

## Corrections as of 5.28.26 – See highlighted areas

### Notes for Health and Human Services Committee – May 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Impact of HR1 (June 2025)

- General
  - Two issues are impacting SNAP
    - End of ABAWD waiver, HR1 expanded impacted population (59 to 64, including households with children over 14)
    - Eligibility and Administrative changes as a result of HR1
- ABAWD waiver ended Feb. 2026. Wrapping up a three-year cycle.
  - Impact on households 18 to 64 years old without a child under age 14 living with them
  - Only eligible for 3 months of assistance in a three-year cycle if they do not:
    - Paid or unpaid work for at least 20 hours per week
    - Employment training
    - Community Service/Volunteer
  - Some of the populations exempt: Younger/Older than the age band, disabled, pregnant, taking care of an incapacitated person, receiving SSI, Native American
  - Offered in-person and virtual educational sessions
  - Currently closing 3,200 SNAP cases, effective June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - They can reapply but must show they are meeting the work requirements
  - New three-year cycle starts October 1, 2026

#### SNAP – HR1 Changes

- Client
  - Must follow ABAWD rules
  - Ending automatic eligibility for non-citizens
    - Rules just came out in April
    - Beginning at recertification, closing any case that does not have Lawful Permanent Residents certificate. **Refugees need to be in the US for one year to apply. The application period can take up to three months. The Federal government administers the process so approvals are contingent on their processes.**
    - We estimate 5,145 refugees will lose their benefits over a 12-month period. 50% of them live in the Northside of the City.
    - **Including Refugee, Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Holder, Afghan Humanitarian Parolee, Amerasian Immigrant, Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolee**

- FY24 – Average annual benefit was \$2,376 per person
- Administrative Changes
  - Tracking monthly employment, volunteer activities for thousands of cases
  - Shifting program administration costs from 50% Federal/50% Local to 25% Federal/75% Local. The shift starts October 2026. The annual increase in local cost is \$5,284,683 or an increase of \$1,761,561.
  - Imposing fiscal penalties on error rates. NYS has exceeded the average Federal Error Rate by 10%. NYS expects that this will result in \$1.2 billion dollars. It is unclear if the State or Counties will pay this.
  - FYI – What makes an error? – Incorrect wage/salary information, incorrect information the client has given the county, changes in rent

### Medicaid

- Just a reminder that the administration of Medicaid is still split between NYS and counties. As of September 2025 data, 126,064 county residents are on Medicaid, 83K with State, 43k with county
- HR1 ended the subsidies in the Affordable Health Care Act. The numbers above do not represent clients unable to pay health care premiums.
- October 1, 2026, those not Lawful Permanent Residents certificate will lose their federally funded Medicaid coverage. NYS is planning on moving these individuals to State covered programs, Essential Plan or State Medicaid.
- January 1, 2027, work and community engagement requirements will go into effect for 19 – 64-year-olds unless they qualify for an exemption. (80 hours within 6 months) Renewals will go from 12 months to every 6 months.
- Retro coverage goes from three months for all populations to two for some and one for others.
- Much of what I described above will be handled by the State, but counties have to be prepared to be able to explain these changes and link clients with the appropriate State parties.
- To meet new requirements major administrative changes will occur. One delinking Temporary Assistance and Medicaid applications. This is a significant change and will have administrative impacts on county employees. More details are coming.