

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE



LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

CHAIR, ABE UCHITELLE
DEPUTY CHAIR, GINA HANSUT

AUGUST 2022

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM TASK FORCE

2021 REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS: ONE-YEAR PROGRESS UPDATE

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INTRODUCTION

In New York State's system of government, counties play a unique role in providing targeted social services for residents experiencing the greatest need, as well as community-wide services that affect quality of life and day-to-day safety for all residents. In this work, both as appropriators and as an oversight body, it is incumbent on the Ulster County Legislature, in partnership with the executive and judicial branches of government, to safeguard all persons, regardless of their race, religion, gender identity or socioeconomic status. Criminal justice is one of the areas where the dignity and safety of members of our community is paramount.

Longstanding systemic inequities in the criminal justice system have been brought to the forefront in recent years, in many tragic instances as a result of the loss of human life. Even before the highly shocking murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and other victims of avoidable tragedies, the Ulster County Legislature recognized the need to self-assess, improve community relationships with law enforcement, expand services and opportunities for incarcerated individuals, and change the paradigm of punishment over care.

A Criminal Justice Reform Task Force was established to evaluate current policies and procedures in our criminal justice system and make evidenced based recommendations for improvements. Spearheading this effort was then-chair of the Legislature's Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, who now serves as Vice-Chair of the Legislature and chair of the Legislature's Health, Human Services & Housing Committee. The product of that work was a report which was delivered August 2021 and is included as an addendum here.

This August 2022, marked the one year point since the conclusion of task force's work. This updated report seeks to highlight the progress we've made in the last year including and the work that is still in progress as these important changes are implemented to improve the lives, safety, and dignity of the residents of Ulster County.

BACKGROUND

On October 15, 2019 the Legislature unanimously adopted Resolution No. 410 establishing the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (CJRTF.) The Task Force was charged with the evaluation of county programs aimed at assisting those effected by state Raise the Age legislation, as well as reforms to bail and discovery requirements for their "... efficacy, efficiency, and compliance with state requirements, to ensure the best and most cost effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services but do not meet the extremely narrow qualifying criteria."

Events on the national stage prompted the CJRTF to broaden their scope to include diversion from the criminal justice system, alternatives to incarceration, police reform, and equity in criminal justice. The CJRTF invited the participation of elected officials, members of law enforcement, the legal community, the Ulster County Human Rights Commission, clergy, community stakeholders, and many more. They met for more than a year and in August 2021 they presented their report and recommendations to the Legislature.

Their report focused on six priority areas: Restorative Justice, Crisis Response, Ethics and Integrity in Law Enforcement, Responding to Discrimination, Reintegration of Incarcerated Individuals, and Centralized Arraignment. Within these areas the CJRTF identified gaps in service, made recommendations to improve individual interactions and experiences with law enforcement and within the criminal justice system, especially for those experiencing crisis, and suggested opportunities for future improvements.

Restorative Justice:

Balancing the Rights of Accused with Rights of Victims

CJRTF OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“The UC-CJTF felt a strong desire to see Restorative Justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately, they can be used for a larger number of cases to divert individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion. While the expansion of Restorative Justice overall, and over the next several years, will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney’s Restorative Justice Working Group, at this stage, it was felt that an understanding of how Restorative Justice works would be highly beneficial to improve the responses to crime and victimization in our county by those hired to provide these services.”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The CJRTF recommended the adoption of Resolutions to implement a Restorative Justice Training Program for county employees in the Probation Department, Public Defender’s Office, Conflict Administrator’s Office, and the Offices of the District Attorney and Sheriff, who are active in the administration of criminal justice, and who work with crime victims and persons accused of crimes. The training is intended to familiarize county employees with restorative justice models to improve responses to crime and victimization in the county, and advance client services.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Within one month of the CJRTF presenting their report and recommendations to the legislature Resolution Nos. 422 and 423 of 2021 were unanimously adopted. Resolution No. 422 leveraged the Legislature’s authority under Article X, §A-10-1 of the Administrative Code and directed the Personnel Director to prepare a report of county positions within the Probation Department, Public Defender’s Office, Conflict Administrator’s Office, and the Offices of the District Attorney and Sheriff who work directly with crime victim and persons accused of crimes. The Resolution further required the report to be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature within 60 days of adoption of the resolutions and every October 1st thereafter. Although the initial report was not filed with the Clerk of the Legislature as envisioned, positions were identified by the administration and we anticipate future reports to be provided annually.

Resolution No. 423 urged the Ulster County Executive to require and implement a Restorative Justice Training Program for positions identified pursuant to Resolution No. 422. The resolution recommended “... leveraging current RJ programming offered through the Restorative Justice Center ...” Discussions within the CJRTF indicated that the added employee training could feasibly be offered at no additional cost because of existing contracts for the service.

To date 84 county employees have received training in Restorative Justice methods. This group includes county employees in the Offices of the Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender, and County Attorney as well as positions in the Probations Department. More specifically, Assistant District Attorneys, Probation Officers, Crime Victim Counselors, and Detectives were among many other positions that underwent the training.

Crisis Response:

Supporting Law Enforcement's Capacity to Work with People in Crisis

CJRTF OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“... county residents who experience mental or substance abuse crisis deserve a 24-hour/7-day a week response stabilization center to immediately connect them with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and behavioral health professionals, as well as to our local community's health and human service providers, to address any mental health, addiction, or social determinant of health needs ... [and] access to longer-term respite beds that continue these services as the individual needs...”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The CJRTF recommended the creation of a Crisis Stabilization Center (CSC) as an alternative to hospital-based emergency psychiatric care. The center would ideally operate 24 hours/7 days per week and serve as a professionally staffed, safe, landing space for individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use crisis. The CJRTF further recommended the implementation of 7–10 day recovery homes, geographically spread throughout the county, to bridge the gap between emergency services and home based care for individuals in crisis. Both recommendations included requests for RFP processes initiated for the professional services requires at the CSC and in the Respite Houses.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

For some time, members of the Legislature have been calling for improved emergency response for individuals in mental health or substance use crisis. Those calls became urgent when Westchester Medical Center/Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley eliminated the only inpatient mental health and substance use recovery beds in Ulster County. On October 19, 2021 the Legislature codified our desire to prioritize emergency response to individuals in crisis by adopting Resolution No. 424 – Establishing A Policy Requiring An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/ Or Substance Use Crisis. Five short months later the Legislature approved Resolution No. 166 to finance the purchase of an existing building located at 368 Broadway in Kingston to house a CSC utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Within a few months of finalizing the purchase the Legislature adopted Resolution Nos. 401 and 402 to begin the design phase of the project.

Companion Legislation to provide a continuum of care for individuals in crisis was also adopted in October 2021; Resolution No. 425 - Establishing A Policy Requiring Respite Houses In Ulster County, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health And/Or Substance Use Recovery Assistance. Within months Resolution No. 28 was adopted to dedicate \$1.5 million in ARPA to implement the policy adopted in Resolution No. 425. The county is continuing to work on identifying properties throughout the county to serve as respite houses.

Ethics & Integrity in Law Enforcement

OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“... full-time Professional Standards Supervisor to oversee audits, quality assurance, and policy ... conduct team inspections and ... further provide administrative oversight of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). While the volunteer Ulster County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Diversion Committee currently organizes and delivers CIT trainings for Ulster County-based law enforcement, the local program is lacking in several ways: 1) there is no dedicated Ulster County CIT leadership; 2) the program is de-centralized amongst multiple police departments and potential teams; 3) there is too much diversity in each municipal police department’s crisis response procedures.

The CIT Coordinator ... would be able to: a) develop and grow the local CIT infrastructure, including representation from each police department, the local crisis response system of care, and peers/consumers/users of services; b) review and revise local law enforcement policies & procedures related to crisis response (achieving greater standardization whenever possible); c) improve integration (coordination & collaboration) between law enforcement and the behavioral health system of care; d) ensure program quality and fidelity to CIT standards; e) organize and help deliver all future CIT trainings; and f) provide community outreach and education about CIT’s mission, vision, core values, activities, goals, and outcomes.”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Ulster County Sheriff Juan Figueroa and a representative from his office actively participated in all CJRTF conversations, and most especially those surrounding community perspective of law enforcement personnel. The Sheriff shared the Task Force’s emphasis on the importance of professionalism and integrity in officers and the ability of the public to express, and have addressed, concerns with conduct. The CJRTF recommended the creation of two dedicated positions within the Sheriff’s Office to help ensure integrity and professionalism within the office, provide training to address implicit biases and improve crisis response, conduct ongoing audits and performance evaluations, and investigate breeches of the code of conduct. It was further recommended that trainings be available to municipal law enforcement agencies to standardize crisis response.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Resolution No. 426 was introduced in September 2021 to create a Professional Standards Supervisor’s Position in the Sheriff’s Office to provide administrative oversight of matters related to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC,) Employee Assistance Program (EAP,) and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) programing and training, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support instruction, create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement, and evaluate current law enforcement policy and recommend revisions. Since the publication of the CJRTF Report a Chief Investigator Professional Standards position has been created and filled as of August 2022.

The creation of a partner position, a Crisis Intervention Team Manager, was introduced in Resolution No. 427 to expand and oversee the CIT programming. Both of these Resolutions were withdrawn when the Sheriff confirmed that funding for the positions was included in his 2022 Budget. Since the publication of the CJRTF Report there have been three trainings, each including 25 officers. A position reclassification process has also been initiated to reorganize responsibilities and fill a new CIT Manager position.

Further details on these positions and additional actions taken by the Sheriff in keeping with CJR discussions are highlighted in a final section of this report, under the heading *Ulster County Sheriff’s Office*.

Responding to Discrimination:

Identifying and Preventing Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System

OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“The CJRTF identified the need for the county to provide assistance to any individual who feels they have been discriminated against by any employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers, and seek to properly report the incident. ...

... there is a need to continue the community engagement in successes and barriers identified at the municipal and county-levels to assure implementation of efforts that were carefully imagined ... a county-wide law enforcement community advisory board be formed from the membership of each municipal police reform taskforce and the mission to support the implementation of police reform measures across the county...”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The CJRTF made two recommendations aimed at improving community confidence in law enforcement and the criminal justice system and providing a mechanism for continued evaluation of police reform implementation. The Task Force felt that navigating the criminal justice system was difficult, complaint procedures differed widely for each entity within the system and information was hard to locate. They felt that a one-stop-shop to help individuals navigate the system would help improve public confidence, provide recourse for individuals, and promote equitable treatment of individuals within the criminal justice system.

Additionally, every law enforcement entity in the county was required to file reform initiatives under Executive Order 203. The CJRTF recommended a county-wide Law Enforcement Advisory Board be established to assess progress on implementation of identified reforms.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

One month after the CJRTF report was presented, the Legislature adopted Resolution Nos. 428 & 429 to establish and staff a helpline to provide a singular point of information and referral for individuals who believe they have been discriminated against within the Ulster County criminal justice system. Administration responsibilities would be centralized under the Human Rights Commission. During discussions regarding costs for implementation, Legislative Financial Analysts provided an estimate of ~\$36,000 for a part-time staff member and \$15,060 for advertising. It was conveyed that the dedicated phone number could be provided by the Information Services Department. To provide a single-point source of information for county residents during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic the county created the Recovery Service Center (RCS). Upon reviewing Resolution Nos. 428 & 429 the administration determined that a dedicated 24/7 hotline and referral service for strictly criminal justice system related calls was duplicative to constituent service/navigation/referral services offered by the RSC.

After some discussion and debate with the Ulster County Association of Supervisors and Mayors, the Legislature adopted Resolution No. 430 in October 2021 to establish an Ulster County Law Enforcement Engagement Committee to act as a centralized community group tasked with supporting and evaluating the implementation of the reform plans approved for Ulster County as a result of EO203 for efficacy, efficiency, and compliance. The Legislative Chair has recently reached out to municipalities who filed EO203 plans and other community stakeholders to organize the committee. We expect the Chair of the Legislature to convene the inaugural meeting this Fall.

Reintegration of Incarcerated Individuals: Reduce the Revolving Door of Criminality

OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“The UC-CJRTF feel it is paramount to implement a reentry program in our county by calling out, through a request for proposal, to the agencies with experience providing comprehensive re-entry services to incarcerated individuals.”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The CJRTF spent many hours discussing ways to address the school-to-prison-pipeline, care and support systems for incarcerated individuals, and continuum of care structures to provide services and opportunities and reduce recidivism in the penal system.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

One month after the CJRTF issued their report the Legislature adopted Resolution No. 431 requesting the initiation of a RFP process for a re-entry services for individuals incarcerated in the Ulster County Jail. The Task Force recommended a program reflective of that which is provided in the state prison system, including: assessing during incarceration an individual’s employment opportunities upon release, housing, education/training, substance abuse and mental health needs, providing training and support for individuals while incarcerated, and providing continued training and support upon release.

An RFP for Jail Re-Entry Case Management was published on April 8, 2022 with a closing date of May 6, 2022. While submissions were received, the county must also consider whether the newly formed Department of Mental Health may now be capable of fulfilling the requirements of the Jail Re-Entry Case Management initiative. The legislature anticipates the inclusion of this position in the County Executive’s 2023 proposed budget, after which it will be considered by the Legislature.

Centralized Arraignment

OUTSTANDING NEEDS IDENTIFIED

“It anecdotally appears that the bail reforms have not achieved their full impact in regard to initial appearance before a magistrate. The reform, particularly the 2020 revision, directs magistrates to consider non-monetary condition of release, including mandated treatment or hospitalization—actions particularly important if the arrested individual is acutely experiencing a substance abuse or mental health crisis at the time of arrest. What appears to be occurring is several magistrates, when contacted off-hours, are more often directing law enforcement to issue appearance tickets without reviewing if non-monetary conditions of release are needed.

As success with implementing a CAP program in our county necessitates full cooperation from the local magistrates, at this time, efforts are being made to encourage magistrates to consider the potential positive implications while also addressing other municipal impacts (e.g. transport). To date, no consensus has been reached in our county as to whether we should move toward becoming a CAP county.”

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

One of many bail reforms enacted by the NY State Legislature included provisions related to first appearance before a local magistrate. In order to best serve individuals accused of a crime, especially those experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, the CJRTF recommended that Ulster County initiate a Centralized Arraignment (CAP) program.

A CJRTF subcommittee had numerous meetings with stakeholders including Sheriff Figueroa, former Law Enforcement Committee Chair Eve Walter, local magistrates, current and former county Public Defenders, representatives from the District Attorney’s Office, and others. The subcommittee did not reach a consensus on the establishment of a CAP program in the county but committed to continuing the conversation. Should the decision be made to move forward to make Ulster a CAP county the Legislature would need to adopt Resolutions taking steps to authorizing a Home Rule Request to make Ulster County a CAP county.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Two draft Resolutions are primed if/when the Legislature decides to implement a CAP program in the county.

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 1 – Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP)

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 2 – Approving Phase II Of The Ulster County Central Arraignment Part

Discussions are ongoing. An update provided by Sheriff Figueroa for this report indicated that the county was awaiting funding and the County Safety Department had expressed some concerns regarding the physical logistics of centralizing arraignments in Ulster County.

Ulster County Sheriff's Office

Ulster County Sheriff Figueroa was an active participant in both the Legislature's Criminal Justice Reform Task Force and the County Executive's Justice & Reform Commission. Predictably, a number of recommendations from both groups related to policies, programs and services within the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Figueroa actively listened to criticisms and concerns and welcomed suggestions for improvement.

In addition to collaborating on CJRTF recommendations mentioned earlier in this report, he has implemented, expanded, or developed further reforms within his office. Below is a brief snapshot of some of those activities.



The Ulster County Sheriff's Office App was launched in April 2022 to increase transparency on department policies and provide greater access for civilians to file complaints against personnel, relay concerns and offer compliments regarding the Ulster County Sheriff's Office. The App provides fillable forms for referrals to ORACLE / AVERT, notifications for spike reports on overdoses, weather warnings, traffic emergencies, press releases, information on incarcerated individuals, foil request instructions, employment opportunities and contact information. A dashboard to identify accidents, arrests and traffic issues is still in the development stages.

A **Citizen Officer Academy** will commence in Fall 2022. A board will be made up of three civilians and three law enforcement members will oversee the program. They will put together a training curriculum sensitive to community needs to include in person instructors and simulator training.

AVERT (Anti Violence Response Team) aims to divert those individuals who are at risk to commit violent crimes. Detectives and social workers work together to identify risk factors like housing, education and employment. AVERT's first gun buy-back was a success removing over 60 weapons from the street. Legal gun owners were also given free safes to secure weapons at home.

ORACLE (Opioid Response as County Law Enforcement) was established to assist residents with substance use disorder who have an encounter with law enforcement toward a road of recovery instead of incarceration. The team made possible by a BJA COSSAP grant is made up of social workers, peer advocates, members of law enforcement, community partners and the UC Department of Mental Health. ORACLE has been recognized as an innovative program by the NYS Sheriff's Association, the Rural Justice Collaborative, and the National Center for State Courts. Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is also funded by the COSSAP grant with a goal of training 50% of all law enforcement in the county.

MAT (Medical Assisted Treatment Program) Commenced in 2019 as a maintenance program for incarcerated individuals with substance use disorder. Ulster County was one of the first in the Hudson valley to start this program. Presently 35 incarcerated individuals participate in the program. ORACLE has been incorporated into the program to provide continuum of cares services, playing a large role in inmate discharge, re-entry and follow up.

Right To Know cards are in the process of being completed. These business cards will be given to individuals who have an encounter with law enforcement and contain information on where complaints can be filed.

Chief Investigator Professional Standards, included in the Legislatures 2022 adopted budget, is responsible for a new division within the Ulster County Sheriff's Office. On August 4th, 2022 John Lewis Mason, a civilian and bar association attorney was hired into this position. Investigator Mason will oversee: Internal Affairs, Employee Assistance Program, Equal Opportunity Employment complaints, FOIL / 50-a Compliance, Backgrounds / Retention, Internal Policy and Procedures.

CONCLUSION

The safety and dignity of every member of our community is central to the work of the Ulster County Legislature. In the course of the last several years people-powered movements have arisen to demand and ensure that employees responsible for the safety, health, and protection of communities are properly trained and held accountable to the highest standards. This work will never cease and the Legislature intends to empower all relevant offices within the executive and judicial branches of government in fulfilling this mission.

When we as lawmakers embody a deep respect for human life the policies and laws that result can effect a real change in the lives of persons under our care, further improve community relations, and develop a deeper trust in those who are sworn to serve and protect.

The Legislature remains committed to criminal justice reforms and continues to pursue policies, laws, and practices that support systems of care over incarceration. As we continue to exercise our authority under Charter §C-11.K. “To conduct studies and investigations in furtherance of its legislative functions and, in connection therewith, to obtain and employ professional and technical advice, appoint citizens' committees, commissions and boards ...” we must also ensure compliance with and enforcement of the recommendations that result. Every individual in our community has a right to safety, dignity, and a system of justice that is compassionate and equitable.

APPENDICES

Resolution No. 410 of 2019

Resolution No. 422 of 2021

Resolution No. 423 of 2021

Resolution No. 424 of 2021

Resolution No. 166 of 2022

Resolution No. 401 of 2022

Resolution No. 402 of 2022

Resolution No. 425 of 2021

Resolution No. 28 of 2022

Resolution No. 426 of 2021

USCO- Professional Standards Division Organization Chart

Resolution No. 427 of 2021

Resolution No. 428 of 2021

Resolution No. 429 of 2021

Resolution No. 430 of 2021

Resolution No. 431 of 2021

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 1

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 2

2021 Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Report

Establishing The Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Eckert and Legislators Collins, Haynes, Heppner, and Ronk)

Legislator David B. Donaldson offers the following:

WHEREAS, the State of New York has aggressively pursued legislation to reform the state's criminal justice system to ensure social and economic justice for all New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of that mission the New York State FY 2018 Budget included legislation to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 16 years of age to 18 years of age; and

WHEREAS, in Ulster County, prior to the implementation of Raise the Age, only 10% of criminal matters involving 16 and 17-year-olds were handled through the Ulster County Probation Department; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this important reform measure the Ulster County Probation Department will have some involvement with all of these youth, approximately 200 per year, to provide programs and services that were previously not offered but will be required in October 2018 for 16-year-olds, and in October 2019 for 17-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, the 2018-2023 Capital Improvement Program included funding to create the Ulster County Restorative Justice and Community Empowerment Center in the Ulster County Department of Probation to facilitate the delivery of these programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County seeks to provide additional evidence based programs and services built around Restorative Justice processes intended to change the trajectory of a youth's life to have a long-term, lasting impact on the community, and break the cycle of generational poverty; and

WHEREAS, statewide, 67% of the people incarcerated in New York's county jails are legally innocent and overwhelmingly detained pretrial because they cannot afford bail; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to address this inequity in the criminal justice system, the New York State FY 2020 Budget provided for the elimination of cash bail for most misdemeanor and non-violent felony offenses; and

Resolution No. 410

October 15, 2019

Establishing The Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force

WHEREAS, as a result of this important reform measure, the Ulster County Probation Department will see a dramatic increase in the number of individuals requiring pre-trial services, guidance about the process, and assistance in utilizing twenty-first century technology to ensure timely reporting to court appearances; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature fully supports efforts to assist those effected by bail reform and Raise the Age legislation, including the One80 program and the Brighter Futures Initiative; and

WHEREAS, *pursuant to Ulster County Charter Section C-16 and the Administrative Code Section A2-11: "Advisory committees, commissions and boards. Members of all citizens' committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to Section C-11K of the Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Legislature. They shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise provided by resolution of the County Legislature. The Chairman of the County Legislature shall be a member ex-officio of all such committees, commissions and boards;"* now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force is hereby created to evaluate all above mentioned efforts and programs for efficacy, efficiency, and compliance with state requirements, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services but do not meet the extremely narrow qualifying criteria; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall consist of eight members, one member appointed by the District Attorney, one member appointed by the Public Defender, one member appointed by the County Sheriff, one legislator chosen by the majority leader, one legislator chosen by the minority leader and two members chosen by the Chair of the Legislature that shall come from a local organization with knowledge of restorative justice and criminal justice reform and/or an educator with knowledge of restorative justice and criminal reform; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force shall meet no later than 30 days after the appointments to said Task Force are made; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive's Office shall provide the assistance of such departments that he or she deems appropriate; and be it further

Establishing A Policy To Identify County Positions That Work Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, in 2013, with funding from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) the Ulster County Department of Probation, in partnership with Family, Inc., implemented and evaluated an innovative program called One80 serving youth at-risk of arrest aged 7-17 through referrals from police and school districts; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, several changes have been implemented to the Ulster County Restorative Justice program including: 1) the provision of monthly Restorative Justice (RJ) trainings for any Ulster County resident interested in understanding the process and/or ultimately leading a RJ Circle as a facilitator; 2) the expanded engagement of the Office of the District Attorney; 3) an expansion of the program to include adults aged 18-26 with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies.; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce expressed a strong desire to see restorative justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately it can be used for a larger number of cases diverting individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion.; and

WHEREAS, the one of the County Executive's Justice and Reform goals is to, "create a culture in Ulster County of healing and repairing instead of punitive;" and

Resolution No. 422 September 14, 2021

Establishing A Policy To Identify County Positions That Work Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

WHEREAS, while the expansion of Restorative Justice overall and over the next several years will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney's Restorative Justice working group, the UC-CJRTF believes that an understanding how restorative justice works would be highly beneficial for improving county responses to crime and victimization by certain county positions; and

WHEREAS, Article X, §A-10-1 of the Administrative Code provides that, "The Personnel Director shall make such other reports at such times as may be required by the County Legislature..."; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, it shall be policy of the County of Ulster to identify county positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes; and, be it further

RESOLVED, in furtherance of this policy, a report shall be made, which shall include but not be limited to: all job titles, including vacant positions, in the county with responsibilities relating to the administration of criminal justice services, and positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes, in the County Departments of Probation, Public Defender and Conflict Administrator, and in the Elected Offices of the District Attorney, and Ulster County Sheriff; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this report shall first be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature within 60 days of adoption of this resolution, and thereafter on October 1st of each year, with changes from the previous year's report clearly indicated,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on September 7, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

Resolution No. 422 September 14, 2021

**Establishing A Policy To Identify County Positions That Work
Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes**

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 14th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 16th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
16th Day of September 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
21st Day of September 2021.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Requesting Mandatory Restorative Justice Training For County Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, in 2013, with funding from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) the Ulster County Department of Probation, in partnership with Family, Inc., implemented and evaluated an innovative program called One80 serving youth at-risk of arrest aged 7-17 through referrals from police and school districts; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, several changes have been implemented to the Ulster County Restorative Justice program including: 1) the provision of monthly Restorative Justice (RJ) trainings for any Ulster County resident interested in understanding the process and/or ultimately leading a RJ Circle as a facilitator; 2) the expanded engagement of the Office of the District Attorney; 3) an expansion of the program to include adults aged 18-26 with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, The Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce expressed a strong desire to see restorative justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately it can be used for a larger number of cases diverting individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion; and

WHEREAS, one of the County Executive's Justice and Reform goals is to, "create a culture in Ulster County of healing and repairing instead of punitive;" and

Resolution No. 423 September 14, 2021

Requesting Mandatory Restorative Justice Training For County Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

WHEREAS, while the expansion of Restorative Justice overall and over the next several years will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney's Restorative Justice working group, the UC-CJRTF believes that an understanding how restorative justice works would be highly beneficial for improving county responses to crime and victimization by certain county positions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 422 of 2021, the Ulster County Legislature adopted a policy to identify County positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature urges the Ulster County Executive to require and implement a Restorative Justice Training Program for the employees identified in the report as referenced in Resolution No. 422 of 2021, leveraging current RJ programming offered through the Restorative Justice and Empowerment Center, and tailoring the program as needed to each Department and/or Office,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on September 7, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

Resolution No. 423 September 14, 2021

**Requesting Mandatory Restorative Justice Training For County
Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons
Accused Of Crimes**

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 14th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 16th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
16th Day of September 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
21st Day of September 2021.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Establishing A Policy Requiring An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/ Or Substance Use Crisis

Referred to: The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Bruno, Criswell, Petit, and Uchitelle), The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, and Legislators Bartels and Criswell offer the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the National Survey of Drug Use and Health, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County sees an average of 30 opioid overdoses each month, a rate driven consistently higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with Ulster County HEAL reporting 526 confirmed opioid-related overdoses and 71 fatalities in our County from May 2020 through May 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Ulster County lost its only inpatient emergency mental health and substance abuse recovery beds when Westchester Medical Center/Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley moved their beds to Dutchess County to make room for a potential surge in COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, while law enforcement utilizes the psychiatric emergency room when the need arises, many are faced extreme delays in access to intervention services, or a lack of available mental health and/or detox beds, resulting in an estimated 65% of those seen in our regional psychiatric emergency room being directly discharged, supporting the need for non-hospital level services for these individuals; and

Resolution No. 424 October 19, 2021

Establishing A Policy Requiring An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/ Or Substance Use Crisis

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that Ulster County residents who experience mental or substance abuse crisis deserve a 24-hour/7-day a week Crisis Stabilization Center to immediately connect individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use crisis with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and behavioral health professionals, as well as access to our local community's health and human service providers, to address any mental health, addiction, or social determinant of health needs; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that approximately 200 individuals will be served monthly when the center is at full capacity; and

WHEREAS, the parameters for a county crisis stabilization center are outlined through approved amendments to the New York State Mental Hygiene law; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, it shall be the policy of Ulster County to have a Crisis Stabilization Center recommended to operate 24 hours/day, 7 days per week, with sufficient staffing including: administrative staff, credentialed alcohol and substance abuse counselors (CASAC), social workers and/or otherwise licensed counselor, case managers, and certified recovery peer advocates (CPRA); with priority given to individualized with personal lived recovery experience for mental health illness or substance abuse; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in furtherance of this policy, the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Mental Health, develop and initiate the request for proposals (RFP) procurement process to contract for the implementation and provision of services for individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use crisis, and required to administer the Center; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised in writing of any and all RFP's issued pursuant to a crisis stabilization center in Ulster County; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that any project established in furtherance of this policy shall be paid for from the \$5,000,000.00 of American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated for the purpose of addressing the need for enhanced Mental Health and Addiction Recovery services throughout Ulster County,

Resolution No. 424 October 19, 2021

Establishing A Policy Requiring An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/ Or Substance Use Crisis

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21 NOES: 2
(Noes: Legislators Roberts and Ronk)

Referred to the Public Health and Social Services Committee by the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee on September 1, 2021

Passed Committee: Public Health and Social Services as amended on October 4, 2021

Passed Committee: Ways and Means as amended on October 12, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$3,000,000.00 – ANTICIPATED TOTAL PROJECT COST

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 19th Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
21st Day of October 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
26th Day of October 2021.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Funding Capital Project No. 598 – Crisis Stabilization Center, Purchase Of 368 Broadway – ARPA - Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Referred to: The American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee (Chairman Criswell and Legislators Corcoran, Levine, Lopez, and Sperry), The Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation Committee (Chairwoman Petit and Legislators Fabiano, Litts, Nolan, and Stewart), The Health, Human Services and Housing Committee (Chair Walter and Legislators Corcoran, Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, and Uchitelle), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Fabiano, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairman of the ARPA Special Committee, Peter J. Criswell, and Deputy Chair Thomas Corcoran, Jr. offer the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been submitted at the request of the County Executive on behalf of the Department of Finance, Division of Recovery and Resilience; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature passed Resolution No. 333 dated August 17, 2021 creating Capital Project No. 598, entitled “ARP Mental Health and Addiction Recovery”, with an anticipated allocation in the amount of \$5,000,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 333 dated August 17, 2021 resolved that funding for Capital Project No. 598 shall be subject to the further approval of the Ulster County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature passed Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 and resolved that, ‘it shall be the policy of Ulster County to have a Crisis Stabilization Center recommended to operate 24 hours/day, 7 days per week, with sufficient staffing”; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 further resolved, “that any project established in furtherance of this policy shall be paid for from the \$5,000,000.00 of American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated for the purpose of addressing the need for enhanced Mental Health and Addiction Recovery services throughout Ulster County”; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Behavioral Health Task Force provided a report in September 2021 and identified Crisis Services and creation of a Crisis Stabilization Center as a priority investment for the County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Ulster has identified an opportunity to purchase and utilize an existing commercial office building located at 368 Broadway (the Property) in the City of Kingston, to meet the goals of Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 and the report of the Behavioral Health Task Force; and

Resolution No. 166 April 19, 2022

Funding Capital Project No. 598 – Crisis Stabilization Center, Purchase Of 368 Broadway – ARPA - Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

WHEREAS, it is the intent to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase of this Property; and

WHEREAS, regulations implemented by the United States Treasury Department in their published Final Rule (31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77), “recognizes that medical equipment and facilities designed to address disparities in public health outcomes are eligible capital expenditures” (*see*: page 128 of the Final Rule); and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in a central location in the City of Kingston that benefits nearby qualified census tract numbers 9520, 9518, 9514, and 9517 as well as Ulster County as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a crisis stabilization center would allow individuals in need of mental health and addiction services to connect immediately with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and addiction professionals who can provide support and treatment options; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Legislature hereby determines that the action to purchase the Property as an in-kind reuse of an existing building constitutes a TYPE II action and as such will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment based on the criteria contained in section 6 NYCRR Part 617 and is therefore exempt from further review under SEQRA; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2022 Ulster County Capital Fund is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
HH.4997.0598-2300.2560 (App.#)	Building Acquisition	\$2,000,000.00
HH.4997.0598-3400.4495 (Rev. #),	Federal Aid, ARPA	\$2,000,000.00

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21 NOES: 2
(Noes: Legislators Roberts and Ronk)

Resolution No. 166 April 19, 2022

Funding Capital Project No. 598 – Crisis Stabilization Center, Purchase Of 368 Broadway – ARPA - Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

No Action Taken in Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on March 30, 2022

Passed Committee: Public Works and Capital Projects as amended on April 5, 2022

Passed Committee: Health, Human Services and Housing on April 11, 2022

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on April 12, 2022

Passed Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on April 13, 2022

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$2,000,000.00 – COUNTY CAPITAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

\$2,000,000.00 – FEDERAL CAPITAL FUND REVENUES

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 19th Day of April in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of April in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
22nd Day of April 2022.

Approved by the County Executive this
26th Day of April 2022.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Amending Capital Project No. 598 – ARPA - Community Wellness Hub, Crisis Stabilization Center Renovations, City Of Kingston – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

Referred to: The American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee (Chairman Criswell and Legislators Corcoran, Levine, Lopez, and Sperry), The Health, Human Services and Housing Committee (Chair Walter and Legislators Corcoran, Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, and Uchitelle), The Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation Committee (Chairwoman Petit and Legislators Fabiano, Litts, Nolan, and Stewart), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Fabiano, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairman of the ARPA Special Committee, Peter J. Criswell, and Deputy Chair Thomas Corcoran, Jr. offer the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been submitted at the request of the County Executive on behalf of the Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature passed Resolution No. 333 dated August 17, 2021 creating Capital Project No. 598, entitled “ARP Mental Health and Addiction Recovery”, with an anticipated allocation in the amount of \$5,000,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 333 dated August 17, 2021 resolved that funding for Capital Project No. 598 shall be subject to the further approval of the Ulster County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature passed Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 and resolved that, ‘it shall be the policy of Ulster County to have a Crisis Stabilization Center recommended to operate 24 hours/day, 7 days per week, with sufficient staffing’; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 further resolved, “that any project established in furtherance of this policy shall be paid for from the \$5,000,000.00 of American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated for the purpose of addressing the need for enhanced Mental Health and Addiction Recovery services throughout Ulster County”; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Behavioral Health Task Force provided a report in September 2021 and identified Crisis Services and creation of a Crisis Stabilization Center as a priority investment for the County; and

Resolution No. 401 August 16, 2022

Amending Capital Project No. 598 – ARPA - Community Wellness Hub, Crisis Stabilization Center Renovations, City Of Kingston – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

WHEREAS, Capital Project 598 was amended pursuant to Resolution No. 166 of 2022, in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the purchase an existing commercial office building located at 368 Broadway in the City of Kingston, to meet the goals of Resolution No. 424 dated October 19, 2021 and the report of the Behavioral Health Task Force; and

WHEREAS, a crisis stabilization center would allow individuals in need of mental health and addiction services to connect immediately with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and addiction professionals who can provide support and treatment options; and

WHEREAS, the funds will be used to procure comprehensive architectural and engineering services for the design of the new Ulster County Community Wellness Hub to include a Stabilization Center, community-based organizations and all the divisions of the Ulster County Mental Health Department through RFP-UC22-024; and

WHEREAS, a design consultant will be hired to provide an analyses of facility and space programming needs and design the renovations of the building to best meet the County’s stated goals; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in a central location in the City of Kingston that benefits nearby qualified census tract numbers 9520, 9518, 9514, and 9517 as well as Ulster County as a whole; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the renovation of this Property; and

WHEREAS, regulations implemented by the United States Treasury Department in their published Final Rule (31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77), “recognizes that medical equipment and facilities designed to address disparities in public health outcomes are eligible capital expenditures” (see: page 128 of the Final Rule); and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works requests that Capital Project No. 598 be amended to increase funding in the amount of \$175,000.00 for a total of \$2,175,000, to fund design services for the renovation of a Community Wellness Hub; now therefore, be it

Resolution No. 401 August 16, 2022

Amending Capital Project No. 598 – ARPA - Community Wellness Hub, Crisis Stabilization Center Renovations, City Of Kingston – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

RESOLVED, that the Legislature hereby determines that the action to purchase the Property as an in-kind reuse of an existing building constitutes a TYPE II action and as such will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment based on the criteria contained in section 6 NYCRR Part 617 and is therefore exempt from further review under SEQRA; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Capital Project No. 598 for the ARP Mental Health and Addiction Recovery be amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Capital Project No. 598	ARP Mental Health and Addiction Recovery	\$175,000.00

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2022 Ulster County Capital Fund budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
HH.4997.0598-2300.2560 (App. #)	Capital Project No. 598 Professional Services	\$175,000.00
HH.4997.0598-3400.4495 (Rev. #),	Federal Aid, ARPA	\$175,000.00

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 23 NOES: 0

Passed Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on July 27, 2022

Passed Committee: Health, Human Services and Housing on August 3, 2022

Resolution No. 401 August 16, 2022

Amending Capital Project No. 598 – ARPA - Community Wellness Hub, Crisis Stabilization Center Renovations, City Of Kingston – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

Passed Committee: Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation on August 8, 2022

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on August 9, 2022

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$175,000.00 – COUNTY CAPITAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS

\$175,000.00 – FEDERAL CAPITAL FUND REVENUES

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 16th Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 18th Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
18th Day of August 2022.

Approved by the County Executive this
22nd Day of August 2022.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$158,850.00 Entered Into By The County – Pomarico Design Studio Architecture, PLLC – Department Of Public Works

Referred to: The American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee (Chairman Criswell and Legislators Corcoran, Levine, Lopez, and Sperry), The Health, Human Services and Housing Committee (Chair Walter and Legislators Corcoran, Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, and Uchitelle,) The Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation Committee (Chairwoman Petit and Legislators Fabiano, Litts, Nolan, and Stewart), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Fabiano, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairman of the ARPA Special Committee, Peter J. Criswell, and Deputy Chair Thomas Corcoran, Jr. offer the following:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section C-11(O) of the Ulster County Charter and Section A2-5(15) of the Administrative Code, the Ulster County Legislature shall have the power to approve the execution of certain contracts and amendments in the amount of \$50,000.00 or in excess of \$50,000.00 entered into by the County; and

WHEREAS, a contract for execution by the County with Pomarico Design Studio Architecture, PLLC has been submitted for approval by the Ulster County Legislature, which is described below:

2022-XXX - Architecture & Engineering services for the Community Wellness Hub - Capital Project	100% Federal	RFP	9/1/22 - 8/31/23	\$158,850.00
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WHEREAS, said contract has been reviewed by Contract Management, County Attorney's Office, the Director of Purchasing, and the County Executive; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature has examined the contract, and hereby approves the contract in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney and Legislative Counsel,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 23 NOES: 0

Resolution No. 402 August 16, 2022

Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$158,850.00 Entered Into By The County – Pomarico Design Studio Architecture, PLLC – Department Of Public Works

Passed Committee: American Rescue Plan Act on July 27, 2022

Passed Committee: Health, Human Services and Housing on August 3, 2022

Passed Committee: Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation on August 8, 2022

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on August 9, 2022

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$158,850.00 – 2022/2023 APPROPRIATIONS (ARPA REVENUE)

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 16th Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 18th Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
18th Day of August 2022.

Approved by the County Executive this
22nd Day of August 2022.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

**Establishing A Policy Requiring Respite Houses In Ulster County,
And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To
Secure Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health And/Or
Substance Use Recovery Assistance**

Referred to: The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Bruno, Criswell, Petit, and Uchitelle), The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, and Legislator Criswell offer the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the National Survey of Drug Use and Health, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County sees an average of 30 opioid overdoses each month, a rate driven consistently higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with Ulster County HEAL reporting 526 confirmed opioid-related overdoses and 71 fatalities in our County from May 2020 through May 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Ulster County lost its only inpatient emergency mental health and substance abuse recovery beds when Westchester Medical Center/Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley moved their beds to Dutchess County to make room for a potential surge in COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, while law enforcement utilizes the psychiatric emergency room when the need arises, many are faced extreme delays in access to intervention services, or a lack of available mental health and/or detox beds, resulting in an estimated 65% of those seen in our regional psychiatric emergency room being directly discharged, supporting the need for non-hospital level services for these individuals; and

Resolution No. 425 October 19, 2021

**Establishing A Policy Requiring Respite Houses In Ulster County,
And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To
Secure Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health And/Or
Substance Use Recovery Assistance**

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that Ulster County is in need of a system of support services and continued care for individuals upon discharge from a hospital, Crisis Stabilization Center, or other mental health and/or substance use facility, or ideally, to prevent this type of emergency use; and

WHEREAS, Respite Houses are 4-8 bed short-term crisis respite homes open and accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year which provide trauma informed, safe communities that allow individuals to work on their personal recovery from mental illness or substance use; and

WHEREAS, a Respite House is a self-referral service, ideally operated by individuals who themselves have had personal success with mental health and/or substance use recovery, designed to prevent hospital emergency use for psychiatric reasons and prevent potential future crises; and

WHEREAS, parameters of a Respite House (also known as a Crisis Residence) are outlined in Part 589 of 14 NYCRR; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, it shall be the policy of Ulster County to have 7-10 day Respite Houses in Ulster County, geographically spread out across the county, providing a minimum of eight beds overall, available to any resident of Ulster County ages 18 years old and over, with staffing for each home to include: administrative staff, crisis specialists, case managers, and administrative support; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Mental Health, develop and initiate the request for proposals (RFP) procurement process to contract for the administration and provision of services at two respite houses; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised in writing of any and all RFP's issued pursuant to a respite house in Ulster County,

and move its adoption.

Resolution No. 425

October 19, 2021

Establishing A Policy Requiring Respite Houses In Ulster County, And Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health And/OR Substance Use Recovery Assistance

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 23 NOES: 0

Referred to the Public Health and Social Services Committee by the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee on September 1, 2021

Passed Committee: Public Health and Social Services on October 4, 2021

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on October 12, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

STATE OF NEW YORK

SS:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 19th Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
21st Day of October 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
26th Day of October 2021.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

|s| Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Dedicating Funding To Implement The Ulster County Respite House Policy

Referred to: The American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee (Chairman Criswell and Legislators Corcoran, Levine, Lopez, and Sperry), The Health, Human Services, and Housing Committee (Chair Walter and Legislators Corcoran, Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, and Uchitelle), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Fabiano, Ronk, and Walter)

Chair of the Health, Human Services and Housing Committee, Eve Walter, and Legislator Hewitt offer the following:

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Treasury has notified Ulster County that funding for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is available in the amount of \$34,491,474.00; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA seeks, among other purposes, to address systemic public health and economic challenges that have contributed to the unequal impact of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 333 dated August 17, 2021, \$5,000,000.00 in ARPA funding was allocated towards mental health and addiction recovery; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 424 adopted on October 19, 2021 and signed by the County Executive on October 26, 2021, a policy was established to have a Crisis Stabilization Center recommended to operate 24 hours/day, 7 days per week, to be funded from the \$5,000,000.00 of ARPA funding allocated for the purpose of addressing the need for enhanced Mental Health and Addiction Recovery services throughout Ulster County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 425 unanimously adopted on October 19, 2021 and signed by the County Executive on October 26, 2021, a policy was established to have 7-10 day Respite Houses in Ulster County, geographically spread out across the county, providing a minimum of eight beds overall, available to any resident of Ulster County ages 18 years old and over; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, in order to implement the Respite House policy, funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 shall be designated from the \$5,000,000.00 allocated for the purpose of addressing the need for enhanced Mental Health and Addiction Recovery services throughout Ulster County,

and move its adoption.

Resolution No. 28 February 15, 2022

Dedicating Funding To Implement The Ulster County Respite House Policy

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 23 NOES: 0

No Action Taken in Committee: ARPA Special Committee on January 26, 2022

Passed Committee: Health, Human Services and Housing on February 2, 2022

Passed Committee: ARPA Special Committee on February 9, 2022

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on February 8, 2022 for one week

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on February 15, 2022

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$1,500,000.000 – FEDERAL REVENUE DOLLARS

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 15th Day of February in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 17th Day of February in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
17th Day of February 2022.

Approved by the County Executive this
24th Day of February 2022.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff's Office

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) to evaluate Restorative Justice Services in the county and explore opportunities for improvement and expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified that law enforcement are entrusted by the public to demonstrate high ethical standards which are consistent with the law they have sworn to uphold; and

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF further found that to be worthy of this trust and to ensure that the professional conduct of law enforcement is lifted and held at the highest level, internal regulation and robust training must be prioritized and fully integrated into any law enforcement body; and

WHEREAS, professionalism in law enforcement requires establishing minimum standards of ethical codes of conduct, vigorous investigations into breeches of these codes, and defined rules for internal discipline to ensure compliance; and

WHEREAS, in the Ulster County Sheriff's Office currently complaints against officers presented both internally and externally are handled as a collateral duty by a member of the Sheriff's team; and

WHEREAS, this structure substantially limits response to these complaints due to a finite amount of person-time available to investigate and respond in conjunction with regular duties, and, creates a troubling lack of independence from those for whom the complaint is about; now, therefore be it

Resolution No. 426 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff's Office

RESOLVED, that a full time Professional Standards Supervisor position is added to the office of the Sheriff to: oversee audits, quality assurance, and policy for that office and its members, conduct team inspections, uphold the Sheriff's Office Code of Conduct and investigate and claims of violation; and, be it further

RESVOLVED, that this supervisor will provide administrative oversight of matters related to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) programing and training, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support instruction; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this supervisor will create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement, and will be responsible for the evaluation of current law enforcement policy the recommendation of potential revisions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, and that this position will report to the Sheriff and Undersheriff, and shall not be affiliated with any unions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-3110-1810-1400-1400 (App.#)	Regular Pay	\$ 28,942.00
AA-3110-1810-4300-4345 (App.#)	Professional Services Education/Training	\$ 10,000.00
AA-3110-1810-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 4,828.00
AA-3110-1810-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 2,215.00
AA-3110-1810-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 7,922.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#),	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$53,907.00

Resolution No. 426 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff's Office

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on October 6, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on November 3, 2021 with consent

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on December 1, 2021 with consent

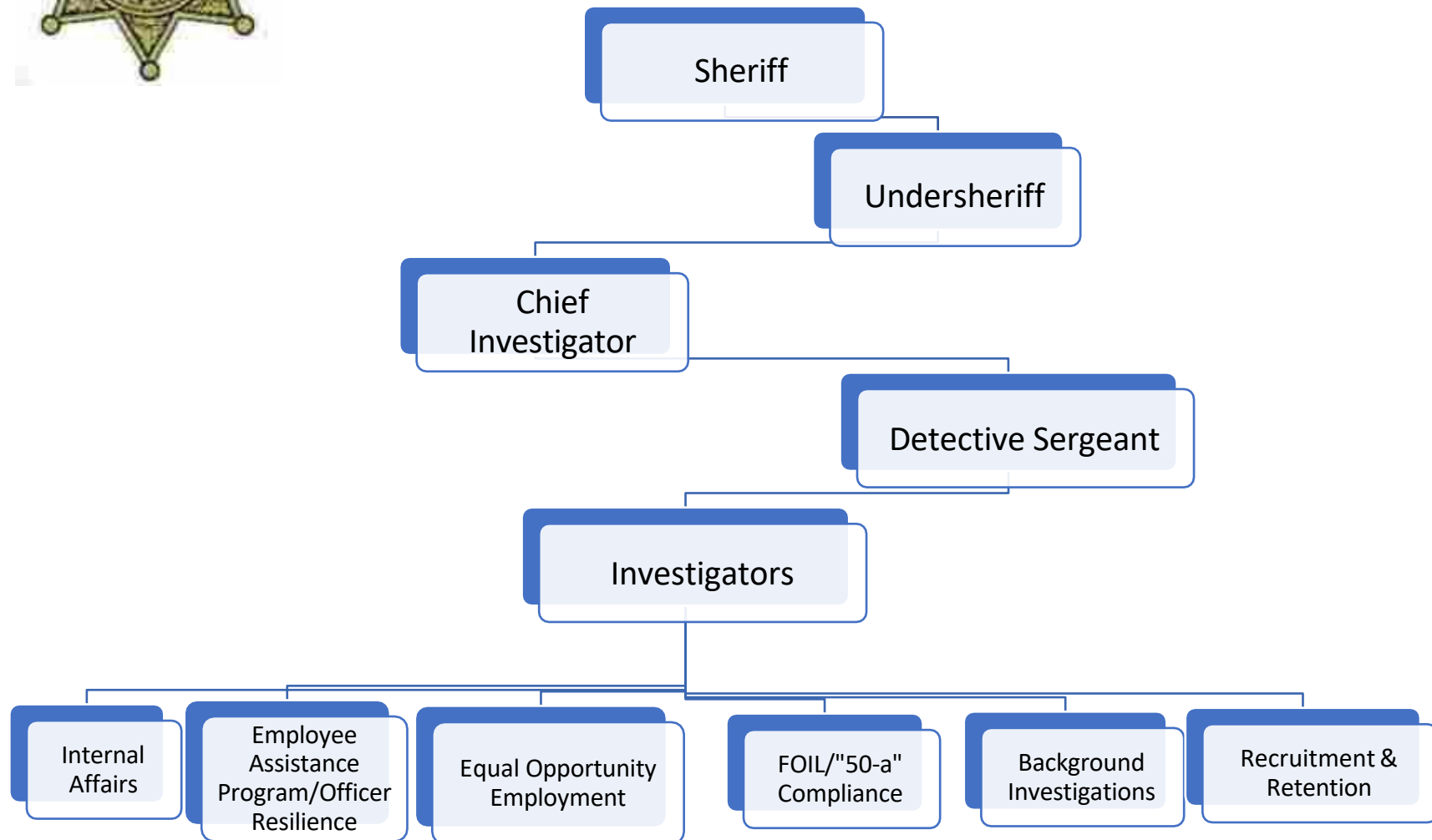
FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$53,907.00 – ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$85,838.00 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY



Professional Standards Division Organizational Chart



Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff's Office

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations (National Survey of Drug Use and Health); and

WHEREAS, failures to develop a robust Crisis Intervention Team and to assure appropriate crisis intervention and de-escalation training for officers has been found to result in poorer outcomes for both law enforcement and individuals who interact with them in a potential arrest; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified that a key way to prevent potential abuse of law enforcement toward a civilian is through the expansion of the Sheriff's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and de-escalation trainings for officers; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Ulster County invested money to expand the Mobile Mental Health services to reach a broader geographic area and added a social worker position to the 911 dispatch system particularly to assist in incidents where law enforcement is engaged with an individual experiencing a mental health crisis; and

WHEREAS, these efforts are better realized with increased and improved training for members of the law enforcement community; and

WHEREAS, the current 40 hour de-escalation training implemented to some of the county law enforcers have been well received and has anecdotally shown an impact on preventing poorer outcomes for law enforcement and civilians but are costly and therefore not available to a broader group of police officers; and

Resolution No. 427 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff’s Office

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that these trainings should be formalized, required for new hires, available to our County’s municipal police and repeated in regular intervals; and

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF further finds that law enforcement peer support training centered on the mental health of law enforcement personnel is needed as well; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive’s Justice and Reform Plan includes a priority to, “expand crisis intervention trainings to 50% percent of the Sheriff’s Office personnel and 25% of all local Police Departments in Ulster County; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a full-time Crisis Intervention Team manager position is created to: oversee crisis intervention trainings, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support trainings, evaluate and recommend potential revisions in law enforcement policy, create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-3110-1810-1400-1400 (App.#)	Regular Pay	\$ 17,150.00
AA-3110-1810-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 2,861.00
AA-3110-1810-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 1,312.00
AA-3110-1810-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 4,694.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#),	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$26,017.00

and move its adoption.

Resolution No. 427 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff's Office

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on October 6, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on November 3, 2021 with consent

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on December 1, 2021 with consent

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$26,017.00 - ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$50,865.67 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that based on the 2019 arrest and conviction data collected by the New York Department of Criminal Justice, the rate of arrest of Black individuals in Ulster County is 39% higher than that of Whites; this jumps to 101% higher for felonies and 238% higher for drug felonies; further, while 51% of arrests for Whites resulted in a sentence conviction, the rate is 72% for Blacks.; and

WHEREAS, as socio-demographics such as disability, income, sexuality etc. are not collected in arrest data potential discrimination based on these factors cannot be enumerated but likely exist; and

WHEREAS, measuring the true extent of discrimination experienced by individuals from police, attorneys, judges, probation and corrections officers is not possible; and

WHEREAS, while there are complaint processes in place for each area of the criminal justice system, most individuals are unaware of how to issue their complaints should any arise; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force identified the need for the county to provide assistance to any individual who feels they have been discriminated against by any employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers and who seek to properly report the incident; and

Resolution No. 428 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF has learned that the Office of the Commissioner of Human Rights receives numerous calls seeking precisely this information on a regular basis; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, a part-time Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Initiative Referral Specialist position will be created in the Human Rights Commission Budget to provide a support and referral system for community members who feel they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-8040-3500-1400-1400 (App.#)	Part-Time Pay	\$ 8,057.00
AA-8040-3500-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 1,344.00
AA-8040-3500-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 617.00
AA-8040-3500-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 2,206.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#),	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$12,222.00

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Resolution No. 428 December 21, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on October 6, 2021 with consent

Postponed in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on November 3, 2021 with consent

No Action Taken in Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on December 1, 2021 with consent

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$12,222.00 - ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$23,894.42 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY

Establishing A Hotline Helpline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, and Legislator Donaldson offer the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that based on the 2019 arrest and conviction data collected by the New York Department of Criminal Justice, the rate of arrest of Black individuals in Ulster County is 39% higher than that of Whites; this jumps to 101% higher for felonies and 238% higher for drug felonies; further, while 51% of arrests for Whites resulted in a sentence conviction, the rate is 72% for Blacks; and

WHEREAS, as socio-demographics such as disability, income, sexuality etc. are not collected in arrest data potential discrimination based on these factors cannot be enumerated but likely exist; and

WHEREAS, measuring the true extent of discrimination experienced by individuals from police, attorneys, judges, probation and corrections officers is not possible; and

WHEREAS, while there are complaint processes in place for each area of the criminal justice system, most individuals are unaware of how to issue their complaints, should any arise; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force identified the need for the county to provide assistance to individuals who believe they have been discriminated against by an employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers and seek to properly report the incident; now, therefore be it

Resolution No. 429 September 14, 2021

Establishing A ~~Hotline~~ Helpline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

RESOLVED, that it is the policy of Ulster County to provide a ~~hotline~~ **helpline** for community members who believe they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system to call to receive support and referral information as to the appropriate place and method to report the discriminatory treatment; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature calls upon the Ulster County Human Rights Commission to administer and promote the ~~hotline~~ **helpline**, and that it be dedicated solely for this purpose,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on September 7, 2021 for one week

Passed Committee: Ways and Means as amended on September 14, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

Legislator Walter motioned, seconded by Legislator Ronk, to replace the word “hotline” with the word “helpline” throughout the resolution.

MOTION ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

Resolution No. 429 September 14, 2021

Establishing A Hotline Helpline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 14th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 16th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
16th Day of September 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
21st Day of September 2021.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) to evaluate Restorative Justice Services in the county and explore opportunities for improvement and expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203 (EO203) titled, New York State Police Reform And Reinvention Collaborative, stipulating that: "each local government entity which has a police agency operating with police officers as defined under 1.20 of the criminal procedure law must perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color," and

WHEREAS, EO203 stipulated the importance to engage community members in these discussions; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue community engagement in successes and barriers to success identified at the county-level to assure implementation of these carefully imagined efforts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ulster County Charter Section C-16 and the Administrative Code Section A2-11: "*Advisory committees, commissions and boards. Members of all citizens' committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to Section C-11K of the Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Legislature. They shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise provided by resolution of the County Legislature. The Chairman of the County Legislature shall be a member ex-officio of all such committees, commissions and boards;*" now, therefore, be it

Resolution No. 430

October 19, 2021

Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee is hereby created as a centralized community group tasked with supporting and evaluating the implementation of the reform plans approved for Ulster County as a result of EO203 for efficacy, efficiency, and compliance; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Engagement Committee shall consist of:

- Community members recommended from each of the Ulster County municipal EO203 task forces;
- One (1) Legislator chosen by the Majority Leader;
- One (1) Legislator chosen by the Minority Leader; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee shall meet no later than 30 days after the appointments to said Committee are made, and shall continue to meet no less than quarterly; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive's Office shall provide the assistance of such departments that he or she deems appropriate; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the first meeting of the Engagement Committee shall be convened by the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature and at said meeting, the members of the Engagement Committee shall choose one of its members to be the Chair of the Engagement Committee; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Engagement Committee shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the County Legislature for consideration, review, and appropriate action, if necessary, no later than one year after its first meeting; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee shall be dissolved upon filing its findings and recommendations with the Clerk of the Legislature,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 1
(Noes: Legislator Litts)

Resolution No. 430 October 19, 2021

Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Engagement Committee

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021

Referred Back to Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee at Legislative Session on September 14, 2021

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety as amended on October 6, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 19th Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 21st Day of October in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Re-Entry Services For Individuals Serving Time In The Ulster County Jail

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Chairwoman of the Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee, Eve Walter, offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision approximately 43% of corrections inmates are returned to custody after release (DOCCS Fact Sheet, May, 2021) and the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) encouraged counties to develop a Re-Entry Taskforce to coordinating services to individuals who are returning to their communities after serving a state prison sentence and determined to be at moderate or high risk of reoffending; and

WHEREAS, in Ulster County Family of Woodstock, Inc. implements services to assist these individuals to return to our community from the prison system through supports including housing, counseling, and treatments to help them to succeed and not reoffend; and

WHEREAS, as a result, based on 2018 data, only 8% of released state inmates reoffended and these re-offenses typically occurred within two months of release; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sheriff has been actively pursuing partnerships with local businesses to provide occupational training to individuals held in our jail with the hopes of transitioning these individuals to jobs upon release; and

WHEREAS, we have no formalized reentry program to support those who are released from our jail to support their reentry and provide the skills and care they need to not reoffend; and

Resolution No. 431 September 14, 2021

Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure Re-Entry Services For Individuals Serving Time In The Ulster County Jail

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF believes that a program reflective of that which is provided in the state prison system, including: assessing during incarceration an individual's employment, housing, education/training, substance abuse and mental health needs, providing training and support for individuals while incarcerated, and providing continued training and support upon release, will substantially benefit individuals incarcerated in Ulster County as well as the communities to which they return; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive's Justice and Reform Plan suggests the immediate action of 1) [creating] discharge plans that connect incarcerated people to housing, mental health treatment, and jobs prior to release; and 2) [increase] job training programs to upskill incarcerated people and connect them to jobs upon release"; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Ulster County Sheriff, develop and initiate the request for proposals (RFP) procurement process to contract for the implementation and provision of re-entry services to Ulster County jail inmates reflective of the services outlined above; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised in writing of any and all RFP's issued pursuant to securing re-entry services for individuals serving time in the Ulster County Jail,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Fabiano)

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on September 1, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

Resolution No. 431 September 14, 2021

**Requesting The Initiation Of The Procurement Process To Secure
Re-Entry Services For Individuals Serving Time In The Ulster
County Jail**

STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 14th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 16th Day of September in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
16th Day of September 2021.

Approved by the County Executive this
21st Day of September 2021.

/s/ Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

/s/ Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 1

Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP)

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York Corrections Law § 500-C, the Ulster County Sherriff may not house persons arrested and detained prior to arraignment; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sherriff has the adequate facilities and procedures to house said persons prior to arraignment; and

WHEREAS, detention of said persons prior to arraignment is in the best interest of promoting public safety and efficient use of law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution of the State of New York, it is necessary for this Legislature to enact a Home Rule Request for the purposes of said legislation; now, therefor be it

RESOLVED, the New York State Legislature and Governor are requested to pass legislation amending Section § 500-C of the New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP) as follows:

Section 1. Section 500-a of the Correction Law is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-S to read as follows:

2-s. THE ULSTER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY MAY ALSO BE USED FOR THE DETENTION OF PERSONS UNDER ARREST BEING HELD FOR ARRAIGNMENT IN ANY COURT LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF ULSTER.

Section 2. Section 500-c of the correction law is amended by adding a new subdivision 25 to read as follows:

25. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, IN THE COUNTY OF ULSTER, ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL EQUALLY APPLY IN ANY CASE WHERE THE SHERIFF IS HOLDING A PERSON UNDER ARREST FOR ARRAIGNMENT PRIOR TO COMMITMENT, AS IF SUCH PERSON HAS BEEN JUDICIALLY COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE SHERIFF AND SUCH PERSON MAY BE HELD IN THE ULSTER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 1

Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP)

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that the amendments to section 500-c of the Correction Law, made by Section two of this act, shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized to submit a Home Rule Request (Request by Local Government for Enactment of a Special Law), pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution upon introduction of the above requested legislation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, this Home Rule Request shall be forwarded to the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, Senate Minority Leader, Assembly Speaker, Assembly Majority Leader, Assembly Minority Leader, New York State Assemblymembers Kevin Cahill, Jonathan Jacobsen, Brian Miller, and Chris Tague, and New York State Senators Michele Hinchey, Mike Martucci, Peter Oberacker, and James Skoufis,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 2

Approving Phase II Of The Ulster County Central Arraignment Part

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sherriff has the adequate facilities and procedures to house said persons prior to arraignment;

WHEREAS, detention of said persons prior to arraignment is in the best interest of promoting public safety and efficient use of law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. XX Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP) has been introduced for consideration by the Ulster County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of Resolution No. and subsequent enactment of the requested amendment to New York Corrections Law § 500-C, anticipated to be enacted into law on or before [MONTH DAY, 2021], allowing the Ulster County Sherriff to hold a person under arrest for arraignment, prior to commitment; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part provides for the regular hours and administration of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part to conduct local criminal court arraignments, and provides for the availability to conduct emergency arraignments, which are requested to occur at any time of the day or night; and

WHEREAS, arrestees brought to the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center will, where practicable, be arraigned at the first available arraignment time within the Centralized Arraignment Part; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature Approves Phase II of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that upon approval by the New York State Office of Court Administration of Phase II of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part, operation shall commence as soon as practicable,

and move its adoption.

DRAFT Resolution No. CAP 2

Approving Phase II Of The Ulster County Central Arraignment Part

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

DRAFT

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM TASKFORCE (CJRTF)

2021 FINAL REPORT



**The Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force was established October 2019
(and extended August 2020)**

Our Mission

To evaluate all the impact of the New York State bail and discovery reforms and the county criminal justice delivery programs for efficacy, efficiency, and compliance with state requirements, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services but do not meet the extremely narrow qualifying criteria.

Appointed Members

Legislator Eve Walter, Chair
District Attorney Dave Clegg, Ulster County District Attorney's Office
Josh Gran, People Inc.
Acting Public Defender Cliff Owens, Ulster County Public Defender's Office
Legislator Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Minority Leader
Nancy Schmidt, Ulster County Probation Department
Lieutenant Joseph Sciutto, Ulster County Sheriff's Office
Assistant Public Defender Raymond Sprowls, Public Defender's Office
Commissioner Tyrone Wilson, Human Rights Commission
Alderwoman Rita Worthington, City of Kingston Common Council, Fourth Ward

Ex Officio Members

Chief Public Defender Ruth Boyer, Ulster County Public Defender's Office
Nina Dawson, Director, Ulster County Youth Board
Chairman David Donaldson, Ulster County Legislature
Sheriff Juan Figueroa, Ulster County Sheriff's Office
Dana Katz, Director, Program Director, One80, Family of Woodstock
Andrew Kossover, Member, Executive Committee of the NYS Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section,
and Past-President of the NYS Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Chief Robert Lucchesi, New Paltz Police Department
Kim Mapes, Youth & Family Engagement Coordinator, Ulster County Restorative Justice
& Empowerment Center
Hon. Robert Vosper, former Town Justice, Town of Rosendale

Community Members

Carl Brown, Community Action
Jacki Brownstein, New Paltz Resident
Renee Hack, New Paltz Resident
Elizabeth Lee, New Paltz Resident
Adriana Magaña, Wawarsing Resident
Tanya Marquette, Gardiner Resident
David McNamara, Samadhi
Dr. Edgar Rodriguez, New Paltz Resident
Jennifer Vallance, Shokan Resident
Dr. Maggie Veve, Town of New Paltz Resident

Other Participants

Claudia Battaglia, New Paltz Resident
Mary Trish Cina, Supervisor, Probation Department
Legislator Peter Criswell, Ulster County Legislature
Shelley Eshkar, Town of Rochester Resident
Fanon Frazier, Citizen Action NY
Maria Elena Ferrer-Harrington, Humanamente
Dr. Anita Igbokwe, Institute for Family Health
Callie Jayne, Rise Up Kingston
Thomas Kadgen, League of Women's Voters
Cynthia Kim, Institute for Family Health
Robert Lesnow, Accord Resident
P. Chana Lunior, Woodstock Resident
Valarie Naccarato, Ulster County Probation Department
Carol Nolan, New Paltz Resident
Legislator Laura Petit, Ulster County Legislature
Lisa Royer, Kingston Resident
Jane Schanberg, New Paltz Resident

Special Guests

Hon. James Bacon, Ulster County Magistrates Association & New Paltz Town Justice
Hon. Charlie Dechon, Town of Wawarsing Town Justice
Public Defender Michael Baker, Broome County Public Defender's Office
Sheriff David Harder, Broome County Sheriff's Office
District Attorney Michael Korchak, Broome County District Attorney's Office
Dr. Edward Lawson, Jr., Family and Community Engagement Services, Inc.
Assistant District Attorney Garrett Lyons, Broome County District Attorney's Office
Major Mark Smolinsky, Broome County Sheriff's Office
Hon. Rhett Weires, New Paltz Town Justice

This report is a collaboration of UC-CJTF regularly attending members for the Ulster County Legislature.

July 2021

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Introduction

While the initial focus of the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) centered on bail and discovery reform, two significant events occurred in the duration of the UC-CJRTF: 1) The COVID-19 pandemic, and 2) The publicized death of George Floyd and the subsequent New York Governor's mandate that all municipalities identify police reform initiatives. As a result, bail and discovery reform was expanded to include diversion; alternatives to incarceration; police reform; and equity in criminal justice. These fell under five priority areas:

PRIORITY AREAS

Restorative Justice

Balancing the Rights of Accused with Rights of Victims

Crisis Response

Supporting Law Enforcement's Capacity to Work with People in Crisis

Ethics and Integrity in Law Enforcement

Responding to Discrimination

Identifying and Preventing Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System

Reintegration of Incarcerated Individuals

Reduce the Revolving Door of Criminality

Centralized Arraignment

Restorative Justice: Balancing the Rights of Accused with the Rights of Victims

BACKGROUND

In 2013, with funding from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), the Ulster County Department of Probation, in partnership with Family of Woodstock, Inc., implemented and evaluated an innovative program called One80 which serves youth aged 7–17 through referrals from police and schools of youth at-risk of arrest. Since the program started, nearly 300 Restorative Justice Circles have been completed, resulting in a recidivism rate of only 6%.

In the duration of the UC-CJRTF, several changes have already been implemented: 1) the provision of monthly Restorative Justice trainings for any Ulster County resident interested in understanding the process and/or ultimately leading a Restorative Justice Circle as a facilitator; 2) the expanded engagement of the Office of the District Attorney which supported an expansion of the program to include adults aged 18–26 with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies. In addition, the UC-CJRTF supported an expanded definition of restorative justice to include community building among neighbors.

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

The UC-CJRTF felt a strong desire to see Restorative Justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately, they can be used for a larger number of cases to divert individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion. While the expansion of Restorative Justice overall, and over the next several years, will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney’s Restorative Justice Working Group, at this stage, it was felt that an understanding of how Restorative Justice works would be highly beneficial to improve the responses to crime and victimization in our county by those hired to provide these services.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXECUTIVE’S JUSTICE REFORM REPORT

The UC-CJRTF outstanding needs align with the Executive’s Report’s justice reform goal; “Create a culture in Ulster County of healing and repairing instead of punitive.”

PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Legislative Resolution: Implementing a Restorative Justice Training Program for the employees who are active in the administration of criminal justice services in the County Departments of Probation, Public Defender, and Conflict Administrator, and in the Elected Offices of the District Attorney, and Sheriff (see Appendix, pages 12–15).

Crisis Response: Supporting Law Enforcement’s Capacity to Work with People in Crisis

BACKGROUND

People living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations (National Survey of Drug Use and Health). For 2021, our county invested money to expand the Mobile Mental Health services to a broader geographic area, and also added a social worker position to the 911 dispatch system particularly to assist when law enforcement is engaged with an individual experiencing a mental health crisis.

Ulster County sees an average of 30 opioid overdoses each month, a rate driven mostly by consistently higher rates since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. From May 2020 through May 2021, there were 526 confirmed opioid-related overdoses resulting in 71 fatalities in our County (Ulster County HEAL). In terms of mental health, according to the NYS Health Foundation, 37% of adult New Yorkers reported poor mental health in fall 2020. This rate is higher for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), younger adults, and low-income individuals.

In 2020, our county lost its only inpatient mental health and substance abuse recovery beds early in the pandemic when Westchester Medical Center moved their beds to Dutchess County and provided no timeline to return inpatient beds to Ulster County. While law enforcement utilizes the psychiatric emergency room when the need arises, an estimated 65% of those seen in our regional psychiatric emergency room are directly discharged, supporting the need for non-hospital level services for these individuals.

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

Our county residents who experience mental or substance abuse crisis deserve a 24-hour/7-day a week response stabilization center to immediately connect them with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and behavioral health professionals, as well as to our local community’s health and human service providers, to address any mental health, addiction, or social determinant of health needs.

Further, they deserve access to longer-term respite beds that continue these services as the individual needs. For the crisis hub/stabilization center, individuals may seek care voluntarily or maybe brought in by law enforcement on a crisis intervention call. For respite beds, individuals may be able to enter and leave as they feel they need. For each, service users should have access to health assessments, motivational interviewing and de-escalation, peer support and engagement, crisis counseling, guest-centered care planning, recovery and wellness education, direct connections to outside services, advocacy, and follow-up to ensure quality outcomes. At both the crisis stabilization center and respite beds, all users must feel safe and welcome. For many, this may be their first experience asking for help and support.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXECUTIVE’S JUSTICE REFORM REPORT

The UC-CJRTF outstanding needs align with the Executive’s justice reform goal: “We will create an Ulster County culture of treatment and healing instead of incarceration and punishment for people experiencing mental health crises.”

PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Legislative Proposal: Create and fund a Crisis Stabilization Center and two 4-bed, 7–10 day recovery homes for individuals experiencing mental health or substance abuse crises (see Appendix, pages 16–21).

Ethics and Integrity in Law Enforcement

BACKGROUND

Law enforcement is entrusted by the public to demonstrate high ethical standards which are consistent with the laws they have sworn to uphold. To be worthy of this trust, and to ensure that the professional conduct of law enforcement is lifted and held at the highest level, internal regulation and robust training must be prioritized and fully integrated into any law enforcement body.

Professionalism in law enforcement requires establishing minimum standards of ethical codes conduct, vigorous investigations into breeches of these codes, and defined rules for internal discipline to ensure compliance. Further, professionalism in law enforcement requires the implementation of comprehensive and continuous education of its members specifically around the type of events that have historically resulted in breeches of these codes of conduct among law enforcement.

Crisis Intervention Training (40-hours) can equip responding officers with the skills, knowledge, and community connections they need to: a) engage safely and effectively with people in crisis; b) link people in need to the best local services, supports, and resources; divert people from the criminal justice system whenever appropriate; c) improve the overall safety of such interactions—for all parties involved; and reduce repeat crisis calls.

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

Currently, complaints against officers presented both internally and externally, are handled as a collateral duty by a member of the Sheriff's team. As a collateral duty, the response to complaints is limited due to the limited amount of person-time available to investigate and respond to complaints, and also, a lack of independence from those for whom the complaint is about.

The Sheriff's Office requires a full-time Professional Standards Supervisor to oversee audits, quality assurance, and policy. This individual will conduct team inspections and will report to the Sheriff and Undersheriff and must not be affiliated with any police or corrections unions. The Professional Standards Supervisor will further provide administrative oversight of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). While the volunteer Ulster County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Diversion Committee currently organizes and delivers CIT trainings for Ulster County-based law enforcement, the local program is lacking in several ways: 1) there is no dedicated Ulster County CIT leadership; 2) the program is de-centralized amongst multiple police departments and potential teams; 3) there is too much diversity in each municipal police department's crisis response procedures.

The CIT Coordinator, centralized in Ulster County Sheriff's Office, would be able to: a) develop and grow the local CIT infrastructure, including representation from each police department, the local crisis response system of care, and peers/consumers/users of services; b) review and revise local law enforcement policies & procedures related to crisis response (achieving greater standardization whenever possible); c) improve integration (coordination & collaboration) between law enforcement and the behavioral health system of care; d) ensure program quality and fidelity to CIT standards; e) organize and help deliver all future CIT trainings; and f) provide community outreach and education about CIT's mission, vision, core values, activities, goals, and outcomes.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXECUTIVE'S JUSTICE REFORM REPORT

The UC-CJRTF outstanding needs align with the Executive's reports justice 5-year priority: "Expand Crisis Intervention Trainings to 50% percent of the Sheriff's Office personnel and 25% of all local Police Departments in Ulster County."

PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Legislative Resolution: Create and fund (including training costs) a Professional Standards unit including a Supervisor and CIT Manager to serve under the Ulster County Sheriff (see Appendix, pages 22–27).

Responding to Discrimination: Identify and Prevent Discrimination in the County Criminal Justice System

BACKGROUND

Based on the 2019 arrest and conviction data collected by the New York Department of Criminal Justice, in Ulster County, the rate of arrest of Black individuals is 39% higher than that of Whites; this jumps to 101% higher for felonies and 238% higher for drug felonies. Further, while 51% of arrests for Whites resulted in a sentence conviction, the rate is 72% for Blacks. As socio-demographics, such as disability, income, sexuality etc. are not collected in arrest data, potential discrimination based on these factors these cannot be enumerated but likely exist.

Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203, stipulated that: "each local government entity which has a police agency operating with police officers as defined under 1.20 of the criminal procedure law must perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color;" The attention to the need to engage community members into conversations about the nature of and responses to discrimination in criminal justice was highlighted in the Governor's Executive Order.

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

While there are complaint processes in place for each area of the criminal justice system, most individuals are unaware of how to issue their complaints should any arise. The CJRTF identified the need for the county to provide assistance to any individual who feels they have been discriminated against by any employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers, and seek to properly report the incident.

The goal is to create a resource that assists individuals to appropriate and existing reporting systems. While most individuals will be supported in directing their complaints to the appropriate oversight bodies and human rights complaint will be considered for investigation by the Human Rights Commission.

Further, there is a need to continue the community engagement in successes and barriers identified at the municipal and county-levels to assure implementation of efforts that were carefully imagined. Therefore, it is proposed that a county-wide law enforcement community advisory board be formed from the membership of each municipal police reform taskforce and the mission to support the implementation of police reform measures across the county. This group shall meet quarterly to discuss advances and barriers to implementing the recommendations of each municipal task force as well as that of the county.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXECUTIVE'S JUSTICE REFORM REPORT

Although the Executive's commission recommended the creation of a Sheriff Police Review Board, members of the UC-CJRTF felt strongly at this time that an advisory board to support reform plans across the county was germane at this time.

PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Legislative Resolutions: Implementation and staffing of a Discrimination in Ulster County Criminal Justice System Complaint Hotline for Referrals through the Human Rights Commission (see Appendix, pages 28–32).

Legislative Resolution: Create a County Law Enforcement Community Board comprised of leaders from each municipal police reform task force (see Appendix, pages 33–35).

Re-Integration: Reduce Revolving Door of Criminality

BACKGROUND

According to the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, approximately 43% of corrections inmates are returned to custody after release (DOCCS Fact Sheet, May, 2021). The New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) encouraged counties to develop a Re-Entry Taskforce. These taskforces are tasked with coordinating services to individuals who are returning to their communities after serving a state prison sentence and determined to be at moderate or high risk of reoffending.

Currently, Family of Woodstock implements these services to assist these individuals to return to our community from the prison system through supports including housing, counseling, and treatments to help them to succeed and not reoffend. Based on 2018 data, as a result of this program, only 8% of released state inmates reoffended and these re-offenses typically occurred within two months of release.

In Dutchess County, a recent study demonstrated that around 37.5% of jail inmates with behavioral health issues could have been safely diverted in the pre-arrest stage if linked to treatment alternatives to incarceration—this accounts for almost 25% of the total jail population

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

Our county Sheriff has been looking to establish partnerships with local businesses to provide occupational training to individuals held in our jail with the hope of transitioning these individuals to jobs upon release.

However, we have no formalized re-entry program to support those who are released from our jail to support their re-entry and provide the skills and care they need to not reoffend. Such a program would reflect programs in the state prison system which access during incarceration: employment, housing, education/training, substance abuse and mental health needs, provide training and support for individuals while incarcerated, and provide continued training and support upon release.

The UC-CJRTF feel it is paramount to implement a reentry program in our county by calling out, through a request for proposal, to the agencies with experience providing comprehensive re-entry services to incarcerated individuals.

ALIGNMENT WITH EXECUTIVE'S JUSTICE REFORM REPORT

The Executive's Commission for Justice Reform suggests the immediate action of: 1) [creating] discharge plans that connect incarcerated people to housing, mental health treatment, and jobs prior to release; and 2) [increase] job training programs to upskill incarcerated people and connect them to jobs upon release." These goals and addressed and expanded upon in this proposal.

PROPOSED INITIATIVE

Legislative Resolution: Implementation of a Request for Proposal to Provide Re-entry Services to Ulster County Jail Inmates (see Appendix, pages 36–37).

Centralized Arraignment

BACKGROUND

In the Governor's 2017–2018 budget, New York State passed Chapter 492 amending section 212(w) of the Judiciary Law to allow the Chief Administrative Judge to establish a plan for off-hours arraignment parts in the local courts. This legislation was intended to improve access to public defenders or assigned counsel for indigent defendants. This statute allows law enforcement to bring a person accused to Centralized Arraignment Part (CAP) when all courts are closed (off-hours) and then send the case back to the court that has trial jurisdiction. The Uniform Justice Court Act was modified to allow a rotation of elected magistrates at the CAP location.

The 2019 New York Bail Reform and the 2020 revisions resulted in what may be perceived as a reduction in need for off-hour arraignments as magistrates are instead directing law enforcement to issue appearance tickets where appearances would occur during that court's scheduled time. Measuring the need for a CAP system has been further impeded by the COVID pandemic with many courts closed and a move toward virtual hearings.

To date, 17 New York counties (37%) have implemented centralized arraignment. Others, such as Dutchess County are still in exploration.

OUTSTANDING NEEDS

It anecdotally appears that the bail reforms have not achieved their full impact in regard to initial appearance before a magistrate. The reform, particularly the 2020 revision, directs magistrates to consider non-monetary condition of release, including mandated treatment or hospitalization—actions particularly important if the arrested individual is acutely experiencing a substance abuse or mental health crisis at the time of arrest. What appears to be occurring is several magistrates, when contacted off-hours, are more often directing law enforcement to issue appearance tickets without reviewing if non-monetary conditions of release are needed.

As success with implementing a CAP program in our county necessitates full cooperation from the local magistrates, at this time, efforts are being made to encourage magistrates to consider the potential positive implications while also addressing other municipal impacts (e.g. transport). To date, no consensus has been reached in our county as to whether we should move toward becoming a CAP county.

PROPOSED INITIATIVE

Should the decision be made to move forward to make Ulster a CAP county we would need to be pass:

Legislative Resolutions Authorizing a Home Rule Request to make Ulster County a CAP county (see Appendix, pages 38–41).

Appendix

Legislative Resolutions

Restorative Justice: Balancing the Rights of Accused with the Rights of Victims

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Crisis Response: Supporting Law Enforcement's Capacity to Work with People in Crisis

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Responding to Discrimination: Identifying and Preventing Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System

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Centralized Arraignment Part: Sample Resolutions

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Establishing A Policy Requiring The Ulster County Personnel Director To Identify County Positions That Work Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, In 2013, with funding from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) the Ulster County Department of Probation, in partnership with Family, Inc., implemented and evaluated an innovative program called One80 serving youth at-risk of arrest aged 7-17 through referrals from police and school districts; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, several changes have been implemented to the Ulster County Restorative Justice program including: 1) the provision of monthly Restorative Justice (RJ) trainings for any Ulster County resident interested in understanding the process and/or ultimately leading a RJ Circle as a facilitator; 2) the expanded engagement of the Office of the District Attorney; 3) an expansion of the program to include adults aged 18-26 with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies.; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce expressed a strong desire to see restorative justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately it can be used for a larger number of cases diverting individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion.; and

WHEREAS, the one of the County Executive's Justice and Reform goals is to, "create a culture in Ulster County of healing and repairing instead of punitive;" and

DRAFT Resolution No. 1 Month X, 2021

Establishing A Policy Requiring The Ulster County Personnel Director To Identify County Positions That Work Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

WHEREAS, while the expansion of Restorative Justice overall and over the next several years will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney's Restorative Justice working group, the UC-CJRTF believes that an understanding how restorative justice works would be highly beneficial for improving county responses to crime and victimization by certain county positions; and

WHEREAS, Article X, §A-10-1 of the Administrative Code provides that, "The Personnel Director shall make such other reports at such times as may be required by the County Legislature..."; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature establishes a policy requiring the Ulster County Personnel Director to prepare a report for the Legislature of all job titles, including vacant positions, in the county with responsibilities relating to the administration of criminal justice services, including positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes, in the County Departments of Probation, Public Defender and Conflict Administrator, and in the Elected Offices of the District Attorney, and Sheriff, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this report shall be provided to the Clerk of the Legislature on October 1st of each year, with changes from the previous year's report clearly indicated,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE

Requesting The County Executive Require Restorative Justice Training For County Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, In 2013, with funding from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) the Ulster County Department of Probation, in partnership with Family, Inc., implemented and evaluated an innovative program called One80 serving youth at-risk of arrest aged 7-17 through referrals from police and school districts; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, several changes have been implemented to the Ulster County Restorative Justice program including: 1) the provision of monthly Restorative Justice (RJ) trainings for any Ulster County resident interested in understanding the process and/or ultimately leading a RJ Circle as a facilitator; 2) the expanded engagement of the Office of the District Attorney; 3) an expansion of the program to include adults aged 18-26 with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies.; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, The Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce expressed a strong desire to see restorative justice practices in Ulster County further expand where ultimately it can be used for a larger number of cases diverting individuals from the jail and toward greater community cohesion.; and

WHEREAS, the one of the County Executive's Justice and Reform goals is to, "create a culture in Ulster County of healing and repairing instead of punitive;" and

DRAFT Resolution No. 2 Month X, 2021

Requesting The County Executive Require Restorative Justice Training For County Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

WHEREAS, while the expansion of Restorative Justice overall and over the next several years will continue to be addressed by the District Attorney's Restorative Justice working group, the UC-CJRTF believes that an understanding how restorative justice works would be highly beneficial for improving county responses to crime and victimization by certain county positions; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. XXX of 2021, the Ulster County Legislature adopted a policy requiring the Ulster County Personnel Director to "prepare a report for the Legislature of all job titles, including vacant positions, in the county with responsibilities relating to the administration of criminal justice services,

including positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes, in the County Departments of Probation, Public Defender and Conflict Administrator, and in the Elected Offices of the District Attorney, and Sheriff"; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature urges the Ulster County Executive to require and implement a Restorative Justice Training Program for the employees identified in the Personnel report, leveraging current RJ programming offered through the Restorative Justice and Empowerment Center, and tailoring the program as needed to each Department and/or Office,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

TBD

Calling For The Creation Of An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center And Requesting The Initiation Of Request For Proposal Processes For The Provision Of Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/Or Substance Use Crisis

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Uchitelle) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the National Survey of Drug Use and Health, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County sees an average of 30 opioid overdoses each month, a rate driven consistently higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with Ulster County HEAL reporting 526 confirmed opioid-related overdoses and 71 fatalities in our County from May 2020 through May 2021, and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Ulster County lost its only inpatient emergency mental health and substance abuse recovery beds when Westchester Medical Center/Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley moved their beds to Dutchess County to make room for a potential surge in COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, while law enforcement utilizes the psychiatric emergency room when the need arises, many are faced extreme delays in access to intervention services, or a lack of available mental health and/or detox beds, resulting in an estimated 65% of those seen in our regional psychiatric emergency room being directly discharged, supporting the need for non-hospital level services for these individuals; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 3 MONTH X, 2021

Calling For The Creation Of An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center And Requesting The Initiation Of Request for Proposal Processes For The Provision Of Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/Or Substance Use Crisis

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that Ulster County residents who experience mental or substance abuse crisis deserve a 24-hour/7-day a week Crisis Stabilization Center to immediately connect individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use crisis with an integrated team of clinical counselors, peer specialists, and behavioral health professionals, as well as access to our local community's health and human service providers, to address any mental health, addiction, or social determinant of health needs; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that approximately 200 individuals will be served monthly when the center is at full capacity; and

WHEREAS, the parameters for a County Crisis Stabilization Center are outlined through approved amendments to the New York State Mental Hygiene law; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature calls for the creation of a Crisis Stabilization Center which operates 24 hours/day, 7 days per week, with sufficient staffing including: administrative staff, credentialed alcohol and substance abuse counselors (CASAC), social workers and/or otherwise licensed counselor, case managers, and certified recovery peer advocates (CPRA); priority should be given to individualized with personal lived recovery experience for mental health illness or substance abuse; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Mental Health, develop and initiate a Request for Proposals process to contract for the implementation and provision of services for individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use crisis, and required to administer the Center; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised of all such Requests for Proposals and of the subsequent award of any such contract,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

DRAFT Resolution No. 3 MONTH X, 2021

Calling For The Creation Of An Ulster County Crisis Stabilization Center And Requesting The Initiation Of Request for Proposal Processes For The Provision Of Services For Individuals Experiencing Mental Health And/Or Substance Use Crisis

Passed Committee: Public Health and Social Services on

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

DRAFT

Calling For The Creation Of Respite Houses In Ulster County And Requesting The Initiation Of Request for Proposal Processes For The Provision Of Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health And/Or Substance Use Recovery Assistance

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete), The Public Health and Social Services Committee (Chairman Lopez and Legislators Bruno, Criswell, Petit, and Uchitelle), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the National Survey of Drug Use and Health, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County sees an average of 30 opioid overdoses each month, a rate driven consistently higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with Ulster County HEAL reporting 526 confirmed opioid-related overdoses and 71 fatalities in our County from May 2020 through May 2021, and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Ulster County lost its only inpatient emergency mental health and substance abuse recovery beds when Westchester Medical Center/Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley moved their beds to Dutchess County to make room for a potential surge in COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, while law enforcement utilizes the psychiatric emergency room when the need arises, many are faced extreme delays in access to intervention services, or a lack of available mental health and/or detox beds, resulting in an estimated 65% of those seen in our regional psychiatric emergency room being directly discharged, supporting the need for non-hospital level services for these individuals; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 4 MONTH X, 2021

**Calling For The Creation Of Respite Houses In Ulster County And
Requesting The Initiation Of Request for Proposal Processes For
The Provision Of Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health
And/Or Substance Use Recovery Assistance**

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that Ulster County is in need of a system of support services and continued care for individuals upon discharge from a hospital, Crisis Stabilization Center, or other mental health and/or substance use facility, or ideally, to prevent this type of emergency use; and

WHEREAS, Respite Houses are 4-8 bed short-term crisis respite homes open and accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year which provide trauma informed, safe communities that allow individuals to work on their personal recovery from mental illness or substance use; and

WHEREAS, a Respite House is a self-referral service, ideally operated by individuals who themselves have had personal success with mental health and/or substance use recovery, designed to prevent hospital emergency use for psychiatric reasons and prevent potential future crises; and

WHEREAS, parameters of a Respite House (also known as a Crisis Residence) are outlined in Part 589 of 14 NYCRR; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature calls for the creation of multiple, 7-10 day Respite Houses in Ulster County, geographically spread out across the county, providing a minimum of eight beds overall, available to any resident of Ulster County ages 18 years old and over, with staffing for each home to include: administrative staff, crisis specialists, case managers, and administrative support; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Mental Health, develop and initiate a Request for Proposals process to contract for the administration and provision of services at two Respite Houses; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised of all such Requests for Proposals and of the subsequent award of any such contract,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

DRAFT Resolution No. 4 MONTH X, 2021

**Calling For The Creation Of Respite Houses In Ulster County And
Requesting The Initiation Of Request for Proposal Processes For
The Provision Of Services For Individuals Seeking Mental Health
And/Or Substance Use Recovery Assistance**

Passed Committee: Public Health and Social Services on

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

DRAFT

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff's Office

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) to evaluate Restorative Justice Services in the county and explore opportunities for improvement and expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified that law enforcement are entrusted by the public to demonstrate high ethical standards which are consistent with the law they have sworn to uphold; and

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF further found that to be worthy of this trust and to ensure that the professional conduct of law enforcement is lifted and held at the highest level, internal regulation and robust training must be prioritized and fully integrated into any law enforcement body; and

WHEREAS, professionalism in law enforcement requires establishing minimum standards of ethical codes of conduct, vigorous investigations into breeches of these codes, and defined rules for internal discipline to ensure compliance; and

WHEREAS, in the Ulster County Sheriff's Office currently complaints against officers presented both internally and externally are handled as a collateral duty by a member of the Sherriff's team; and

WHEREAS, this structure substantially limits response to these complaints due to a finite amount of person-time available to investigate and respond in conjunction with regular duties, and, creates a troubling lack of independence from those for whom the complaint is about; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a full time Professional Standards Supervisor position is added to the office of the Sheriff to: oversee audits, quality assurance, and policy for that office and its members, conduct team inspections, uphold the Sheriff's Office Code of Conduct and investigate and claims of violation; and, be it further

DRAFT Resolution No. 5 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Position – Sheriff's Office

RESVOLVED, that this supervisor will provide administrative oversight of matters related to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) programing and training, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support instruction; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this supervisor will create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement, and will be responsible for the evaluation of current law enforcement policy the recommendation of potential revisions; and, be it further

RESOLVED, and that this position will report to the Sheriff and Undersheriff and must not affiliated with any unions, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-3110-1810-1400-1400 (App.#)	Regular Pay	\$ 28,942.00
AA-3110-1810-4300-4345 (App.#)	Professional Services Education/Training	\$ 10,000.00
AA-3110-1810-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 4,828.00
AA-3110-1810-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 2,215.00
AA-3110-1810-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 7,922.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#)	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$43,905.00

and moves its adoption.

DRAFT Resolution No. 5 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Professional Standards Supervisor Investigate and Uphold the Sheriff's Office Code of Conduct and Oversee EEOC and EAP/CIT – Sheriff's Office

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$53,905.00 – ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$85,838.00 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Reflect Additional Funding for a Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff's Office

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, people living with mental illness in New York are more likely to encounter the criminal justice system, resulting in a large number of arrests and incarcerations (National Survey of Drug Use and Health); and

WHEREAS, failures to develop a robust Crisis Intervention Team and to assure appropriate crisis intervention and de-escalation training for officers has been found to result in poorer outcomes for both law enforcement and individuals who interact with them in a potential arrest; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified that a key way to prevent potential abuse of law enforcement toward a civilian is through the expansion of the Sheriff's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and de-escalation trainings for officers; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Ulster County invested money to expand the Mobile Mental Health services to reach a broader geographic area and added a social worker position to the 911 dispatch system particularly to assist in incidents where law enforcement is engaged with an individual experiencing a mental health crisis; and

WHEREAS, these efforts are better realized with increased and improved training for members of the law enforcement community; and

WHEREAS, the current 40 hour de-escalation training implemented to some of the county law enforcers have been well received and has anecdotally shown an impact on preventing poorer outcomes for law enforcement and civilians but are costly and therefore not available to a broader group of police officers; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 6 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Reflect Additional Funding for a Crisis Intervention Team Manager Position – Sheriff’s Office

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF finds that these trainings should be formalized, required for new hires, available to our County’s municipal police and repeated in regular intervals; and

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF further finds that law enforcement peer support training centered on the mental health of law enforcement personnel is needed as well; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive’s Justice and Reform Plan includes a priority to, “expand crisis intervention trainings to 50% percent of the Sheriff’s Office personnel and 25% of all local Police Departments in Ulster County; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a full-time Crisis Intervention Team manager position is created to: oversee crisis intervention trainings, including de-escalation and peer-to-peer mental health support trainings, evaluate and recommend potential revisions in law enforcement policy, create, implement, and regularly evaluate a triage diversion plan for individuals presenting with a mental health crisis to law enforcement, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-3110-1810-1400-1400 (App.#)	Regular Pay	\$ 17,150.00
AA-3110-1810-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 2,861.00
AA-3110-1810-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 1,312.00
AA-3110-1810-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 4,694.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#)	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$26,017.00

DRAFT Resolution No. 6 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Crisis Intervention Team Manager To Coordinate And Expand De-Escalation Trainings – Sheriff's Office

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$26,017.00 - ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$50,865.67 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY

Establishing A Hotline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

Referred to: Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that based on the 2019 arrest and conviction data collected by the New York Department of Criminal Justice, the rate of arrest of Black individuals in Ulster County is 39% higher than that of Whites; this jumps to 101% higher for felonies and 238% higher for drug felonies; further, while 51% of arrests for Whites resulted in a sentence conviction, the rate is 72% for Blacks.; and

WHEREAS, as socio-demographics such as disability, income, sexuality etc. are not collected in arrest data potential discrimination based on these factors cannot be enumerated but likely exist; and

WHEREAS, measuring the true extent of discrimination experienced by individuals from police, attorneys, judges, probation and corrections officers is not possible; and

WHEREAS, while there are complaint processes in place for each area of the criminal justice system, most individuals are unaware of how to issue their complaints, should any arise; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 7 MONTH X, 2021

Establishing A Hotline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force identified the need for the county to provide assistance to individuals who believe they have been discriminated against by an employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers and seek to properly report the incident; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that it is the policy of Ulster County to provide a hotline for community members who believe they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system to call to receive support and referral information as to the appropriate place and method to report the discriminatory treatment; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature calls upon the Ulster County Human Rights Commission to administer and promote the hotline, and that it be dedicated solely for this purpose,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
TBD

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

Referred to: The Laws and Rules, Governmental Services Committee (Chairwoman Bartels and Legislators Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts and Ronk) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that based on the 2019 arrest and conviction data collected by the New York Department of Criminal Justice, the rate of arrest of Black individuals in Ulster County is 39% higher than that of Whites; this jumps to 101% higher for felonies and 238% higher for drug felonies; further, while 51% of arrests for Whites resulted in a sentence conviction, the rate is 72% for Blacks.; and

WHEREAS, as socio-demographics such as disability, income, sexuality etc. are not collected in arrest data potential discrimination based on these factors cannot be enumerated but likely exist; and

WHEREAS, measuring the true extent of discrimination experienced by individuals from police, attorneys, judges, probation and corrections officers is not possible; and

WHEREAS, while there are complaint processes in place for each area of the criminal justice system, most individuals are unaware of how to issue their complaints should any arise; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force identified the need for the county to provide assistance to any individual who feels they have been discriminated against by any employee of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, attorneys, judges, and corrections officers and who seek to properly report the incident; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 8 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF has learned that the Office of the Commissioner of Human Rights receives numerous calls seeking precisely this information on a regular basis; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, a part-time Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Initiative Referral Specialist position will be created in the Human Rights Commission Budget to provide a support and referral system for community members who feel they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2021 Ulster County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	<u>INCREASE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AA-8040-3500-1400-1400 (App.#)	Part-Time Pay	\$ 8,057.00
AA-8040-3500-8000-8000 (App.#)	Retirement	\$ 1,344.00
AA-8040-3500-8010-8010 (App.#)	Social Security	\$ 617.00
AA-8040-3500-8020 (App.#)	Health Insurance	\$ 2,206.00
AA-9900-9900-3700 (Rev.#)	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$12,222.00

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

DRAFT Resolution No. 8 MONTH X, 2021

Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Create A Criminal Justice Discrimination Support Referral Specialist – Human Rights Commission

Passed Committee: Laws and Rules, Governmental Services on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$12,222.00 - ADDITIONAL 2021 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$23,894.42 – ESTIMATED 2022 ANNUAL REGULAR PAY

Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Advisory Board

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) to evaluate Restorative Justice Services in the county and explore opportunities for improvement and expansion; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the Criminal Justice Reform Taskforce identified with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203 (EO203) titled, New York State Police Reform And Reinvention Collaborative, stipulating that: "each local government entity which has a police agency operating with police officers as defined under 1.20 of the criminal procedure law must perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color," and

WHEREAS, EO203 stipulated the importance to engage community members in these discussions and as a result many community members committed extensive time and care into developing plans for each police force in the county including the office of the Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue community engagement in successes and barriers to success identified at the municipal and county-levels to assure implementation of these carefully imagined efforts; and

WHEREAS, *pursuant to Ulster County Charter Section C-16 and the Administrative Code Section A2-11: "Advisory committees, commissions and boards. Members of all citizens' committees, commissions and boards appointed pursuant to Section C-11K of the Charter shall serve at the pleasure of the County Legislature. They shall serve without compensation other than for actual and necessary expenses within appropriations made therefor, unless otherwise provided by resolution of the County Legislature. The Chairman of the County Legislature shall be a member ex-officio of all such committees, commissions and boards;"* now, therefore, be it

DRAFT Resolution No. 9 MONTH X, 2021

Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Advisory Board

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Law Enforcement Community Advisory Board is hereby created as a centralized community advisory group tasked with supporting and evaluating the implementation of the reform plans approved for Ulster County as a result of EO203 for efficacy, efficiency, and compliance, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services as well as to discuss implementation, and barriers to implementation, of plans within individual municipalities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Advisory Group shall consist of:

- One (1) community member representative from each of the Ulster County EO203 task forces,
- One (1) Legislator chosen by the Majority Leader,
- One (1) Legislator chosen by the Minority Leader, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Law Enforcement Community Advisory Group shall meet no later than 30 days after the appointments to said Advisory Group are made, and shall continue to meet no less than quarterly; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive's Office shall provide the assistance of such departments that he or she deems appropriate; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the first meeting of the Advisory Group shall be convened by the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature and at said meeting, the members of the Advisory Group shall choose one of its members to be the Chair of the Advisory Group; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Advisory Group shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the County Legislature for consideration, review, and appropriate action, if necessary, no later than one year after its first meeting; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Law Enforcement Community Advisory Group shall be dissolved upon filing its findings and recommendations with the Clerk of the Legislature,

and move its adoption.

DRAFT Resolution No. 9 MONTH X, 2021

**Establishing The Ulster County Law Enforcement Community
Advisory Board**

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE

DRAFT

Requesting The Initiation Of A Request for Proposal Process For The Provision Of Re-Entry Services For Individuals Serving Time In The Ulster County Jail

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete) and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, Ronk, and Walter)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 410 of October 15, 2019 established the Ulster County Criminal Justice Reform Task Force (UC-CJRTF) which has set forth to evaluate existing and potential criminal justice programs, to ensure the best and most cost-effective delivery of services, and to explore opportunities for program expansion to help the greatest number of county residents who may be in need of services; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature is in receipt of, and has reviewed, the report of the UC-CJRTF; and

WHEREAS, the report finds that according to the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision approximately 43% of corrections inmates are returned to custody after release (DOCCS Fact Sheet, May, 2021) and the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) encouraged counties to develop a Re-Entry Taskforce to coordinating services to individuals who are returning to their communities after serving a state prison sentence and determined to be at moderate or high risk of reoffending; and

WHEREAS, in Ulster County Family of Woodstock, Inc. implements services to assist these individuals to return to our community from the prison system through supports including housing, counseling, and treatments to help them to succeed and not reoffend; and

WHEREAS, as a result, based on 2018 data, only 8% of released state inmates reoffended and these re-offenses typically occurred within two months of release; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sheriff has been actively pursuing partnerships with local businesses to provide occupational training to individuals held in our jail with the hopes of transitioning these individuals to jobs upon release; and

DRAFT Resolution No. 10

MONTH X, 2021

Requesting The Initiation Of A Request for Proposal Process For The Provision Of Re-Entry Services For Individuals Serving Time In The Ulster County Jail

WHEREAS, we have no formalized reentry program to support those who are released from our jail to support their reentry and provide the skills and care they need to not reoffend; and

WHEREAS, the UC-CJRTF believes that a program reflective of that which is provided in the state prison system, including: assessing during incarceration an individual's employment, housing, education/training, substance abuse and mental health needs, providing training and support for individuals while incarcerated, and providing continued training and support upon release, will substantially benefit individuals incarcerated in Ulster County as well as the communities to which they return; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive's Justice and Reform Plan suggests the immediate action of 1) [creating] discharge plans that connect incarcerated people to housing, mental health treatment, and jobs prior to release; and 2) [increase] job training programs to upskill incarcerated people and connect them to jobs upon release."; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature requests the County Executive, in consultation with the Ulster County Sheriff, develop and initiate a Request for Proposals process to contract for the implementation and provision of re-entry services to Ulster County jail inmates reflective of the services outlined above, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be advised of all such Requests for Proposals and of the subsequent award of any such contract,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP)

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York Corrections Law § 500-C, the Ulster County Sherriff may not house persons arrested and detained prior to arraignment; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sherriff has the adequate facilities and procedures to house said persons prior to arraignment; and

WHEREAS, detention of said persons prior to arraignment is in the best interest of promoting public safety and efficient use of law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution of the State of New York, it is necessary for this Legislature to enact a Home Rule Request for the purposes of said legislation; now, therefor be it

RESOLVED, the New York State Legislature and Governor are requested to pass legislation amending Section § 500-C of the New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP) as follows:

Section 1. Section 500-a of the Correction Law is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-S to read as follows:

2-s. THE ULSTER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY MAY ALSO BE USED FOR THE DETENTION OF PERSONS UNDER ARREST BEING HELD FOR ARRAIGNMENT IN ANY COURT LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF ULSTER.

Section 2. Section 500-c of the correction law is amended by adding a new subdivision 25 to read as follows:

25. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, IN THE COUNTY OF ULSTER, ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL EQUALLY APPLY IN ANY CASE WHERE THE SHERIFF IS HOLDING A PERSON UNDER ARREST FOR ARRAIGNMENT PRIOR TO COMMITMENT, AS IF SUCH PERSON HAS BEEN JUDICIALLY COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE SHERIFF AND SUCH PERSON MAY BE HELD IN THE ULSTER COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

DRAFT Resolution No. 11

MONTH X, 2021

Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP)

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately, provided, however, that the amendments to section 500-c of the Correction Law, made by Section two of this act, shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed repealed therewith.

; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized to submit a Home Rule Request (Request by Local Government for Enactment of a Special Law), pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution upon introduction of the above requested legislation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, this Home Rule Request shall be forwarded to the Governor, Senate Majority Leader, Senate Minority Leader, Assembly Speaker, Assembly Majority Leader, Assembly Minority Leader, New York State Assemblymembers Kevin Cahill, Jonathan Jacobsen, Brian Miller, and Chris Tague, and New York State Senators Michele Hinchey, Mike Martucci, Peter Oberacker, and James Skoufis,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

TBD

Approving Phase II Of The Ulster County Central Arraignment Part

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairwoman Walter and Legislators Fabiano, Haynes, Heppner and Parete)

Legislator Eve Walter offers the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Sherriff has the adequate facilities and procedures to house said persons prior to arraignment;

WHEREAS, detention of said persons prior to arraignment is in the best interest of promoting public safety and efficient use of law enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. XX Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Section § 500-C Of The New York State Corrections Law To Authorize The Ulster County Correctional Facility To Hold Persons Under Arrest For Arraignment In Any Court Located In The County Of Ulster (Phase I CAP) has been introduced for consideration by the Ulster County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of Resolution No. and subsequent enactment of the requested amendment to New York Corrections Law § 500-C, anticipated to be enacted into law on or before [MONTH DAY, 2021], allowing the Ulster County Sherriff to hold a person under arrest for arraignment, prior to commitment; and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part provides for the regular hours and administration of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part to conduct local criminal court arraignments, and provides for the availability to conduct emergency arraignments, which are requested to occur at any time of the day or night; and

WHEREAS, arrestees brought to the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center will, where practicable, be arraigned at the first available arraignment time within the Centralized Arraignment Part; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature Approves Phase II of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that upon approval by the New York State Office of Court Administration of Phase II of the Ulster County Central Arraignment Part, operation shall commence as soon as practicable,

and move its adoption.

DRAFT Resolution No. 12 MONTH X, 2021

Approving Phase II Of The Ulster County Central Arraignment Part

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

DRAFT