

ANNUAL REPORT

MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

1965

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Gentlemen:

The following report presents a breakdown of the cost of operation of this department during the year 1965 and, I believe, is self-explanatory.

The gross cost of operation increased from \$1,611,669.30 in 1964 to a total of \$1,743,160.71 the past year, while the net cost to the county increased from \$469,300.48 to \$495,137.51.

While this continued increase in welfare costs gives us food for thought, I am more disturbed in what may be expected in the current year, 1966, and in 1967.

The State Department has prepared new State Standards of Assistance, which, when they become effective, will increase budgetary allowances to welfare recipients approximately 17.8% in Madison County. The mandatory effective date has been set for September 1, 1966, but I have formally requested that this mandatory date be extended to January 1, 1967, inasmuch as we are unprepared for this increase in this current year's budget. I am backed in this request by many commissioners throughout the state and I have been assured by representatives of the State Department that my request will be given serious consideration.

I also wish to call your attention to the proposed legislation now before the State Legislature known as Medical Assistance to Needy Persons. This bill, Senate Introductory #4311, commonly known as the Governor's Bill, I fear will make from 50% to 70% of the population of Madison County eligible for Medical Care through the Welfare Department, while another Medical Care Bill introduced by Mr. Travia, Speaker of the Assembly, is even more generous.

Last week I had the privilege of speaking in opposition to all of the above legislation at a meeting in Syracuse attended by representatives of all Welfare Districts in Area #3, State Department of Social Welfare. This talk was given at the request of C. Walter Driscoll, Area Director, in answer to the address given at the same time by Antonie A. Serieri, 1st Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Social Welfare, Albany.

I am quite aware of the fact that nothing that I have said or may say in the future will materially change the situation. One or the other of the Medical Care Bills will pass; the legislature seems determined to do this. The Reason -- Once such a bill is passed New York State will become eligible to receive additional funds to be spent on Welfare from the Federal Government amounting to approximately \$90,000,000.00. This new Medical Program is in addition to Medicare under Social Security which becomes effective July 1, 1966. This is nothing more or less than Socialized Medicine, which I abhor, to say the least.

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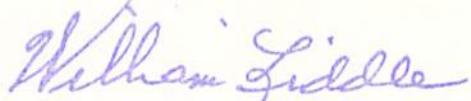
The only reason that I am bringing these matters to your attention is that you still have time to express your feelings on the matter to your Assemblyman and Senator from your districts.

Once these programs are adopted it will mean that the Madison County Welfare Department will need additional office space and additional staff to handle the work. You should know this so that you, as the legislative body of the county, may be somewhat prepared for it.

I wish to thank the members of the Board of Supervisors for the salary increases granted to members of my staff as well as myself effective January 1, 1966. Also, I wish to express special thanks to the members of the Welfare Committee of the Board for their understanding of the problems confronting the administration of the public assistance programs.

We are very appreciative of the cooperation which we have received from the various city, village, town and county departments throughout the past year and pledge our continued cooperation with them.

Respectfully submitted,



William Liddle, Commissioner
Madison County Welfare Dept.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATIONDisbursements

Personal services	\$152,395.79
Equipment	3,200.80
Supplies & materials	3,490.79
Other Expenses (travel, rent, telephone, postage, etc.)	34,595.69
Outstanding encumbrances	<u>677.33</u>
	\$194,360.40

Credits

State reimbursement	\$ 62,805.11
Federal reimbursement	<u>76,836.89</u>
	\$139,642.00
Net Local Cost	\$ 54,718.40

Although the gross administrative costs increased from \$181,614.30 in 1964 to \$194,360.40 the past year, the net local cost to the county decreased from \$68,269.05 to \$54,718.40.

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SURPLUS FOOD DISTRIBUTION COSTSDisbursements

2/3 Clerk's Salary	\$2,066.67
Clerk's travel expenses	421.10
Deputies' Wages & expenses	2,150.90
Local Storage & Hauling	1,690.10
Storage & costs from Albany Office	1,103.16
Postage	360.00
Printing	21.52
Estimated value of other departmental supplies & services used	<u>300.00</u>
	\$8,113.45
State Reimbursement	<u>\$4,056.73</u>
Net Local Cost	\$4,056.72

In this program the gross cost during the past year increased from \$7,578.18 to \$8,113.45, while the net cost increased from \$3,789.09 to \$4,056.72.

NOTE: The above figures will not appear in the Statistical Summary as they are included in the General Administration Disbursements and Credits.

The average number of Surplus Food Certificates issued monthly to Welfare recipients was 216 representing 1043 persons, while the average number of low-income families totalled 355 representing 1948 persons.

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OLD AGE ASSISTANCEDisbursements

Cash grants	\$114,719.79
Hospital Care	20,276.68
Doctors' & Dentists' Fees	12,034.19
Prescriptions	8,886.64
Other expenses	6,192.89
	<u>\$162,110.19</u>

Credits

Repayments & Recoveries	\$ 12,412.56
State Reimbursement	23,331.50
Federal Reimbursement	106,880.12
	<u>\$144,624.18</u>
Net Local Cost	\$ 17,486.01

The average monthly caseload the past year was 159 persons compared to 161 persons in 1964.

Total gross expenses increased from \$157,697.80 in 1964 to \$162,110.19 in 1965 while the net local cost decreased from \$20,308.63 to \$17,486.01.

Medical costs represented approximately 25% of the total costs.

NOTE: Doctors' & Dentists' fees also include fees paid to Podiatrists, Optometrists, Osteopaths, etc.

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AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDRENDisbursements

Cash grants	\$489,869.54
Hospital care	61,037.14
Doctors' & Dentists' fees	46,700.12
Prescriptions	13,175.99
Other	<u>11,640.17</u>
	\$622,422.96

Credits

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 28,011.24
State reimbursement	136,063.14
Federal reimbursement	<u>322,629.00</u>
	<u>\$486,703.38</u>
Net Local Cost	\$135,719.58

The average monthly caseload in this category was 226 cases representing 1001 persons, compared to 238 cases representing 1080 persons in 1964.

The gross cost increased from \$601,284.56 to \$622,422.96 while the net cost increased from \$133,680.83 in 1964 to \$135,719.58 in 1965.

Medical costs were approximately 19% as compared to 15% in 1964.

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AID TO THE DISABLEDDisbursements

Cash Grants	\$51,537.54
Hospital Charges	21,111.22
Doctors' & Dentists' fees	6,373.66
Prescriptions	5,207.71
Other	1,894.70
	<u>\$86,124.83</u>

Credits

Repayments & Recoveries	\$ 339.81
State Reimbursement	28,162.58
Federal Reimbursement	<u>51,570.00</u>
	<u>\$80,072.39</u>
Net Local Cost	\$ 6,052.44

The average monthly caseload in this category increased from 80 persons in 1964 to 86 in 1965.

The gross cost increased from \$71,366.53 to \$86,124.83, while the net cost to the county decreased from \$26,348.88 in 1964 to \$6,052.44 in 1965.

The cost of medical care in this category increased from approximately 33% to 37% in 1965.

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AID TO THE BLINDDisbursements

Cash grants	\$2,148.05
Doctors' & Dentists' fees	389.05
Prescriptions	193.96
Other	<u>662.63</u>
	\$3,593.69

Credits

State Reimbursement	\$1,098.27
Federal Reimbursement	<u>2,308.00</u>
	\$3,406.27
Net Local Cost	\$ 187.42

Average number of blind recipients remained at 5, the same as in 1964.

Gross cost decreased from \$4,006.15 to \$3,593.69, while the net cost to the county decreased from \$1,861.64 to \$187.42.

Medical costs remained the same as in 1964, approximately 16%.

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HOME RELIEF

Disbursements

Cash grants	\$96,989.80
Physicians' & Dentists' fees	19,137.96
Prescriptions	7,667.04
Other	<u>4,004.65</u>

Credits

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 905.78
State Reimbursement	<u>63,091.06</u>
	<u>\$ 63,996.84</u>
Net Local Cost	\$ 63,802.61

The average monthly caseload in this category the past year was 105 cases, representing 496 persons, while in 1964 the caseload was 105 cases, representing 463 individuals.

The gross cost in 1965 was \$127,799.45, a decrease from \$131,067.03 in 1964, while the net cost decreased from \$67,739.39 in 1964 to \$63,996.61 in 1965.

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MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE AGED

(Exclusive of care at the Gerrit Smith Infirmary, which is reported separately.)

Disbursements

Nursing Home care	\$ 1,726.80
Hospital Care	67,696.15
Physicians' fees	16,170.74
Drugs & sick-room supplies	10,919.29
Prosthetic appliances	262.10
Other	<u>3,563.04</u>
	\$100,338.12

Credits

Repayments & Recoveries	\$ 3,070.15
State Reimbursement	21,791.19
Federal Reimbursement	<u>43,295.67</u>
	<u>\$ 68,157.01</u>
Net Local Cost	\$ 32,181.11

The average monthly caseload in this category, including those in the Gerrit Smith Infirmary, was 178 persons compared to 170 in 1964.

The gross cost, exclusive of the Infirmary, in 1965 was \$100,338.12 compared to \$73,247.81 in 1964, while the net local cost increased from \$17,189.42 in 1964 to \$32,181.11 the past year.

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HOSPITAL ONLYDisbursements

Payments to Hospitals	\$78,525.60
Doctors' fees	13,497.55
Transportation	<u>1,291.07</u>

\$93,314.22

Credits

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 1,882.93
Reimbursement on State Charge cases	898.66
State Reimbursement on HR&HO CASES	<u>17,449.71</u>

\$20,231.30

Net Local Cost	\$73,082.92
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The gross cost increased from \$59,564.22 in 1964 to \$93,314.22 the past year, while the net cost to the county increased from \$49,353.60 to \$73,082.92.

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BURIALSDisbursementsPayments for services \$10,057.68\$10,057.68Credits

Repayments & recoveries	<u>\$1,691.70</u>
State Reimbursement	<u>3,547.00</u>
	<u>\$ 5,238.70</u>

Net Local Cost \$ 4,818.98

The gross cost for burials decreased from \$11,476.00 in 1964 to \$10,057.68 in 1965, while the net cost to the county decreased from \$6,838.92 to \$4,818.98.

NON-PUBLIC ASSISTANCEDisbursementsFor services to clients \$2,412.70\$2,412.70Credits

Refunds to appropriation	<u>\$ 217.05</u>
Net Local Cost	<u>\$2,195.65</u>

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CHILD WELFARE DIVISION (FOSTER CARE)Disbursements

Board	\$65,934.11
Clothing	4,524.33
Supplies	677.23
Physicians' fees	1,311.90
Prescriptions	702.25
Optical Expense	299.78
Hospital charges	3,505.67
Dentists' fees	1,572.00
Miscellaneous	97.20
Tuition	480.00

\$79,104.47

Credits

Repayments	\$ 7,402.54
State Reimbursement	34,574.76
	<u>\$41,977.30</u>
Net Local Cost	\$37,127.17

The gross cost in this program increased from \$74,116.77 in 1964 to \$79,104.47 the past year, while the net cost increased from \$32,330.71 to \$37,127.17.

The total monthly caseload ranged from a low of 120 children to a high of 132, compared to a low of 99 in 1964 and a high of 124.

There was a total of 256 referrals in 1965 compared to 283 in 1964. The greatest number of referrals, 80, came from families, 60 from Court, 36 from citizens, while the remainder came from our Public Assistance Division, schools and other sources.

The number of children cared for in Foster Homes in 1965 ranged from 64 to 79 per month.

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JUVENILE DELINQUENTSDisbursements

Board	\$ 5,023.06
Clothing	23.70
Optical costs	10.00
Miscellaneous	45.75
To State for Institutional Care	<u>21,924.48</u>

\$30,026.99

Credits

Repayments	\$ 383.60
State Reimbursement	<u>3,045.15</u>
	<u>\$ 3,428.75</u>
Net Local Cost	\$26,598.24

The gross cost for the care of Juvenile Delinquents in 1965 was \$30,026.99 compared to \$16,157.85 in 1964. The net local cost was \$26,598.24 as compared to \$12,290.81, in 1964. This increase is due to a gross increase in cost of Institutional Care from \$6,027.31 in 1964 to \$21,924.48 last year.

As I have noted in previous reports, this should not be a charge against local welfare agencies, inasmuch as local agencies have nothing to say in the administration of this program. It is a court-administered program and is a legitimate charge against the courts, not Welfare.

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THE GERRIT E. SMITH MEMORIAL HOME AND INFIRMARY

The total number of days' care rendered to patients during the past year was 28,614 as compared to 30,072 in 1964.

Total number of residents under care at the beginning of the year was 84; admissions during the year totalled 63; total number of persons under care during the year was 147; total discharges including deaths were 69 and the total number of residents at the end of 1965 was 78.

The gross cost of operation in 1965 was \$224,178.72 compared to \$208,154.86 in 1964, this increase being due almost entirely to increase in staff and staff salaries.

The net cost to the county increased from \$24,880.71 in 1964 to \$56,999.90 in 1965.

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GERRIT E. SMITH MEMORIAL H.O.E. & INFIRIARYDisbursements

	1966
Salaries, wages & fees	\$160,729.64
Equipment	1,552.68
Food	22,976.58
Maintenance supplies	6,307.11
Drugs & medical supplies	15,437.03
Fuel	4,333.46
Dry goods & clothing	1,294.95
Tobacco, etc.	729.83
Milk Pasteurization	263.20
Ordinary repairs	756.78
Laundry service	4,448.70
Light & power	2,960.93
Other (extermination service, petty cash, advertising, freight, cleaning septic tank, etc.)	614.53
Servicing elevator	300.00
	<u>3,000.00</u>
	<u>1,411.95 telephone</u>
	<u>833.90 -</u>
	<u>4081.24 insurance</u>
	<u>3,000.00</u>
	<u>2,491,141.52</u>
	<u><u>\$224,178.72</u></u>

Credits

State Reimbursement (MA)	\$39,632.63
Federal Reimbursement (MA)	79,265.26
State Reimbursement (AD)	5,681.38
Federal Reimbursement (AD)	5,130.00
State Reimbursement (AB)	1,378.00
Federal Reimbursement (AB)	1,148.00
Repayments of Assistance	<u>34,293.52</u>

\$167,178.82

Net Local Cost

\$ 56,999.90

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COUNTY FARMDisbursements

Salaries, wages & fees	\$2,866.41
Equipment, barn repairs	547.79
Feed	3,114.98
Materials & supplies	365.77
Other(Ordinary repairs, testing, Advertising, spraying)	<u>389.31</u>
	\$7,316.29

Credits

Sale of milk, etc.	\$6,152.66
Auction receipts	<u>16,996.55</u>
	\$23,149.21

The above expenditures reflect disbursements to May 31, 1965, the last month in which the farm was in operation as a county farm.

Annual reports in the future will not include information as to farm operation or income as it is now being leased to a private individual and, by resolution of the Board of Supervisors, the rental receipts are paid directly to the County Treasurer and any expenditures in connection with the farm are no longer a charge against this department.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Disbursements

General Administration	\$194,360.40
Old Age Assistance	162,110.19
Aid to Dependent Children	622,422.96
Aid to the Disabled	86,124.83
Aid to the Blind	3,593.69
Home Relief	127,799.45
Medical Assistance to the Aged	100,338.12
Hospital Only	93,314.22
Burials	10,057.68
Non-Public Assistance	2,412.70
Child Welfare	79,104.47
Juvenile Delinquents	30,026.99
Gerrit E. Smith Infirmary	224,178.72
County Farm	<u>7,316.29</u>

\$1,743,160.71

Credits

General Administration	\$139,642.00
Old Age Assistance	114,624.18
Aid to Dependent Children	486,703.38
Aid to the Disabled	80,072.39
Aid to the Blind	3,406.27
Home Relief	63,996.84
Medical Assistance to the Aged	68,157.01
Hospital Only	20,231.30
Burials	5,238.70
Non-Public Assistance	217.05
Child Welfare	41,977.30
Juvenile Delinquents	3,428.75
Gerrit E. Smith Infirmary	167,178.82
County Farm	<u>23,119.21</u>

\$1,248,023.20

NET LOCAL COST

\$ 495,137.51