

FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
OF THE
DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 5:50 p.m.

Committee Chair Arnoff called the committee to order at 6:34 p.m.

PRESENT: 11 ARNOFF, ATKINS, DRAGO, KAUL, MCHOUL, METZGER, MUNN
POLASEK, SHAH, VALDÉS SMITH, WINSBY

ABSENT: 1 HOUSE

PRESENT/LATE: 0

QUORUM PRESENT

Committee Chair Arnoff began proceedings by wishing a good Mental Health Awareness Month to all.

Presentations and Reports

Presentation by STRIVE (Strategies to Respond to Intimate Violence Effectively) on a Coordinated Response to Intimate Partner Violence Resolution

Legislator Drago reported that there are still spots available in the Webetuck Pre-K program.

Privilege of the Floor with respect to printed agenda items

Louise Daniele of Fishkill spoke in favor of Resolution 82 and recommended offering the LAP training by Zoom in addition or instead of in-person.

Leila Brannan of Wappinger spoke in favor of Resolution 82.

Resolutions considered out of numerical order will be placed in numerical order for fluidity

2026079 Amending the 2026 Adopted County Budget as it Pertains to Access Supports for Living, Inc. and the Department of Mental Health

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None.

The Family & Human Services Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislator House absent.

2026080 Accepting Grant Award from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and Amending the 2026 Adopted County Budget as it Pertains to the Department of Mental Health

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None.

The Family & Human Services Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislator House absent.

2026081 Amending the 2026 Adopted County Budget as it Pertains to the Department of Health

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Legislator Kaul said that she attended an event where student art related to JUUL was presented an award.

The Family & Human Services Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislator House absent.

At this time, Committee Chair Arnoff invited Committee Vice Chair Kaul to Chair the remainder of the meeting.

2026082 Offering Lethality Assessment Program to All Elected Officials in Dutchess County

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins, seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Chair Arnoff spoke as author of the Resolution and spoke in its favor.

Legislature Chair Valdes Smith spoke in favor of the Resolution and thanked Chair Arnoff for authoring the Resolution.

Leader Polasek spoke in favor of the Resolution and asked Legislator Arnoff the scope of the term “elected officials.”

Legislator Arnoff said it would include all County and municipal, town, village and city elected officials.

Leader Polasek asked about the possibility of zoom training.

Legislator Arnoff said zoom training would be great if it can be administered without diminishing its informative value.

Leader Polasek asked for clarification that the training would not make elected officials qualified to administer a LAP.

Legislator Arnoff said that is correct, and indicated that it would be for the information of the elected officials only.

Leader Polasek acknowledged Dutchess County's leadership on LAP dating back to 2010.

Leader Atkins spoke in favor of the Resolution and praised Legislator Arnoff for her work with the Committee.

Legislator Redl spoke in favor of the Resolution.

Legislator Lawler spoke in favor of the Resolution.

Legislator Shah spoke in favor of the Resolution.

Legislator Brendli spoke in favor of the Resolution.

Committee Vice Chair Kaul spoke in favor of the Resolution.

The Family & Human Services Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution, with Legislator House absent.

There being no further business, Committee Vice Chair Kaul adjourned the Committee meeting at 7:17 p.m.