

ANNUAL REPORT

MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

January 1, 1953-December 31, 1953

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Gentlemen:

As in my last annual report to your honorable body I wish first to present a breakdown of the caseload in the Public Assistance Division of this Department over the past two years. Following is a comparison of the monthly caseloads in 1952 and 1953:

	1952					1953						
	OAA	AB	AD	ADC	HR	TOTAL	OAA	AB	AD	ADC	HR	TOTAL
Jan. 31	444	17	85	131	91	768	399	17	97	115	53	681
Feb. 28	441	17	85	135	80	758	401	17	92	111	49	670
Mar. 31	445	17	84	136	88	770	399	17	88	107	38	649
Apr. 30	435	17	88	128	69	737	392	16	88	98	36	630
May 31	428	18	92	124	54	716	386	16	92	103	22	619
June 30	420	18	98	121	47	704	394	16	90	99	18	617
July 31	410	18	90	117	42	677	392	16	86	94	15	603
Aug. 31	407	17	95	106	37	662	391	16	82	91	15	595
Sept. 30	403	17	93	97	33	643	383	16	81	84	17	581
Oct. 31	394	17	91	97	35	642	378	15	79	81	21	574
Nov. 30	398	17	88	98	33	634	376	15	77	84	28	580
Dec. 31	399	17	97	104	35	652	379	14	81	93	41	608

I am particularly pleased to call your attention to the continued caseload drop during the past two years, the greatest decrease having taken place between March 31, 1952 and October 31, 1953, when a net total of 196 cases were dropped from the rolls. This total represents the number of closings over and above the openings.

General Administration

During the past year the continued reduction in the caseload has resulted in the discontinuance of the services of two more case workers in the Public Assistance Division.

Installation of the new Addressograph Machine in the accounting division has led to more efficiency and a general speeding up of the processing of payrolls.

In the Child Welfare division Mrs. Heinley's report, which is appended hereto, is self-explanatory. Once again an increase is shown in repayments and recoveries in this division.

In general, the outlook for 1954 in all divisions of this Department is good. Although an increase in the caseload will be noted in December of 1953, this increase appears to be temporary and it is anticipated that employment will pick up by February.

Once again I wish to pay tribute to the members of my staff for their loyalty and devotion to their work. Much has been accomplished in the past two years and it is only through the excellent teamwork of all staff members that this was possible.

Staff turnover, which is a major problem in many Welfare Departments throughout the State, and was a major problem in this department prior to 1952, has now ceased to exist. It is my earnest desire that the proper committee of the Board of Supervisors may, in the ensuing year, make a study of the salaries of this department, with a resulting increase commensurate with the rigid qualifications set up by the State Department.

mlh:1/29/54

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:

Again this year, as in previous years, we will with your permission begin our report with a few tables illustrating the flow of work on the activity of the Children's Department during the fiscal year ending 12/31/53. The first table shows children referred to the department for service of one kind or another, listed according to the source of the referral.

REFERRALS

January 1, 1953, to December 31, 1953

By Whom Referred:

Parent or Family.....	67	children
Private citizens.....	31	"
Children's Court.....	75	"
Public Assistance Department.....	29	"
Out-of-County Agencies.....	45	"
Schools.....	28	"
Town Welfare Officers.....	12	"
Other Community Sources.....	23	"

Total Children Referred..... 310

In 1952 there was a total of 187 children referred, which means that there was an increase of 123 in the number of children referred during the past fiscal year. These children were referred from a total of 159 families in 1953 as against 106 in 1952. This would seem to indicate that there is an increasing awareness throughout the county of the services which the agency can offer to children and their parents. It is also interesting to note that in 1952 only 26 of the children were referred by the parents or members of the family, whereas during the past year 67 referrals came from this source. Children's Court and out-of-county agencies as a whole are the other two sources of referrals which continue to bring the largest number of children to our attention.

CHILDREN UNDER SUPERVISION

	December 31, 1952	December 31, 1953
Boarding Homes	121	115
Free Categories.....	13	9
Out-of-County.....	6	6
With Parents.....	16	10
With Relatives.....	5	7
Other.....	6	2
Total.....	<u>157</u>	<u>149</u>

This indicates a decline in the case load of 18 children over the total case load carried on 12/31/52. This decline is significant in relation to the fact that there were many more children referred than during the previous year which would indicate as we will show, that many more children were given service for temporary periods than in the past.

In addition to the 310 children who were referred during the year 1953, there were 20 whose cases were pending at the beginning of the year, making a total of 330 children served. Of this number 41 were accepted for foster care, 15 were accepted for other types of care or supervision, 267 were given service

of various types during the year without being added to the case load, and 7 were awaiting care or attention as of 12/31/53. This total of 267 cared for temporarily should be compared with a total of 141 cared for during the year in 1952. We do not feel that we can place too much emphasis on the fact that this temporary service involves a lot of time and work and is a very important part of the service given by the Children's Department. This category includes investigations and reports for Children's Court, private adoption investigations, services for agencies outside the county, cases in which study and investigation shows that there is a need only for consultative or advisory service on the part of the worker, cases which are sometimes referred to other agencies or to the Public Assistance Department, and those cases which can be denied on the grounds that the original complaint is unfounded. We would also like to note the fact that, while 9 more children were accepted for foster care this year, than in 1952, the total case load has been reduced as a result of the number of children discharged.

DISCHARGES

To Parents or Relatives.....	50
Own Responsibility.....	5
State Schools for Mental Defectives..	2
Adopted.....	6
Other.....	11
Total	74

There were 35 more children discharged in 1953 than during 1952, the total in 1952 being 49 as against this year's total of 74. Total number of children discharged to their parents or relatives is exactly twice the total in 1952.

There are at present several children in foster homes who we hope can be returned to their own homes in the near future or for whom we plan to make other permanent plans. As in the past, we try to consider the best possible long-term care for those children whose homes cannot be rehabilitated for them and to work toward re-establishment of homes which can be salvaged. We also want to again express our thanks and appreciation for the cooperation of foster parents who care for the children under our supervision.

There continues to be an increase in the amount of collections from parents of children in foster care. During 1953 approximately \$1500 more was collected than in 1952. During the past year collections were approximately 19.7% of total of expenditures as against 15.8% in 1952. As a result of the new Social Welfare Law passed by the State during 1953, Madison County will receive 50% reimbursement from the State of New York from all of those children who are or have been accepted for care voluntarily or who have been discharged by the Children's Court. At the present time this will include approximately 60% of the children for whom the department is financially responsible.

There have been no permanent changes in personnel during 1953. In June 1953 Miss Berta Brewster was given a three month's leave of absence and during this absence Mrs. Margaret Brownell very capably took her place. Miss Brewster returned in September and there have been no other changes in personnel. The entire Children's Division continues to find that there is a saving of time by being located in the same building with the other departments of the public welfare agency.

In closing we would again like to thank the welfare committee and the entire Board of Supervisors for their support of our program and for their interest in it. We would also like to express our thanks to Children's Court, the Probation Department, the County Attorney, the Sheriff's Department, and the police departments in various localities throughout the county, also public health nurses, schools and all other community agencies for their excellent cooperation. We would also like to renew our pledge to continue to give the best service possible to all children who are referred to the department.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances W. Hinley
Senior Children's Worker

1/27/54
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Statistics
1953

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

<u>Personal Services</u>		69,319.49
Less Reimbursement - Salaries		
State -	29,349.78	
Federal -	21,467.00	
		50,816.78
Net Cost of Commissioner & Staff		18,502.71
<u>Office Expense</u>		
Equipment	5101.56	
Supplies & Services	2394.55	
Other Expenses	16661.93	
Outstanding Encumbrances -	1465.67	
	25623.71	
Less:		
Federal Aid - Office Expenses	9679.31	
Net Office Expense		15,944.40
Local Net Total Administrative Cost		34,447.11

HOME RELIEF

<u>Disbursements:</u>		
Cash Grants	21,414.28	
Physician's Services	4,127.65	
Drugs	651.05	
Other	1,372.22	
	27,565.20	
<u>Credits:</u>		
State Reimbursement	21,348.96	
Repayments & Recoveries	370.66	
	21,719.62	
Net Local Cost	=	5,845.58

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Statistics, Continued
1953

OLD AGE ASSISTANCE

Disbursements:

Cash Grants	223,674.94
Hospital Care	25,520.41
Doctors' Services	34,249.58
Drugs	13,302.68
Other	6,857.00
	303,604.61

Credits:

State Reimbursement	97,964.08
Federal "	136,708.88
Repayments & Recoveries	10,551.61
	245,224.57
Net Local Cost	58,380.04

aid to dependent children

Disbursements:

Cash Grants	141,528.20
Hospital Care	6,574.33
Doctor's Services	15,573.00
Drugs	3,032.91
Other	409.79
	167,118.23

Credits:

State Reimbursement	48,892.06
Federal "	76,273.82
Repayments & Recoveries	9,457.26
	134,623.14
Net Local Cost	32,495.09

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Statistics Continued
1953

aid to the disabled

Disbursements:

Cash Grants	44,684.85
Hospital Charges	10,633.09
Doctor's Services	9,222.32
Drugs	4,084.33
Other	244.35
	68,868.94

Credits:

State Aid	23,344.53
Federal "	30,380.86
Repayments & Recoveries	610.71
	54,336.10
Net Local Cost	14,532.84

assistance to the blind

Disbursements:

Cash Grants	8,034.34
Hosp. & Doctor's Care	1,763.35
Drugs	500.60
Other	164.32
	10,462.61

Credits:

State Aid	2,603.34
Federal Aid	5,520.80
Repayments & Recoveries	134.27
	8,258.41
Net Local Cost	2,204.20

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Statistics, Continued
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FOSTER CARE

Expenditures:

Board	66,802.10
Clothing	6,832.78
Supplies	818.36
Doctor's Services	1,560.85
Medicine	573.89
Optical Care	363.11
Hospital Care	573.91
Dental Care	896.50
Miscellaneous	204.22

78,625.72

Credits:

Reimbursement - State	
Charge Cases	2,454.39
Repayments	16,569.79
Peterboro Home Fund &	704.79
Riggall Fund Interest	

19,728.97

Net Local Cost

58,896.75

HOSPITAL ONLY

Expenditures:

Hospital Charges	36,087.91
Doctor's Charges	5,977.45
Transportation	112.30

42,177.66

Credits:

Repayments & Recoveries	2,327.86
Reimbursement-State	1,890.07
Charge Cases	

4,217.93

Net Local Cost

37,959.73

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BURIALS

Disbursements:	11,853.16
Credits:	
Repayments and Recoveries	4,696.26
Net Cost	7,156.90

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January 1, 1953 - December 31, 1953

COUNTY HOME

As in 1952, Supervision of the County Home has been efficiently and capably handled by Mrs. Liddle, Matron.

We both wish to express our gratitude to the Board of Supervisors for referring our recommendation concerning a Public Home Infirmary to the former Special Investigating Committee for study. Inasmuch as State approval must be obtained for such a project, we have moved slowly in an effort to anticipate every need for final State approval. Tentative plans have been drawn up by an architect and we have met with representatives of the Area Office in Syracuse. Blueprints will be submitted to the Committee in the near future and it is hoped that final determination as to the plausibility of such a program will be made by the middle of 1954.

As you all know from my verbal report to you several months ago, the greatest problem confronting us at the present time is the wiring in the County Home.

Blueprints are now being made of the entire wiring setup in the Home, taking into consideration present needs as well as possible expansion in the future. It is my recommendation to your honorable body that repairs be made over a period of three or four years, thus eliminating a major expenditure in any one year. I plan to discuss this recommendation with the proper committees of the Board after January 1, 1954.

Another problem which confronts us is the condition of the roof of the County Home. As you know, when we assumed office January 1, 1952, buckets were placed in strategic places in the building to catch the water leaking through the roof. This condition was remedied by repairs. Those repairs could only be temporary as the general condition of the roof is very poor. The building will be forty years old in 1954 and still has the original roof, insofar as I can determine. It is my recommendation that the Building Committee of the Board study this condition in the ensuing year and that a new roof be provided at the earliest possible time. Necessary replastering and painting in the interior of the building are impossible until such time as the roof is permanently repaired or replaced. I respectfully urge immediate consideration be given to this problem.

Mrs. Liddle and I join in expressing our sincere thanks to the members of the Board for their consideration and cooperation in the past year. You have been most helpful.

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MADISON COUNTY HOME

January 1, 1953 - December 31, 1953

DISBURSEMENTS:

Salaries, wages and Professional fees	\$16,981.39
Office Expense	532.53
Travel & Transportation	74.69
Fuel, light & power	5,912.93
Ordinary repairs to buildings & equipment	416.06
Supplies and minor equipment	2,265.74
Food	6,756.62
Clothing	501.61
Other (extermination service & express	203.69
New furniture, furnishings & equipment	750.07
	\$34,395.33

REVENUES:

Board & care from residents	1,901.53
	1,901.53
New operating cost to county	\$32,493.80
Value of produce consumed at County Home	3,962.05
Total net cost, including value of farm produce consumed, less board & care from residents	\$36,455.85
Total residents Jan. 1, 1953	41
Total new admissions	7
Total re-admissions	3
	<u>51</u>
Total discharges & deaths	17
Total residents Dec. 31, 1953	34

Total number of days board
and care including transients - 12,601

Rate per resident per day = \$2.893

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Jan. 1, 1953 - Dec. 31, 1953

County Farm

Once again I am happy to say that the County Farm has been operated efficiently by the Manager, Mr. Clarence Edding and his assistant, Mr. Wesley Jacobs.

The income from milk increased approximately \$500.00 over 1952.

While the total income from all sources fell short of the year 1952, it was due entirely to the fact that more cows were sold in that year and less was produced for County Home consumption, in 1953, which shows as a credit to the farm. It is unfortunate that State Laws now require the cooking of garbage for pigs, which necessitated installing special equipment or disposition of the pigs. It was determined the installation of the required equipment was unsound; consequently we sold our entire stock of hogs. As a result, it will now be necessary to purchase our supply of pork for the home with a resulting lessened income to the farm.

A badly needed silo was built this year, and with the purchase of other necessary equipment, it is anticipated that no major expenses will be required in 1954 with the exception of a new truck, which is provided for in the new budget estimate.

We disposed of the two horses this past year, as they were seldom used and were too costly to maintain. These were replaced by a Ford tractor.

In 1954 I shall ask the Farm Committee to inspect the farm buildings with special attention to the large barn, the roof of which leaks in several places and will need repair. The old silo, if used for storage, will need repairs to the roof, also.

All major purchases in the past year have been made with approval of the farm committee of the Board, and I wish to thank them for their advice and complete cooperation. It is my firm belief that the Madison County Farm should be self-supporting and I am convinced that it can be. In fact, it has been for the past two years if capital expenditures are deducted from these years and pro-rated over a period of several years.

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Jan. 1, 1953 - Dec. 31, 1953

FARM INVENTORY

19 Milch cows
11 Heifers
5 Yearlings
3 Calves
2 Beef Cattle
90 Hens

PRODUCE FOR LIVESTOCK CONSUMPTION

100 Tons Hay
120 Tons Silage
600 Bushel Oats and Barley
2 Tons Straw

PRODUCE FOR RESIDENT CONSUMPTION

Milk - 37219 # @ \$3.92 (average)	\$1458.98
Eggs - 1452 1/6 doz. @ \$.58	842.26
Steer Beef - 677# @ \$.40	270.80
Cow Beef - 1777 # @ \$.33	586.41
Pork - 2191 # @ \$.25	547.75
Chickens - 212# @ \$.35	74.20
	<u>\$3780.40</u>

50 Lb. Peppers @ \$.05	\$ 2.50
800 lb. Cabbage @ \$.015	12.00
60 lb. Beet greens @ \$.02	1.20
25 lb. Radishes @ \$.03	.75
500 lbs. Pumpkins @ \$.01	5.00
1000 lbs. winter squash @ \$.02	20.00
200 lbs. summer squash @ \$.02	4.00
20 lb. swiss chard @ \$.02	.40
40 lb. lettuce @ \$.045	1.80
2 bu. Turnips @ \$1.10	2.20
10 bu. cucumbers @ \$2.00	20.00
10 bu. tomatoes @ \$1.00	10.00
40 bu. sweet corn @ \$.88	35.20
5 bu. carrots @ \$1.00	5.00
10 bu. beans @ \$1.76	17.60
25 bu. peas @ \$1.28	32.00
10 bu. beets @ \$1.20	12.00
	<u>181.65</u>
Total value of produce for resident consumption	<u>\$3962.05</u>

Equipment Purchased in 1953

1 Conde Milking Machine - 3 Units
1 Disc
1 Ford Tractor - 1946 Model
1 Farm Wagon
1 Remote Control & Cylinder for Plow
1 Ford Plow
1 Ford Lift-All Platform
1 40 X 14" Silo

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Jan. 1, 1953 - Dec. 31, 1953

FARM MACHINERY INVENTORY

1 - 1½ Ton International Truck
1 John Deere Manure Spreader (New 1952)
1 Mowing Machine
1 Farmall M. Tractor (New 1952)
1 New Holland Hay Baler (Repaired after 1951 Fire)
1 Side Delivery Rake (New 1952)
1 Hay and Grain Elevator (New 1953)
1 Potato Digger
1 Dis-Wick Disc (New, Dec. 1953)
3 Farm Wagons (One new, Dec. 1953)
1 Wagon Box
1 Plow-Mechanical Lift
1 Ford Plow
2 Snow Plows - 1 old - 1 new 1952
1 Harrow
1 Cultivator
1 Corn Planter - horse drawn
1 Grain Drill
1 Cultipacker
1 Corn sheller
1 Ensilage cutter
1 Hay loader
1 Ford Tractor (1946 Model bought in 1953)
1 Conde Milking Machine - 3 Units - New 1953

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MADISON COUNTY FARM

Jan. 1, 1953 - Dec. 31, 1953

DISBURSEMENTS:

Salaries, wages and professional fees	\$4,737.74
Live stock & farm equipment	2,325.41
Supplies & Materials	6,784.39
Other (repairs, registration, breeding)	<u>854.31</u>
	\$14,701.85

REVENUES:

Milk checks	7,201.04
Eggs	169.50
Calves	322.95
Cows	191.41
Pigs	1,036.67
Miscellaneous (hay, horses, hens, Junk)	<u>312.93</u>
	9,324.50
Value of milk & produce consumed at Home	<u>3,962.05</u>
Total revenues	\$13,196.55

Note: Under disbursements, the cost of erection of the silo is not included, as that was charged to the building committee appropriation.

Other capital expenditures are included in the above disbursements.

Net farm operating cost to the County exclusive of the cost of the silo	\$1,505.30
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Statistics, Continued
1953

SUMMARY
GROSS EXPENDIURES AND RECEIPTS

DISBURSEMENTS

General Administration	\$ 94,943.20
Old Age Assistance	303,604.61
Aid to Dependent Children	167,118.23
Aid to the Disabled	68,868.94
Assistance to the Blind	10,462.61
Home Relief	27,565.20
Child Welfare (Foster Care)	78,625.72
Hospital Only	42,177.66
Burials	11,853.16
County Home	34,395.33
County Home Farm	14,701.85
	<u>\$854,316.51</u>

CREDITS

General Administration	\$ 60,496.09
Old Age Assistance	245,224.57
Aid to Dependent Children	134,623.14
Aid to the Disabled	54,336.10
Assistance to the Blind	4,217.93
Home Relief	21,719.62
Foster Care	19,728.97
Hospital Only	4,217.93
Burials	4,696.26
County Home	1,901.53
County Home Farm	9,234.50
	<u>560,396.64</u>
Net Cost to County	<u>\$293,919.87</u>

In conclusion I wish again to thank the members of the Board of Supervisors for their advice and counsel in the past year. Your whole-hearted cooperation with this Department has aided materially in our work.

I also wish to thank the County Judge, County Attorney and District Attorney and all other county, state, town, village and city departments who have been so cooperative with us in the past year.

It has been a distinct pleasure and privilege to work with all of you.

Respectfully submitted,


William Liddle
Commissioner

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1/29/54