

Issues Programs List

Quarterly Issues Programs List

Stations: WYRK, WTSS, WBUF, WBLK

January 1, 2024- March 31, 2024

Section I. Issues

The stations have identified the following topics as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. **Crime/Scams.** As the Western New York area hits the dead of winter, snow begins to fall more often, which can lead to scams surrounding snow removal companies. Kat Schmieder, Communications Dir BBB of Upstate NY discussed Snow Removal and Contractors scams, Gift Cards, Romance/Online Dating/Valentines Day, Income Tax related scams and Pet Scams. Kat mentioned what to look out for and how to avoid such scams.
- B. **Mental Health.** Erie County Health Department data shows that 2023 was one of the deadliest years for opioid deaths in Buffalo with nearly 400 deaths. Brigid Keane Outreach Coordinator for MATTERS discussed the services offered by MATTERS, common barriers to treatment, resources available, and what listeners can do to help.
- C. **Children’s Health.** Variety – the Children’s Charity of Buffalo & WNY has been serving the needs of WNY’s sick, disabled, and disadvantaged children for over 80 years. This is the 62nd year for the Variety Kids Telethon in WNY, the longest running local telethon in the nation. Bill Simon discussed Oshei Children’s Hospital, one of the beneficiaries of the funds raised on the Telethon.
- D. **Adult Care.** Over 13% of Buffalo’s population is 65+ years old. Kelley Clem VP Clinical Education Hospice Buffalo, discussed differences between Hospice and Palliative Care, how care is not only patient focused but family focused as well, who should be investigating care and why do people resist Hospice and Palliative care.
- E. **Faith Based Initiatives.** Deacon Steve Schumer discussed the 100th Appeal in support of Catholic Charities and Fund the Faith to reach their goal of 9.5 million dollars. The mission of Catholic Charities is to provide hope for all faiths with the WNY Community. Last year the appeal helped 145,000 individuals and families and supported more than 50 programs and ministries

Section II. Responsive Programs

Issues and Views is a 60 minute locally produced public affairs program that airs every Sunday on all four stations at the following times:

WYRK and WBLK at 6:30 a.m.
WTSS and WBUF at 6:00 a.m.

Date(s) Aired	Guests	Related Issues	Description of Program
1/7/24	Nicole LaMonte-DeGolier VP Collaborative Community Mission	Health/Education	Collaborative Community Mission serves all counties of Western New York and their vision is to be recognized as the regional leader for providing integrated experiences through therapeutic and educational performing for families and professionals in the WNY area. Nicole discussed different programs available, how to get involved,

			the teaching and volunteer aspects of CCM.
1/14/24	Niagara Falls Mayor Robert Restaino	Tourism, Infrastructure, Unemployment	The mayor discussed the hiring of Department Heads to replace the ten or so that retired at the end of 2023. He also discussed was the removal of the Niagara Scenic Parkway from Findlay Drive in Niagara Falls to Center Street in Lewiston and the ongoing impact of Urban Renewal and the relationship with the Seneca Nation involving the Seneca Niagara Casino.
1/21/24	Kat Schmieder, Communications Dir BBB of Upstate NY	Crime/Scams	Kat discussed Online purchase scams, Snow Removal/Contractors, Gift Cards, Romance/Online Dating/Valentines Day, Income Tax related scams and Pet Scams. Kat mentioned what to look out for and how to avoid such scams.
1/28/24	Gina Lattuca, Chief Communications Officer SPCA of Erie Co	Education/Animal Welfare	Gina discussed the mission of the SPCA as an advocate for animals. She also discussed animal safety in Winter Weather conditions, trial adoptions, no-kill shelters, overcrowding, volunteers, donations and the future.
2/4/24	Deacon Steve Schumer, President, CEO Catholic Charities	Faith Based Initiatives	Deacon Steve Schumer discussed the 100 th Appeal in support of Catholic Charities and Fund the Faith to reach their goal of 9.5 million dollars. The mission of Catholic Charities is to provide hope for all faiths with the WNY Community. Last year the appeal helped 145,000 individuals and families and supported more than 50 programs and ministries
2/11/24	Jennifer McAndrew Exec Dir. Plymouth Crossroads	Crime/Education/At Risk Youth	Jennifer discussed the mission of Plymouth Crossroads helping At-Risk Youth ages 16-20 and their new home in West Seneca. She also discussed funding, placement (voluntary and court appointed) and the naming of Exec Dir Jennier McAndrew as <i>Citizen of the Year for West Seneca</i>
2/18/24	Brigid Keane Outreach Coordinator for MATTERS	Health – Opioid Substance Abuse/Treatment in WNY	MATTERS means <i>Medication for Addiction Treatment and Electronic Referrals</i> . This discussion centered around; the services offered by MATTERS, current state of the opioid crisis in WNY, Common barriers to treatment, resources available, and what listeners can do to help.
2/25	Kelley Clem VP Clinical Education Hospice Buffalo	Adult Care	Kelley discussed differences between Hospice and Palliative Care, how care is not only patient focused but family focused as well, who should be investigating care and why do people resist Hospice and Palliative care.

3/3/24	Shannon Karcher, Exec Dir of Bornhava	Health/Education/Early Childhood Development	Shannon discussed what Bornhava specializes in; Early Intervention, Pre-School and Evaluations for children ages birth to 5 years of age with various developmental disabilities. She also referenced their yearly fund-raiser, this year being their "40 th Anniversary Celebration April 27, 2024.
3/10/24	Bill Simon Telethon Chairman	Health/Education 2024 Variety Kids Telethon	This is the 62 nd year for the Variety Kids Telethon in WNY, the longest running local telethon in the nation. Bill discussed Oshei Children's Hospital, one of the beneficiaries of the funds raised on the Telethon. Celebrity Child Oliver Cope who suffers from "Brittle Bone Syndrome". How the Telethon regularly raises over one million dollars, where listeners can watch, and donate
3/17/24	Mark Laurrie Supt of Niagara Falls Schools	Education/Schools/Funding	Supt. Laurrie discussed his appointment to the National Panel on Student Health. Later, he discussed funding for schools with the end of American Rescue Funds and the Governor's changing the State funding process, recent fights in which teachers were injured at Niagara Falls High School, School Resource Officers, and the rumor the Supt is leaving to become President of Niagara County Community College (which is false).
3/24/24	Dr. David Pratt, NYS Licensed Psychologist	Mental Health	Dr. Pratt is a NYS Licensed Psychologist with 44+ year experience, an accomplished author and national speaker. He discussed how to treat (with evidenced based treatments) adolescent depression, anxiety, suicide prevention, trauma, PTSD and behavioral problems.
3/30/24	Kelley Clem VP Clinical Education Hospice Buffalo	Adult Care	REPEAT: Kelley discussed differences between Hospice and Palliative Care, how care is not only patient focused but family focused as well, who should be investigating care and why do people resist Hospice and Palliative care.