## YOUR COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES...



The Sullivan County Legislature is providing this information to all property taxpayers in Sullivan County to inform them about how State and Federal mandates affect their annual property tax bills.

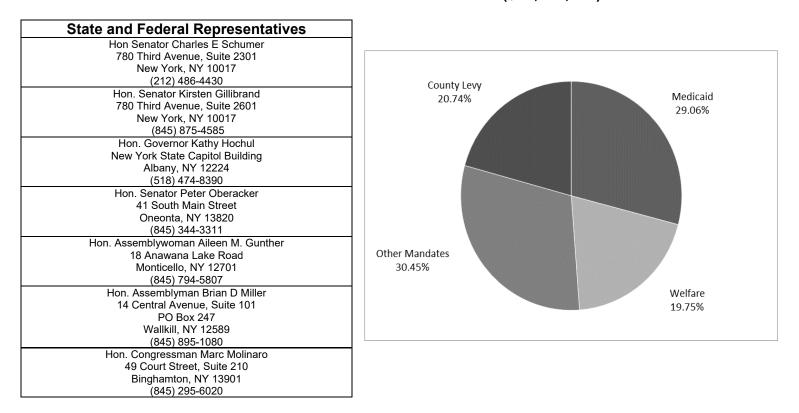
## \* The 2024 County Tax Levy totals \$71,149,722. Of that amount, 79.26% is mandated. County government has little or no control over these costs.

"Mandates" are Federal or State created programs that are required to be operated by lower level governments. In New York State, most of these mandates are not accompanied by State money to pay for them or are only partially paid for. Because County government relies primarily upon property taxes to operate, expensive State mandates become expensive property taxes on local taxpayers.

<u>NYS Medicaid Mandate</u>: New York State has the most expensive Medicaid program in the nation. State legislators have authorized optional services for recipients that exceed what is required by Federal regulations. New York's spending per recipient is the highest in the country. New York is one of only a few states that mandate county governments to pay a portion of the State's cost. Sullivan County's Medicaid bill will be \$20,675,001 in 2024. Approximately 29.06% of the property tax you pay in 2024 will pay just one bill – Medicaid.

**<u>NYS Welfare Mandate</u>**: The State has established an extensive system of welfare benefits to assist needy individuals and families. Three central program groups: Public Assistance, Safety Net and Child Welfare cost the County \$14,052,880 in 2024, which is 19.75% of this year's tax levy.

<u>NYS Mandates (other)</u>: State legislators mandate numerous other expenses including Early Intervention services, probation, indigent defense, jail staffing levels, and criminal inpatient costs. These mandates are projected to cost the County \$21,668,360 in 2024, which is 30.45% of the tax levy.



## 2024 Sullivan County Tax Levy (\$71,149,722)