



Onondaga County Legislature

DAN ROMEO

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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

Livestream Available: [Onondaga County Legislature on YouTube](#)

9:00 a.m.
October 21, 2026

401 Montgomery St., Courthouse Room 407
Syracuse, New York 13202

- A. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.
- B. Presentation of Resolutions and Local Laws:
 - 1. **HISCOCK LEGAL AID SOCIETY**: Gregory W. Dewan, Executive Director, President & CEO
 - a. INFORMATIONAL: Overview of the Hiscock Legal Aid Society
 - 2. **DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES**: Amy Cunningham, Commissioner
 - a. 2026 Transfer Resolution
 - 3. **COUNTY LEGISLATURE**:
 - a. DISCUSSION: Upcoming Vacancies
- C. Adjournment

November 5, 2026

Motion Made By Mr. Romeo

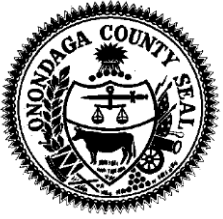
RESOLUTION NO. _____

2026 TRANSFER RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the following transfer be made:

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
Admin Unit 8300000000	Admin Unit 8300000000	
Children & Family Services	Children & Family Services	
Speed Type# 440032	Speed Type# 440054	
Acct. 661070	Acct. 694010	
State Training Schools	Travel & Training	\$69,450

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
Admin Unit 8300000000	Admin Unit 8300000000	
Children & Family Services	Children & Family Services	
Speed Type# 440032	Speed Type# 440029	
Acct. 661070	Acct. 694130	
State Training Schools	Maint, Utilities, Rents	\$106,780



CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHEET

PURPOSE:

The Department of Children and Family Services is requesting to transfer funds between accounts due to additional costs associated with training, fuel, repairs, and energy.

OBJECTIVE/ WORK PLAN:

The Department of Children and Family Services has experienced increased Travel & Training cost due to mandated State training schedules for new hire cohorts. Maint, Utilities, Rents increased due to repairs for Hillbrook appliances and increased energy costs as a result of State approved rate hikes for delivery, infrastructure upgrades, rising supply cost and market demand.

FUNDING SOURCE:

The funding will come from the 661070-State Training Schools account

BUDGET:

<u>Transfer From Account</u>		<u>Amount</u>
661070	State Training Schools	\$ 176,230
<u>Transfer To Account</u>		<u>Amount</u>
694010	Travel & Training	\$ 69,450
694130	Maint, Utilities, Rents	\$ 106,780

Hiscock Legal Aid

Overview

- **Total Employees:** 125
- **Cases Closed in Last Year:** 5,947
- **Cases Worked on in Last Year:** 9,287
- **Current Open Cases:** 3,352
- **Types of Cases:** Divorce, Child Custody/Visitation, Child/Spousal Support, Paternity, Family Offense/Order of Protection, Abuse/Neglect, Landlord/Tenant, Foreclosure Prevention, Unemployment Insurance, Criminal Appeals, Family Court Appeals, Parole Revocation Defense, Extradition, Immigration, Misdemeanor Criminal Defense
- **Funding Sources:** Onondaga County, New York State Indigent Legal Services (ILS), New York State Office for New Americans (ONA), Interest on Lawyer Accounts (IOLA), Judiciary Civil Legal Services (JCLS), City of Syracuse Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), Homeowners Protection Program (HOPP), New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Foundations, Donors and Fundraising

Administration – 11 Total Staff

- Gregory W. Dewan, Executive Director
- Nicole E. Talev, Deputy Executive Director
- Jennifer Racciatti, Controller
- Alison Gorczyca, Assistant Controller
- Melissa Mamrosh, Finance Coordinator
- Amanda Wilson, Human Resources and Benefits Manager
- Gabriel Napier, IT Manager
- Jay Patel, IT Support Specialist
- Tenisha Gibbs, Receptionist
- Unfilled, Office Operations Assistant
- Jason Torreano, Director of Development and Communications

Mandated Programs – 58 Total Staff

Appeals Program – 12 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 9 total
- **Law Assistants:** 3 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 93
- **Current Open Cases:** 333
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 37
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 9.9%
- **Types of Cases:** Criminal and Family Court Appeals
- **Geographic Region:** Onondaga County
- **Funding Sources:** Onondaga County and ILS

Family Court Program – 24 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 15 total
- **Law Assistants:** 6 total
- **Social Worker:** 1 total
- **Client Resource Specialist:** 1 total
- **Parent Advocate:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 1,805
- **Current Open Cases:** 1,067
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 71.1
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 31.8
- **Types of Cases:** Child Custody/Visitation, Child Support Violation, Family Offense/Order of Protection, Abuse/Neglect, Paternity
- **Geographic Region:** Onondaga County
- **Funding Source:** Onondaga County and ILS

Misdemeanor Defense Program – 17 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 11 total
- **Law Assistants:** 4 total
- **Social Worker:** 1 total
- **Investigators:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** N/A
- **Current Open Cases:** 335
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 30.45
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 10%
- **Types of Cases:** Misdemeanor and Violation Defense, including Traffic
- **Geographic Region:** City of Syracuse
- **Funding Source:** Onondaga County and ILS

Parole Program – 5 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 3 total
- **Law Assistants:** 1 total
- **Social Worker:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 347
- **Current Open Cases:** 48
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 16
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 1.4%
- **Types of Cases:** Parole Revocation Defense
- **Geographic Region:** Onondaga County
- **Funding Sources:** Onondaga County and ILS

Extradition – 1 Contract Attorney

- **Cases Closed 2025:** 67
- **Current Open Cases:** 11
- **Types of Cases:** Extradition
- **Geographic Region:** Onondaga County
- **Funding Source:** Onondaga County and ILS

Civil Programs – 56 Total Staff

Civil Program – 31 Total Staff

- **Office Assistant:** 1 total

Divorce, Family, and Unemployment Insurance Project – 22 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 14 total
- **Law Assistants:** 7 total
- **Client Resource Specialist:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 534
- **Current Open Cases:** 417
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 29.8
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 12.4%
- **Types of Cases:** Divorce, Custody/Visitation, Child/Spousal Support, Paternity, Family Offense/Order of Protection, Unemployment Insurance
- **Geographic Regions:** Onondaga County (and contiguous counties for unemployment insurance)
- **Funding Sources:** Onondaga County, IOLA, JCLS, and DCJS

Tenant Defense Project – 4 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 3 total
- **Law Assistants:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 975
- **Current Open Cases:** 76
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 25.3
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 2.3%
- **Types of Cases:** Divorce, Custody/Visitation, Child/Spousal Support, Paternity, Family Offense/Order of Protection, Landlord/Tenant, Foreclosure Prevention, Unemployment Insurance
- **Geographic Regions:** City of Syracuse and Town of Dewitt
- **Funding Sources:** ESG and LASMNY, supplemented by Onondaga County, IOLA, and JCLS

Foreclosure Prevention Project – 4 Total Staff

- **Attorneys:** 3 total
- **Housing Counselor:** 1 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 128
- **Current Open Cases:** 115
- **Current Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 38.3
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 3.4%
- **Types of Cases:** Foreclosure Prevention
- **Geographic Regions:** Onondaga, Oswego, Cayuga, and Cortland Counties
- **Funding Sources:** HOPP, supplemented by Onondaga County, IOLA, and JCLS

Immigration Program – 25 Total Staff

- **Attorneys/Legal Counsel:** 20 total
- **DOJ Accredited Representatives:** 1
- **Law Assistants:** 4 total
- **Cases Closed 2025:** 1,292
- **Current Open Cases:** 921
- **Average Caseload Per Attorney:** 46
- **Percentage of Total Open Cases:** 27.5%
- **Types of Cases:** Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Asylum, U visas, T visas, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), Unaccompanied/separated minors, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Convention Against Torture (CAT), Withholding of removal, Removal proceedings, Work permits, Bond hearings, Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), ICE case review process, Parole, Family reunification, Consular processing, Family-based immigration, Naturalization
- **Geographic Regions:** Central New York (Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego Counties), North Country (Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, and St Lawrence Counties), and Mohawk Valley (Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties)
- **Funding Sources:** ONA supplemented by IOLA and JCLS