

ANNUAL REPORT  
MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
1967

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Gentlemen:

The following Annual Report of this department for the year 1967 is self-explanatory.

The gross cost of operation increased from \$1,766,998.93 in 1966 to \$2,474,159.27 the past year. The net cost increased from \$489,891.74 in 1966 to \$644,646.83.

This tremendous increase in cost can almost entirely be attributed to the new Medical Assistance law, Commonly known as the "Medicaid Law". In spite of the cutback in the law as enacted by the 1968 legislature, I do not expect to reap any benefits this year due to the number of medical bills which we are paying out of this year's appropriation but which were incurred in 1967.

Also, I think that it should be called to your attention that the number of persons applying for and receiving public assistance in nearly every one of the categories has increased materially during the past year and it appears that this increase will continue. This is largely due to the fact that many applying for Medical Assistance now find that they are eligible for one of the Public Assistance programs as well.

The prospects for any substantial reduction in the future budgets for this department appear very bleak at this time. Eligibility factors for public assistance have been increased by the State and mandated to local Social Services Agencies, rents are on the increase and Medical costs have been soaring. I wish that I might be in a position to project these costs into the future and predict somewhat accurately what the future may bring in the way of costs relating to welfare programs. But this is impossible. All that I can do is to pledge that we in this department will do everything in our power to keep costs at a minimum and still provide the services required under the Social Services Laws.

I wish to thank the members of the Board of Supervisors for the salary increases granted to my staff members and myself and to the members of the various committees with whom I have worked for their understanding of the many problems which have confronted this agency during the past year. We also appreciate the cooperation which we have received from city, town, village and other county departments.

Respectfully submitted,

*William Liddle*

William Liddle, Commissioner

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Disbursements:

Personal Services	\$172,772.88	
Equipment	274.00	
Supplies and materials	5,334.62	
Other expenses (travel, rent, telephone, postage, etc.)	34,640.82	
Outstanding encumbrances	<u>3,194.60</u>	
		\$216,216.92

Credits:

State reimbursement	\$ 75,352.86	
Federal reimbursement	91,563.60	
Refund to appropriation	<u>64.06</u>	
		<u>\$166,980.52</u>
NET LOCAL COST		\$ 49,236.40

Although the gross administrative costs increased from \$204,811.43 in 1966 to \$216,216.92 in 1967, the net local cost decreased from \$53,367.77 to \$49,236.40.

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SURPLUS FOOD DISTRIBUTION COST:

Disbursements:

2/3 Clerk's Salary	\$2,266.67	
Clerk's travel expenses	547.20	
Deputies' wages and expenses	2,343.28	
Local storage & hauling	1,626.15	
Local storage & costs, Albany office	794.58	
Postage	240.00	
Printing	128.00	
Estimated value of other departmental supplies and services used	<u>300.00</u>	
		\$8,245.88
State reimbursement		<u>4,122.99</u>
NET LOCAL COST		\$4,122.99

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

The gross costs increased from \$8,128.75 in 1966 to \$8,245.88 this past year, while the net cost to the county increased from \$4,064.37 to \$4,122.99.

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OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Disbursements:

Cash Grants	\$143,363.70	
Other expenses	<u>5,131.60</u>	
		\$148,495.30

Credits:

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 2,755.20	
State reimbursement	67,444.83	
Federal reimbursement	<u>54,209.30</u>	
		<u>\$124,409.33</u>

NET LOCAL COST		\$ 24,085.97
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There is no comparison between the costs of this program and those on the following pages for 1966 and 1967, as all medical costs for all categories of public assistance are now covered under the Medical Assistance program and are not reflected in the expenditures under the various categories. In 1966 a portion of the medical costs were chargeable to these categories.

The average number of persons receiving Old Age Assistance per month in 1967 was 169 compared to 152 in 1966.

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AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$554,481.52	
Other expense	<u>17,809.15</u>	
		\$572,290.67

Credits:

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 38,876.40	
State reimbursement	167,800.73	
Federal reimbursement	<u>238,123.79</u>	
		<u>\$444,800.92</u>

NET LOCAL COST	\$127,489.75
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The average monthly caseload in this category was 238 cases representing 1,059 persons in 1967 compared to 224 cases in 1966 representing 980 persons.

AID TO THE DISABLED

Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$64,962.16	
Other expense	<u>672.04</u>	
		\$65,634.20

Credits:

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 2,868.59	
State reimbursement	27,809.96	
Federal reimbursement	<u>25,169.60</u>	
		<u>\$55,848.15</u>

NET LOCAL COST	\$ 9,786.05
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The average monthly caseload in this category in 1967 was 73, while in 1966 it was 79.

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## AID TO THE BLIND

### Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$1,515.25	
Other expense	<u>568.68</u>	\$2,083.93

### Credits:

State reimbursement	\$1,119.75	
Federal reimbursement	<u>489.70</u>	\$1,639.45

NET LOCAL COST		\$ 444.48
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There were only two persons receiving Aid to the Blind in 1967 compared to three in 1966.

## HOME RELIEF

### Disbursements:

Cash grants	\$116,298.56	
Other expenses	<u>5,737.90</u>	\$122,136.46

### Credits:

Repayments & recoveries	\$ 1,818.69	
State reimbursement	<u>10,052.09</u>	\$ 61,870.78

NET LOCAL COST		\$ 60,265.68
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The average monthly caseload in this category was 92 representing 392 persons in 1967 compared to 89 cases representing 400 persons in 1966.

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## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

### Disbursements:

Nursing home care	\$ 6,448.52	
Hospital care	279,835.60	
Physicians' Services	250,868.16	
Dentists' services	187,857.52	
Optometrists, opticians, etc.	37,159.14	
Other care	22,963.15	
Prescriptions	<u>148,685.83</u>	
		\$933,817.92

### Reimbursement:

Repayments	\$ 6,171.12	
Federal reimbursement	307,006.82	
State reimbursement	<u>287,302.04</u>	
		<u>\$600,479.98</u>

NET LOCAL COST		\$333,337.94
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The above figures do not present a true figure as to the expenditures in this program in 1967 as there was owing at the end of the year slightly over \$200,000.00 in unprocessed bills and those bills for which there was no money available in the county treasury.

The last complete year before the advent of "Medicaid", 1965, this department spent \$116,664.39 for medical care for welfare recipients. By comparing this amount with the above gross amount, it can easily be seen what a tremendous increase in medical costs the "Medicaid" program has forced upon the taxpayers.

## HOSPITAL ONLY

Reimbursement on State Charge claims submitted against 1965-66 period	\$2,722.50
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BURIALS

Disbursements:

Payments to funeral directors                      \$15,499.60

\$15,499.60

Credits:

Repayments    \$ 2,349.99  
State reimbursement                                   4,198.20

\$ 6,548.19

NET COST TO COUNTY

\$ 8,951.41



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CHILD WELFARE DIVISION (FOSTER CARE)

The total monthly caseload in this division ranged from a low of 113 children to a high of 154 compared to a low of 89 children in 1966 to a high of 134.

The number of children provided care in foster homes ranged from a low of 77 to a high of 96 compared to a low of 62 and a high of 76 in 1966.

The number of referrals to this division increased from 232 in 1966 to 290 in 1967. The greatest number of referrals, 93, came from Families, 85 from the Court, and the remainder came from schools, private citizens, out of county, our public assistance division and other sources.

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FOSTER CARE

Disbursements:

Board	\$66,587.96	
Supplies	678.68	
Clothing	6,341.52	
Miscellaneous	<u>97.64</u>	
		\$73,705.80

Credits:

Repayments	\$15,561.34	
State reimbursement	<u>28,219.65</u>	
		<u>\$43,780.99</u>

NET LOCAL COST		\$29,924.81
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JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Disbursements:

Board	\$26,504.64	
Clothing	89.44	
Miscellaneous	7,006.35	
**To State for Institutional Care	<u>12,417.48</u>	
		\$46,017.91

Credits:

Repayments	\$ 1,038.00	
State reimbursement	<u>14,628.94</u>	
		<u>\$15,666.94</u>

NET LOCAL COST		\$30,350.97
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\*\*Only three quarters were paid to state in the year 1967. Billing for quarter ending 9/30/67, normally paid within the current year, was received too late for payment. This payment was in the amount of \$7,535.41 which will show in the 1968 report. This amount is entirely non-reimbursable.

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THE GERRIT E. SMITH MEMORIAL HOME & INFIRMARY

The total number of days' care rendered to patients during the past year was 28,411 as compared to 28,770 in 1966.

The total number of patients under care at the beginning of 1967 was 85; total number of patients under care during the year was 178; total number of discharges, including deaths was 94; total number of patients under care at end of year was 84.

You will note that we showed a NET CREDIT to the county of \$26,504.13. This is caused by the fact that we claim state and federal reimbursement based on the "State Reimbursable Rate" which actually is more than our actual cost of operation.

We have again been approved as an Extended Care Facility so that we can continue to provide care for Medicare Patients, all of whom eventually qualify for Medicaid.

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GERRIT E. SMITH MEMORIAL HOME & INFIRMARYDisbursements:

Salaries, wages & fees	\$193,227.93	
Equipment	7,605.78	
Food	28,352.13	
Maintenance supplies	9,123.24	
Drugs and medical supplies	20,897.02	
Fuel	3,852.54	
Drygoods and clothing	1,125.03	
Tobacco, etc.	1,017.75	
Ordinary repairs	697.37	
Laundry and dry cleaning	6,690.01	
Light and power	2,951.68	
Telephone	1,442.05	
Elevator service	336.25	
Other (extermination service, petty cash, advertising, freight, cleaning septic tanks, etc.)	<u>941.78</u>	
		\$278,260.56

Credits:

State reimbursement under MA	\$ 64,458.78	
Federal reimbursement under MA	157,812.66	
Repayments of care	<u>82,493.25</u>	
		<u>\$304,764.69</u>
NET CREDIT TO COUNTY		\$ 26,504.13

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Disbursements:

General Administration	\$216,216.92
Old Age Assistance	148,495.30
Aid to Dependent Children	572,290.67
Aid to the Disabled	65,634.20
Aid to the Blind	2,083.93
Home Relief	122,136.46
Medical Assistance	933,817.92
Burials	15,499.60
Child Welfare	73,705.80
Juvenile Delinquents	46,017.91
Gerrit E. Smith Infirmary	<u>278,260.56</u>

\$2,474,159.27

Credits:

General Administration	\$166,980.52
Old Age Assistance	124,409.33
Aid to Dependent Children	444,800.92
Aid to the Disabled	55,848.15
Aid to the Blind	1,639.45
Home Relief	61,870.78
Medical Assistance	600,479.98
Hospital Only	2,722.50
Burials	6,548.19
Child Welfare	43,780.99
Juvenile Delinquents	15,666.94
Gerrit E. Smith Infirmary	<u>304,764.69</u>

\$1,829,512.44

NET LOCAL COST

\$ 644,646.83