



ROCHESTER ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE

NEW YORK STATE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

PUBLIC BRIEFING

March 5, 2015 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM

SUNY Rochester Educational Opportunity Center

1:00 PM

Welcome Remarks

NYS Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul

- Welcome; outlined Governor's 10-point statewide anti-poverty plan.

Joseph D. Morelle, NYS Assembly Majority Leader

- Detailed vision for attacking poverty in a new and bold ways.

Lovely Warren, Rochester Mayor

- Discussed impact of concentrated poverty in the City of Rochester.

Maggie Brooks, Monroe County Executive

- Presented County's perspective as primary social service provider.

1:20 PM

State Task Force Introductions

Fran Barrett, NYS Interagency Coordinator for Nonprofit Services

- Discussed why Governor Cuomo created the task force.
- Outlined goal for the day is to hear from local initiative members.
- Introduced all task force members at the table.
- Then asked each task force member to say a few words.

State Task Force Members Introductions (see full list below)

1:50 PM

Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative Update

Peter Carpino, United Way of Rochester

- Presented a brief history of initiative.

2:00 PM

Panel #1: Education and Training

Anne Kress, Monroe Community College

- Discussed skills gap; multiple career pathways, pipeline disconnections

Bolgen Vargas, Rochester City School District

- Discussed need for summer learning, early learning, and rebuilding career education

Roosevelt Mareus, SUNY Rochester Educational Opportunity Center

- Addressed underserved populations: single parents, criminal history. Talked about need for more vocational programs, tuition assistance, soft skill development, and college/employment placement.

CLIENT: Ambika Howell, Former RCSD student, now works at MCC Damon City Campus

- Gave account of personal experiences and need for improved support systems for struggling students.



ROCHESTER ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE

NEW YORK STATE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

2:30 PM

Panel #2: Jobs

James Norman, Action for a Better Community

- Details the need for job training and support services.

Tyrone Reaves, TruForm Manufacturing

- Gave perspective as a business owner and discussed need for skilled workers and programs to train and hire school kids.

Augie Melendez, Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection

- Outlined importance of student mentoring, linking youth to meaningful jobs, and the work being done on the FLREDC jobs workgroup.

CLIENT: Devren Purdie, RIT Student

- Gave account of personal experience and how mentoring and access to early employment set him up for success.

3:00 PM

Panel #3: Housing

Stuart Mitchell, PathStone Corp

- Discussed concentrations of poverty, suburban affordable housing challenges, and existing barriers to creating new affordable housing.

Kate Washington, City of Rochester Neighborhood and Business Development

- Discussed need for improving neighborhoods with concentrated poverty in City, generational poverty obstacle to building assets, and instability of highly mobile families.

Jean Paul Perez, Catholic Family Center and Homeless Services Network

- Detailed housing first policy barriers, compartmentalized funding, public assistance inadequacy, and lack of support services for success

CLIENT: Fred Daniel, Currently Homeless

- Gave account of personal experience and obstacles/challenges he faces in finding stable/affordable housing.

3:30 PM

Panel #4: Health and Nutrition

Wade Norwood, Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency

- Detailed data connecting health to race and place and segregated poverty.

Dr. Janice Harbin, Jordan Health Center

- Discussed medical interventions caused by poverty.

John Urban, Greater Rochester Health Foundation

- Discussed health inequity, determinants of health, multi-faceted long-term commitment, and bottom-up approaches.

CLIENT: Penelope Andrews, Single Mother on Public Assistance

- Gave account of personal experience and discussed challenges she faces in providing healthy versus low cost food options for her children.

4:00 PM

Panel #5: Safe Neighborhoods

Michael Ciminelli, Rochester Police Chief

- Provided an overview of safety and crime in the City of Rochester

Jaime Saunders, Alternatives for Battered Women

- Discussed importance of safety in the home and impact of trauma on families and children.



ROCHESTER ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE

NEW YORK STATE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

George Moses, North East Area Development

- Provided the neighborhood perspective on safety and challenges facing residents.

CLIENT: Cindy Castro, Recovering addict, husband imprisoned, sister murdered

- Gave account of personal experiences and discussed impact of neighborhood violence on her families quality of life.

4:25 PM

Next Steps: Workgroups and Public Engagement

Fran Barrett

- Thanks panelists for sharing/discussion
- Asks Peter to discuss next steps for local initiative

Peter Carpino – Next steps for the local initiative:

- Steering Committee to be announced soon
 - Being formed by Morelle, Warren, Brooks
 - Will appoint workgroups
- Workgroups to be formed:
 - Jobs
 - Education and Training
 - Housing
 - Health and Nutrition
 - Safe Neighborhoods
 - Policy
 - System Redesign
- Workgroup Charge – Phase I:
 - Inventory of assets and barriers
 - Public engagement and feedback
 - *Strategic* recommendations to the Steering Cmte
- Announce new website on the Fact Sheet handed out:
 - Updated info/news about initiative
 - Sign-up to become a supporter of the initiative
 - Sign-up to receive regular email updates and invites
 - Sign-up to volunteer for a workgroup

Fran Barrett

- Discuss how State Task Force will work with new workgroups
- Closes program

4:30 PM

Adjourn



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NEW YORK STATE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

Members of the Governor's Interagency Anti-Poverty Task Force in attendance include:

- **Fran Barrett** – Interagency Coordinator for Non-Profits, Task Force Chair
- **Richard Ball** – Department of Agriculture and Markets (Ag & Markets), Acting Commissioner
- **Deborah Benson** – Council of Children and Families (CCF), Executive Director
- **Karim Camara** – Faith-Based Community Service Unit, Executive Director
- **Linda Cohen** – Commission on National and Community Service, Executive Director
- **Corinda Crossdale** – Office for the Aging (OFA), Acting Director
- **Kerry Delaney** – Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), Acting Commissioner
- **Sharon Devine** – Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), Executive Deputy Commissioner
- **Arlene Gonzales-Sanchez** – Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), Commissioner
- **Eric Hesse** – Division of Veterans Affairs, Director
- **Mario Musolino** – Department of Labor (DOL), Acting Commissioner
- **Cesar Perales** – Department of State (DOS), Secretary of State
- **Lisa Robb** – NYS Council on the Arts (NYSCA), Executive Director
- **Ann Marie Sullivan, MD** – Office of Mental Health (OMH), Commissioner
- **Lisa Timoney** – Division of Budget Nonprofit Unit, Director
- **Darryl Towns** – Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), Commissioner
- **Roberto Velez** – Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), Acting Commissioner
- **Gwen Wright** – Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV), Executive Director
- **Nora Yates** – Community Opportunity Reinvestment (CORe), Deputy Director
- **Howard Zemsky** – Empire State Development (ESD), Acting President & CEO
- **Howard Zucker, M.D.** – Department of Health (DOH), Acting Commissioner
- **Joel Seligman** – Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council (FLREDC), Co-Chair
- **Danny Wegman** – Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council (FLREDC), Co-Chair