are receiving services that aren't completely funded?

LEG. D'AMARO:

Yeah.

MS. GEARY:

Probably at any one time in each program where we have an average of 22 people a day, probably one or two a day; not a lot.

LEG. D'AMARO:

One or two a day?

MS. GEARY:

One or two a day in the Elder Care Program.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay. And how much funding does Suffolk County provide to you in '07?

MS. GEARY:

Suffolk County funding that came to us in '07 was thirty-two thousand --

MR. ORTIZ:

One sixty-six.

MS. GEARY:

-- one hundred and sixty-six dollars, and that was specifically a Youth Bureau grant which goes toward the implementation of an intergenerational program, it pays largely for the staff to help to support that program.

LEG. D'AMARO:

All right, so it was targeted just for that program and that's what it's being used for.

MS. GEARY:

Yes, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay.

MS. GEARY:

We do receive other money through the County, but it's the Department of Social Services which pays for children to come to the child care program in part. We also receive the Living Wage Hardship Assistance which has enabled us to really recruit and retain good, high quality staff for our child care program, and occasionally we receive member items that help us to do health and safety improvements or work on our program.

LEG. D'AMARO:

One last question.

MS. GEARY:

Please.

LEG. D'AMARO:

How much of a demand is out there to expand your services, especially for the adult population?

MS. GEARY:

There's a huge demand to expand the services for the adult population. And I think as the newspapers are making very clear to us, the number of people with dementia is growing expedientially and it will become a really huge problem, certainly for New York State, also for Suffolk County, if we don't put in place services that are there to keep people out of the higher cost of nursing home placement.

LEG. D'AMARO:

A nursing home is about 15 or 14,000 a month.

MS. GEARY:

A month, right.

LEG. D'AMARO:

As compared to if you had someone dropped off and picked up every day, even if you were funding at 100%, where would that fall?

MS. GEARY:

It would fall at 1,500 a week for nine hours of care a day -- excuse me; not a week, a month, excuse me.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Month, right, right. So it's roughly --

MS. GEARY:

It's considerably less. It's a very good cost savings and --

LEG. D'AMARO:

-- 90% reduction in the cost and usually when you go into the nursing home it becomes a burden on Medicaid which is really a burden on taxpayers.

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So you're cutting that cost for those who qualify, don't need medical care or some kind of nursing, skilled nursing facility, you're cutting that cost by 90%.

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Very good. Thank you.

MS. GEARY:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

I'm sorry, but I had to step out of the room for a minute. So your agency services the elderly --

MS. GEARY:

Yes.

LEG. NOWICK:

-- and the young.

MS. GEARY:

Children; yes, both ends of the age spectrum.

LEG. NOWICK:

So if parents are -- have to go to work, they can drop off their children? How many children do you have?

MS. GEARY:

We have on an annual basis over 312 children in our two child care center programs, Early Discoveries, and another 159 in our Head Start Program; so way up there to 500.

LEG. NOWICK:

So if a Mom or Dad needs to drop their child off, and it's on a daily basis because they're working, that's also 1,500 a month?

MS. GEARY:

No.

LEG. NOWICK:

No.

MS. GEARY:

There are different rates for the child care program. And those rates, perhaps Denise could speak to you specifically about the rates, they're based on how many days a week the family needs the care, how many hours a day they need the care -- like is it four hours, six hours, eleven hours -- and she could tell you the specific range.

LEG. NOWICK:

So just on a 9 to 5, a parent goes to work 9 to 5, they drop them off to every day; what --

MS. FERRARA:

Well, we do have different rates for infant, toddlers and preschoolers, but an average infant rate for an eight hour day would be about 1,100 a month, a toddler is about a thousand a month and a preschooler is about almost 900, 877 a month for an eight to nine hour day. It does include breakfast, lunch and snack.

LEG. NOWICK:

This is the first time I felt I'm saving money with my grown-up daughters; bet it won't last long.

MS. GEARY:

It's very expensive on the wrong end of the age spectrum.

MS. FERRARA:

I pay for it myself, my children are there; it's a big chunk.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you.

LEG. MONTANO:

I have a quick question, Bill.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Good morning. How are you?

MS. GEARY:

Good morning. Nice to see you. Thank you.

LEG. MONTANO:

Just a quick question. You have 110 employees, that's a large payroll, and you receive a lot of reimbursement from DSS --

MS. GEARY:

Yes.

LEG. MONTANO:

-- for the care you provide. How has the payments been in terms of your agency; have they been coming in on a regular basis, timely, have you had any delays, anything of that nature that you can comment on.

MS. GEARY:

Denise will comment.

MS. FERRARA:

Okay. Usually, we -- there used to be about a 30 day turnaround, now it's about 60 days of a turnaround once we submit the claim to getting the check.

LEG. MONTANO:

How long has that 60 day turnaround been, you know, in effect, or has -- when did it change from 30 to the 60?

MS. FERRARA:

A while ago, I don't remember exactly the time but I know there was a few changes in the department, they lost a few people. Even John Walsh sent out a letter saying, "Please be patient, we're working on replacing people." So it's been a little while, but they have been cooperative.

LEG. MONTANO:

Is it getting back down towards the 30?

MS. FERRARA:

Yes, it is, it's getting a little bit better.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. All right, thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, I'll see if I can wrap this up. I should mention to the committee that I'm familiar with your facility on Smithtown Avenue because I toured it and it's in my district and it's very unusual in that the intergenerational concept of the elderly and the kids, and there's actually programs where they mix the two where the elderly interact with the children.

LEG. NOWICK:

Do the children read to the elderly?

P.O. LINDSAY:

I don't know whether the children read to the elderly, but --

MS. GEARY:

No. Well, we actually were featured on a little piece on CBS Television and it was about -- the title of it was "Sweet Medicine for Alzheimer's," and the interviewer said to the child, "Do the Grandmas and Grandpas teach you a lot," and the little girl looked up and said, "No, we teach them everything." It's more often -- and our folks typically have dementia. We have some folks who are physically frail, so for some of them, they're not able to read the book, but when they come into the program they work on puzzles together, they do exercise together, they do activities like drawing together, music together; so we try and emphasize the strengths of both groups when they're together.

LEG. NOWICK:

And the only reason I brought it up is I know in the case of my Mom who has Macular --

MS. GEARY:

Oh, okay.

LEG. NOWICK:

-- she said can you send my daughter over to read to her; I mean, my Dad's there, but it would be nice for -- it's nice for a young person to read some of the newspapers so they know what's going on.

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely.

LEG. NOWICK:

You can listen to the TV, but they like to keep up with Newsday and all of the local papers.

MS. FERRARA:

Typically our children can't read yet.

MS. GEARY:

They can't read.

LEG. NOWICK:

They're that young.

MS. GEARY:

They're that young, they're younger than five.

LEG. NOWICK:

They are.

MS. GEARY:

Yes.

LEG. NOWICK:

There's none older?

MS. FERRARA:

Well, when we have camp they're older.

MS. GEARY:

Infants, toddlers, preschoolers.

LEG. NOWICK:

So I would think seven, eight, nine, ten --

MS. FERRARA:

Only during the summer and school-age time, vacations we have the older children.

LEG. NOWICK:

Okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Montano had another question.

LEG. MONTANO:

You moved; when did you move to Ronkonkoma?

MS. GEARY:

We have been in Ronkonkoma since -- well, 12 years, 12 years ago.

LEG. MONTANO:

Oh, 12 years, all right.

MS. GEARY:

I'm sorry?

LEG. MONTANO:

Twelve years.

MS. GEARY:

Twelve years in Ronkonkoma and since 1999 in Port Jefferson, and both of those building were partially funded through Head Start dollars; that's what made the difference.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. You weren't in -- were you in Brentwood at one time?

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely; yes, we were.

LEG. MONTANO:

Yes, that's what I'm thinking. And we had this conversation --

MS. GEARY:

We had to close the Heartland Center. We were in the Heartland Business Center and we really had to make an extremely hard choice because the business center itself wasn't sending us the number of children that we needed to get and it was really getting harder and harder, we were losing money consistently at Heartland. Right now we look to the possibility of doing universal pre-K in collaboration with the school districts. And so for our Ronkonkoma Center we look to them, Connetquot School District that we're in is contracting with us and that will create another anchor source of funding for us.

LEG. MONTANO:

So the Brentwood was a satellite that you closed.

MS. GEARY:

One of three.

LEG. MONTANO:

One of three. All right, the only thing, when you close that -- so I guess now your population comes from the surrounding area in Ronkonkoma and the Connetquot School District?

MS. GEARY:

Yes.

LEG. MONTANO:

And that part of the population that you were servicing there is kind of just -- they didn't go over with you is what I'm saying.

MS. GEARY:

Some did.

LEG. MONTANO:

Some did, okay.

MS. GEARY:

We had both children and almost half of the elders that were in the program. Because we could provide the transportation to the older adults, we do still serve people from Brentwood, Deer Park, Dix Hills, West Islip, Bay Shore, and we transport them to Ronkonkoma.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay, thanks.

MS. GEARY:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Is there any other agencies that provide similar services to the same population?

MS. GEARY:

Certainly there are other child care centers that are out there and available to serve, there are other social model day cares. But what makes us different is that we are the only social model adult day program that can offer a full working day of care, extended hours from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon. I think we're also unique in that we provide -- even aside from the intergenerational program, we also provide the elders with services that are specific for those who have early stage Alzheimer's, early on-set for the 40 to 60 group and late-stage Alzheimer's. So

even as people become unable to speak or communicate, we are there to provide services to keep them at home.

In terms of child care program, the Early Discovery Center, I think that we are uniquely covering the largest percentage of DSS children. At the Port Jefferson location, we serve more than 87% of the eligible children for DSS Support for Working Families. At the Ronkonkoma Center it's slightly less, but we're the second largest provider of services in Ronkonkoma. And then the Head Start Program, we're the only designated Head Start for those eleven -- excuse me, 13 school districts.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And of course, there is actually a shortage of agencies that provide these services.

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely, DSS.

P.O. LINDSAY:

The demand is much more than the service providers.

MS. GEARY:

Absolutely.

P.O. LINDSAY:

What would be the consequences of not receiving the County funding?

It isn't a lot of money, \$32,000, but --

MS. GEARY:

It's 32 for the Youth Bureau grant and we get the subsidy for the living wage. The consequences of not getting it would be dire because it is an exceptionally important part of our total budget, it helps us to keep our staff.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Do you receive any Federal, State or Town?

MS. GEARY:

We do receive Federal funding. The Head Start Program is completely Federally funded and that grant is a million five and that grant serves children for 12 months of the year, children and families. Additional Federal funding comes from the United States Department of Agriculture which provides a subsidy of 163 -- I'm sorry, \$163,000 for our Breakfast/Lunch Program. It subsidizes largely those children that -- and elders that are from low income families, but it does give us a small amount of dollars for the general public; that's the Federal funding.

New York State funding, that long-term home health care program that we spoke of earlier is a New York State Program, we get the dollars through that and we get \$108,000 a year for elders that we're serving in the Lombardi Program at our site.

We also, in terms of New York State funding, have been extraordinarily fortunate to be awarded one of 15 grants Statewide. It gives us \$38,000 a year for five years to do outreach in the community to help family caregivers better understand the dilemmas and the challenges that they face and how they can find solutions for caring for their loved one at home before they're actually needing to do it. That grant lets us go out into the workplace. We've been to the Department of Motor Vehicles, we've been to private corporations, we're all over the place doing lunch and learn programs to try and help people get on top of the information before it becomes a crisis and they don't know what to do; that's 38,000 a year.

This year we also got funding through the New York State Attorney General's Office and that was 53,000 specifically focused on implementation of the VITA Grant project to promote physical and mental health in young children. That money was used to bring phys ed teachers and mental health specialists in to our program to train our staff, to lead activities. We also have invited the public and we will continue that project through the summer, that's a one-time grant. But we -- I want to just mention, we were the only company selected to receive the grant for a second time around.

We also receive member items from the State Legislators as well as from local Legislators, and typically that's usually around \$29,000 a year.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And do you do any outside fund-raising, private fund-raising?

MS. GEARY:

We do. We try really hard to involve our families in fund-raising efforts and we're modestly successful in that. As you already know, they're paying a lot for the services if they're paying private pay, and so they do contribute as much as they can. We raise about \$15,000 a year in private fund-raising efforts, and then generally grants from foundations and business entities equal approximately another \$20,000 a year.

P.O. LINDSAY:

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

MS. GEARY:

Seven percent.

P.O. LINDSAY:

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

MS. GEARY:

Not close.

LEG. NOWICK:

What is the budget, do we know?

LEG. HORSLEY:

Yeah, what is the total budget?

P.O. LINDSAY:

What is the total budget?

MS. GEARY:

The total budget is four million, three hundred thirty-three thousand and change.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Anybody have anything else?

LEG. NOWICK:

Nope.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thank you, Elizabeth, for coming in and enlightening us on your program. Thank you very much.

MS. GEARY:

Thank you for asking us. Oh, Denise is reminding me, I did have something to hand out, if you would like me to.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Good, Linda will pick it up for you.

MADONNA HEIGHTS

I know we're running a little bit behind schedule. Madonna Heights is in the audience? Yes, please come forward. And you would be Rosemarie Stein?

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, thank you, Rosemarie, for coming down today. I know I started the introduction earlier when we opened the meeting. The purpose of this, we've been meeting all year long, we contract with literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies to provide services for our citizens and there's been some criticism of the program of late and we thought it would be a good idea if we had in as many agencies over the course of the year as we possibly could just to find out where our money is going and the services that everybody is providing, you know. So that's the purpose for the meeting.

Maybe you could introduce yourself and your title and your associate that's with you.

MS. STEIN:

Certainly, and thank you for having us. I'm Rosemarie Stein and I'm the Assistant Executive Director for SCO Family of Services, which is our agency name, and I'm responsible for the operation of all of the Madonna Heights Programs. I brought with me {Umparo Robayo} who is our Director of Finance at SCO.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Would you like to --

MS. STEIN:

Tell you who we are?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, give us an introduction while I get my papers in order.

MS. STEIN:

Sure. Our agency is a little more complicated than the last one. We are a large human service organization, we service children and adults in the five boroughs of New York and Long Island. Madonna Heights in particular, which is what I'm speaking about, services -- we see ourselves as serving Suffolk County.

Our mission is specifically women and girls and our programs have been in operation for over 40 years. Our main location is on a Dix Hills campus, we have a beautiful facility there, and then we also have off-site locations throughout Suffolk County. We have one location in Nassau County which is a homeless shelter for Nassau County, all the rest of our programs service Suffolk. We run a residential treatment center for adolescent girls, we run a residential treatment facility, which is the only one of its kind in Suffolk County, on Long Island, for adolescent girls. We have a fully accredited junior/senior high school for those populations as well as a day school component.

We run an out-patient mental health clinic, we have soon to be two but right now one OASIS-funded program which is for women transitioning out of alcohol and drug treatment, and the one that will open any day now will be for the women to have their preschool-age children with them while

they're transitioning out of alcohol treatment which is a unique programming.

In addition, we run six homeless shelters throughout the community, we go from Farmingville to Riverhead. We have a location -- one in Riverhead, we have one in East Northport, we have two in Deer Park, we have one in Farmingdale and one in Dix Hills. In addition, we have a Transitional Adolescent Program in Deer Park which is for seven youth who are -- who can't live home but who are very eager to move on to college and become productive members of society but for many reasons they can't be at home, and they're a pretty high functioning population and have a very high success rate of going on to college and jobs.

Most of our programs serve probably the most vulnerable population in Suffolk County. Again, we're predominantly women and girls. Our adolescents cannot be at home, they're placed to us through the courts, they're played by school districts. These are the young women who can't make it in public high schools, many of them have -- I should say all of them have histories of severe trauma, multiple traumas; they've been abused, they've been raped, they're pretty dramatic histories. They've done just about everything you can imagine, drug histories, and they come to us after they've really failed at every other level of care.

The RTF that I mentioned is considered a small psychiatric hospital, in the way the State defines residential treatment facilities and, like I said, it's the only one of its kind in Suffolk County or on Long Island, and there's another program at Mercy First who has the one for boys. So there's only 14 beds, that's all that's available on all of Long Island, and obviously we service Long Island. Our RTC, again, services probably the most vulnerable adolescent girls that are out there. And we also offer a day component if they have a family who can maintain them, if they can be maintained at home, then they can come to us just for the school program.

P.O. LINDSAY:

How many people in total do you serve through all your programs in Suffolk County?

MS. STEIN:

I would say in the course of a year we service -- we haven't done our numbers yet because our fiscal year ends June 30th, but a rough, good estimate would be we probably service about 150 to 200 people a year in a residential component, and another 200 plus a year in our out-patient mental health clinic, which I think I forgot to mention.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, 200 people in-house and 200 out.

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And, for example, if someone -- if a child -- there was a PINS petition issued on a child, one of your facilities would be a --

MS. STEIN:

My answer is yes except since the new PINS legislation, we don't see too many PINS adolescents anymore in our level of care, we see more JD's, we see more kids who are placed through Probation, we see more kids placed through the Committee on Special Education. I mean, certainly the change in the PINS legislation has affected who enters care.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MS. STEIN:

And when we see them, that means they've failed with every other resource that was been tried.

P.O. LINDSAY:

How many employees does the agencies have?

MS. STEIN:

Madonna Heights has approximately 300 employees, SCO Family Service has over 3,000.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, that's the umbrella organization for the whole metropolitan area.

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

But we're just interested --

MS. STEIN:

I know, but --

P.O. LINDSAY:

We're just interested in the Madonna Heights component then, right?

MS. STEIN:

Right. Well, some of our numbers that you're going to ask for, you have to look at it in the total of the whole agency.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And they're all full-time employees?

MS. STEIN:

Full-time, part-time, and in addition -- not in that number, we also do have some per diem staff, there are certainly summer, additional summer people and we also have a large number of volunteers.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Your agency is fairly unique in the County in the services that they provide?

MS. STEIN:

Yes. Even our homeless shelters, which there are certainly other homeless shelter providers, we just had a meeting with the housing people in Suffolk County and we have like created a niche. You know, that's what happens in this business, you get a population that you work well with and we tend to work very well with their most severe of the homeless population; we have a lot who are mentally ill, a lot who are both mentally ill and substance abusers, and we've done a good job with that population.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And you roughly get 196,000 from the County for '07?

That's the number I have.

MS. STEIN:

I don't have '07 numbers, but no, we get more than that. Looking at all our Suffolk County programs, for fiscal year '06 we received 3,648,144.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. John, how can we reconcile those numbers? Is most of the money for service provided and the 196,000 is outright grants, John; is that why there's a difference in our numbers and their

numbers?

MR. ORTIZ:

The figures I have for the 2007 Adopted Budget are for two line items, one for 580,000 and one for 200,000, totaling 781,000.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, and I have a sheet here of 196,000.

MS. STEIN:

I think what you're referring to, I'm guessing, is our Morning Star Program which is our halfway house for women transitioning out of alcohol and drug treatment. That is funding that comes from OASIS and passes through the County Department of Health; honestly, it really isn't Suffolk County money at all, it's money that comes from the State directly. And I believe the other one is our Rose Pelletier Program which is the transitional adolescent program I mentioned which is a contract and that is money which comes through the Youth Bureau.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MS. STEIN:

But in addition to that, all --

P.O. LINDSAY:

But you're saying the County contributes \$3 million?

MS. STEIN:

Yes. Because we have every child placed in the residential treatment center who's from Suffolk County, Suffolk County pays a piece of that.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Right, but I --

MS. STEIN:

Yeah, exactly. You're looking at the contracts, but I wasn't --

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, we're looking more towards grants.

MS. STEIN:

Okay. I'm sorry, we weren't -- I wasn't aware of that. I apologize.

P.O. LINDSAY:

That's all right.

MS. {ROBAYO}:

That's the right number.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Which is the right numbers?

MS. {ROBAYO}:

The one that he was talking about.

P.O. LINDSAY:

The 700,000?

LEG. D'AMARO:

Yeah, two line items in the budget.

MS. {ROBAYO}:

Yes, because it's just a grant, those are just grants.

MR. ORTIZ:

The request was 196,000, what was adopted was just over 200,000 for that one program. The other 580,000 is through Mental Hygiene which is 100% Federally and State funded.

MS. {ROBAYO}:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

I see, okay. So our original numbers of the 200,000 was about right, okay. And what would be the consequences of not receiving that \$200,000?

MS. STEIN:

We would close the program. We actually can't run that program on that money anyway.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So the \$200,000 is for one specific program.

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And that's -- which program was that now?

MS. STEIN:

It's the Rose Pelletier Program, it's a transitional program for adolescents who are trying to -- will be trying to live independently. They're not in Foster Care and they can't be at home, and that's --

P.O. LINDSAY:

How old are they that they can't --

MS. STEIN:

They're older adolescents, they're between 16 -- 15 to 18.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And if that program closed down, where would they go?

MS. STEIN:

Some of them would live with friends or on the street. They're kids who can't be at home who's parents have kicked them out; we call them kind of a throw-away population. But these are not the kids that we service on our main campus who have those other handicapping conditions, these are kids who really can make it and our goal is that they don't end up on welfare, that we get them into job training, many of them go to college. And they work while they're in the program, they have to work 20 hours a week, they can't work more than that. We do have them in counseling, because obviously there's issues related to family things. But these are -- they're a really interesting group of young women and they really want to be successful.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And I think the point that I'm making is if we didn't have this program there's a high likelihood that they could become homeless.

MS. STEIN:

Yes, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Bill, could I just ask a question on that?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go right ahead.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Just very quickly. How many individuals are you servicing in that program currently?

MS. STEIN:

Seven.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Seven?

MS. STEIN:

It's a small, family-style house in the community, there's seven adolescent girls.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Is there any other source of funding for that Rose Pelletier Program?

MS. STEIN:

No, sometimes we get foundation grants and things -- well, we do, I mean, we do fund-raising and things to --

LEG. D'AMARO:

What does the bulk of the 200,000 go towards?

MS. {ROBAYO}:

Totally.

MS. STEIN:

Totally.

LEG. D'AMARO:

I'm sorry, I can't hear you.

MS. STEIN:

Totally.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, he wants to know what --

LEG. D'AMARO:

No, the 200,000 is specifically earmarked for this particular program; what does the bulk of that funding go toward, what expense?

MS. STEIN:

Well, we have obviously expensive upkeep, maintaining the home and etcetera.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Does the --

MS. STEIN:

But most of it goes for staffing.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Staffing?

MS. STEIN:

It's 24-hour, seven days a week staffing.

LEG. D'AMARO:

How many staff members do you have to service the seven individuals?

MS. STEIN:

Well, we have a house manager who's full-time and there's a case manager, and then we have what we call direct care staff who are there when they're not there, so the building is always properly supervised. It's a wake staff, 24 hours, seven days a week.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So it's about four full-time staff members?

MS. STEIN:

Probably, yeah.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Four full-time. And then does your agency own the home or do you rent the home?

MS. STEIN:

That house we rent, I believe, yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And what's the lease payment?

MS. STEIN:

I didn't bring that with me, I'm sorry.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay, but you rent, you pay utilities.

MS. STEIN:

Uh-huh.

LEG. D'AMARO:

You have at least four full-time staff members. And what is the maximum number of individuals you serviced in the home?

MS. STEIN:

Seven.

LEG. D'AMARO:

That's the maximum and that's what you have there now?

MS. STEIN:

Uh-huh.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And how long has that program or that house been operating?

MS. STEIN:

Oh, wow. I've been there -- I've been at Madonna Heights 13 years, I would say at least 20 years; way before my time that it opened.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And it's always been fully funded by Suffolk County?

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay.

MS. STEIN:

Well, I wouldn't say fully, we have to fund-raise for the rest of it, the money.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Oh, so the 200,000 is not the total budget for that facility.

MS. STEIN:

No.

LEG. D'AMARO:

What's the total budget, roughly?

MS. STEIN:

We run about between a 20 and a \$25,000 deficit every year. We haven't gotten an increase in funding in many years, so we get salary increases and the rent goes up and the fuel oil and the gas, you know, and the electricity. You know, I fight with our board every year to keep this program open because it's one of those programs that really -- you know, you can really see the outcome because you see these kids.

LEG. D'AMARO:

And the rising expenses is the one thing you can always count on also.

MS. STEIN:

Always, yes. This year was a really tough hit because gas and fuel oil just went through the roof.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Okay, thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

I should know this answer but now I'm questioning it. Did you say you -- you lease the premises.

MS. STEIN:

Yes.

LEG. NOWICK:

Oh, I'm sorry. Okay, never mind.

MS. STEIN:

We try and actually own as many facilities as we can because, you know, sometimes we can get grants for a down payment and then we can manage the mortgage within our budgets and then

eventually we own the house, but this is one that we can't buy.

LEG. NOWICK:

If you lease -- and you're a 501(C).

MS. STEIN:

Yes, we are.

LEG. NOWICK:

Do you pay the same amount of school taxes or property taxes when you own a house?

MS. STEIN:

No, we're tax exempt.

LEG. NOWICK:

Okay, that's what I wanted to know. Okay.

LEG. D'AMARO:

No, they don't own, they're leasing.

LEG. NOWICK:

No, no, but they own some.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Oh, I'm sorry.

LEG. NOWICK:

You said you own some.

MS. STEIN:

When we do own we're tax exempt, but if we pay -- this is a lease, we have to -- the owner has to pay.

LEG. NOWICK:

Right, but you said you do own buildings.

MS. STEIN:

Yes, we do.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

I just had one follow-up question on what legislator D'Amaro was saying.

MS. MAHONEY:

Is your microphone on?

LEG. MONTANO:

Oh, sorry. Just a follow-up question; how long is the average length of stay in this program with the seven girls?

MS. STEIN:

It's a good question. It really depends on the age that the girl comes to us. If she comes to us and she's in the younger age, like 15 or 16, they usually stay like two years. Obviously they come in at 17; they stay until they complete high school. So we have had girls who've stayed -- I don't think anyone has stayed longer than two, two-and-a-half years. We usually get the older adolescents

because they usually are coming out of other places.

LEG. MONTANO:

So once someone comes -- well, I have a second question then. Once someone comes in, they're there for let's say a year to two years to complete high school, but that only covers seven girls on Long Island; what about the -- do you have a waiting list?

MS. STEIN:

Often we do. You know, it's -- what's happened in the system, the overall system of serving adolescents in Suffolk County, is that when the hospitals started discharging everybody sooner and not -- no one can stay in the hospital past a few days, I'm talking about a psychiatric hospital, then all of her programs had to adjust and change because our high-end residential programs had to gear up to care for a more psychiatric, mentally ill population, so everything changed. And this kind of Rose Pelletier population is like -- is just like a group who are really under served, because these are -- I want to say high functioning kids, I mean, these are kids who can maintain jobs, who are doing well in college and who really can kind of make it on their own, but they don't have the family support that your children and mine have. So they're kind of a self-selecting population, and out of whose out there in the County who needs services, they're kind of the ones that are overlooked because if they were homeless, they probably would -- we would see them in our homeless shelters because we can take people in our homeless shelters as young as 16, but that's not where you would want to serve them.

We actually had one, and if I can just brag, but we had one student this year who's in 11th grade, she's an African-American young woman and she wanted to do -- I don't know if you ever heard of these bus tours that take kids to all these colleges up and down the eastern seaboard, and there's one organized by -- that predominantly visits the African-American colleges. I forgot how much it cost but it was really expensive and she really wanted to do this and she saved herself half the money and she came to us, she's a bright kid, she's somebody who really is determined. So we were able to get funding for her from the Newsday Fund that we get and providing some of that fund, then we got some from a private donor, so she was able to go on this tour and she visited all these colleges and she's picked out her top choice. These are things that I did with my child, you know.

LEG. MONTANO:

Right. No, I understand, I do.

MS. STEIN:

And we're just really excited that she sees herself as someone who's going to be able to go away to college and make a difference with her life. These kids receive full funding for college, they apply for all the Federal grants and they get them because they have no means of support. A lot of them are emancipated and, you know, they do qualify for all that aid. But all these things, you know, there's no money really to help them with, so we're as creative as we can and we really push education.

LEG. MONTANO:

Good, I agree. My question goes to what do you do when number eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, when they come and they apply, where do they go?

MS. STEIN:

Well, a lot of times they come -- we see them because they come in to our program through our Gatehouse Shelter which is located on our main campus, it's a Suffolk County shelter. It also has a license from -- because of the age of the population, it has a license through the Youth Bureau as well. So they'll come to our Gatehouse which is a temporary program and it will be determined there, that's a very short-term stay, that this is a young woman who could benefit from being in our transitional program.

What we'll do is we'll look to see when we'll have an opening and what have you, and very often we

can maintain that child there or we'll find a temporary placement for them until a bed is ready. We've been pretty successful with that. It's the one thing that's really positive about having a continuum in an organization, because you can usually help move people to where they -- till they can get to where they need to be.

LEG. MONTANO:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. How much funding do you receive from the Federal, State, Town or Village; do you have those numbers?

MS. STEIN:

Well, this is -- the number we have, we took this off our I-90 because it's the most accurate information. This is agency-wide, we receive a hundred and forty-one million, six hundred and eight -- am I saying it right -- six hundred eighteen, four hundred and fifty-two.

*(*Legislator Losquadro entered the meeting at 11:09 AM*)*

P.O. LINDSAY:

A hundred and forty-one million; wow.

MS. STEIN:

Our full agency's operating budget for '06 was approximately -- {Umparo}, correct me -- 151 million.

LEG. NOWICK:

This is just Madonna?

MS. STEIN:

No, no, this is SCO Family of Services, the whole agency. We have over a hundred programs throughout the Metropolitan New York area and Long Island.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And total budget is 151, so the Feds funded 141 of the 151?

MS. STEIN:

Well, we say that's Federal, that's State, that's city, that was everything other than Suffolk County.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Oh, okay, so that's Federal, State --

MS. {ROBAYO}:

Oh, yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Oh, okay, I just thought it was -- all right.

MS. STEIN:

No. Medicaid is in there, everything.

MS. {ROBAYO}:

Everything.

MS. STEIN:

We have many very high end programs because we service a lot of developmentally disabled population, we serve dual-diagnosed, mentally ill. Most of our programs serve the -- I think it's fair to say we service the most needy population and most of our programs have been designed and opened as a result of our relationships with Departments of Social Services, whether it's Suffolk, Nassau or the city depending on where the programs are located, design programs to service what they need. Now we're trying to bring back kids, as I'm sure you've heard, from out of State so they can be served in their Counties, so we're trying to once again reprogram and gear up our programs to be able to bring some of these young people back in.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you do any outside fund-raising?

MS. STEIN:

We do a lot, yes. Again, this is agency-wide; as of June '06, we raised five million, three hundred and eighty-two -- am I reading it right -- \$5,382,348, and that's through special events, foundations and grants and individual donors. That does not count donations of in-kind which we do a lot of in-kind soliciting also.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you know what the percentage of your overall budget goes towards administrative expenses?

MS. STEIN:

Yes. Again, off the 9-90, it's 6.97.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Wow, very low.

MS. STEIN:

Very low; trust me, we all feel it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So I guess the CEO doesn't make 20% of the total budget?

MS. STEIN:

No; actually, his salary is less than 1% of the agency's overall budget, it's actually point one nine percent.

P.O. LINDSAY:

I don't have any other questions. Does anybody else have anything? Thank you, Ladies, for coming in and chatting with us, it was very informative.

MS. STEIN:

Thank you. I have information, if you want me to leave it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Please.

MS. STEIN:

Thank you very much.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, we're running behind schedule. Babylon Beautification Society; is that you, Ma'am?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

No, I think that might have been the woman that walked out.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

No?

P.O. LINDSAY:

No. Okay, are you with Hauppauge Industrial?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, please come forward. Terry Mitchel?

HAUPPAUGE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yes, Alessi-Miceli.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Micelli, okay. Just give me a second to get organized, Terry, and I'll be right with you.

LEG. NOWICK:

Do you want me to start?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead.

LEG. NOWICK:

Good morning.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Good morning.

LEG. NOWICK:

So can you give us a very brief description on what the HIA does?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Sure. And good morning, everybody. My name is Terry Alessi-Miceli, I'm the President of the HIA. The HIA, or the Hauppauge Industrial Association, is a 28 year old association that initially was formed by several business leaders in the Hauppauge Industrial Park literally many years ago to fight LILCo to get the lights back on in the park. Some of you probably know Jack Kulka, I'm not sure if I should admit that or not, but you certainly do, he does some good business in the park.

Right now we service in the Hauppauge Industrial Park over 1,475 companies and 55,000 employees in the park itself, and also have an outreach and a networking arm that crosses around Long Island. Our major funding for grants really is more involved in our trade show. It's the largest on Long Island, it's the largest of its kind; many of you I think have been there and walked the trade show floor, I've seen you there. It's purpose is really several fold, but one and most importantly is probably to help educate business owners as well as take a look at how do we help them promote their services in a forum where they're looking at growth and hopefully prosperity to keep people on Long Island.

We get involved in a lot of first rate programming when it comes to the trade show. We always have an executive speaker, we also have an executive luncheon that usually encompasses many of the

business owners on Long Island, people like Bob Katell and John Cannis who come and speak about not only what they do but what does the economy look like in the future, and we find it helps the business owners out tremendously.

We have an alternative energy section that takes a look at what will we do in the future with alternative energy. And many seminars that help, again, those business owners out in terms of what are their biggest challenges now in business today, that's primarily the funding that we're getting, the grant. Right now we get -- through the Omnibus contract this year we got 12,500, and also through some State funding, New York State Development, we got 15,000 for the trade show and we get another 10,000 for a program through Middle Country Research Library.

LEG. NOWICK:

Did I hear you right; the Omnibus funding was 12,500?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yes.

LEG. NOWICK:

Okay.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Less than it was in years past; we've gotten in years past 25,000, so it was cut in half.

LEG. NOWICK:

So you just get Omnibus money from the County, that's it?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yes; right now, yes, that's it.

LEG. NOWICK:

And last year or the year before, did you get other money?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

No, we didn't. We got -- but it was a larger fund from Omnibus, it was 25,000.

We have five full-time employees, two part-time employees. There are many associations that obviously you know of that have a networking arm and we do that. What I think our uniqueness is, we focus on the Hauppauge Industrial Park and, as you know, it's the largest on the east coast. And we are involved in the infrastructure, we are involved in the sewerage, we're involved in anything from fixing curbs to taking a look at connectivity in the park through a initiative through Steve Levy, so we do a lot of that.

Let me go back for a second, too. I know, Bill, you had asked somebody before about the consequence of not getting that money. As small as it might sound, what that money is used for right now, both the Omnibus contract and the money we get from New York State, is there are 3,500 people that walk that trade show floor. There are about 375 exhibit booths; again, it is one of the largest of its type, bringing all business people together. So primarily, right now it is not used for salary or any benefits or anything like that, it's used primarily for the registration process and much of the marketing that is done to get those people there for those business people itself.

I will also tell you, we were told that we will -- I don't know too much about that Omnibus contract, but we're told we will not get that money next year, I don't know if that's a question of it just not being there.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Every --

LEG. MONTANO:

Everyone is told that.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Everyone is told that.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Oh, okay. That's actually something new we've been told this year.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, I know. It comes from the -- the Executive Branch said that the funding is one time and don't count on it being renewed.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Okay. Well, we've gotten it for several years; again, this is the first year we've been told that. And what we've been guided to do -- and I'm not sure if this even the forum to ask that question, so if it's not, please stop me -- is to go to Steve Levy and ask to take some of that money out of his operating budget.

LEG. NOWICK:

Come to us.

LEG. MONTANO:

No, no, no.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, let them go to Steve, please.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Leave us alone, Bill says, go to Steve Levy. So I don't know, I don't know if that's good guidance or bad and, again, I don't know if it's the forum to ask that question, but that's the situation we are in right now.

LEG. NOWICK:

So is that good guidance or bad guidance.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Well, if you can get the money out of Steve Levy, God bless you.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yeah, and that's another thing we were told, Bill, we probably will not get the money from Steve Levy. Come to you, absolutely. So this is a very good forum, I think, to describe what we're doing, Lynne, for that reason and why we're doing it.

The consequences of not getting any money at all, although that sounds like a small amount of money, is it really is the type of funding that drives this major event. This event for the Hauppauge Industrial Association is one of our largest fund-raisers; we don't do, other than this, really a lot of fund-raising. We do go out to corporate sponsors, I look for corporate money, but this is a very large piece. We have a million dollar -- a million dollar budget is our overall operating budget.

LEG. NOWICK:

Did you mention if you had funding from the Federal, State, Town or Village?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

The State, through John Flanagan we get 15,000 for the trade show and we get a separate 10,000 through the Middle County Research Library. And what they do for our business owners is they work much like a marketing tool, that they can call them at any given moment, do marketing, create lists for themselves and things like that; that's a very important aspect of what we do.

Our percentage of overall budget that goes to administrative costs is about 30 to 35%. And no, unfortunately, I'm the top, I'm the President there and no, I do not get close to 20% of our budget for my salary. But again, primarily right now the funding, the grant funding we're getting is the trade show.

LEG. NOWICK:

And how much does your agency raise through outside fund-raising?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Our corporate sponsorships probably are about 200,000. The majority of where our money is coming from right now is the overall budget of the trade show -- again, it's very large for us -- and a membership. People do pay to become a member of the HIA, an annual fee, so there's a large piece of income that we get from that as well.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Could you just -- I'm sorry; Bill?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead, Legislator D'Amaro.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Did you -- I'm sorry, I stepped out for one moment. Did you state what your total budget was for the year?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

A million.

LEG. D'AMARO:

One million dollars. And 35% of that going towards administrative expenses is higher than the norm that we've seen; how come it's on the higher end of the scale?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

I can tell you that we work much like a corporation. I mean, when I talk to other not-for-profit people, they're normally within 20 to 35%. What have you been hearing, much lower than that?

LEG. D'AMARO:

Well, it depends on how you define administrative as well.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yeah. What we -- the way we defined it is obviously salaries and what we do is we try to give them as best of a benefit package as we can, so, you know, we pay dental, we pay health, we do things like that. So we try to look at ourselves as somebody who is much like a business to attract good people.

LEG. D'AMARO:

But just so it's clear in my mind, the primary function of your organization is to hold the trade show.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

That's one of the primary functions. Our primary function is to really manage what goes on in the Hauppauge Industrial Park.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Right, okay.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

One of the things I had said, I think you --

LEG. D'AMARO:

Do you have a management contract with the park?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

No, we don't.

LEG. D'AMARO:

So -- but you expend resources in managing the park.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Yes, absolutely. And the way that happened is when we were born 28 years ago, there were several business owners that went out and literally fought LILCO to get the lights back on in the park, so the association emerged as one. We don't have a management contract but what we do do is we fight for sewerage projects in the park, we fight for all infrastructure, whether it is curbs, we work with John Moore extensively on literally paving the roads, things like that. So we have taken on that management roll.

LEG. D'AMARO:

Interesting, okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Montano.

LEG. MONTANO:

Hi. I'm sorry, I just had one question, and you probably answered it but I didn't hear it. How much do you bring in from the trade show?

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Income, we haven't done -- the trade show was just two weeks ago, so I can give you last year's stats.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay. No, estimates; yeah, last year's.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Net income is probably about 300,000, I would think. It's probably a little higher this year because we had quite a success.

LEG. MONTANO:

Thank you.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

You're welcome.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Does anybody have any other questions? No? Okay. Thank you, Terry, for coming. We appreciate it.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Oh, thank you. So in answer to that question, Bill, in seriousness; should I be going to you specifically, all the Legislators, is that the best way to go?

P.O. LINDSAY:

The budget is formulated through a process and the process starts with the County Executive, he sends over his vision of the budget to us, we have a period of time, about six weeks, to study what he sent over; it sounds like a lot, but the overall County budget is about \$2 billion, so there's a lot of number crunching. And we have an opportunity to modify it, it's passed by legislation and if the Executive doesn't like what we did do, he can veto it and we have the ability to override it's veto. It's a process that takes about three months and both branches of government, both the Legislative and the Executive Branch have opportunities to modify the budget, to put things in the budget, to take things out of the budget. So the answer to your question is both.

MS. ALESSI-MICELI:

Okay, great. So I can start that process now then, you're saying it's a lengthy one. I appreciate it. Thank you for your time.

P.O. LINDSAY:

You're welcome.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you.

BAYPORT-BLUE POINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. LINDSAY:

And I see Seth Needelman in the audience; come forward, Seth.

LEG. D'AMARO:

What happened to Babylon Beautification?

P.O. LINDSAY:

They haven't shown as yet.

LEG. MONTANO:

They didn't get any money, though, did they?

P.O. LINDSAY:

I don't know.

LEG. NOWICK:

Why bother?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Exactly.

P.O. LINDSAY:

I just have to find your paper work, Seth. I'm sorry that you had to wait, we're running a little behind schedule. Folks, this is Seth Needelman who is the President of the Bayport/Blue Point Chamber of Commerce and is a constituent and a neighbor and long-time friend.

I started off this explanation at the beginning. What this process is all about is we contract with literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies across the County to provide a whole variety of different

services for our citizens, everything from beautifications to youth service to homeless shelters to day-care providers. And we've been kind of criticized of late about the money that we spend and the agencies we fund and we thought it would be a good idea if systematically over this whole year we invited some of these providers in just to talk about the services they provide and whatever, so.

We normally ask what services your agency provides, but it's apparent, the Bayport/Blue Point is a business group for that area.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Absolutely.

P.O. LINDSAY:

How many members do you have, Seth.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

We have 200, we just hit the 200 mark. Please excuse me for my appearance, I wasn't really informed of the type of meeting, I apologize, and I came straight from work.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Don't apologize. Do not apologize.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

I am working.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, do not apologize. You're a working man, you're out there working.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

That's right. We have -- we just hit the 200 mark, we made it over 200 members within the last couple of weeks. Out of the 200 members, we have about 140, roughly 140 paying members, the other ones are honorary members, different local government representatives, small groups that, you know, we let be a chamber member for free. Our chamber dues are \$120 a year; out of roughly 140 paying members, it brings us to about \$16,800 per year -- again, this is our highest year -- but \$16,800 of usable money.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Let me just add, you don't have any employees, right?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

No employees, no.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, zero. And there isn't any other Chamber of Commerces in that area.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

No other Chambers of Commerce, no.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And in '07, what did you get, \$5,000?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

In '07, we're still in the process, hopefully \$5,000.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, I didn't say you got it yet.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Yes, \$5,000.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Did we make you work hard for that \$5,000?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Well, so far; yes, very hard. Yeah, I mean, in the last three years, we've applied the last three years and the number was a lot higher the first year, I think it was about 35,000 which we were able to acquire about I think 30,000 of it; and then last year was 15,000, we were able to acquire about 9,000; this year is 5,000 and we got turned down so far for 4,000 of the 5,000, so we've got to go back to the drawing board.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Four thousand of the 5,000.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

What did you -- what did you want the money for?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Okay. In a previous grant, last year's grant we applied for banners throughout Bayport and Blue Point -- springtime, summer, winter, St. Patrick's Day banners that we change ourselves -- and we got them before, but this year I guess they're not accepting it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, you're going to get it.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

I'm sorry?

P.O. LINDSAY:

You're going to get it.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Oh. So just this year will be \$5,000. And we don't do it much as far as fund-raisers, we have one fund-raiser; it's not even really a fund-raiser, it turned in to a fund-raiser. Every other year we have a Community Expo which, Mr. Lindsay, you're aware of, and I think we -- we took home about \$4,000 to use for other things in the area.

P.O. LINDSAY:

For the Community Expo.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And for the most part, when you make money on any of these things, it goes towards the community beautification like the banners?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Yes, community beautification --

P.O. LINDSAY:

Flower pots, that kind of thing.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

-- scholarships for high school kids, you know, local signs for the area, local events; by the end of the year we're tapped out.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Do you receive any other Federal or State grants?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

I believe we're in the process from Assemblywoman Ginny Fields of possibly getting -- she had told me three, but I just got some paper work last week for -- she had told me two and I got some paper work for \$3,000, and that will also go for beautification; I think they already slated it for flowers and planters.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you know the overall expenses of the Chamber, administrative expenses?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

By administrative, you mean?

P.O. LINDSAY:

It's kind of hard to define.

LEG. MONTANO:

There's no salaries.

P.O. LINDSAY:

There's no salaries, yeah. Anybody have any questions; Dan?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No, I was just going to -- good morning.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Good morning, Dan.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I was just going to clarify that. I mean, any mailings, things you do of that nature are all associated with, you know, that expo or things like that that you do?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So I guess none of that really could be considered an administrative cost, and you have no employees. So I was just clarifying that point; I guess it's diminimus at best.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah. I mean, maybe if you have your accountant do your books at the end of the year and file the taxes and that kind of stuff; but you're absolutely right, it's probably diminimus.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Right. Okay, thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Does anybody else have any other questions? Okay.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Thank you very much for having me.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thanks for coming in, Seth.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Okay.

LEG. MONTANO:

They're a pretty big chamber, right?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Two hundred members.

LEG. MONTANO:

That's pretty big.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah; it's a small community, though.

LEG. MONTANO:

They must have all the businesses in the community.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah. Seth owns a fish store.

LEG. MONTANO:

Oh; where's the fish store?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Right on Montauk Highway.

LEG. MONTANO:

What store is that, Seth?

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Right on the corner of Montauk Highway and Bayport Avenue.

P.O. LINDSAY:

It's called The Fish Store.

LEG. MONTANO:

No, I have fish, that's why I'm asking. He told me you have a fish store.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, no, no.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Fish market.

LEG. MONTANO:

A fish market; oh, oh, okay. No, you said a fish store.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, fish you eat.

LEG. MONTANO:

I'll talk to you later, Seth.

MR. NEEDELMAN:

Thank you.

LEG. MONTANO:

No, I'm looking for good exotic fish, come on.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, not that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I hear Angel Fish is tasty.

LEG. MONTANO:

I wouldn't know.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Is Parents of Megan's Law here; no?

MS. FELBER:

We're waiting for Laura Ahearn, she will be arriving shortly.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Pardon?

MS. FELBER:

Laura Ahearn will be arriving shortly.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Oh, well, we'll wait for Laura.

MS. FELBER:

Thank you.

GUILD HALL OF EAST HAMPTON

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And the Guild Hall of East Hampton? Come on forward, Ladies.

LEG. MONTANO:

Come on down.

P.O. LINDSAY:

We have Dr. Ruth.

DR. APPELHOF:

Yep, that's me.

P.O. LINDSAY:

But not *the* Dr. Ruth.

DR. APPELHOF:

Unfortunately for you, no.

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, this is Dr. Ruth Appelhof.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

You want me to start, Bill?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead, Dan, while I find the paper work.

DR. APPELHOF:

Good morning.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Good morning. I guess just start by giving us a little -- a brief history of your organization --

DR. APPELHOF:

Sure.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

-- and tell us a little bit about it and we'll follow up from there.

DR. APPELHOF:

Thank you, and thank you for having us here today. I'd like to introduce myself and also the Deputy Director of Guild Hall, Jeanine Diner, who is here as well to help answer your questions.

I have been at Guild Hall for the past eight years and I'm a newcomer. We have been engaged in education and theatre and museum activities in the east end for 76 years. We're very proud of that and, in fact, last year we had a big celebration for our 75th and Suffolk County helped us with that celebration.

We think of ourselves and I think people will tell you that we are a community service provider in the arts and we do a lot of efforts to reach our community which is extremely diverse. You're probably familiar with East Hampton and some of the real estate prices there, but in fact there's a huge population of people that live very modestly and we are committed to serving those folks as well. In fact, 33% of our school population are Latino and many of them have difficulties with the language, being in the English as a Second Language Programs which Guild Hall works with them through our theatre programming to provide actually access to each other, to the student population.

Guild Hall does a lot of programming, last summer we did 80 programs. We have a beautiful theatre, a 400 seat theatre called the John Drew Theatre. And in addition to that, we have a museum and the museum does collect art, we collect art from the east end of Long Island, people like Jackson Pollack and Roy Lichtenstein and Willem de Kooning, among others, but we have a major art collection, actually, 2,000 works of art that are now traveling around the country. They are now being shown in other museums throughout the country and we're very proud of that.

In addition to the theatre and the museum, we last summer opened the Boots Lam Education Center which is a new wing that we have renovated that allows for children and adults to come in and have all kinds of educational experiences, along with the museum or the theatre or sometimes independent of those. We work very hard to reach our students and the community, every February and March we do a wonderful Student Art Festival that provides kids the opportunity to exhibit their work in the museum or to perform their work in the theatre. And we are very, very interested in

being kind of the hub, the center of the arts in that area, having school kids in, having other performing arts groups in, we're always opening our doors to different kinds of programming throughout the institution.

We do have a high population of people coming out in the summer time. In fact, Suffolk County has helped us with our exhibitions that we do provide in the summer time. Last year we had Andy Warhol and Elizabeth Payton; you've probably heard of Andy Warhol. But anyway, the programming, then, varies from an artist world-renowned like Andy Warhol to our wonderful students that we have in our education system there.

We're very proud of everything that we do. And currently we are renovating the theatre which means that we have had to revise our budget looking at it to see, okay, that earned income that we really counted on in the theatre won't be coming in this year and we have reduced expenses accordingly.

What else can I tell you? We have 1,600 members in Guild Hall and they range from \$45 a members to \$5,000 members. We have a mailing list of 6,000 and, in fact, we count close to 40,000 people a year that come in to Guild Hall.

P.O. LINDSAY:

How many employees do you have?

DR. APPELHOF:

We have a combination of full-time and part-time people; it's eight full-time people and four part-time people, plus we also have guards that are on an hourly schedule.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Legislator Nowick, did you have a question?

LEG. NOWICK:

How much funding did you receive from the County?

DR. APPELHOF:

This past year?

LEG. NOWICK:

Yes.

DR. APPELHOF:

We received --

LEG. NOWICK:

Or might you receive.

DR. APPELHOF:

This past year we received \$9,000 from {SCOCA} which is the usual amount we do receive from {SCOCA} and we're very, very appreciative of that. Of the nine, 5,000 went toward our major exhibitions, 2,000 went toward education and an additional 2,000 toward theatre programming.

LEG. NOWICK:

Did you also receive member item money from different --

DR. APPELHOF:

Yes, we did.

LEG. NOWICK:

Plus the nine?

DR. APPELHOF:
That's correct.

LEG. NOWICK:
How much was that?

DR. APPELHOF:
Yeah, the member item money was \$17,000, and we earmarked that specifically for this 75th Anniversary Celebration. We had many events during the summer last summer to celebrate this, but the big event was a community-wide, free program for everyone, kids and adults alike. We had four bands, we had stilt walkers, we had magicians, you know, the whole thing and we had it next door to Guild Hall in Mulford Farms which is a beautiful, big historic farm area.

LEG. NOWICK:
Did you receive -- do you also receive funding from Federal, State, Town or Village?

DR. APPELHOF:
Yes.

LEG. NOWICK:
And what would you have, roughly?

MS. DINER:
Do you want me to give those? I have those.

DR. APPELHOF:
Yes; do you mind if Jeanine answers that?

LEG. NOWICK:
Sure.

P.O. LINDSAY:
No, go right ahead.

MS. DINER:
Last year we received --

MS. MAHONEY:
Could you please pull the microphone closer?

MS. DINER:
Sure. How is that?

P.O. LINDSAY:
No, I don't think it's on. There's a little switch on the top, there you go.

MS. DINER:
Is it on now?

LEG. NOWICK:
Yes, but bring it closer.

MS. DINER:

Okay. We got 15,000 from East Hampton Town, 12,425 from NYSCA.

P.O. LINDSAY:
What is NYSCA?

MS. DINER:
New York State Council of the Arts; we received \$5,000 through Fred Thiele which is from the New York State Education Department;
Mr Schneiderman helped us with a member item which was the 17,000, and also there was an additional 2,000 that was received also through a member item from Jay Schneiderman which was for a series of plays that was put on in June. So the total government -- the total government funding for our previous fiscal year of 2006 was 60,425.

LEG. NOWICK:
I assume that you raise -- well, you've said it; how much money do you raise through fund-raising efforts?

MS. DINER:
Last year, 2006, we had a \$2.9 million operating budget and of that we fund-raised 2.3 million, so it's about --

LEG. NOWICK:
You fund-raised 2.3 million?

MS. DINER:
Two point three million, so it's about an 80% fund-raising effort.

LEG. NOWICK:
Wow.

LEG. D'AMARO:
Location is everything.

LEG. NOWICK:
And what portion of your overall budget goes towards the administrative expenses?

MS. DINER:
The management in general is 18%.

LEG. NOWICK:
And your CEO does not make more than 20% of the agency's total budget?

MS. DINER:
No.

LEG. NOWICK:
Just one question I wanted to ask when you were talking about all of the services and things that you do in the community. Do you actually have a program English as a Second Language; is that what you do?

DR. APPELHOF:
Actually, we work with the schools, the schools have that program in place already. And we have our education people go into the schools, they work with the special education teachers and the ESL students and teachers and they build a program around that. That enables these young people to actually communicate by movement and voice and gesture so that language is not the only way that

they learn to work with each other and talk to each other.

LEG. NOWICK:

So your volunteers go in to the different schools.

DR. APPELHOF:

We have volunteers and we also have a paid staff person, yes.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you.

DR. APPELHOF:

You're welcome.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you fellas have any questions?

LEG. MONTANO:

No.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Ladies, I really appreciate your making this long drive in here to talk to us about your programs.

DR. APPELHOF:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

There isn't any other -- I'm a little bit familiar with that area. There isn't any other similar organizations that provide the same types of services, right?

DR. APPELHOF:

Not really, although we do have a theatre nearby in Sag Harbor that does provide basically four plays a year. And the Parish Museum is in Southampton, so we do have a museum nearby, but I like to think that Guild Hall is particularly different and unique because we combine all of the arts.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Thank you very much for coming in.

DR. APPELHOF:

You're welcome. Thank you for having us. We're excused, correct?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Pardon?

DR. APPELHOF:

Are we excused?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yes, you are. Yes, you are. Thank you very much for coming.

DR. APPELHOF:

Yeah, great. Thank you. Have a good day.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Did you have any -- excuse me; did you have any literature?

MS. DINER:

We do, we brought them with us.

DR. APPELHOF:

Oh, yeah, we do. We'd love to pass it out, thank you.

PARENTS FOR MEGAN'S LAW

P.O. LINDSAY:

I see Ms. Laura has arrived; come on up to the table. Good morning and thank you for coming to visit with us; not that we haven't seen you lately.

MS. AHEARN:

I've been here a lot lately.

P.O. LINDSAY:

I go through this explanation for really everybody that comes in. The County contracts with literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies to provide a whole host of different services for our citizens, and you just got a flavor of that from the previous speakers. And of late, you know, we -- there's been some criticism level that we spend money frivolously, so we thought it would be a good idea to have as many as our not-for-profit providers in just to have a chat and see what's going on and that's why we extended this invitation for your agency to come in. And I see, as usual, you're very well prepared, so I'm just going to shut up and let you tell us about Megan's Law.

MS. AHEARN:

Thank you. It's a tremendous opportunity to be before you to give you an overview of our services. Please don't be intimidated, we have a lot of slides, but I'm going to pass through a lot of them. And if it's okay, my Assistant Director brought copies of the Power Point for each of you and also some literature. This is Debbie Felber, she's Assistant Director of Parents for Megan's Law and Shelly Cohen, our Chief Financial Officer.

Parents for Megan's Law is dedicated to the prevention and treatment of sexual abuse. We staff the national and local Megan's Law Help-lines, also we run the Suffolk County Child Sexual Abuse Services Help Line and we are now a New York State Certified Rape Crisis Center as well.

Along the way I'm going to answer one of the questions which is are there other agencies providing similar services, so there is another certified Rape Crisis Center in Suffolk County and that's the Victims Information Bureau, VIBS. We provide advocacy and victim services, prevention education for adults, children and teens. We are developing an Internet Safety Program currently with the Suffolk County Police Department through a private grant we receive from the Florence Burden Foundation and also from the New York State Senate.

We provide counseling and treatment for family, adults, children and teens. We also administer the e-mail alert program, the Sex Offender E-Mail Alert Program and we staff the local Suffolk and Nassau Megan's Law Helplines and the National Megan's Law Helpline, and there are no other agencies that provide the Sex Offender E-Mail Alert and also the Megan's Law Helpline Programs.

The local helpline goals are to ensure that people that are receiving sex offender notifications in the community are using that information responsibly. Our goal is to ensure that the community is broadly notified about registered sex offenders and also that we educate individuals who are receiving that information about how to protect themselves and their children from sex offenders. When a caller calls the helpline, traditionally the call -- the calls vary, but sometimes we get calls from people who are really, really very angry and they don't know how to cope with this information. Imagine yourself never really knowing the existence of a sexual predator in your neighborhood and you get notified by law enforcement that there's an offender right next door. So we act as a bridge between law enforcement and the community to ensure that that community member is not only

going to use that information responsibly, but we take that anger and we transition them into a place where they understand what that means to get the notification and what specifically they can do to protect themselves and their children.

We also in the helpline get calls from individuals who may need law enforcement assistance, so we do those law enforcement referrals depending upon what the crime might be. It might be a local crime, it might be an Internet crime, it might be something we have to refer to the FBI, it might be something that would go to ICE, it might be something that would go to the US Attorney, it depends on the individual case. Additionally, we coordinate, and I'll get into specifics a little later, with public and private schools to ensure that they're releasing information in a cost effective way that can benefit them as well.

Our national Megan's Law Helpline Program is funded through a Federal grant through Senator Chuck Schumer. We are the only national Megan's Law Helpline Program; as part of the Helpline Program, we research all 50 states versions of Megan's Law and what we do with that information is we feed that to the Justice Department and they use that to help to craft Megan's Laws across the nation, because Megan's Law is a Federal law and it sets up some minor standards for states that they have to meet. And in fact, we're very proud to let you guys know that the recently passed Adamall Child Protection Act major components of the Megan's law portion were crafted with our assistance and with the information that we gathered from all 50 states in our surveys.

The Suffolk County Child Sexual Abuse Referral Helpline is a program that we created a number of years back with the District Attorney's office where each time a report of child sexual abuse is made, the parent is offered literature to help them to know what to do and what not to do when a disclosure happens, that way they're not interrogating their child, they're not scaring their child, it leaves the investigation to law enforcement and not to the parent and then refers them to existing services in the County for support.

We have an Advocacy and Victim's Services Program, and I'm not going to get in to all of the details but we do provide support for the child or adult victim of sex crimes; and again, we are a New York State Certified Rape Crisis Program, we got that certification within the past year. Our advocates provide comprehensive in-takes, we don't look just at the crime that's happened but the entire family system. We bring the child victim or adult victim through the entire process from disclosure all the way through post-release and also Megan's Law assistance working with Probation and Parole to ensure that conditions are going to keep the community and also their child or adult victims safe.

We have a Court School Program for Children. If children do have to testify in court, we provide them a curriculum on an individual basis teaching them specifically the site, sounds and people they'll meet in the courtroom and what their role is, which is simply to tell the truth. And that helps parents as well because parents have an expectation when they go into the criminal justice or Family Court System that they're going to get a certain outcome, and the outcome isn't traditionally what the parent or the adult victim or the parent of the child victim or the adult victim expects. So we look for the best outcome and the best outcome is a collaboration between law enforcement, the District Attorney and the victim.

The Court School Program is very effective because children don't understand that when they go into a courtroom they have a right and these rights are that they can say, "I don't know," they have a right to say, "I have to go to the bathroom," and they have a right to say, "I would like a drink of water." And even adults when they go into courtrooms are terribly intimidated, so this program just reminds them that when they walk in to this very intimidating environment, they have to tell the truth and they have rights.

Our Prevention Education Program is pretty vast. We have a program that we do for mandated reporters, those are individuals that are required by State law to take the Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect and Maltreatment Program. We're certified to administer that program, we usually do it on a quarterly basis, we reach out to the hospitals and to the schools in

Suffolk County to make the program available. We have -- we're available on the State's website so people can sign up directly through the State to us.

We have an Adult Prevention Education Program. We have a prevention education program focused on professionals working with children, that's traditionally day-care centers, we do in-service for teachers in school districts. We have a K-3 Program, Boss of My Body; 4th through 7th, When Should You Tell; and Katie's Secret. There are other agencies that do prevention education in Suffolk and Nassau County. In Suffolk County -- our adult programs also offer Megan's Law, so I am not aware of any other Suffolk County contract agency that gets into the level of Megan's Law, but there are lots of agencies that do prevention education.

We offer counseling services for adult, child and teen victims and non-offending family members. Our modalities of treatment include play therapy, art therapy, sand play therapy for the younger ones, individual counseling for adult rape victims and individual for teen-agers as well. We have State licensed treatment providers.

The Website and E-Mail Alert Program are very unique to our organization. The website is full with a plethora of information, not only about sex offenders but also about what you can do to protect yourself and your child from sexual victimization.

The E-Mail Alert Community Notification Program is a very unique program, we collaborate with every single law enforcement agency on Long Island. Each time they implement a community notification for a sex offender, we get a copy of that, we uploaded it to our website and we work with all of the school districts where right now we have 41 of them completely on board where they use the E-Mail Alert Program. Each time a school district has to send out a mailing when they're notified by the Police Department, they're using education dollars to do that. So what we did is we intervened by offering the E-Mail Alert Program, they send out a registration form for our E-Mail Alert Program, at no cost the community member can sign up and they can get notifications that are implemented all throughout Nassau and Suffolk County on a regular basis; when we get it, we turn it over in 24 hours and we send it out to the community.

We have a very unique program called the Community Partnership Program with law enforcement. On our website you can -- this is this little guy with the sling shot, right there in the corner -- you can anonymously report child pornography or child sex tourism and then we feed that lead to the appropriate law enforcement agency. And actually, there was a case in Suffolk County where a mortgage banker reported when he sent an Inspector to look in the house, the Inspector reported back to the mortgage banker that when he went into the basement and it was -- the homeowner was very reluctant to let him in the basement, but when he finally did get down there, what he found was rabbits that were in cages all over the basement and rabbits running around on the floor, and on the work bench there were two child pornography magazines with a bottle of Vaseline. So that lead was taken and we gave that to law enforcement but the homeowner had cleaned that up, but that's an example of how this anonymous reporting program can help the community to be the eyes and ears for law enforcement.

We also have a Criminal Justice Cross Training Program working law enforcement on every level, County, State and Federal. Our advocates are very involved with cases and we want to make sure that we're always within the boundaries of what our role is as an advocate to support the child victim and adult victim of a crime. So the Criminal Justice Cross Training Program is designed to bring together those in law enforcement prosecution and those that supervise sex offenders with our advocates so that they can collaborate with us and we can collaborate with them.

We -- about a year ago we expanded our mission to open up what's called the new Crime Victims Center, the Suffolk County Crime Victims Center to provide services to all victims of violent crime. The Crime Victims Center links victims to multi-agency services and crime victim compensation; there is no other crime victim center in Suffolk, Nassau or New York State. All victims of violent crime can experience mental, physical and emotional trauma that have a lifelong and devastating impact, so support services need to be made available to them.

There are currently about 2,000 community service providers in Suffolk County and over the last 30 years many providers have become specialized serving certain populations and victims. This specialization has resulted in a gap of services to other victims of violent crime, victims who aren't making headlines, victims that we call invisible victims of crime. For example, over 50% of robberies in Suffolk County go unsolved, 30% of all felony assaults go unsolved, approximately 80% of burglaries go unsolved. So we've identified potentially 4,000 victims and non-offending family members, including victims of assault, robbery, confrontational burglary, DWI, murder, arson, human trafficking and senior citizens and the disabled who are entitled to receiving certain services as well, even though they're not a victim of a violent crime.

Invisible victim populations were created over time because reports of crime were made to police but no protocol was in place to service that particular population. Also, there are no, or all investigative leads are exhausted and the case never really reaches the District Attorney's Office for a victim's services follow-up. So victims of crime such as assault, robbery and leaving the scene of an accident with personal injury have their case files put in a drawer and are completely invisible to service providers.

What the Crime Victim Center does is it adds new protocols for the Police Department for all violent crimes that had no existing protocols in place. So police will proactively offer all victims who may be eligible for services to be contacted by our CVC referral advocates; the victim has to consent in advance. The CVC referral advocate follows up with the victim and provides the victim -- does a comprehensive assessment and then provides the victim with a minimum of three service referrals.

The faxing is very effective because direct contact is initiated by Police, so Police actually will fax us that information, the -- of course, upon approval of the victim, their contact information and the incident report so we can assist them in filing for crime victims compensation. The follow up is initiated by CVC and there are higher levels of accountability by the Police and the CVC because multi-agency referrals are documented and we provide a quarterly report to law enforcement. The CVC does not change any existing protocols. Previously, over the past number of years, domestic violence reports, about 20,000 of them a year, were faxed specifically to two agencies -- the Victims Information Bureau and the Coalition Against Domestic Violence -- it did not change that protocol. It did not change a protocol that was existing for the SANE Center or for the CAC, and it did not change an existing protocol with the District Attorney for DWI offenses.

One of the concerns initially brought out by some of the other victim service providers in the County who were serving specialized populations of victims was that they felt that their caseload might be reduced, but on the contrary, the opposite happens because we identified approximately 4,000 victims of violent crime that there was no protocol at all in place to service those victims. And the District Attorney as well, most of the crimes identified never made it to prosecution; and even if they were prosecuted, victims services need to be provided right away, not a year and a half later if the case is being prosecuted.

So the contract and community agency caseloads have already begun to increase, even though the program is not fully implemented yet. We have just finalized the protocol with the Suffolk County Executive and the Police Commissioner, in fact, last week, so the faxing will probably begin in about two to three weeks. But with all of the postings that we do to the community, we have already begun to receive a number of assaults, homicide and other types of the cases. But again, the DWI protocol did not change, the District Attorney's office has a protocol in place.

So we're doing with this program the same level of service that we would do with Parents for Megan's Law, it's comprehensive assessments and after the assessment we then refer out to existing contract agencies in the County for additional support and, of course, we assist them in filing for compensation. Did you have a question, Legislator Lindsay?

P.O. LINDSAY:

No I was just -- as usual, you give us a lot more information than we really need for this hearing.

MS. AHEARN:

So I'll fast forward.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yes.

MS. AHEARN:

There you go.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thanks.

MS. AHEARN:

So any victim of a violent crime with the exception of domestic violence providers and the protocols that were already set up, will be coming to the CVC for assistance and then referred out to existing agencies.

Just a note for your information. The Crime Victim Compensation Board is funded by two primary sources, through victim assistance fees and court surcharges. What happens when you're a victim of a crime, often they're taken to an emergency room and if they don't have any health insurance they put them on Medicaid and we have to pay for that, when they should be filling out crime victim compensation paperwork because crime victims compensation has a very large fund; \$500 million from the Federal government that should cover those expenses. So we've now reached out to the hospitals and we're educating the hospitals and relying on them to work with us to put that expense in the appropriate budget.

I'm going to now pass the remaining questions, which are just two or three slides, to my Chief Financial Officer, Shelly Cohen.

MS. COHEN:

Hello.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Hello.

MS. COHEN:

I guess some of the questions that were sent to us were the following; about how many employees does your agency have? Currently -- I'm not used to speaking in to a microphone. We currently have 21 staff, 14 employees and then we have some per diems; we have three therapists, three educators, a data-entry clerk.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Hold on.

LEG. MONTANO:

You're going too fast.

LEG. NOWICK:

This is what encompasses the 21?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So were those 14 --

MS. AHEARN:

This is in your printout, too.

LEG. D'AMARO:

It's in the packet.

LEG. NOWICK:

Oh, it's in the packet.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So were those 14 full-time or part-time, or a combination?

MS. COHEN:

Some are full-time and some are part-time, so the Executive Director is full-time, Assistant Director is part-time, Director of Finance is full-time.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Not each title, just how many full-time, how many part-time?

LEG. NOWICK:

Dan, it's on the last three pages of this.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Okay.

LEG. MONTANO:

All right, well, let's pull it.

MS. COHEN:

Eleven full-time, three part-time and then we have the per diems.

LEG. MONTANO:

Okay.

MS. COHEN:

Seven per diems and then 15 volunteers and one intern.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And from the County in '07, \$119,000 you receive? How much do you receive from the County?

MS. COHEN:

We looked at everything from '06, when I had called they said to use the last finished year.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MS. COHEN:

From 2006, we -- our contract was for \$372,505.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay,

MS. COHEN:

The consequences of not receiving County funding, we would have to eliminate some programs and positions. How much funding did we receive from Federal, State, Town or Village contracts?

P.O. LINDSAY:

It's all there, right?

MS. COHEN:

From the Federal government we received 64,329; Suffolk County 352,105; Nassau County, 53,697; the State, 127,549; and Town of Brookhaven, 5,800, for a total of 603,480. Annually, how much does our agency raise through outside fund-raising efforts? For 2006, we raised 132,329 through fund-raising and other revenue generating programs. What percent of our overall budget goes towards admin expenses? Approximately 13%. And does our CEO make more than 20% of the agency's total budget? No, the CEO is approximately 13% of the total budget.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead, Dan.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I'm sorry, I thought you said the total administrative expense were 13%.

MS. COHEN:

Yes, ironically it came out to the same number.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Oh, okay. I guess when you take into account some of the program work that you do and you break it up. So is that \$603,000 number your total budget?

MS. COHEN:

The total budget is 735, that plus the 132,000.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Everything is here. Go right ahead. It's been a long morning, they're getting giddy. I don't have anything else, Ladies, because you answered everything before we can even ask it.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And then more.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And more.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I just had one comment I wanted to make. Listening to the Crime Victim Center information, I know you do such good work with your other advocacy and the other stuff that you do. I know the natural inclination is to continue to grow, I just don't want to see you guys over extend yourselves; this seems like something that's going to be very labor intensive. Obviously you prepare yourself well, but I just don't want to see any of the other programs, you know, be drawn from to be able to accomplish this new goal that you're moving towards. So this is going to be separate and apart from what you've been working on and those programs will continue at the level that they have continued at previously?

MS. AHEARN:

Absolutely. And in fact, the Crime Victim Center idea came about because nationally there's been a movement to ensure that not just these specialized populations of victims are being served. So there is more grant money now for us to apply for Federally and we're doing that and we did receive State funding already and we're going for some more Federal money to ensure that every victim of a violent crime that has been not been traditionally served will be.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And the other thing is I hope that you continue to come and give your advice to us, especially I appreciated your advice the other day. I know the tendency of this body is to pass more legislation every time that we see an incident where somebody is taken advantage of and your remarks the other day about to be careful that we don't wind up losing all of our existing legislation because we get in to an inclusionary situation of jurisdictions. I appreciated that, I think it was very wise advice.

MS. AHEARN:

Thank you.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you.

LEG. MONTANO:

Responsible, too.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, very responsible advice. Thank you, Ladies, for coming in.

MS. AHEARN:

Thank you.

MS. COHEN:

Thank you.

MS. FELBER:

Have a nice day.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, we'll recess for lunch.

*(*Lunch Recess: 12:12 PM - 1:07 PM*)*

SACHEM TEEN CENTER

P.O. LINDSAY:

Madam, are you with Sachem Teen Center?

MS. BROGLIE:

Yes, I am.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Please come forward. Rita Brobely (sic)?

MS. BROGLIE:

That's right, Rita Broglie. Where would you like me to sit, here?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Have a seat. I'm here, you're looking the wrong way; here, straight ahead.

MS. BROGLIE:

Oh, okay. I didn't know where we --

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, no, no, you can sit there.

MS. BROGLIE:

I was directing myself, okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

That's all right. Have a seat, relax.

MS. BROGLIE:

Okay. I just want to say a few things. First of all --

P.O. LINDSAY:

Well, before you start, let me just explain what we're doing here. This is a process that's been going on all year long. The County uses several hundred not-for-profit agencies to provide different services for our citizens and there has been some contention that we don't spend our money wisely and we thought it would be a good idea if we had a lot of the not-for-profit agencies in to chat with them about their programs and how they spend the money and how many people are involved and whatever, and that's why. We've been doing this all year long, we'll do this through probably the fall of the year, and we've probably talk to more than a hundred agencies already. So with that, I'll turn it over to you and you can say whatever you like.

MS. BROGLIE:

Okay. I don't know whether you're aware, our Director, John Fiorvante, had a sudden death in the family and he's unable to attend. The reason I came in his place was that he did cancel once before and he felt that twice just wouldn't be right, he called ahead. I can only help you so much, but I brought with me plenty of information.

P.O. LINDSAY:

That's fine. What does the Sachem Teen Center do?

MS. BROGLIE:

We service the youth in our community.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Which is which community?

MS. BROGLIE:

That would be Ronkonkoma, okay, Holbrook, Holtsville, Farmingville, Medford. We have two facilities, one of which we use frequently, the other as often as we can due to staffing with the funds and so forth, we can only hire so many people.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So would it be fair to say that you provide youth services to the whole catchment area of the Sachem School District.

MS. BROGLIE:

Definitely.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. What types of youth services?

MS. BROGLIE:

What types of services? Okay, I have a narrative that he had written that he wanted me to give to everyone.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, fine.

MS. BROGLIE:

First of all, we have recreation, employment, counseling, tutoring, mentoring, senior citizen social, youth council, youth groups. Is there any -- that's basically what we do in the center.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Do you have copies of that?

MS. BROGLIE:

Excuse me?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Do you have copies of that narrative.

MS. BROGLIE:

Yes, I'd like to give this to you because it tells everything.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Just give it to one of our assistants.

MR. LITTELL:

I'll hand it out.

MS. BROGLIE:

And I also would like to give you these booklet's with letters from the children and parents of how they feel. We've been in the area for so many years, 30 odd years.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I don't know how familiar you are with the operations of the organization, but do you know or do you have the information with you on how many employees?

MS. BROGLIE:

I have everything, yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Great. How many employees does the Sachem Teen Center have?

MS. BROGLIE:

We have ten currently --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Full-time, part-time?

MS. BROGLIE:

-- of which three are full-timers and seven are part-timers. By the way, all this information you will

have in what the gentleman is giving you.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Great.

MS. BROGLIE:

All right? On your part-timers, I don't know whether you'll notice, they don't put in that many hours because we're limited. But also I want you to notice, they all have Masters and we're fortunate to have people with the backgrounds that they have to work for these salaries.

LEG. NOWICK:

Oh here, she's got everything in order; that's great.

MS. BROGLIE:

I'm a bookkeeper, I am retired as a bank manager many, many years ago, okay. I've gone there as -- to help out with the bookkeeping on a part-time basis, which you'll see, but when I work there and I see what they're accomplishing, I become more involved in other aspects. So I'll help you as much as I can and as I said, believe me when I tell you, this pretty well covers everything.

LEG. NOWICK:

Yes, it does.

MS. BROGLIE:

I brought with me a copy of our I-90 taxes, I also brought with us -- with me a financial statement, we just had our audit which brings you pretty well up-to-date, up to the end of the year and it tells you everything you need to know with our finances. He consulted with our accountant and basically it said to present this, it will tell you everything you need to know. I'm going to leave this, by the way, I brought the copy and also the I-90 and the other report.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I have to say, this is extremely comprehensive, thank you.

MS. BROGLIE:

Okay? We thought we tried to cover as much together.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So if I'm --

MS. BROGLIE:

Mr. Fiorvante really worked on this to give you as much detail so you could refer to it, along with any questions.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Now, I see here, the only question I have, it says how much funding do you receive from the County and that's --

MS. BROGLIE:

Excuse me?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

It says here, "How much funding do you receive from the County" in what you passed out and it's about almost \$115,000 for '07, but then -- oh, okay, I'm sorry, I was just going through this too quickly myself. So you have another about, what, 113,000 or so from the State and the town.

MS. BROGLIE:

Right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Okay. And a very -- it looks like a very small percentage of your overall budget is what you raise through outside sources, so the County comprises --

MS. BROGLIE:

We have a problem on fund-raising. We do a small type of fund-raising, we'll run -- for instance, our big one would be that Chinese auction we do which is coming up in August, that brings us in five or 6,000 depending, and other small various things.

We have a problem that we have contacted, and I know for a fact Mr. Fiorvante -- Computer Associates, I'm just giving names, Symbol, Verizon, and we do contact them; many times they don't respond, we follow through. We also find that many companies now are telling us we're too small an agency, they donate to larger organizations such as Boys of America, Boys Club I should say; I'm just trying to give you an idea of what we're -- as the size of our agency, the big companies that we feel could help us seem to be interested in larger organizations, that's the feedback we're getting. So I don't know what else to explain on that, but we do try. It's -- the things we do have the children involved in trying to help us.

LEG. NOWICK:

I don't want you to think that we're judging you by fund-raising, we just ask.

MS. BROGLIE:

Oh, okay.

LEG. NOWICK:

You know, it's not like it's a problem.

MS. BROGLIE:

Well, we thought maybe that would be a question.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No, no, not at all.

LEG. NOWICK:

No, no, no, please don't think that that's --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I was going to follow up. What my comment really was was that the funding that we provide looks like it's almost 40% of your overall budget, so the impact of not receiving that would be --

MS. BROGLIE:

If you notice we have two centers. What really we feel bad about, we have the facilities -- it's costly, by the way, to run two places. We have double bills on everything, insurances, utilities, phones and so forth; by having those double utilities, as we're all well aware, things have gone up. So we really are hurting, to be honest with you, and we're working very hard.

I think if you were to speak to the Youth Bureau itself they would tell you, we're one of the most efficient running as far as trying to handle the budget as properly as possible. We would hurt very much. We hurt -- we did lose -- I don't know whether you were aware, we were cut that past year, we lost, I think, approximately 15 from the County which really have hurt us because we have a summer program that goes on and we're asking for donations and so forth to get this running, because there about 115 -- 50 children that come to it in our Medford office and it runs for five weeks. And it goes beautifully, anyone is welcome to come, I'm very proud of it, or we are I should say.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you. Do you have any other questions?

P.O. LINDSAY:

My only suggestion is you could increase your fund-raising if you had a car raffle; there's a red convertible outside you could raffle off and make a lot of money.

MS. BROGLIE:

I see; Is there one available?

LEG. NOWICK:

No.

MS. BROGLIE:

You know, it's amazing how when you have these facilities where you would hope -- where as if a child goes to school, many of the parents get involved. In the type of children that we have, especially coming to our drop-in lounge, I wish the parents would become involved, they don't. These are the type of children that don't have parents involved, they come because it's a place for them to go, and this is where we have done a good job on many of the young ones. So if you saw the drop-in lounge and saw them coming in, you would understand why we need these funds to do things with these children because they're so glad to come here in the afternoons after school.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just so you know, we do understand and we do know how important it is to take care of our children. And whether it is in a high economic district or a low, it doesn't make a difference, they still have needs, it just doesn't make a difference; money is not what it takes.

MS. BROGLIE:

That's exactly the truth, it is necessary, these children need somewhere to go. And I brought up children, they're well grown and gone, but I was fortunate we weren't going through the times of what we're going through today. We have to have places for these young people after school. Parents can't help it, both are working, it's needed to work on Long Island. I don't think anyone should be criticized that there isn't a parent at home all the time when they come home from school, it can't be with the circumstances the way they are and the cost of living. But there should be a place for these children that don't seem to fit in to the groups in school, but they need a place to feel that they're really wanted and accepted.

Our Youth Council consists of young people that wouldn't be necessarily accepted in the youth council at school; do you follow me? It's a different type of child and they feel very good about this, that they're president or vice-president and they have a say of what we're doing in the center. So all these things are important to our community, because they will turn out to be better citizens.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thank you very much, Rita, for coming in. And you shortened our job tremendously by having all the answers there.

MS. BROGLIE:

I'm sorry, I wish I could have been more of a help, but --

P.O. LINDSAY:

No, no, you were a tremendous help.

LEG. NOWICK:

This was great.

MS. BROGLIE:

And I hope we answered your questions.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yes, you did.

MS. BROGLIE:

And I'll leave this little information about the -- you do want this, don't you, our financial statement; do you want that?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, we'll put it in the record.

MS. BROGLIE:

Okay, and our I-90.

P.O. LINDSAY:

All right. Thank you very much.

MS. BROGLIE:

Thank you.

NASSAU-SUFFOLK COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

P.O. LINDSAY:

Nassau-Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless; is it Joan?

MS. NOGUERA:

Joan Noguera, yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Hi, Joan.

MS. NOGUERA:

Hi.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Make yourself at home and the mike, you have to just pull it close to you.

What I have been doing is starting off with a brief explanation of why you were asked to come today. Suffolk County uses literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies across the County to provide a variety of different services for our citizens. You know, there has been some, you know, misimpressions that we don't spend our money wisely or that certain agencies aren't doing the right thing with the money or whatever and we thought it would be a good idea if we called in over this whole year as many agencies as possible to talk to them about their agencies and how they spend the money that the County passes on to them and that kind of thing. So that's the reason for you being here this morning and we'll try and make it as painless and quick as possible. Maybe you could just give us -- I mean, it's pretty apparent what you do, but a description of the overall program.

MS. NOGUERA:

Sure. Nassau-Suffolk Coalition is a private, not-for-profit organization. We've been established since 1985, we're a 501(C)3, and we have a membership of about 100 agencies that provide housing and services to homeless persons on Long Island. Our mission is to eliminate homelessness on Long Island and improve the lives of Long Islanders who are homeless and who are facing homelessness.

We have secured over \$81 million in Federal funding for housing and services resulting in the creation of over 2,700 units of affordable housing.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay, \$81 million over the history of the agency.

MS. NOGUERA:

Over -- well, since 1995, yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. So in other words, you're really like an umbrella organization for individual homeless shelters or other homeless providers?

MS. NOGUERA:

Yes, but one of the pieces that we do -- in terms of that \$81 million, I'll talk a little bit more about that, Suffolk -- that's on Long Island, 81 million. Suffolk County alone has received over \$30 million of the funding, this is the SuperNopva application that we prepare each year which actually is due tomorrow and the application consists of an executive summary which is prepared by the coalition, one for Nassau County and one for Suffolk County and that's done through the Suffolk Continuum of Care Group, that's the group that we lead throughout the year. So it's a year long process that finally gets us to this application that then results in the awarding of -- last year it was \$3.5 million for housing, primarily housing, permanent housing for homeless people with disabilities and services such as legal services and other services, but primarily it's been permanent housing.

So through this process that the coalition leads and has been leading since 1995, Suffolk County has received about \$30 million of that total. And the reason that there's a discrepancy between Nassau and Suffolk County is how housing and urban development does their pro rata share, so Suffolk County's pro rata share is slightly lower but it has nothing to do with the application or the preparation of it.

Last year the application that we prepared ranked -- we received 97 out of a hundred points. The Exhibit 1 that we write is a -- can receive up to 60 points and then every agency's application, which is compiled together as a consolidated application, receives 40 points. We review all the applications in Suffolk County, the review of the applications includes making sure that the application has been prepared correctly, that the budgets are correct, if not it gets sent back to the agency. Every application is ranked, not by the coalition but by a ranking committee chose by the continuum of care. So it's a year-long process that we do, that's one of the pieces of what the coalition does and that does bring in millions of dollars to this County.

In addition, we have an Emergency Cash Relief Program which provides payments -- and this is separate from your funding, but it's what the organization does. Because one of the important pieces with homelessness is really to prevent homelessness, because if we can prevent homelessness then we don't have families that are out there lingering in shelter or in motels or in other places that are really not geared for people to stay for a long period of time, we really want to get people into permanent housing. So we have an emergency cash relief project which provides payments towards security deposits, first month's rent and would also assist a family if they are in arrears in their rent or mortgage if it's just one month; it's a small amount that we can give.

What we're also seeing in both counties is a tremendous increase in the number of foreclosures. We also discussed that -- we also discussed merging trends with homelessness throughout the year in that Suffolk Continuum of Care group which is attended by many of the agencies that directly provide housing and services. We also provide technical assistance and training to agencies in developing housing, in managing their budgets. We work directly with the Regional Office of

Housing and Urban Development in New York City as the agency between HUD and -- the organization between HUD and the agencies, so we help them with their grants throughout the years. There's a tremendous amount of work that goes in to this document, the preparation is of surveys that have to be done throughout the year, there's a homeless count that has to take place each year which the coalition does. We do distribution of items throughout the year in the fall, supplies, school supplies because we know a lot of the kids that are in shelter or in temporary places have issues with that as well. We provide two scholarships a year to students who have experienced homelessness and who are now going on to further education; it doesn't have to be college but it can be any kind of training.

We bring a lot to this grant. The expertise of the staff, we have a full-time housing advocate who works with all the homeless people who call in and does many of the things I've discussed, the technical assistance training. We're preparing the grant right now, it's due tomorrow and Suffolk County's is for three point seven -- \$3.7 million.

P.O. LINDSAY:

How many employees does your agency have?

MS. NOGUERA:

Four full-time employees, including myself.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. Go ahead, Dan.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Are there any other agencies in the area that provide the same services, similar services?

MS. NOGUERA:

No.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Easy answer; you would make a good politician. What was the level of funding that you received from the County last year or what are you in contract for this year?

MS. NOGUERA:

Thirty-seven thousand one hundred and forty-five dollars.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And in terms of the services that you're providing, what would be the consequence of not receiving that funding to your organization?

MS. NOGUERA:

Well, we wouldn't be able to do the preparation work required for the Exhibit 1 that brings in the \$3.3 million, because it's very -- it's very staff-intensive, the labor on it is many hours of gathering the information, providing support to the agencies that are applying for their funding through this funding stream, you know, developing the budgets; it's just many hours of work on the part of basically two staff.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Is that a ten thousand percent return on the investment; right?

MS. NOGUERA:

This year is three point seven million, yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

A \$37,000 investment; I think so, right?

MS. NOGUERA:

Yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I had to check my math there. So that money goes primarily towards the administrative work of --

MS. NOGUERA:

Yes, it's a portion of the salary of two staff who work on this application.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Now obviously, aside from the -- what was the grant, SuperNova Grant money?

MS. NOGUERA:

SuperNova, yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

What other grant money do you receive; is there any State money, town money that you receive?

MS. NOGUERA:

We don't have any State, town or village, we receive Federal funding of about \$350,000.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Besides the 3.4 million?

MS. NOGUERA:

Well, the 3.4 million goes to the agencies that apply. We apply on behalf, it's a consolidated application, so that goes to the agencies that are developing housing or maintaining permanent housing and services. So we don't get -- that's not our money, that's money that we bring in that goes to the agencies that applied for it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MS. NOGUERA:

Now, your question?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Do you do any outside fund-raising as well?

MS. NOGUERA:

Yes, we do. We have --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Approximately how much?

MS. NOGUERA:

About \$50,000 a year.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, what is your overall budget first?

MS. NOGUERA:

Five hundred and thirty-eight thousand -- \$538,121 last year, this year will be 568,000.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And what percentage of that goes towards your administrative expenses?

MS. NOGUERA:

Seven percent towards admin plus 3% towards fund-raising.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So I guess the next question is sort of obvious, your CEO doesn't make more than 20%.

MS. NOGUERA:

No, she doesn't.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Wishful thinking.

LEG. NOWICK:

Total budget, Dan?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Total budget was 538 for last year and what, 560 --

MS. NOGUERA:

Five sixty-eight for this year.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Five sixty-eight for this year. That's all the questions I have.
Does anyone have anything else?

LEG. NOWICK:

How many employees were there?

P.O. LINDSAY:

We got it, four full-time. Thank you very much, Joan, for coming in and enlightening us on what the Nassau-Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless does.

MS. NOGUERA:

Great. Thank you. Thanks for the opportunity.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame? No. Friends of Smithtown Library?

MR. BERNER:

Yes.

FRIENDS OF SMITHTOWN LIBRARY

P.O. LINDSAY:

You want to come forward?

MR. BERNER:

Sure. Good afternoon, everyone.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And you would be David Berner?

MR. BERNER:

Yes, I am.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Welcome, David.

MR. BERNER:
Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:
What I normally do is start out with an explanation of what this is all about. Suffolk County uses literally hundreds of not-for-profit groups across the County to provide a variety of sources -- of resources and services to our citizens every year. You know, there's been some contention that we don't spend our money wisely and we thought it would be a good idea if we formed this ad hoc committee, we've been meeting all year long, to call in a number -- probably interview a couple of hundred agencies before the year is out on, you know, what services they provide to our citizens and where do they spend the money and all of that stuff. So with that, maybe you can give us a brief description of what the Friends do, it seems obvious but --

MR. BERNER:
I'd be glad to.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Go ahead.

MR. BERNER:
First of all, for the record, my name is David Berner, I am an employee with the Smithtown Library, now known as the Smithtown Special Library District. I coordinate all programs with the Friends of the Smithtown Library, a totally volunteer operation. The Friends total, the active ones are approximately 50 individuals, but the membership is approximately 250 individuals that join this group for the benefit of the Smithtown Library. It's an organization that's been around a good 25 years and each and every year they get bigger and better. The reason why I am here representing them is because I can take the time off from the library and come over here to represent them, whereas they are all volunteers, 100%, and they're at their jobs currently at this point, so they can't be two places at once.

Secondly, with my government background I'm able to work with the agency and take care of all the paperwork that is necessary for this grant. And as a result, that's why I'm really here today and I am their representative as the coordinator between the library, actually the liaison between the library and the Friends of the Smithtown Library.

I have some items I would like to pass out to all of you, if I may. That's for to you keep and I also have some photos that will demonstrate the size of the operation we're running. And you have fold this out, but this shows the 3,000 plus people at our first concert last year. So I'll just need the photos back and you're welcome to have all those items.

I work very closely with a gentleman specifically, Mr. Chair, on this specific program and grant, his name is Dennis Canatero and I've known him since 1973 when I came to Long Island. One thing led to another and you do bump in to friends of the past and Dennis was interested in doing something very positive for the library in his community and at the time I was a Smithtown resident and we decided to propose something to our local Legislators and that was three years ago, actually three and a half years ago. Mrs. Nowick took the lead and, as they say, the rest is history. The Friends do accept the grant and administer it, working with me. One hundred percent goes to programming.

The associate I spoke of, he and I both do not get paid whatsoever for this program; even though I am a library employee, I accept no compensation for working during the evenings at these concerts and he has volunteered his time for the sake of his community. As a result, as I stated, 100% goes

into programming, there is no overhead whatsoever. The library itself, as an in-kind basis, do put on custodial staff because you can imagine with 3,000 people leaving three hours later from the front lawn of the Smithtown Library on Route 25, it could get kind of messy. Actually, the people that come, this clientele, it is pretty clean when we do leave at the end of the day, or at the end of the evening rather. There are six concerts planned again this year, this is the third year, and there is one movie involved.

We do hire top talent, not the original artists of course, but you'll see by the pictures being handed around that from left to right on the front lawn, known as the Village Green, it's a real Norman Rockwell-type setting, it's wonderful, it's open to everyone. There are no tickets sold, there are no tickets given out, there's no preferential treatment, everybody is welcome to come. As a matter of fact, Mr. Losquadro, I'm living in your district now way over on the Miller Place/Mt. Sinai borderline, there's many people over in our area where we live that ask me each and every time who's coming, and this was in January and February so it's quite a program. I've handed out a lot of our fliers and it's, as I say, open to all age groups, we gear it for that purpose and we don't have to worry about ticket sales or anything such as that. It's not a fund-raiser whatsoever, the programs are generated and are marketed through the news media.

The gentleman I spoke to who works with me, he goes out and gets the talent and I do the marketing publicity end of it. And as a result, you saw the fanned out picture of 3,000 people, fully left to right, even some people that couldn't even see the stage still came and enjoyed the evening. And if you took a good look at one of the pictures, the Rod Stewart -- we use the word tribute, look-alike -- he really looks like Rod Stewart and I think, Mrs. Nowick, you would attest that he was probably one of the closest, not only in the way he sang but the presentation. And the other big picture just showed a different angle, instead of looking out from the stage, the one that you saw here showed what the band show looks like and the people all over the place. They're a well controlled crowd, we have not had any problems.

And it is an opportunity for the Friends, using the library backdrop, to publicize the need to have a good quality library system, to use a wonderful grant opportunity from Suffolk County and putting it all together, it brings in people from all over this region, not just the Town of Smithtown, I want to stress that.

The areas served by the Smithtown Library, by the way, is the entire township of Smithtown. It's not subdivided or broken down, it's the largest on Long Island -- that's Nassau, Suffolk, Brooklyn and Queens -- and it's the seventh largest in the State of New York. Unfortunately, through the years, we were part of the Town of Smithtown and the money was siphoned off for other programs, so the library did suffer. Four years ago we put it to a vote at the request of our residents and we split away from that and we are now independent. So we work very closely, we need the assistance of the Friends of the Smithtown Library to help us to do programs, and thanks to all of you approving this type of funding, it is available to everybody who would like to attend and partake the evening.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So the County money sponsors the concert series?

MR. BERNER:

Yes, sir.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MR. BERNER:

Now, an off-shoot of this which is very positive, the concert starts at eight o'clock, but people have learned very quickly that you don't arrive at five to eight and expect to get a front row seat. You're talking anywhere -- the least concert we had was 1,200 people, the most we had was 3,000 and the

average is about 2,200 people. It is a big boom for the economic development of our region. Why? Because people get there around six o'clock, stake their claim with their chairs, blankets, folding chairs, you can't believe what it's like, it's a real organized machine on the general public's part, and then they either go drive or walk across the street, walk down the street up to a half mile and take in a full dinner at one of our fine restaurants, so that's a big boom.

The other factor is some buy the food and bring it back, perfectly all right with the library, and they sit on the front lawn and eat it prior to the show. So it's a really -- it's like our Tanglewood, if you will, the Regional Tanglewood which is up in Massachusetts. But as I say, they're free concerts; open to all and that's the best part, and I think it's been very successful following the guidelines of the grant. And also from an economic standpoint, a sidelight to this, it's been wonderful for our vendors as well, our shopkeepers. And it's not just for restaurants as well, some people go over and do their shopping at, for instance, Waldbaum's, come back and they're all set to enjoy the concert.

So if there are any other questions, I'll be glad to answer them. Again, we do thank you for all your assistance in this grant; as long as it's there, we'll continue to offer these great programs. You saw in the publicity, it's very clear that it's secured by a Suffolk County grant, so it's not our money, we make it very clear where it comes from, in our news media and everything we do.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you.

MR. BERNER:

My pleasure.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

And I certainly would like to perhaps work with you on bringing something like this to the north shore public library out our way. But how many employees does -- I guess this is sort of difficult because this grant really just goes to the specific program.

MR. BERNER:

Yes. Mr. Losquadro, in answer to that, the Smittown Library is one entity. These folks are all volunteers, so there are technically, in answer to your question, no employees.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Right.

MR. BERNER:

But as far as the library is concerned -- now remember, that's another entity which that does not receive the grant.

LEG. NOWICK:

Yeah, that's not part of it.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Yeah, I mean, we won't even get into that because then we're getting into the whole library budget and all of that.

MR. BERNER:

Okay, right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

So I guess the point here is everyone here is volunteering for this, you even as an employee work this program without compensation.

MR. BERNER:

That's right, after hours which is in the evening, after hours, and so does my associate; that is

correct.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Right. So I'm just trying to think of what of our usual repertoire of questions would be pertinent to this. I mean, the overall budget for this program being, what, the \$25,000?

MR. BERNER:

Yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

There's really no administrative cost, it all goes to advertising and to --

MR. BERNER:

I do that from my office and we send it out, I meet with people, the newspapers, that's why we're very fortunate; you saw one of them and the Smithtown News is going to do the same. You literally cannot buy a front page ad, we're on the entire front page as well as page three, we're quite proud of that. And I try to keep a good relationship with our news media and as a result, we've gotten that type of response from them and the turnouts are unbelievable.

One thing, I know it's just on your preliminary and it was sent to me as questions that may be asked; are there similar programs? No. Some have tried and they fail because they're getting like 30, 40 people and, you know, that's no way to run an operation. So we have been very successful, we're not trying to drown anybody out by this or competition, but it's all free. So, you know, we're not -- like the gentleman down the street who owns the Smithtown Playhouse, we've worked with him so not to interfere with him, but remember, he's profit making, we are non-profit and we don't charge, so there's a difference.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No, this is about the best bang for the buck the residents can get in terms of providing a service to them.

MR. BERNER:

I appreciate it. Remember, all residents, sir, not just Smithtown.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Absolutely. Thank you.

MR. BERNER:

My pleasure.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you for coming.

MR. BERNER:

My pleasure.

LEG. NOWICK:

I just want to say on the record, I would love to see all of you at the concerts. You have no idea how nice it is to see families coming out, sitting on their blankets, their kids in pajamas, and when the music starts the little kids are up dancing. The movies, the parents come with their babies and their children and their mothers, my mother for one and father, and everybody enjoys a night at a Norman Rockwell setting, as you say, free of charge. And it does go from Huntington right out to as far out as maybe where you live, Dan, and it's enjoyed by all.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I'm not that far.

LEG. NOWICK:

Well, when you live in Smithtown it's far. Thank you for all of the work that you do to make that a success, I think the people of Suffolk County appreciate it.

MR. BERNER:

Well, it's my pleasure, really. And I really want to thank all of you, too, for helping us, too.

LEG. NOWICK:

That's it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay? Thank you very much.

MR. BERNER:

Thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

You're welcome.

MR. BERNER:

Have an enjoyable afternoon. We hope to see you there.

SUFFOLK SPORTS HALL OF FAME

P.O. LINDSAY:

I see Eddie Morris walked in; come on up, Ed.

MR. MORRIS:

Good afternoon.

P.O. LINDSAY:

It's good to see a smiling face.

MR. MORRIS:

How are you?

P.O. LINDSAY:

I'm all right.

MR. MORRIS:

I'm sorry I'm late, I was scheduled at 1:30.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Don't worry about it. I start off by telling everybody what the purpose of this is. Every year the County uses hundreds of not-for-profits to provide services to our citizens and, you know, we think that it's a good way of doing things, I don't think the government could provide as many services if we had to pay for everything that the not-for-profit community does in all our communities. But we have been subject to some criticism of late and we thought it would be a good idea if we had in a good representation of the not-for-profit community to see where our money is being spent and to see what's going on and we've been doing this all year long, we probably have had in I think over a hundred agencies so far and before the end of the year we'll probably maybe get close to 200 agencies that we'll be talking to.

MR. MORRIS:

Okay.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So that's the purpose. And why don't you tell us about the Sports Hall of Fame.

MR. MORRIS:

Okay. Well, the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame is located at 62 South Ocean Avenue in Patchogue. We are located in the -- it used to be the Union Savings Bank which was built in 1911, and we were fortunate enough to have that property donated to us by John {Cannis} of North Fork Bank. We took all of that property in 19 -- we actually went to closing on that property in 1999, we moved into the building, it was vacant, we moved into the building later on in the year 2000. Ever since then, we've been trying to raise the funds to renovate the building and construct a sports museum.

Our museum is an educational center which honors all of our athletes from Suffolk County, professional athletes such as Boomer Esiason, Bud Harrelson, Al Order, athletes like the Belmont Family who built the Belmont Race Track here from Suffolk who, of course, are all deceased at this time. And we also honor amateur athletes, perhaps high school coaches who have outstanding records here in Suffolk County, of which we have many. We have the winningest high school baseball coach from East Islip, Sal Ciampi, he's the winningest baseball coach in the State of New York right here in Suffolk County; the same goes for football, persons like Coach Joe Zipp from Belmont and so on. We also receive each year from Special Olympics, United Cerebral Palsy, one of their athletes of which is our special classification for both physically and mentally challenged athletes, and we honor them and it's our intention to build a museum that will highlight their accomplishments. It is also an educational center.

Where we're at at this point is we have a building that we are renovating, we are close to completing that renovation, it should be completed the end of this year, some time in December, and hopefully we'll have a grand opening on January 1st. Now, what we've been doing in the interim is what we like to call a traveling museum, we take many requests from local organizations, civic associations, Kiwanis clubs, Elks Clubs, high schools, and we give talks, we give instructions on a variety of different subjects, mainly the pitfalls of teen-agers utilizing drugs, utilizing steroids and so on. We are an educational center. Once our museum opens up, it includes a 32 seat theatre that we would be giving instructions to coaches, seminars to coaches regarding sports medicine, how to prevent injuries to your athletes, to your teammates and, of course, the pitfalls of drugs in sports, steroids in sports and so on.

Now, as I said, over the past -- since 2000 we've been trying to raise the funds to renovate our building and construct it; we finally are very close to completing that, as I said. In the past we have received grant money from the State, from the Federal government and of course from individual County Legislators here in Suffolk County. So that's basically it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you have any employees?

MR. MORRIS:

Yes, we have three employees, myself as the Executive Director.

P.O. LINDSAY:

So four employees?

MR. MORRIS:

Three; three total.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Oh; all full-time?

MR. MORRIS:

Two full-time, one part-time.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And you mentioned that you -- like last year, how much money did you get from the State? You didn't get any Federal money, you got State money, right?

MR. MORRIS:

Last year we received -- actually in 2005 was the last State money we received which was --

P.O. LINDSAY:

So you didn't receive anything last year from the State.

MR. MORRIS:

No, we didn't.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MR. MORRIS:

We do have an outstanding \$200,000 grant from the State which we have not -- it's one of those grants where you must lay out the money and you're reimbursed.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah.

MR. MORRIS:

We don't have the cash on hand to do that. We are in the midst of -- the bank building that I explained to you that was donated to us from North Fork Bank contained two pieces of property, two buildings that are attached. We just went through the process with the Village of Patchogue of separating those two buildings and we are selling one of the buildings, we are in contract, we're awaiting a closing date, we are selling one of those buildings in order to raise the funds to complete this project. So hopefully we will then have the funds, we will spend it strictly on construction and we'll be reimbursed that \$200,000, but we have not received that yet.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And outside fund-raising?

MR. MORRIS:

Outside fund-raising, we have a series of different events --

P.O. LINDSAY:

What do you raise, roughly year to year?

MR. MORRIS:

-- many of you Legislators have been invited to over the past.

P.O. LINDSAY:

What do you raise roughly in a year?

MR. MORRIS:

We raise approximately -- I have it here as one of your questions; \$138,790 last year. Any figures I give you would be from 2006.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Yeah, that's -- and what percentage of the overall budget is administrative; roughly?

MR. MORRIS:

Forty-six percent. That will -- if you understand that the museum is not open yet, of course that will drastically change, we will be receiving monies in from an admission fee, a minimal admission fee, and of course our expenses will go up.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Go ahead, Dan.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

You being the Director, you don't make more than 20% of -- or do you make more than 20%?

MR. MORRIS:

I do make 29%.

LEG. NOWICK:

What is the overall budget?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

What was the overall budget?

MR. MORRIS:

We raised 138,000 last year, our overall budget is 192,000 and change. I have all these figures in writing I'll leave with you, by the way, if you prefer.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

I mean, I know this is a unique endeavor, so to say that there are any agencies that provide similar services is sort of a rhetorical question because we know the answer is no. I think that's all -- that's all that I have.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Lynne, you have anything?

LEG. NOWICK:

No.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thanks, Eddie, for coming down.

MR. MORRIS:

Thank you very much. And I appreciate your support over the last few years, it's been a very big help to us. And hopefully somewhere around January 1st we'll be sending you an invitation to our grand opening and I think you'll be presently surprised as to what this museum will entail.

P.O. LINDSAY:

That would be wonderful.

MR. MORRIS:

Okay? Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

You're welcome.

LEG. NOWICK:

Thank you, Eddie.

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

P.O. LINDSAY:

Hi, George, come on forward.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Legislator Lindsay, I have my Administrative Assistant Margaret {Pew} here with me also.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Hi, Margaret. Sit down, make yourselves at home. How are you doing?

MR. WALDBAUER:

I'm doing well, thank you.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. I think you came in just after the explanation I was just giving Eddie. Why we invited you to come down and talk to us today is the County contracts with literally hundreds of not-for-profit agencies to provide a whole host of services to our citizens. And truthfully, you know, we couldn't provide the services if it wasn't for the not-for-profit community that we do to our citizens, because they're extensive, a lot of people put in a lot of time to make our County a better place to live. But there has been some criticism of how we fund some of the agencies and we started this process in January of creating this committee and calling in agencies systematically every month, and we've probably interviewed more than a hundred of our not-for-profits so far. It's just a process that's going to last all year long, just for us to find out where we're spending our money and what the money is going for. Maybe you could start off by just explaining the role of PAL.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Well, if it won't take too long, I could read our mission statement to you?

P.O. LINDSAY:

That's fine.

MR. WALDBAUER:

The Suffolk County Police Athletic League was incorporated in October, 1973, through the dedication and hard work of our children, their parents, our outstanding volunteer base, our board of directors and the staff. Suffolk County PAL is into its 34th year as one of the largest and most successful juvenile crime prevention and recreational programs in the country. Although all children are eligible to join PAL programs, the immediate aim is to reach low income areas that without recreation or affiliations for any number of reasons, schools on austerity, limited resources, hopelessness and even apathy. We live on an Island yet some of the PAL kids have never seen the water until they went on a PAL fishing trip.

We have -- in 2006, Suffolk County PAL touched the lives of over 29,000 boys and girls, many of whom would have no sports in their lives without PAL. The PAL program is run year-round, we do not compete with local little leagues or school sports. PAL programs are geared towards keeping children occupied when they have downtime. There are programs in every community according to what community needs are. Some programs are run on town fields while others utilize school fields and gymnasiums. There are after school and evening programs and during the day when school is not in session.

PAL realizes that every child is unique in ability and interest, so we've tried to cover as many bases as possible. The programs include arts and crafts, baseball, basketball, bowling, boxing, cheerleading, fishing, golf, football, ice hockey, karate, lacrosse, roller hockey, self-defense, self-esteem, soccer, softball, summer camps, track and field and local and State tournaments. We have established a Mentoring Program which includes adult and peer mentoring, we have also initiated a number of innovative programs to address gang involvement and self-esteem, bullying and hazing. Our REACH-OUT Program is in place in 13 middle and high schools and there's a

waiting list for many other schools that would like to institute our REACH-OUT Program.

We have an innovative Anti-Gang Seminar that is given to large groups of teens at their school's auditoriums. We have instituted a free identical packet for parents to keep important records for their children. We also have a Swim-For-Survival Program and a Kid-Fit Program for younger children, and PAL has also recently taken charge of the Police Explorers.

PAL provides low-cost insurance to outside organizations and secures gyms and permits for them also. PAL also provides transportation to many youth programs and supports Girl and Boy Scouts, Police Explorers and the DARE Program with funding and transportation.

PAL has developed a 36-acre Sports Complex which is centrally located in Holtsville, New York. It has three lighted lacrosse/football soccer fields, four baseball and softball fields and a major league quality, 1,200 seat baseball stadium with a brand new concession area. This facility serves thousands of boys and girls annually. In 2006, we installed a state-of-the-art turf field for football and lacrosse. We believe that our Sports Complex is one of the finest built with grants and, more importantly, the generosity of residents and businesses on Long Island.

Suffolk's ongoing battle against juvenile crime reminds us daily that the answer is to get the kids off the streets before the streets get to the kids. Unfortunately many children and adults do not see the Police Officer as a friend; often first encounters are of an adversarial nature such as arrests, kids or family members in trouble or families in distress. We are working to change that perception. Cops and kids together in a non-combative setting, respect for each other and the law is the basis of PAL. PAL is not designed to be a babysitter, but by developing a bond between Police Officers, parents, community volunteers and the children themselves, PAL programs empower people to make a real difference in their neighborhood and in the positive shaping of their children's lives.

Sports help to bring out the best in a kid, they learn how to be part of a team to fit in while developing their own individual skills with a team goal in mind. Sportsmanship, fair play and the ability to get along with others are very important social skills.

Through the years, PAL has been a springboard for many athletes and celebrities and we are proud of the many accomplishments of these professionals. However, we are most proud of the thousands of kids who have come through PAL programs to achieve success as loving parents and involved citizens of the communities.

P.O. LINDSAY:

All right, good. George, would you say that PAL is unique in that -- I mean, some of the programs you run directly and some you serve as an umbrella organization; is that a correct statement?

MR. WALDBAUER:

Yes, we do; that is a correct statement. In many minority communities, we are the only sports activities in that sector. What we also do is that we provide the leagues for all of the outside organizations to plan, like in our football league we have over 6,000 participants. Many of those football teams are not funded by PAL but are funded by PAL in the sense that we provide the league that they play in and help them with that.

P.O. LINDSAY:

And, you know, I know I have called PAL and some of my communities to help set up youth activities, not that -- and you were a great assistance in establishing local youth organizations and serve as that umbrella organization.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Yes, we do. That is one of our -- that's why PAL is different from everyone else. We have Police Officers who are on the Police payroll, they don't come out of the PAL Corporation budget, but these police officers are out there working day-to-day with the kids and working with the communities.

And as you know, we have gone, at your request, to talk to neighborhood organizations to try to set their programs up properly.

P.O. LINDSAY:

The standard question is how many employees do you have, but you really have three different layers, right? I mean, you have full-time Police Officers that are attached to PAL.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Right, there are five Police Officers and one Police Supervisor.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And then you have --

MR. WALDBAUER:

And then we have the corporate side of PAL which raises the money and puts the budgets together and dose the insurances and all of that type of thing and that's what I'm Director of.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay.

MR. WALDBAUER:

And we have two employees. Well, one employee, actually, Margaret is our only paid employee and I am an independent contractor.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Okay. And then, of course, you have probably hundreds of volunteers that --

MR. WALDBAUER:

Yes, I would say probably close to a thousand, yes.

P.O. LINDSAY:

A thousand volunteers. So it isn't a simple answer. Okay, why don't you take over, Dan.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Hello, George.

MR. WALDBAUER:

How are you?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

How much more funding do you receive from the County?

MR. WALDBAUER:

We receive Youth Bureau money; I can give you those numbers.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

It looks like somewhere on the order of a hundred thousand.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Yeah, it came to -- last year was \$137,664 which is -- our overall budget last year was over a million eight.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That was your total budget.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Total budget, yes, is over a million eight, and 137,864 came from the Youth Bureau.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Do you receive money from any other layers of government, Federal, Town, State?

MR. WALDBAUER:

We have in the past; we had --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Recently?

MR. WALDBAUER:

Last year, because we had a grant from Senator Trunzo for 180 -- it was actually \$200,000 to help build that artificial turf field that we had, so we put in 200,000 and the State paid 200,000. We also got -- we had two other grants from the State, that amounted to \$12,000; this year, unfortunately that money is not coming in.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

That was a one-shot for the field.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Right, uh-huh.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

How much money do you bring in through your outside fund-raising efforts?

MR. WALDBAUER:

Last year the gross was \$734,096, and eleven cents; I don't know where the eleven cents came from.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

If anybody is looking for a finance chairman, obviously George is the guy to speak to; that's a very impressive number that you guys were able to raise. I think one of the things that always amazes us is Bill referenced how many different organizations that we see and that we work with and each of them is so successful in their own right, there's obviously quite a large number of very generous people out there willing to support organizations like yours.

You have a \$1.8 million budget; do you have a number of what the overall percentage of that budget goes towards your administrative costs?

MR. WALDBAUER:

Yes, 8%.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Eight percent; and I guess that means you don't make more than 20% of the budget.

MR. WALDBAUER:

No, I don't; I would like to make 20% of the budget, but I don't.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Well, it's a pretty large overall budget but, you know, \$137,000 is nothing to sneeze at.

MR. WALDBAUER:

No, it certainly isn't.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

What would be the consequence if that money was removed from your budget?

MR. WALDBAUER:

Well, that money is earmarked for high dependency and low income areas. In many of our communities and some of our sports -- I'll give you an example -- like ice hockey; ice hockey raises all their own money through registration. Unfortunately, when we go into Central Islip, Brentwood, some areas in the Longwood area, those children and those families cannot afford to pay the registrations to have their children play. So that is what that money is used for, that money that we get, and it is earmarked specifically for Central Islip and Bay Shore and those -- that particular area. So if we lost that money, certainly the money from the Youth Bureau, it would strongly affect what programs we could run in those communities.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Okay. I think that's about it for all I have; anyone else?

P.O. LINDSAY:

Do you have anything, Lynne?

LEG. NOWICK:

No, that's it.

P.O. LINDSAY:

Thank you for coming down and chatting with us and enlightening us about PAL.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Thank you very much, George.

MR. WALDBAUER:

Okay, thank you very much for your time.

P.O. LINDSAY:

You're welcome.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM*)*

{ } - Denotes Spelled Phonetically