



LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny L. Demo, Director

Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Minutes of February 21, 2018

Scott Mathys and Madeline Lehman-Vice-Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. The meeting was held at the Lewis County Court House, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Present: Madeline Lehman-Vice Chairperson and Student Representative Lowville Academy; Scott Mathys, and Kirstin Moshier-Student Representatives-Lowville Academy, Tara Martin-Student Representatives Beaver River Central, Ward Dailey, Mike Leviker, Journee Allen-Student Representative-Harrisville Central, Kimmy Dolan and Annabelle Atnip-Student Representatives Copenhagen Central, Michelle Ledoux, and Deanna Edick. **Others Present:** Legislators John Lehman and Randy LaChausse, Eileen Mathys, and Penny Demo, Director Lewis County Youth Bureau. **Excused:** John Exford and Jacob Hartle-Co-Chairs; Victoria Boliver-Student Representative Beaver River Central; and Rhonda Vanucchi.

Introductions and Welcome:

New Youth Bureau Board Members: At the March Board of Legislators Meeting, a resolution will be presented appointing Tara Martin and Officer Luke Monnat to the Lewis County Youth Bureau Board. Tara will be replacing Karrigan Aubin and Officer Luke Monnat will be replacing Officer Brandi Groman. Both Tara and Officer Monnat will officially begin their term on the board effective March 7, 2018.

Minutes: Review of the **January 17, 2018** board meeting minutes. **Mike Leviker moved to accept the minutes as written; Kirsten Moshier seconded; Passed.**

Presentation

Standing Agenda Item: Mountain View Prevention Services – Drug Free Communities (DFC)

Grant: At our January meeting, Korin Scheible, Director of Mountain View Prevention Services (MVPS) spoke on the Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant. The White House Drug Policy Office awarded \$125,000 to Local Coalitions to Prevent Youth Substance Use including Lowville's YEAH! Coalition. Grant awards will support Administration Efforts to Emphasize Prevention Among Youth. The grants were awarded to provide local community coalitions funding to prevent youth substance use, including prescription drugs, marijuana, tobacco, and alcohol. In an effort, to assist the YEAH! Coalition, at our January meeting the board approved of having Ms. Scheible on our monthly agenda, to bounce strategies and or identify strategy ideas off the youth bureau membership in an effort, to prevent substance abuse among youth in our community. **Ms. Scheible was unable to attend today's meeting, however will be on our March agenda. Update: A Program Coordinator has been hired. The DFC Grant is a 5-year grant. If successful the YEAH! Coalition grant funds could be renewed for another 5-years.**

Old Business:

2018 OCFS Resource Allocation Plan Resolution (Youth Development Funds): The Office of Children and Family Services released the 2018 allocation of Youth Development Funds to counties engaged in comprehensive planning the Children and Family Services Plan. Lewis Counties 2018 allocation is \$21,115.00. The allocation of these funds, activate the process for the youth bureau to begin requesting proposals. The NYS OCFS Resource Allocation Plan was submitted via a resolution to the Lewis County Board of Legislators who have authorized and approved the plan.

2018 OCFS Youth and Young Adult Section of the 2018-2023 County Plan-Sub Committee:

Review: At our January meeting Deanna Edick, Director of Services at LCDSS reported that historically, each year, the focus of the Children and Family Services Plan (County Plan) is to address the safety (recurrence) and Foster Care/Adoption (Permanency) Strategic Planning Sections of the plan, which includes a piece on the functions of County Youth Bureaus. OCFS is now turning their attention to the Youth and Young Adult section of the plan. Counties are encouraged to identify key youth serving stakeholder as the lead on this portion of the plan which will address the unique needs of youth ages 14 and older, will include a diagnostic portion (a description of the factors that positively or negatively contribute to outcomes), strategies to be implemented that address contributing factors, and measures to monitor effectiveness of the strategies. The board previously received two documents: Child and Family Services Plan-Youth and Young Adult Component Workbook and the Data Indicators for the Youth and Young Adult Outcome. The data in these documents will assist Penny in submitting the Youth and Young Adult portion of the plan, specifically as it relates to how we are meeting the needs as well as what are the unmet youth program needs are in our county. Data in the “Data Indicators Document” will be used to drive the decisions we make when releasing the 2018 YDF request for proposals. A sub-committee was formed made up of Penny, Scott Mathys-CEO LCOI and Board Member; Deanna Edick-Director of Services at LCDSS and Board Member, and Jurnee Allen, Madeline Lehman, and Kirstin Moshier-Student Representatives of the Youth Bureau Board. The sub-committee met on January 29, 2018 in an effort, to review the data. This process helped us to identify how best to meet the needs of youth in our county. OCFS encourages youth bureaus to think about Leverage-“Build on what we already have.” We talked a lot about the upcoming modification of “Raise the Age” Legislation. This bill modifies the Governor’s proposal and would treat 16 and 17year old’s, charged with crimes in the same manner as 15-year olds under existing laws. With the implementation 17-year old juveniles will no longer be treated as an adult. This bill is slated to go into effect October 2018 and will raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18 and prohibits the placement of anyone under 18 years of age in an adult jail or prison. We also talked about Public Health’s recent Community Health Improvement Plan where obesity in youth was identified as a concern. After much discussion, the Sub-Committee identified Healthy Development as our Indicator and held discussion on what youth programs are needed in our community. The following needs were noted: After school programs; transportation to after school programs and jobs; recreational programs; law enforcement agencies; etc. **Penny reported that the Plan is due April 1, 2018, however advised that she has submitted the Youth and Young Adult portion of the plan to the state for approval.**

Due to time constraints with the 2018 Youth Development Funds application process, the youth bureau board was polled, and approved of issuing a press release announcing the **availability of up to \$14,000 in 2018 Youth Development Funds** to support programs for youth under the age of 21 that are designed to prevent juvenile delinquency through positive youth development. The funds will be targeted at early intervention and prevention services that are designed to curb the high priority problems affecting youth. The funds are intended to be used for youth most likely to become involved in the criminal justice system and be designed to expand community services. The release was issued to the Lowville Journal & Republican and on Linking Lewis County website with a **deadline of March 16, 2018 to submit proposals. Prior to the March 21st board meeting, board members will be emailed**, a brief summary of each application. Applicants will be invited to the March meeting to answer any questions the board may have pertaining to their application **therefore it is extremely important board members attend the meeting and are prepared to ask questions. Reminder:** Per the Youth Bureau By-Laws, inability to provide a verbal presentation will not exclude the applicant from consideration. Voting process is a simple majority of the membership present.

New Business

Remainder of \$7,115.00 in 2018 OCFS Youth Development Funds-Discussion: A portion of these funds must be allocated for Youth Bureau administration expenses such as postage, OCFS Dues, and can be used to help support a portion of the Director's stipend. Penny advised that the annual administration expenses is approximately \$600-\$700. We use a lot of postage during the annual "Lewis County Night Out" event as well as the annual "Homeless Christmas Tree" Initiative, and other events/initiatives we co-sponsor. Additionally, and historically, the board has opted to utilize a portion of these funds to support Municipality run Youth Recreational Programs. *****Reminder:** For the past few years, in June or July, the Youth Bureau has received additional funds thru OCFS called "Legislative Add on Funds" in the amount of \$2,000 + (in 2017 the amount was \$2,675). Typically, the Youth Bureau allocates these funds to support our Annual "Lewis County Night Out" event. However, the "Legislative Add On" monies **are not a guaranteed** from year to year. **"The Annual "Lewis County Night Out" Event will be on the April agenda. After much discussion, Mike Leviker moved to allocate \$600 of the remaining 2018 OCFS YDF to support the Youth Bureau's Administrative Expenses. He also moved to allocate the remaining \$6,515.00 to support Lewis County Municipality Run Recreational Programs. This will be a competitive application process. Proposals will be reviewed at the April 18, 2018 Youth Bureau meeting. Kimmy Dolan-Student Representative-Copenhagen Central seconded; Passed. Update from February Meeting: On February 22, 2018, Penny sent to all Lewis County Municipalities a letter announcing the availability of up to \$6,515.00 in 2018 Youth Development funds allocated to support 2018 Municipality Run Recreational Programs. The deadline for submission of applications is Friday, April 13, 2018.**

In 2017 County Project Funds (\$5,000) available: During the 2018 budget process, the Youth Bureau requested and were approved for \$5,000 from the county to be used for youth projects that support positive youth activities/programs in Lewis County. This funding can be used to support existing youth programs that had a decrease of funding, were eliminated or for new youth programs. County Project funds however cannot be used to support salaries. The Youth Board can either designate the funds to a specific type of youth program, or open the funding up to any youth program

through a competitive application process. In 2017 we received 14 applications and awarded funding to five youth programs as follows: Boy Scout Troop 162-to support Troop members to go to summer camp; ICAN Bike Program (a Down Syndrome Support Group in Lewis County) for registration cost for Lewis County youth with disabilities to participate in the event and learn how to ride a two-wheeled bicycle; Lewis County Cooperative Extension-“Wonder Wednesday’s Afterschool Program; North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council-Free Babysitting Course for Lewis County youth age 11-15 that included Pediatric CPR and First Aid; and Lewis County Amateur Hockey Association-two youth goalie helmets. **This item will be carried over and discussed further at the March meeting.**

Volunteer Opportunities: Mary Faucett from the Lyons Falls Farmer’s Market has invited the Youth Bureau to have an informational table at the June 26, 2018 Farmer’s Market and the Northern Regional Center for Independent Living requested to have a Youth Bureau student representative record a radio spot regarding their upcoming Lewis County Mental Health Walk to be held on May 17th. **If interested in either one of the volunteer opportunities, please see Penny.**

The next meeting of the Lewis County Youth Bureau is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at 4pm at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.**

Adjournment: Jurnee Allen-Student Representative-Harrisville moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm. Annabelle Atnip-Student Representative-Copenhagen seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Penny L. Demo, Director
Lewis County Youth Bureau