

Inter-County Association of Western New York

Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24-IC

URGING LOCAL FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED FUNDING LEVELS FOR AREA AGENCIES ON AGING TO PROVIDE CRITICAL SERVICES TO OLDER ADULTS SO THEY MAY AGE SAFELY IN PLACE

Sponsored By: Steuben County

Moved By: Hilda Lando (Steuben)

Seconded By: Brooke Harris (Allegany)

WHEREAS, The Older Americans Act enacted in 1965, provided regulatory parameters and services to assist older individuals and their caregivers, and New York State is home to 4.8 million Older New Yorkers and is currently fourth in the nation for the over 60 population; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the past 58 years, area agencies on Aging have provided valuable services and support such as: home delivered meals, home care services, transportation, legal services, home modifications, evidence-based interventions, case management, information and assistance, social adult day services, respite, health promotion and wellness, health insurance information and assistance, elder abuse prevention and mitigation, senior center programming, volunteer opportunities, ancillary services, and operate the NY Connects No Wrong Door infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, although these services are mandated by Federal and State regulations, in order to accept Older Americans Act Funding, the burden of the cost of these services is heavily dependent on local government funding, and Federal and State contributions to Older New Yorkers have not kept pace with the growing needs of the population; and

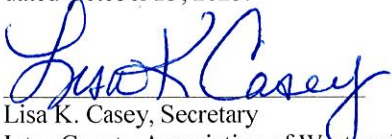
WHEREAS, Older New Yorkers comprise 43% of the national GDP, and the current budget from New York State Office for the Aging is less than 1% over the State Budget and Older New Yorkers provide social, economic, and intellectual capital and provide over 495 million hours of volunteer services at an economic value of 13.8 billion per year and unpaid caregivers provide uncompensated care worth over 32 billion dollars per year; and

WHEREAS, Steuben County, a member of Inter-County Association of Western New York is home to 25,774 individuals over the age of 60 and 11.5% of them are living in poverty and are struggling to afford food, medications, home heating fuel, rent, mortgages, and utilities due to the high cost of inflation while living on extremely limited incomes. Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, Inter-County Association of Western New York urges its local Federal and State Government Representatives to advocate for increased funding levels for older adults in the Federal and State budgets to be allocated to local government to allow local area agencies on aging to provide critical services to older adults so they may age safely in place; and be it further

RESOLVED, a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to US Senator Charles Schumer, US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, US Congressman Nick Langworthy, US Congresswoman Claudia Tenney; Governor Kathy Hochul; NYS Senator Borrello, NYS Assemblyman Hawley, NYS Senator Thomas O'Mara, NYS Assemblyman Phil Palmesano; Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes; NYS Assemblyman Joseph Giglio; and NYSAC.

This is to Certify that I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Association at a session held on the 20th day of October 2023 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Inter-County Association of Western New York dated October 23, 2023.



Lisa K. Casey, Secretary
Inter-County Association of Western New York



Sponsored by: Steuben County, Moved by: Hilda Lando (*Steuben*), Seconded by: Brooke Harris (*Allegany*), 19 Ayes and 0 Nays.

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