

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**  
**MOTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

TITLE: Support for New York State Office for the Aging and Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services

AT THE REQUEST OF: Legislators Parker and Pavlock:

WHEREAS, The Older Americans Act enacted in 1965, provided comprehensive regulatory parameters and services to assist older individuals and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, New York State is home to 4.6 million New Yorkers who are over the age of 60, and currently has the fourth largest population of older adults in the Nation; and

WHEREAS, since 1973, the Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services has provided valuable services and support to older Chautauqua County Residents, such as home delivered meals; home care services to maintain independence and navigate various health and social services systems; transportation services to medical appointments, pharmacies, and community outlets; legal assistance; nutrition counseling and education; home modifications; evidence-based interventions, case management, information and assistance; social adult day services; Medicare plan and prescription counseling and assistance; respite; health promotion and wellness; health insurance information and assistance; elder abuse prevention and mitigation; senior center programming; volunteer opportunities; and other various ancillary services; and

WHEREAS, although many of these services are mandated by Federal and State regulations in order to accept Older Americans Act Funding, the burden of the cost of these services is heavily dependent on local government funding, and Federal and State contributions have not kept pace with the growing needs of the population; and

WHEREAS, Chautauqua County is home to 37,800 individuals over the age of 60, who comprise thirty percent of the total population of this County, and many of these individuals struggle to afford food, medications, home heating fuel, rent, mortgages, and utilities due to the high cost of inflation while living on limited fixed incomes; and

WHEREAS, there are currently over 400 individuals waiting for in-home care services in Chautauqua County and 18,000 older adults waiting for services across New York State; therefore let it be

KNOWN, The Chautauqua County Legislature, with great pride, hereby proclaims March 2024 as Support for Office for the Aging Services Month in Chautauqua County; and let it be

MOVED that the Legislative Board urges Local, Federal, and State Government Representatives to advocate for increased funding levels for older adults and for Office for the Aging programming in the Federal and State budgets.