

From: [Beth Hartman](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Work session non-agenda items
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Elizabeth Hartman
Daughter of the late Connie Hartman
Hanover Township

Council as I sit here starting my comments about and article on the standard speaker by Tarah Toohil I am seeing across Facebook about an attempted Suicide in the female population of the prison.

It is my understanding very quickly, less than an hour.. with the power of social media that the Female was in active addiction prior to coming into the jail and was receiving minimal services and medications to assist with detox. When you begin your investigations, please be very Transparent with what is going on ... **BROKEN SYSTEMS !!! BROKEN MENTAL HEALTH , BROKEN CORRECTIONS , BROKEN ADDICTION SERVICES .. BROKEN COURTHOUSE AND COURT ROOMS.. PLEASE LOOK ... WAKE UP !! THE PANDEMIC IS HAVING A HUGE EFFECT ON OUR BROKEN SYSTEMS. STEP UP... LISTEN !!!! AND GET ON THE RIGHT SIDE TO CORRECT AND HELP YOUR COMMUNITY AND CONSTITUENTS !!!**

I would ask the council to require mandatory drug testing on all county employees immediately! you work for us and all of us in our jobs in the private sector it is mainly required so .. change personal policy for immediate DRUG testing on all employees. With TOP priority to any employee responsible for children, mentally challenged, our prisons, our Veteran's as well as our elderly. FROM THE BOTTOM TO THE TOP!! If your job affects these at-risk individual's you should be drug free from caseworker to Judges.

Here is an article that appeared in the Standard speaker and my response the article appears to be submitted by Tarah Toohil by the byline seen here

" families who need housing and services. What better place to invest this surplus than in our own Pennsylvania children in need?

TARAHTOOHIL represents the 116th District in the state House of Representatives."

https://www.standardspeaker.com/where-are-the-217-children-of-luzerne-county-now/article_754c411e-b5f1-55ec-8579-7faf987a177f.html

[PA State Rep. Tarah Toohil](#) The answer is not to throw money at a Broken system and Broken NONProfits that abuse the system set up to protect our most vulnerable children. Right now with all the secrecy inside family courts, Foster Care agencies, nonprofits that abuse the system to keep a stream of Money flowing in their door. The solution is to LISTEN to all sides and figure out the best solution for families to stay united with the PROPER SERVICES!! Example a parenting class should not be a person coming into a home reading a piece of paper with the parent speaking for 20 minutes and leaving. A proper parenting service would be someone coming into the clients home seeing the needs and addressing issues, so teaching the parent how to multitask, Watch a 2 year old and do the laundry, Watch a very quick moving 3 year old and clean up a room at the same time. Proper positive reinforcements for the child.

Instead of removing children and selling them to the highest bidder, instead of hiding behind the secrecies, lies and perjury that are occurring in family courts DAILY as no one is held accountable.

For this is all hidden behind the GUISE OF PROTECTING THE CHILDREN!!

That is what our family court systems/Children and Youth system currently does. It promotes BAD ACTORS who abuse the system and it's secrecy and NON transparency, BAD ACTORS to collect kinship money, BAD ACTORS in NON Profits to keep the stream of funding coming in the door. BAD ACTORS to follow what a supervisor is telling them to do when they know it is wrong. BAD ACTORS that do not speak up and use the whistleblower laws to speak up and TRULY DO WHAT THEY WANTED TO DO IN THEIR CAREER , PROTECT AND SERVE THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF THIS COUNTY.

I don't find it amusing at all that you are a founding member of a local NON profit that takes funds under Children and Youth and I don't find it funny that you are on various committees under the GUISE OF PROTECTING THE CHILDREN!!

I do find it rather amusing you are the ONLY local Representative to speak up about this travesty that is AGAIN happening in our county on the BACKS of our children! on our low income families backs again!

Kids for cash was not enough for this county. We are in the middle of another major scandal AGAIN with children involved. Where are our other representatives ? Why are you not speaking up .. Tarah spoke out. I have to give her some kudo's but she is speaking out to funnel more money into broken systems instead of addressing the issues, she is on a money grab for Brandons forever home and all the other non profits that have their hand in the cookie jar. Shame on you Tarah. to speak out like this is all another line item in a budget.

TO THE REST OF YOU

" HOW THE HELL ARE WE HERE AGAIN WITH KIDS FOR CASH 2 ???? THAT IS WHAT CHILDREN AND YOUTH IS A BUDGET LINE ITEM ON THE COUNTY BUDGET, STATE BUDGET AND FEDERAL BUDGET. ' NO ONE IS SPEAKING UP AS YOU DO NOT WANT TO LOSE THE FUNDING FOR YOUR DISTRICT. '

To a reader that is unaware federal money is funneled into state and counties by the number of children under the care of said agency so if they close a case with no issue no need for services, they lose funding. if they have a child in case foster home, kinship home , adoption they receive \$\$ about \$9,000 a month per child, Mental Health Services also works the same way and the Dept of Aging similar, but in this situation, they also take the persons home/ assets when they DIE for services provided !! UGGG

Foster families/kinship (when a family member takes the child, they also get paid this is called kinship) are paid about \$1,200 per child to care for the child, out of that \$9000 and the rest is used for salaries and to pay nonprofits for services provided.

So if you're a foster/kinship family and there are some great ones out there! I am not saying everything is bad and I am not saying some children need to be removed. I am saying that the trauma caused by removal has been studied and proven to be horrific with lifelong consequences and families should be worked with the right services to help keep blood lines together. BUT the system is being abused.

So, for example you are a foster/ kinship family, and you have a child that will be turning 18. What is that family going to do when the child turns 18 (called aging out of the system) (might be 21 with the pandemic) and that payment is going to stop? You put in for another foster/ or perjure yourself in family court to get your income back or increase... are we following along to see how this all works ? or is too much in one lesson?

Bigger Question: what happens to the child then what happens when they age out?

REPORTERS ASK !!!! Most return to birth families because the money stops and they are no longer wanted, and to heal some of their trauma they go looking for answers.

Yes, you see an occasional happy reporter fluff story of life after foster/ kinship care but honestly, I have heard a lot of family's stories over the last 5 years as I LISTEN (god gave us 2 years and one mouth so we can listen more than we talk listening is the key to a better world listening to each other's problems listening to what someone is going thru without judgement JUST LISTEN)

So, to sum it up, when they return a child home after providing the broken services to keep up with the budget line-item similar year to year, they need to take another child. If a child ages out of they system they need another child to replace that lost \$9,000 income in revenue to the state and county budgets, so Van Suan was picking and choosing what children were going to make the county more money., anyone that hid her horrific crimes is just as guilty as she is from the lowest on the totem pole to the head of the county.

Stephen King on Twitter: ""To sin by silence, when we should protest, makes cowards out of men." Abraham Lincoln (a Republican)."Oct 28, 2017

Let's work and get every RAT and EVERY SNAKE out of this country and start protecting the children and low-income families from the travesties that keep occurring in our county!!! The Death of Mr Mackey, Guards overdosing in our jails just last week , Van Saun arrest. WAKE UP PEOPLE !!!! Tonight 6 pm County Council meeting let's see what kind of answers they have for us for our recent travesties being done to and on our most needy.

So Tarah I am discussed that you came out and spoke about Money !! This is not about money, well in the end it will be putting the money in the right services to help families stay together and not be ripped apart to the highest bidder or the best liar in family court.

To the rest of our representatives WAKE UP and stand for all your constituents as you are the most vulnerable and you should also be ashamed!!

Quick final note on Donna Davis Javitz lawsuit.. since I'm on a roll this morning .. from [Times Leader](#) article "The trial was held in Scranton federal court before U.S. District Judge Robert D. Mariani of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Mariani charged the jury and deliberations began at 5:09 p.m.. The jury returned at 5:39 p.m. with their verdict. " How in the HELL does a jury get a trial at 5:09 pm and a Verdict at 5"39 pm that is 30 minutes ... 30 friggin minutes.. I have been on juries.. you leave the courtroom you go to the deliberations room you sit down and get comfortable as surely you are all going to talk about the days before questions or concerns you heard during the trial.. you heard about this

person's life since 2015 that's 6 years.. 6 years she waited for her day in court, her day of justice (I do not know her or the entire story I am commenting on our judicial system) 30 minutes... no questions about why our EX-DA who is now running for judge has amnesia ? doesn't remember, doesn't recall ? Dear lord help us.. if she has amnesia now.. hmmm or is it not amnesia it's covering her BUTT !!!

I am sorry to Javitz. I am sorry you waited 6 years for justice. I am sorry the jury was giving the case at 530 on a Friday night and they wanted to go home ! Again, I have been on a jury as it neared 5 pm and daycares were closing or children needed to be picked up ... I am sorry that you will not see Justice .. I am sorry ..

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