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Event: Meeting/Speech

Ontario County Board of Supervisors

New York State Representative

Good evening, everyone

I want to start by saying thank you, for allowing me to speak briefly to you tonight in person. For those who haven't met me and or don't remember who I am. My name is Jacob Welch, I'm an Ontario County resident and live here in the city of Canandaigua NY.

I come before you tonight to gain your support and request a resolution to a big problem, while urgently expressing the extreme need for the additional establishment of low-income and homeless housing services here in Canandaigua and throughout Ontario County while addressing realistic eligibility expectations and regulations on a State and county level for already established HUD and other rental assistance programs for low-income and or homeless populations as explained in the data packet.

If I could direct your attention to page three in the data packet, I sent you all, via email. We can see that big cities and counties across the State are trying to address the rising Humanitarian crises of homelessness, with little support from State and federal agencies. The level of intensified population of homeless and or low-income people is currently happening because of a lack of rise in pay, funding in program Supportive services, and open availability for housing establishment services to the ratio of people needing these types of services and quickly rising inflation to essential services such as food, gas, merchandise. and other community individual and family services.

On page three, we can further see based on the state vs city report card that the State Of NY, is not participating nor having open public discussions in creating the additional services and or advocating to the federal government on behalf of State and County DHS, DSS and newly proposed Agencies for financial supportive aid to combat the rising need of Human, community, supportive, low-income housing, and Homeless shelter Services.

Ontario county has 205 known cases since 2019 of residents unsheltered and or who are homeless. By, establishing a homeless shelter in each county as proposed to you tonight through the New York State Department of Housing Services proposal, we can not only get people off the street in environments that can kill and or jeopardize one's safety, well-being and or health due to weather but can also reduce the level of crime casualties And poverty, while addressing the need for housing supportive services, educational growth opportunities, economic steady growth and increasing stability to access to resources for one's life, community and government.

I know that some would argue that establishing a new shelter in all 62 counties, and an NYS Department would not be financially wise while having the headache of figuring out where to place a homeless shelter in a populated community, the fact is that could be further from the truth. I would strongly oppose that argumentative statement.

Investing in individuals through the New York State Department of Housing services and the 24 hours around the clock residential shelter program allows the county departments such as the Department of Social Services and the Department of Human Services Financial relief. Because the State shelters would use state, federal, grant, and community supportive Services while obtaining payment for some services through Medicaid, Medicare, and the New York State Department of Housing services when receiving payment for some variety of services. When enrolling individuals that are low-income and or homeless, within the 24 hours around clock residential shelter program. DSS and DHS, as well as other local and county human service government and community agencies, can save money within their departments and can effectively provide services and resources while having the additional funding availability to work with their clients while providing flexibility to resources they may need.

Basic Math Overview in Saving Big:

20 people per shelter

Times (62) shelters = 1,240 clients that the Department of Housing can assist local and County DSS and DHS departments, by taking the homeless and low-income families populations cases under the state department and resources, which will save the county money

Based on already established Shelters throughout the State of NY, the NYS Department of Housing can aid in funding, contracting, and additional supportive services, which again saves the county and local governments time, money, and resources.

For consumers that are still in their homes but need additional resources and or services in keeping their residents, NYS Department can provide services in Transportation, referral avocation services and other community support services, Job-related services, and workforce development that can assist families in maintaining their homes without the fear of losing their residents. This Program can help local and county governments in saving their money and resources.

By being proactive, paying attention, listening, and acting we can create something that benefits everyone while saving money and investing in our residents, features, community, and government. When we do this, we are acting out that we care and that we are willing to do something about it, not just talk about how we can make a difference. I've seen over my time in human services, people talking, thinking but never acting out what they're thinking and talking about, which could have made a positive difference but, consequentially caused a higher level of services, funding, and longer time or recovery in one's life, feature, and community.

My goal is to improve the quality of one's life, community, and government experience, while finding ways to be proactive, and enhance one's safety, education, growth, and services. By creating this department, I feel if we can collaboratively work together as a community, we can successfully obtain and achieve this goal while working daily to increase our expectations in the roles we play in improving, creating, and investing in families across our communities, state, and country.

Before this proposal can reach Jeff Gallahan's office and or be considered by any other NYS legislation, representative, or State official, this proposal needs a Vote and request for a resolution from the Ontario County Board of Supervisors. Each County Board of supervisors must decide the following for a request for resolution from the State and or federal legislation government. once a passing vote has been made from all board members

1. Are services within the proposal that is being represented to the board members needed?
 2. Does the county that the proposal is being presented in, have the effective and adequate services, and or funding to adequately address the proposal's concerns, ideas, and or suggestions?
 3. Dose, the county residents have interjections to the proposal, and if so, are they significant enough to halt the voting and or resolution process, while investigating the concerns of the county residents?
 4. Can a compromise be made if the investigation has dictated that the voice of the county residents has overturned the county board member views, vote, and or resolution of the proposal process, if so, what compromise was made, and is the comprise something the State and or county can adjust to while moving forward with the proposal.
 5. Does the proposal in which the county is being presented, effectively increase the value of the community, county, and residents? If so, (How and in what way)
 6. Does the proposal impose safety, long-lasting environmental, zoning, business development, and or property concerns to a resident, community, Local, County, State, and or federal government and or agency? If so, what are they, and can they be rectified promptly
 7. Overall does the proposal create an opportunity to increase the success rate of ones living experiences when utilizing the services that can be Offred and does the proposal have to outlast economic steady growth, while decreasing crime, poverty, and other forms of community issues within the county and community that the proposal is being presented in.
 8. If a resolution is created and passed into the State Legislation process, Can the State of New York and or the federal government provide yearly year around funding for the NYS Department to provide funding and other aid to contract State, county, local, community, and the Homeless shatters under the New York State Department OF Housing Services?
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