



DU PAGE COUNTY

Human Services

Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

9:30 AM

Room 3500A

1. CALL TO ORDER

9:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Schwarze at 9:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Other Board members present: Member Saba Haider, Member Brian Krajewski, and Member Yeena Yoo

Staff in attendance: Nick Kottmeyer (Chief Administrative Officer), Joan Olson (Chief Communications Officer), Renee Zerante (State's Attorney's Office), Keith Jorstad (Finance), Brian Rovik (Procurement), Natasha Belli and Gina Strafford-Ahmed (Community Services), Mary Keating, Director of Community Services, and Janelle Chadwick (remote), Administrator of the DuPage Care Center.

PRESENT	Cronin Cahill, Galassi, Garcia, and Schwarze
REMOTE	DeSart, and LaPlante

MOTION TO ALLOW REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Member Cahill moved, seconded by Member Galassi to allow Member DeSart and Member LaPlante to participate remotely.

The motion was approved on a voice vote, all "ayes".

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Kari Galassi

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered.

4. CHAIR REMARKS - CHAIR SCHWARZE

Chair Schwarze stated that he met with Vice Chair Garcia, DuPage County Board Chair Conroy, Nick Kottmeyer, Joan Olson, Mary Keating, and Mike Havala, President and CEO of Loaves & Fishes, to discuss the Federal government shutdown and the food insecurity effect on the residents. There are about 39,000 households in DuPage County receiving SNAP benefits at a cost of approximately \$14M per month. DuPage County does have some funds available in various sources but cannot fully meet that demand.

Mary Keating stated the primary effort currently is to make sure that people are aware of the resources available through food pantries. There are 47 different food pantries in DuPage County, all anticipating an increase in demand. Announced yesterday, the federal government will release funds for half the SNAP funds which will filter through the states. How and when it will be distributed is yet to be decided. The county has asked a couple of the larger pantries to communicate to determine the best way the county can assist.

Community Services agency associates have increased the number of emergency food banks for walk-ins. Community Services has increased the purchase of Aldi gift cards, purchased out of the DuPage Social Service Association (DSSA), a charitable fund attached to Community Services. Ms. Keating intends to send an email to all employees asking those interested in helping to make donations to DSSA. DuPage County has the second highest number of SNAP recipients in the state, second to Cook County.

The committee discussed the federal government shutdown, the loss of the SNAP benefits, and the effect on the residents of DuPage County, including how to reach the masses and how the County Board members and residents assisting will be most effective.

Joan Olson, the DuPage County Communications Officer, displayed a link on the homepage of the DuPage County website that will lead residents to food pantries and other resources for food insecurity within the county. The following link will also access the website:

dupagecounty.gov/food. County staff is utilizing Giving DuPage to find volunteers to assist.

Directions to Giving DuPage are also on the website. Ms. Olson encouraged the County Board members to share the 211 food graphic. It leads people to call 211 where they can speak to a live person and be screened for the possibility of additional services.

It was mentioned that Giving Tuesday is December 2 and should be added to our social media pages.

Member Garcia will send a list of the most needed items from the People's Resource Center website to the county board members to share.

Chair Schwarze stated that Chair Conroy dedicated \$2M for food insecurity in the 2026 budget. There is \$2.1M left in the Small Human Services Grant account.

Mr. Schwarze asked for a consensus from the committee to move the \$21.M from the Small Human Services Grant account to a line item to use immediately for food insecurity. The committee approved via a show of hands with a five to one vote in favor of the move. Nick Kottmeyer stated Chair Schwarze will have to present this at the Finance Committee meeting under old or new business. Chair Schwarze suggested the members talk to other County Board

members and get their support before the Finance meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. [25-2692](#)

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RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Kari Galassi

6. COMMUNITY SERVICES - MARY KEATING

6.A. [FI-R-0190-25](#)

Acceptance and appropriation of the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program DOE Grant PY26 Inter-Governmental Agreement No. 25-401028, for the Weatherization Unit, Company 5000 - Accounting Unit 1400, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 26, 2026, in the amount of \$638,116. (Community Services)

RESULT:	APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Kari Galassi

6.B. [HS-P-0054-25](#)

Recommendation for the approval of a contract to DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform (LARC), to provide face-to-face and telephonic interpreter services, and translation services, to assist clients in Community Services, primarily for the Senior Services unit, and to provide American Sign Language services, both for the Finance Department and Community Services, for the period of December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2026, for a contract total amount of \$34,000; per RFP #23-072-CS, second of three optional one-year renewals.

RESULT:	APPROVED AND SENT TO FINANCE
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Kari Galassi

7. BUDGET TRANSFERS**7.A. [25-2693](#)**

Transfer of funds from account 1000-1640-53020 (information technology service) and 1000-1640-53510 (travel expense) to account 1000-1640-50000 (regular salaries) in the amount of \$5,000 to cover deficits for regular salaries for FY25 that were not foreseen during budget preparation. (Family Center)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill

7.B. [25-2694](#)

Transfer of funds from account no. 1200-2035-52000 (furn/mach/equip small value) to account no. 1200-2035-54110 (equipment and machinery) in the amount of \$2960 to cover the purchase of a walk behind sweeper that housekeeping will use at Animal Control for cleaning epoxy flooring. (DuPage Care Center).

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Paula Garcia

8. CONSENT ITEMS**Motion to Combine Items**

Member Garcia moved and Member Galassi seconded a motion to combine items 8.A. through 8.G. The motion was approved on voice vote, all "ayes".

8.A. [25-2695](#)

AirGas USA, Contract 4593-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$31,292.09 and closing due to purchase order has expired.

8.B. [25-2696](#)

Alpha Baking Company, Contract 7160-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$10,098.88 and closing due to Purchase Order has expired.

8.C. [25-2697](#)

Hill Mechanical Corp, Contract 5755-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$43,293.06 and closing due to Purchase Order has expired.

8.D. [25-2698](#)

Integral Construction, Contract 5675-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$64,512.25 and closing due to Purchase Order has expired.

8.E. [25-2699](#)

Medline Industries, Inc., Contract 7162-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$14,443.06 and closing due to Purchase Order has expired.

8.F. [25-2700](#)

Northwestern Medicine - Central DuPage Hospital, Contract 6390-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$10,342.88 and closing due to purchase order has expired.

8.G. [25-2701](#)

The Standard Companies, Contract 7144-0001 SERV - This Purchase Order is decreasing in the amount of \$51,341.00 and closing due to Purchase Order closing.

RESULT:	APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
AYES:	Cronin Cahill, Galassi, Garcia, and Schwarze
REMOTE:	DeSart, and LaPlante

9. RESIDENCY WAIVERS - JANELLE CHADWICK

No residency waivers were offered.

10. DUPAGE CARE CENTER UPDATE - JANELLE CHADWICK

Janelle Chadwick, Administrator of the DuPage Care Center, stated they are currently not in outbreak status at the Care Center.

The construction on 2 South, 2 North, and 2 Center, is approaching the latter stages, hopefully reaching completion by late November. If the federal government is still shutdown, they will not send an architect surveyor or a nurse surveyor to come for an occupancy inspection.

The Care Center submitted a revised Certificate of Need to the Health Facilities Planning & Review Board to include the east building. The Certificate was submitted early, timely, and thoroughly.

11. COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE - MARY KEATING

Mary Keating, Director of Community Services, stated Community Development has one item affected by the federal government shutdown. The Glen Ellyn Full Circle Communities Project is slated to receive community project funding (congressionally directed funding) with Representative Ramirez' office on the project, as well as some of the Community Development HUD H.O.M.E. funds. After the environmental review, there was a 30-day public comment period before the expected release of funds, which ended on September 30, 2025. The funds normally would have been released on October 1st but were not due to the shutdown. Without

the funds Glen Ellyn cannot demolish the property or then schedule a closing. The closing must be scheduled to get the funds released. There is a process under the HUD lapse plan that you can get an exception to get funds released. We are currently working with HUD staff in Chicago trying to get the exception through and Ms. Keating will be in Washington D.C. next week and has a meeting with Ramirez's office.

Ms. Keating brought up the need for additional spillover space for DuPage Pads during the winter months. The Interim Housing Center (IHC) is full all the time with a waiting list. When the IHC is full, Pads will put families with children up in a hotel. April Redzic, the President and CEO of DuPage Pads, will attend the Finance meeting next week to make a request for additional funds to assist with housing for the winter months. There is \$344,000 left in ARPA Interest funds.

12. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

13. NEW BUSINESS

County Board member Brian Krajewski stated many animals have been surrendered at Animal Services because owners are struggling financially. Several food pantries are stating there is a large demand for animal food, specifically wet cat food. Animal Services will be sponsoring a drive on December 6 for animal food and people food. Emphasis will be on animal food. The drive is growing; many services organizations and mayors are involved. Staff are still finalizing details and locations for the drive. Chair Schwarze requested an email be sent to the County Board members.

Animal Services has been working with the Health Department to accept animals temporarily during hospital stays but has not expanded the temporary services beyond the Health Department. Springfield is looking at putting caps on the deposits and extra rent charges at apartments regarding pets.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.