

Warren County Health Services  
Special Health Services Committee Meeting  
December 7, 2011  
Information Submitted By: Patricia Auer, DPH/DPS

**Request Resolution:**

To state Warren County Board of Supervisors' opposition to the New York State Public Health Planning Council's proposed emergency regulations concerning the establishment of new Certified Health Agencies and authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute an e-mail immediately to individuals and organizations listed on the attachment in order to get correspondence out before the December 8, 2011 meeting, where action is expected to be taken on the proposal.

**Rationale:**

As we have discussed on numerous occasions over the years, being the only CHHA in the county is beneficial to our residents as it assures that all the population has access to the same quality home health care services. The introduction of additional CHHAs in the county would set up the opportunity for other agencies to "cherry pick" cases in areas with higher population density, and would not only compromise care to individuals in more remote areas of the county, but would put the county in a more precarious financial situation as we would have the more costly and outlying cases.

Changes are afoot nationally and at the state level in order to cut health care costs, and with the approaching New Year, we will need to be ever more vigilant with regard to maximizing revenues.

**Request Resolution:**

To correct a 2001 error/omission in documentation to allow a present employee, a nurse technician, who was hired on August 27, 2001 with the understanding to work a 12 noon to 8pm, a 4 hour shift differential (4pm to 8pm), and authorize continued ability to pay the differential.

**Rationale:**

At the present time, this equates to an annual amount of \$1,050 and there are funds in the budget to cover this cost. The employee had been receiving the differential up until August 2011, at which time the Treasurer's Office via the Novatime keeping system questioned why this differential was being paid and stopped it.

Upon researching past minutes of the Health Services Committee and the Personnel Committee, it was determined that a resolution occurred in 1998 authorizing the position from 1pm 9pm and a shift differential to be paid to the employee. There was also a union agreement indicating approval as well.

Between 1998 and 2001, there were 2 nurses in the position. Minutes of meetings indicate that the 1-9 shift was difficult to fill, and somehow the present nurse technician was hired to work 12 noon to 8pm. We cannot find documentation as to why that change occurred. It also appears that at the time the 12-8 nurse technician was hired, a Registered Nurse position was deleted, but it was noted the resigning nurse technician working the 1-9 shift was assigned to a day position. This was less costly for the department than a Registered Nurse and apparently met patient care needs, and funding was in the budget. The documentation for the nurse title change, aside from the "426 Personnel Form" has not been found.

The current department Table of Organization is correct, so no changes are needed in this regard.

December 7, 2011

To:  
New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Nirav Shah  
[dohweb@health.state.ny.us](mailto:dohweb@health.state.ny.us)

New York State Public Health Planning Council (PHHPC)  
[phhpc@health.state.ny.us](mailto:phhpc@health.state.ny.us)

John Ruge, MD, CEO  
Public Health Planning Council Member  
[jrugg@hhhn.org](mailto:jrugg@hhhn.org)

New York State Home Care Association  
[info@hcanys.org](mailto:info@hcanys.org)

To All It May Concern:

With regard to the proposed emergency regulations concerning the establishment of new Certified Home Health Agencies (CHHA), this correspondence is to state Warren County Board of Supervisors' strong opposition that such regulations be adopted. As a rural county having only one CHHA, which is operated by the county, we are concerned that the home health care of our residents will be negatively impacted, as will the CHHA's ability to continue operation providing excellent care to residents throughout our entire county. The introduction of additional CHHAs in the county would set up the opportunity for other agencies to "cherry pick" cases in areas with higher population density, and would not only compromise care to individuals in more remote areas of the county, but would put the county in a more precarious financial situation as we would have the more costly, and outlying cases.

While we understand the need to decrease health care costs, and explore new and innovative ways to assure that health care is provided in the most efficient and cost effective way, we do not believe that the proposed emergency regulations will achieve this in a one size fits all needs.

We urge you to reject this proposal.

**RESOLUTION REQUEST FORM NO. 20**

**MISCELLANEOUS\***

**\*Please List All Other Requests Not Covered by Previous Resolution Request Forms Here. Please attach any backup information available and be as detailed as possible.**

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Health Services

**DATE:** December 7, 2011

- (a) Purpose of Request: To oppose New York State Public Health Planning Councils proposed emergency regulations concerning the establishment of new Certified Home Health Agencies and authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute an E-Mail immediately to individuals and organizations per the attachment in order to get correspondence out by the December 8, 2011 NYS Public Health Planning Council Meeting.
- (b) Details:
- (c) Previous Resolution Number: Not Applicable

## RESOLUTION REQUEST FORM NO. 20

### MISCELLANEOUS\*

**\*Please List All Other Requests Not Covered by Previous Resolution Request Forms Here. Please attach any backup information available and be as detailed as possible.**

DEPARTMENT NAME: Health Services

DATE: December 7, 2011

- (a) Purpose of Request: To correct a 2001 error/omission in documentation to allow a present employee, a nurse technician, who was hired on August 27, 2001 with the understanding to work a 12 noon to 8pm, a 4 hour shift differential (4pm to 8pm), and authorize continued ability to pay the differential and allow payment be retroactive back to August, 2011 when differential was suspended.
- (b) Details: At the present time, this equates to an annual amount of \$1,050 and there are funds in the budget to cover this cost. The employee had been receiving the differential up until August, 2011 at which time the Treasurer's Office via the Novatime keeping system questioned why this differential was being paid and stopped it.
- (c) Previous Resolution Number: Not Applicable