

## ANNUAL REPORT

### MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

1960

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Gentlemen:

As in my past annual reports, the following pages present for your information and study an analysis of the activities of this department for the past year.

Unemployment continued to plague our county during 1960 and again was a leading causative factor in keeping the caseload and resulting costs high.

The gross cost of operation of this department increased from \$1,305,607.60 in 1959 to \$1,310,990.96 in 1960, while the net amount to be raised by real estate tax increased from \$419,887.60 in 1959 to \$421,863.34 in 1960.

During the year the distribution of Surplus Foods was discontinued because of lack of interest and because of the passage of a new law which placed a larger portion of the cost of administration on local Welfare Departments.

The last month of distribution of Surplus Foods in this county, March of 1960, showed only 193 families participating, most of which were welfare recipients.

During the period when this department participated in the distribution of Surplus Foods, the greatest criticism which we received was over the fact that Federal Law prohibits any welfare department from reducing a recipient's budgetary allowance because he receives Surplus Foods. The Federal Law also prohibits a welfare department from denying relief to a person simply because he qualifies for receipt of the Surplus Foods.

I have included the above in this annual report in an effort to correct the misinformation which has been circulated that this department could keep persons off the welfare rolls by the distribution of Surplus Foods.

In this report I also believe that it is essential that I call your attention to the new Medical Aid to the Aging program which becomes effective April 1, 1961. This is an entirely new Federal Program of Assistance and there is no criterion by which we may anticipate the number of applications this department may receive in this new category. If we receive a substantial number of new applications, it

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### MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

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will be necessary for me to employ additional caseworkers to handle the caseload.

It has been predicted that any welfare district may expect a number of new applicants equivalent to one-third of its present Old Age Assistance caseload. If this should hold true in Madison County, we may have between ninety and one hundred applications. It does not appear that this will hold true in our county, but if it does, I want the Board members to know that additional caseworkers will become a necessity.

I trust that the enclosed report is self-explanatory. If it isn't, I shall be happy to attempt to answer any questions which may arise.

I urge the proper committee of the Board to make a thorough study of the salary schedule of this department. I refer particularly to the salary schedule for Caseworkers, Case Supervisors and Senior Caseworkers. The salaries presently paid to these staff members are inconsistent with the educational requirements of the job, and I hope that before the next Annual Session of the Board serious consideration will be given to increasing salaries so that they will be commensurate with the qualifications required and the tremendous responsibilities which go with the job.

ANNUAL REPORT  
COMPARISON CASELOADS

1959

	OAA	AB	AD	CASES	ADC CHILDREN	CASES	HOME RELIEF INDIVIDUALS	MONTHLY TOTAL
Jan. 31	297	10	66	175	510	199	991	747
Feb. 28	295	10	65	173	533	221	1152	764
Mar. 31	301	11	63	175	532	196	1159	746
Apr. 30	306	10	61	177	533	184	1067	738
May 31	297	10	64	166	487	137	737	674
June 30	299	10	68	164	478	118	709	659
July 31	296	11	69	154	462	114	642	644
Aug. 31	290	11	66	156	478	96	546	619
Sept. 30	285	12	69	162	502	106	519	634
Oct. 31	290	12	69	162	509	108	510	641
Nov. 30	293	13	68	157	476	121	670	652
Dec. 31	294	11	76	163	473	151	665	695

1960

	OAA	AB	AD	CASES	ADC CHILDREN	CASES	HOME RELIEF INDIVIDUALS	MONTHLY TOTAL
Jan. 31	285	11	77	162	483	177	749	712
Feb. 29	286	11	74	168	504	179	766	718
Mar. 31	279	11	68	180	540	203	1047	741
Apr. 30	277	11	70	188	581	149	1017	695
May 31	270	12	70	177	553	116	628	645
June 30	273	12	69	172	549	102	502	628
July 31	274	12	74	166	534	103	504	629
Aug. 31	274	13	68	161	521	105	476	621
Sept. 30	278	10	68	151	503	92	501	599
Oct. 31	279	10	70	151	493	112	503	622
Nov. 30	277	10	69	161	522	137	707	654
Dec. 31	284	10	80	187	555	175	862	736

Note: The above figures do not include persons cared for at the County Home (outside the Infirmary). The average number provided care in the County Home was 19 per monthly.

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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

1960

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

The average monthly caseload in this category, as in previous years, continued to decrease. The average monthly caseload dropped from 295 in 1959 to 278 cases in 1960.

Cash grants decreased from \$172,219.93 in 1959 to \$160,095.79 in 1960; Hospital care increased from \$30,704.88 to \$31,907.55; Doctors' fees for services increased from \$26,605.20 to \$28,074.14 and cost of prescriptions decreased from \$12,433.20 to \$11,405.99.

Medical costs in Old Age Assistance represented approximately 29% of the total cost of this program as compared to 28% in 1959. This percentage does not include cost of medical care in the Infirmary.

AID TO THE BLIND

The average monthly caseload in this category remained the same in 1960 as in 1959, 11 cases.

Cash grants in this category increased from \$7,260.90 in 1959 to \$7,747.42 in 1960; Hospital care totalled \$961.98 in 1959 while there were no hospital charges in 1960; Doctors' fees for services increased from \$1,197.50 in 1959 to \$1,322.83 while the cost of prescriptions increased from \$551.82 to \$574.23 in 1960.

Cost of medical care in this program represented approximately 19% in 1960 as compared to 25% in 1959.

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

The average monthly caseload in this program increased from 165 to 169 cases representing an increase from 498 children in 1959 to 528 children per month in 1960.

Cash grants increased from \$274,943.78 to \$287,564.17 in 1960. Cost of hospital care decreased from \$14,388.74 to \$11,714.95; Doctors' fees increased from \$27,322.30 to \$30,366.14 while the cost of prescriptions increased from \$7,451.76 to \$8,639.35.

Medical costs in this program remained approximately the same percentage of the total cost as in 1959, 15%.

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PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

1960

AID TO THE DISABLED

The average monthly caseload in this category increased from 67 in 1959 to 71 in 1960.

Cash grants increased from \$35,432.69 in 1959 to \$39,088.16 in 1960. Cost of hospital care increased from \$6,218.84 to \$7,872.09; Doctors' fees for services increased from \$6,990.18 to \$10,010.75 while prescription costs increased from \$3,857.42 to \$5,812.16.

Medical costs in this program increased from 32% in 1959 to approximately 37% in 1960.

HOME RELIEF

The average monthly caseload in this category decreased from 146 cases, representing 781 persons in 1959, to 138 cases representing 688 persons in 1960.

The enactment of the new Work Relief Law, whereby able-bodied men in receipt of Home Relief could be required to work for not only the County but also towns, cities and villages had a desirable effect on the caseload in this category. Many men were happy to work for their Welfare checks, while I believe that some were discouraged from applying when they knew that they would have to work for their checks.

Cash grants decreased from \$184,018.20 in 1959 to \$181,150.09 in 1960; Doctors' fees for services decreased from \$22,065.71 to \$16,592.03 while the cost of prescriptions decreased from \$6,918.52 to \$5,116.25.

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Note: Doctors' fees for services on this and preceding pages include fees paid to physicians, dentists, optometrists, podiatrists and any other licensed practitioner in the healing arts.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
1960

HOSPITAL ONLY

This program provides needed hospital care for persons not in receipt of public assistance in one of the Federal Categories of Old Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind, Aid to the Disabled or Aid to Dependent Children.

This is a non-reimbursable program except in the case of recipients of Home Relief who have been actively on the rolls for thirty days immediately prior to hospitalization, in which case the State reimburses 50% of the cost of care, and in State Charge cases, where the county is reimbursed the full 100% of the cost.

Total cost of this program in 1960 was \$76,243.62 while in 1959 it was \$91,250.02.

BURIALS

Burial costs increased from \$11,949.20 in 1959 to \$15,479.20 in 1960.

ANNUAL REPORT  
CHILD WELFARE DIVISION  
1960

CASELOAD

	Boarding Homes	Free Homes	Adoptive Homes	Work-Wage Self-Support	Out of County Supervision	Total
Jan.	76	0	15	3	6	116
Feb.	83	0	14	3	6	122
Mar.	87	0	13	2	6	123
Apr.	88	0	13	1	6	122
May	86	0	12	1	6	117
June	79	0	11	2	5	112
July	81	0	12	3	4	115
Aug.	83	0	12	1	4	116
Sept.	83	0	13	2	4	119
Oct.	84	0	14	2	4	123
Nov.	83	0	15	1	4	124
Dec.	79	0	15	1	2	119

REFERRALS

	Family Court	Private Citizens	Public Assistance	Out of County	School	Clinic	Other	Total
Jan.	11	3	0	6	0	0	7	27
Feb.	0	7	0	3	2	3	2	17
Mar.	7	5	0	5	1	1	1	20
Apr.	11	19	0	2	1	0	1	34
May	9	16	0	4	3	6	1	39
June	2	2	7	4	11	5	0	31
July	6	7	0	0	2	0	6	21
Aug.	15	3	9	7	4	0	12	50
Sept.	2	14	0	9	4	0	3	32
Oct.	15	2	4	0	0	0	6	27
Nov.	7	3	5	1	2	0	1	19
Dec.	4	1	4	0	2	0	0	11
Total	89	82	29	41	32	15	40	328

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ANNUAL REPORT  
CHILD WELFARE DIVISION  
1960

The charts on the preceding page illustrate the casework handled by this division during 1960.

The monthly caseload ranged from a low of 112 children to a high of 124 during the year.

This division received 328 referrals during 1960 as compared to 289 in 1959. The greatest number of referrals were received from families, while court referrals ranked a close second with 82. Family referrals totalled 89.

Gross expenditures in Child Welfare increased from a total of \$66,001.86 in 1959 to \$67,421.44 in 1960, while the net local cost decreased from \$31,116.80 to \$26,902.19.

Gross expenditures for the care of Juvenile Delinquents dropped from \$17,539.85 in 1959 to \$13,422.35 in 1960. The net local cost decreased from \$11,462.79 to \$5,797.90.

A shelter home for the care of problem children pending determination of the court was established this past year and has proven very beneficial for caring of those children who could not be provided care in regular Foster Care Homes. The care provided in this home is for those children who require more security because of the particular problem which they present to society. Although the rate paid to the operators of the Shelter Home is considerably higher than that paid for Foster Care, it is far less than the cost of care previously paid to neighboring counties for Detention Care.

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STATISTICS

1960

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Disbursements:

Personal Services	\$109,711.07
Equipment	497.57
Supplies & Materials	5,048.80
Other expenses	
(Travel, telephone, rent, postage, etc.)	<u>18,087.49</u>

\$133,344.93

Credits:

Federal Reimbursement	\$ 32,575.10
State Reimbursement	<u>48,986.45</u>

\$ 81,561.55

Net Local Administrative Expense

\$ 51,783.38

HOME RELIEF

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$181,150.09
Doctors' fees	16,592.03
Prescriptions	5,116.25
Other Assistance	<u>4,146.25</u>

\$207,004.62

Credits:

State Reimbursement	\$120,233.75
Repayments & recoveries	<u>1,503.66</u>

\$ 121,737.41

Net Local Cost

\$ 85,267.21

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STATISTICS

1960

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$160,095.79
Payments to Hospitals	31,907.55
Doctors' fees	28,074.14
Prescriptions	11,405.99
Other assistance	<u>11,886.05</u>

\$243,369.52

Credits:

Federal Reimbursement	\$122,179.80
State Reimbursement	51,392.96
Repayments & recoveries	<u>14,773.74</u>

\$188,346.50

Net Local Cost

\$ 55,023.02

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$287,564.17
Hospital care	11,714.95
Doctors' fees	30,366.14
Prescriptions	8,639.35
Other assistance	<u>4,395.79</u>

\$342,680.40

Credits:

Federal Reimbursement	\$176,290.15
State Reimbursement	72,013.34
Repayments & recoveries	<u>16,972.35</u>

\$265,275.84

Net Local Cost

\$ 77,404.56

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STATISTICS

1960

AID TO THE DISABLED

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$39,088.16
Hospital Care	7,872.09
Doctors' fees	10,010.75
Prescriptions	5,812.16
Other assistance	<u>881.83</u>

\$63,664.99

Credits:

Federal Reimbursement	\$33,490.50
State Reimbursement	13,844.47
Repayments & recoveries	<u>670.78</u>

\$48,005.75

Net Local Cost

\$15,659.24

AID TO THE BLIND

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$ 7,747.42
Doctors' fees	1,322.83
Prescriptions	652.42
Other assistance	<u>574.23</u>

\$10,296.90

Credits:

Federal Reimbursement	\$ 5,851.50
State Reimbursement	2,861.14
Repayments & recoveries	<u>755.03</u>

\$ 9,467.67

Net Local Cost

\$ 829.23

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STATISTICS

1960

FOSTER CARE

Disbursements:

Board	\$56,057.71
Clothing	4,458.68
Supplies	626.66
Doctors' care	1,986.87
Prescriptions	601.50
Optical care	311.09
Hospital care	1,516.64
Dental care	1,676.00
Miscellaneous	<u>186.29</u>

\$67,421.44

Credits:

State reimbursement	\$30,790.78
Repayments	<u>9,728.47</u>

\$40,519.25

Net Local Cost

\$26,902.19

JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Disbursements:

Board	\$12,384.58
Clothing	388.41
Supplies	106.71
Doctors fees	142.50
Optical care	58.78
Hospital care	84.37
Dental care	<u>257.00</u>

\$13,422.35

Credits:

State Reimbursement	\$ 5,799.25
Repayments	<u>1,825.20</u>

\$ 7,624.45

Net Local Cost

\$ 5,797.90

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STATISTICS

1960

HOSPITAL ONLY

Disbursements:

Hospital charges	\$60,462.93
Doctors' fees	15,616.14
Transportation, etc.	<u>164.55</u>

\$76,243.62

Credits:

From other Welfare Districts	\$ 374.61
Repayments & recoveries	3,599.91
Reimbursement-State-charge cases	12,633.69
Reimbursement on HR-HO costs	<u>5,293.25</u>

\$21,901.46

Net Local Cost

\$54,342.16

BURIALS

Disbursements:

Burial payments	<u>\$15,479.20</u>
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\$15,479.20

Credits:

State Reimbursement	\$ 5,126.94
Repayments & recoveries	<u>1,862.11</u>

\$ 6,989.05

Net Local Cost

\$ 8,490.15

NON-PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Disbursements:

Transportation to clinic	<u>\$9.75</u>
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\$9.75

ANNUAL REPORT

GERRIT SMITH MEMORIAL HOME & INFIRMARY

1960

The Infirmary was operated during 1960 at nearly full capacity and plans have now been completed for conversion of the second floor to additional Infirmary facilities. Completion of the conversion will give us a minimum of an additional fifty beds.

The elevator, which was provided for in the 1960 budget, was not installed inasmuch as it was determined that it should wait until completion of the plans for total conversion.

It is my sincere hope that bids will be let by the Board of Supervisors very shortly so that work may start. With the new Medical Aid to the Aging law becoming effective on April 1, 1961, it is more essential than ever that we have a larger Infirmary.

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GERRIT SMITH MEMORIAL HOME & INFIRMARY

1960

DISBURSEMENTS:

Salaries, wages & professional fees	\$67,521.42
Telephone	466.79
Fuel	4,861.58
Light & power	2,350.01
Drugs & medical supplies	7,524.69
Food	18,492.43
Milk pasteurization	770.84
Maintenance supplies	5,140.64
Clothing, sheets & drygoods	783.02
Miscellaneous supplies	1,469.92
Laundry service	2,339.90
Cleaning septic tank	300.00
Other (Extermination service, fees, adv., express, petty cash, insurance)	491.69
Ordinary repairs	816.93
Equipment	1,271.99
New furnace	<u>9,636.44</u>

\$124,238.29

REVENUES:

Public monies (Aid to Disabled)	\$ 5,409.73
Public monies (Old Age Assistance)	43,483.79
Refunds for board & care	<u>14,531.78</u>

Operating cost  
Less State reimbursement on operating cost  
Net operating cost to county

\$ 63,425.30
<u>\$ 60,812.99</u>
18,746.11
<u>\$ 42,066.88</u>

Total number of residents Jan. 1, 1960	65
Total number of residents Dec. 31, 1960	65
Total number of days' care during 1960	23,372

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COUNTY FARM

1960

Total operating costs of the County Farm decreased from \$15,425.17 in 1959 to \$13,814.95 in 1960. Including the value of produce consumed at the Home and Infirmary, the net operating profit increased from \$1,609.82 in 1959 to \$1,712.33 in 1960.

Whether or not the Farm should be continued in operation is still a debatable question. When produce consumed at the Home and Infirmary is not considered the Farm sustained a loss in cash receipts of \$3,119.76 in 1959 and \$2,339.77 in 1960.

The original purpose for which a County Farm was first established - to create work for indigents housed at the County Home prior to the establishment of Federal Categories of Public Assistance - no longer exists.

The Farm no longer supplies the Home and Infirmary with fresh vegetables, eggs or chickens. The growing of pigs for Home consumption was discontinued several years ago and very little of the beef required at the Home at present is raised on the Farm.

I think it only fair to inform the Board of Supervisors that continuation of the Farm definitely means that a considerable amount of money must be expended in the near future for major repairs.

The roof on the large cattle barn is in a bad state of disrepair; the outbuildings need painting; much of the equipment, as shown in the inventory, is getting old and plans should be made for replacement in the future.

I respectfully urge the proper committee of the Board to give immediate consideration to the future of the County Farm.

I have considered this problem with mixed emotions. This is a rural county, a farming county. If the County Farm is to be continued, I firmly feel that it should be operated on a sound business basis, as one of the better farms of the County, one of which we can be proud.

If it is decided to dispose of the Farm, it should be sold at the time of year when we may expect the greatest return from the auction.

ANNUAL REPORT

COUNTY FARM

1960

PRODUCE FOR RESIDENT CONSUMPTION:

MILK:

Jan.	4236	lb.	@	\$7.70	per cwt.	\$326.17
Feb.	4173	lb.	@	\$7.50	per cwt.	312.98
Mar.	3618	lb.	@	\$7.40	per cwt.	267.73
Apr.	3592	lb.	@	\$7.00	per cwt.	251.44
May	4186	lb.	@	\$6.70	per cwt.	280.46
June	3765	lb.	@	\$6.70	per cwt.	252.26
July	3699	lb.	@	\$7.10	per cwt.	262.63
Aug.	3790	lb.	@	\$7.40	per cwt.	280.46
Sept.	3610	lb.	@	\$7.60	per cwt.	274.36
Oct.	3618	lb.	@	\$7.60	per cwt.	274.96
Nov.	3383	lb.	@	\$7.60	per cwt.	257.11
Dec.	3745	lb.	@	\$7.60	per cwt.	<u>284.62</u>

\$3,325.18

BEEF:

Feb.	1530	lb.	@	.33¢	per lb.	\$504.90
Nov.	653	lb.	@	.34¢	per lb.	<u>222.02</u>

\$ 726.92

Total Income from Produce used  
for Resident Consumption

\$4,052.10

ANNUAL REPORT

COUNTY FARM

1960

FARM INVENTORY OF LIVESTOCK:

26 Milch Cows  
6 Heifers  
9 Yearlings  
4 Calves

PRODUCE FOR LIVESTOCK CONSUMPTION:

105 Ton Hay  
1365 Bushel Oats  
17 $\frac{1}{2}$  Ton Straw  
120 Ton Ensilage  
500 Bushel Picking Corn

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COUNTY FARM

1960

FARM MACHINERY INVENTORY:

- 1 One-half ton International truck (1947)
- 1 Farmall M Tractor (1952)
- 1 New Holland Hay Baler (Repaired after 1951 fire)
- 1 Side Delivery rake
- 1 Potato digger
- 1 Hay and grain elevator (1953)
- 1 Dis-Wick Disc
- 1 Wagon Box
- 3 Farm wagons (1953-1955-1956)
- 2 Snow Plows (1 old - 1 new 1957)
- 1 Ford Cultivator (1959 used model)
- 1 Corn planter
- 1 Grain Drill
- 1 Culti-packer
- 1 Corn sheller
- 1 Ensilage cutter
- 1 Ford tractor (1953 model-purchased 1957)
- 1 One-half ton Ford truck
- 1 Conde milking machine (4 units)
- 1 Conde pump (1954)
- 1 Ford lift-all platform
- 1 Lime Sewer (1955)
- 1 Milk House Heater (1955)
- 1 Grain Bin (1955-repaired in 1959)
- 1 Ford plow (1958 used model)
- 1 John Deere Mowing machine
- 1 Ford mowing machine (1959 used model)
- 1 Farmall cultivator
- 1 New Holland P.T.O. Manure spreader (1959)
- 1 Harrow (1958)
- 1 Steinhorst Side-opener Milk Cooler (1958 used model)
- 1 John Deere Trip Bottom plow (1960-new)

ANNUAL REPORT  
COUNTY FARM  
1960

DISBURSEMENTS:

Salaries, wages & professional fees	\$6,447.25
Equipment	909.70
Supplies & materials	5,065.46
Other(repairs, registration, breeding)	<u>1,392.54</u>
	\$13,814.95

CREDITS:

Milk Checks	\$11,154.77
Calves	307.18
Miscellaneous	<u>13.23</u>
	\$11,475.18
Value of milk & produce for resident consumption	<u>4,052.10</u>
	\$15,527.28

Total credits:	\$15,527.28
Total disbursements	<u>13,814.95</u>
Net Operating profit to county	\$1,712.33

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

1960

DISBURSEMENTS:

General Administration	\$133,344.93
Old Age Assistance	243,369.52
Aid to Dependent Children	342,680.40
Aid to the Disabled	63,664.99
Aid to the Blind	10,296.90
Home Relief	207,004.62
Foster Care	67,421.44
Juvenile Delinquents	13,422.35
Hospital Only Care	76,243.62
Burials	15,479.20
Non-Public Assistance	9.75
Public Home & Infirmary	124,238.29
County Farm	<u>13,814.95</u>

\$1,310,990.96

CREDITS:

General Administration	\$ 81,561.55
Old Age Assistance	188,346.50
Aid to Dependent Children	265,275.84
Aid to the Disabled	48,005.75
Aid to the Blind	9,467.67
Home Relief	121,737.41
Foster Care	40,519.25
Juvenile Delinquents	7,624.45
Hospital Only Care	21,901.46
Burials	6,989.05
Public Home & Infirmary	82,171.41
County Farm	<u>15,527.28</u>

\$889,127.62

Net local cost to county

\$421,863.34

ANNUAL REPORT

MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

1960

In concluding this annual report I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Madison County Board of Supervisors for their kind consideration in granting me a substantial salary increase for the next three years.


I am also personally grateful again this year for the understanding and cooperation which this department has received from the Board members. In particular, I wish to thank the members of the Welfare, Building and Farm Committees who have worked so closely with this department.

Our sincere thanks once again go to Justice Howard Zeller, Judge Clarence Conley, the Probation Department, the Sheriff's Department, the State Police and to all other state, county, town, village and city officials who have assisted us so much during the past year.

Special thanks go to County Attorney William Burke and to District Attorney Spencer Feldmann for their prompt and capable handling of the many legal problems which we have referred to them.

We shall continue to conduct the affairs of the Madison County Welfare Department to the best of our ability and according to the laws, rules and regulations of the State of New York.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William Liddle  
Commissioner