

Social Services, Disabilities & Human Rights

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Nancy Barr

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
WestchesterLegislatorsNY.gov



Monday, March 30, 2026

10:00 AM

Committee Room

Joint with B&A

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor, White Plains, New York, 10601, and livestreamed via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view the meeting and its video recording online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/>. This website also provides the links to documents to be discussed at a given meeting.

Legislator Jenn Puja will be participating remotely from 595 W. Hartsdale Ave., White Plains, NY 10607

With a quorum present, Chair Nancy Barr called the meeting to order at 11:08 AM.

Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Dianne Vanadia (remote), Lou Vetrone, Jazmin Logan, Steve Elie-Pierre (remote), Nat Federici (remote), Carla Chaves, Sandra Brown, Sherine Kurien, John Befus, Michelle Bethencourt-Garcia, Leonard Gruenfeld, Francisco Tejada, Lauren Walsh, Jeffrey Dean (remote), Michael Swee and Paul Cheand; BOL: Legislator Nancy Barr, Legislator Emiljana Ulaj (remote), Legislator Jose Alvarado (remote), Legislator Jennifer Puja (remote), Legislator David Imamura, Legislator Margaret Cunzio Lisa Hochman (remote), Ethan Samuel, Althema Goodson and Dayana Gómez-Holguín

Present: Barr, Imamura, Williams and Williams Johnson

Remote: Puja

MINUTES APPROVAL

Present: Barr, Imamura, Puja, Williams, Williams Johnson and Gashi

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[ACT-2026-62](#) **IMA-Preventive Respite Care & Services for Eligible Children and Their Families-Rockland County**

Guests: Westchester County Department of Social Services

John R. Befus, First Deputy Commissioner

Michelle Bethencourt-Garcia, Child Welfare Manager II.

This item is for a regional shared services agreement four youth crisis intervention in Rockland County. The program provides services to eligible children at risk of foster care placement. Westchester's sanctuary shelter offers temporary housing and support for youths who are in crisis, and facilitating reunification with families. Current renovations at the shelter have led to temporary diversions of youth to alternative facilities in New York City and Putnam.

On motion of Imamura, seconded by Williams Johnson, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Williams Johnson, seconded by Imamura, the Committee adjourned at 11:30 AM