

TO: Jessica Moser, Chair; Tom Kalamas, Vice-Chair; Josh Leviker; Vincent Nortz; and Barry Lyndaker.

FROM: Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board

DATE: August 14, 2025

SUBJECT: Human Services Committee Agenda

Please let this correspondence serve as notification that the Human Services Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the Board of Legislators' Chambers. Following is a list of agenda items for the meeting which will be streamed live at [Lewis County - YouTube](#).

Minutes:

Approve July 14th committee minutes if no amendments.

Presentations / Discussion Items:

1. Hospice House Opportunity – Jerry Cayer, LCHS CEO & Joanne Dicob, President of LC Friends of Hospice (15 minutes)
2. Federal Budget Changes Impacting Social Services – Jennifer Jones, Commissioner of Social Services (15 minutes)

Draft Resolutions:

1. Appropriating \$28,420.15 for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program Year 2025 for the period April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 per the Notice of Obligatory Authority.
AYE ___ NAY ___
2. Authorizing an MOU between Lewis County Community Services Department and Jefferson County Community Services Department for a bi-county Mobile Crisis Program as outlined by the NYS Office of Mental Health and \$370,000.00 as Lewis County's share of state-aid start-up funds for contracted services by CHJC in managing and operating the bi-county mobile crisis program for a twenty-month period.
AYE ___ NAY ___
3. Authorizing an agreement between Lewis County Department of Social Services and Caregivers to designate qualified personal care aides to provide personal care services as defined in NYS Department of Health regulations for eligible DSS clients with the cost to be billed to Medicaid.
AYE ___ NAY ___

4. Authorizing an agreement between Lewis County Department of Social Services and TipCo Automatic Systems, LLC for AI virtual assistant software at a cost of \$45,800.00 to design, configure, integrate, test, train, and deploy EVA Phone, EVA Interview, and EVA Companion designed specifically for Social Service needs.

AYE ___ NAY ___

Motions:

None.

Executive Session:

None.

Informational Items:

1. Monthly Department reports are attached for your review.

If any committee member has inquiries regarding agenda items, please do not hesitate to contact me.

cc: Community Services
Lewis County Health System
Office for the Aging
Probation Public Health

Sheriff
Social Services
Veterans' Service Agency
Youth Bureau

RESOLUTION NO. __ - 2025

**RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR
WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Service Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows: NOA#PY-25-1

Section 1. The following funds are authorized to be appropriate for Program Year 2025 for the period April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 for the Youth Employment programs per the Notice of Obligational Authority (NOA), dated April 1, 2025 through the New York State Department of Labor.

Increase Revenue:

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| CD629300.347910 | WIOA Revenue | \$ 28,420.15 |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|

Increase Expenses:

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| CD629000 110100 | WIOA Youth Personal Serv. | \$ 20,594.00 |
| CD629000 499900 | WIA Youth Expenditures | \$ 2,360.18 |
| CD629000.801000 | WIA Youth Retirement | \$ 2,020.11 |
| CD629000.806000 | WIA Youth Health | \$ 3,348.74 |
| CD629000.807000 | WIA Youth Dental | \$ 97.12 |

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator __, seconded by Legislator __, and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. __ - 2025

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH
JEFFERSON COUNTY FOR BI-COUNTY OPERATION OF MOBILE CRISIS
PROGRAM THROUGH CHILDREN'S HOME OF JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Director received funding from the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) to help support the development of behavioral health Mobile Crisis services in underserved communities. The State-Aid funding is in the amount of \$600,000.00, upon the county's development of a program plan for the resources to provide services pursuant to Mobile Crisis standards, and with encouragement for collaboration with neighboring counties to support a comprehensive approach to mobile crisis capacity; and

WHEREAS, the LC Director has collaborated with her counterpart in Jefferson County to coordinate provision of these actual services to be provided by the Children's Home of Jefferson County (CHJC) to operate the bi-county Mobile Crisis service for Jefferson and Lewis Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Lewis County Community Services has submitted a plan for this bi-county Mobile Crisis service to the Office of Mental Health (OMH), inclusive of entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Jefferson County to act as the lead county and contract with CHJC to operate the bi-county mobile crisis program specifically designed for the two counties; and

WHEREAS, the MOU provides for Lewis County to pay \$370,000 of its state-aid start-up funding as Lewis County's share toward the contracted services provided by CHJC, together with other terms and provisions in this bi-county mobile crisis program development; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to enter into this MOU and authorize the funding for same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an MOU between Lewis County, by and through the LC Community Services Department and Jefferson County Community Services Department for a bi-county Mobile Crisis Program as outlined by the NYS OMH in its state aid funding provided to both counties for behavioral health mobile crisis services.

Section 2. The MOU shall provide for the LC Community Services Director to contribute \$370,000.00 from its state-aid start-up funds to Jefferson County as Lewis County's share of the contracted services to be provided by CHJC in managing and operating the bi-county mobile crisis program for Lewis and Jefferson counties for a twenty-month period. This payment shall be made from the Community Services OMH Crisis Management Budget Line.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators together with the Director of Community Services are hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such MOU, pending review and any recommended provisions by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator __, seconded by Legislator __, and adopted.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. __ - 2025

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT
BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND
HOMEMAKERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC. D/B/A CAREGIVERS
TO PROVIDE PERSONAL CARE AIDES/HOMEMAKER SERVICES
FOR MEDICAID CLIENTS**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Lewis County Department of Social Services (“DSS”) desires to enter into an agreement with Homemakers of Western New York, Inc. d/b/a Caregivers (“Caregivers”), 2465 Sheridan Drive, Buffalo, NY 14240, to designate qualified Aide staff to provide personal care services to Medicaid eligible DSS clients in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the personal care services provided to DSS clients will be billed through Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize this agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an Agreement between the County of Lewis, by and through the Lewis County Department of Social Services with Caregivers, of Buffalo, NY 14240, to designate qualified personal care aides to provide personal care services as defined in NYS Department of Health regulations for eligible DSS clients.

Section 2. The starting date of this agreement is subject to the review and approval of the Department of Health and shall continue for two years, and automatically renew annually unless terminated in writing, the cost to be billed to Medicaid.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said Agreement and any amendments or extensions thereto, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator __, seconded by Legislator __, and adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. __ - 2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN TIPCO AUTOMATED SYSTEMS, LLC AND THE COUNTY OF LEWIS TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT AI-POWERED VIRTUAL ASSISTANT SOFTWARE

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services seeks to improve efficiency, minimize human error, reduce the burnout of employees and improve job satisfaction by implementing AI Virtual Assistant software; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner recommends and requests that the Board of Legislators authorize an agreement with TipCo Automated Systems, LLC to design, configure, integrate, test, train, and deploy their EVA phone, EVA Companion, and EVA Interview Component AI Virtual Assistant software that will be tailored specifically to the needs and requirements of the Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, the cost of these services will not exceed \$45,800.00 (\$28,000.00 for EVA Phone; \$14,400.00 for EVA Interview; \$3,400.00 for EVA Companion) as set forth in the proposal; and

WHEREAS, the funding for this software system will be provided under the Lewis County Social Services Department Computer line A0601000 221700.

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize such agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes an agreement with TipCo Automatic Systems, LLC for AI Virtual Assistant software at a cost of \$45,800.00 (\$28,000.00 for EVA Phone; \$14,400.00 for EVA Interview; \$3,400.00 for EVA Companion) to design, configure, integrate, test, train, and deploy EVA Phone, EVA Interview, and EVA Companion that will be tailored specifically for the benefit of the Department of Social Services to be paid through the Department of Social Services Computer line A0601000 221700.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

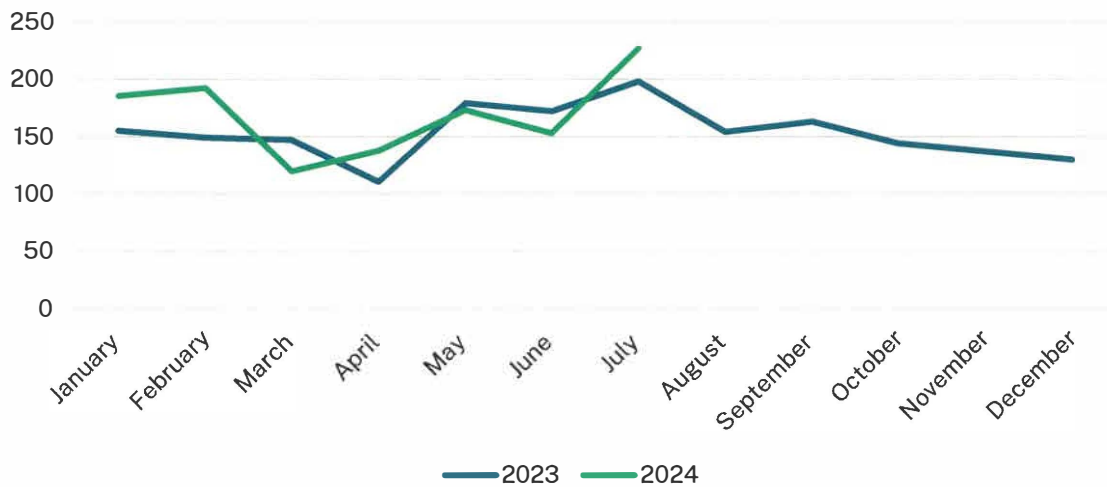
Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator __, seconded by Legislator __, and adopted.

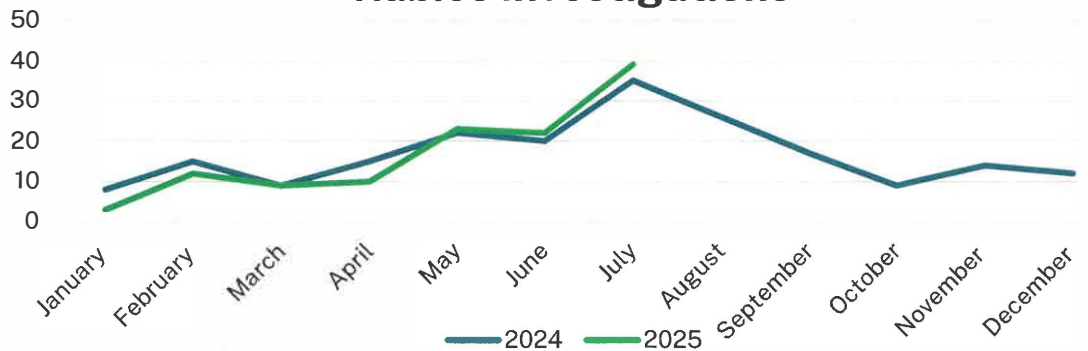
July 2025

- The first hyper local Getting Ahead program started in Harrisville on August 7th. This has been a great partnership between the local businesses, nonprofits, government and community members. We hope to see more hyper local programs start up in other areas of the county.
- Rabies exposures have been up this summer, with bats being the primary source of exposure. We have authorized 25 post exposure treatments this year in comparison with just 14 at this time last year. Public Health covers the cost of this expensive treatment for individuals that have been exposed to potentially rabid animals. Rabies post exposure expenses are up significantly for this year.
- There will be a Rabies Vaccine Clinic at the Lewis County Fairgrounds September 18th 7-8pm.

Communicable Disease Investigations



Rabies Investigations



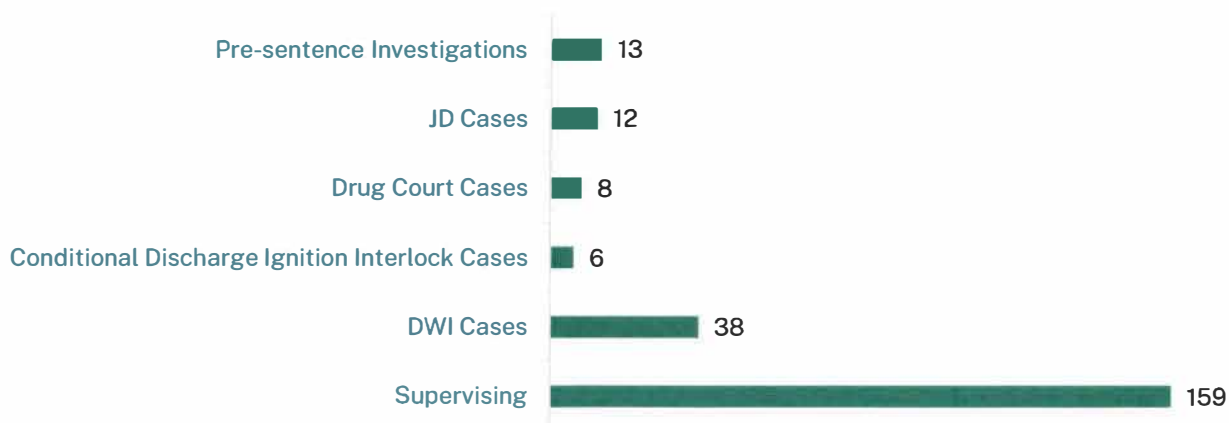
July 2025

- Summer EBT benefits for SNAP recipients with school aged children have been distributed and total \$176, 760 in Lewis County. This is to help offset the cost of food during school summer break.
- The Employment Unit held “Life Hack Day”, a day of education for Summer Youth Employment enrollees. 38 Youth had sessions in DMV paperwork, Auto Maintenance, What To Do If Pulled Over, Banking, Budgeting, Healthy Nutrition and Mentality. Many thanks to Jake Moser, Meagan Dolhof, Cole Mullin, Sgt Knight, Caitlin Lawler, Angela Wayte, Harper Barrett, Brandi Freeman, Aubry Harrington, Shannon Felshaw and Gary Reyes for presenting.
- On August 7th from 6AM- Noon DSS and SnowBelt Housing partnered on the Homeless Point In Time Count held at the Fairgrounds. A mobile team went to various locations through out the county, Bag lunches were provided by LCHS.
- Care Portal officially launched in Lewis County July 30th. CarePortal is a care-sharing platform that allows collaboration and shared responsibility of caring for people in need in real time. DSS submits a client need and CarePortal alerts nearby churches and community members of the need who in turn commit and partner to meet the child /family need. In Lewis County Loving Lewis County is the CarePortal lead with 7 churches assisting.
- DSS was able to pull 6 cases from the Child Care waitlist but added 6 new cases.

| Program Area Update | May 2025 | June 2025 | July 2025 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Child Protective Reports Received | 40 | 38 | 36 |
| Children in Foster Care | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Visitor Total DSS | 562 | 646 | 673 |
| Visitor Total One Stop | 193 | 202 | 207 |
| Child Care Subsidy Cases | 47 | 42 | 40 |
| FCCM Referrals | 2 | 3 | 51 |
| Temporary Assistance Applications | 35 | 37 | 35 |
| Temporary Assistance Undercare | 81 | 83 | 78 |
| Homeless BedNights | 141 | 120 | 256 |
| SNAP Applications | 48 | 56 | 86 |
| SNAP Undercare | 1573 | 1556 | 1555 |
| Medicaid Applications | 29 | 36 | 33 |
| Medicaid Undercare | 1756 | 1755 | 1774 |
| Applications HEAP | 21 | 14 | 0 |
| Total Case Denials | 71 | 57 | 57 |
| Total Case Transactions | 1719 | 1800 | 1639 |
| Fraud Referrals | 37 | 20 | 22 |
| Child Support Petitions Filed | 27 | 15 | 29 |

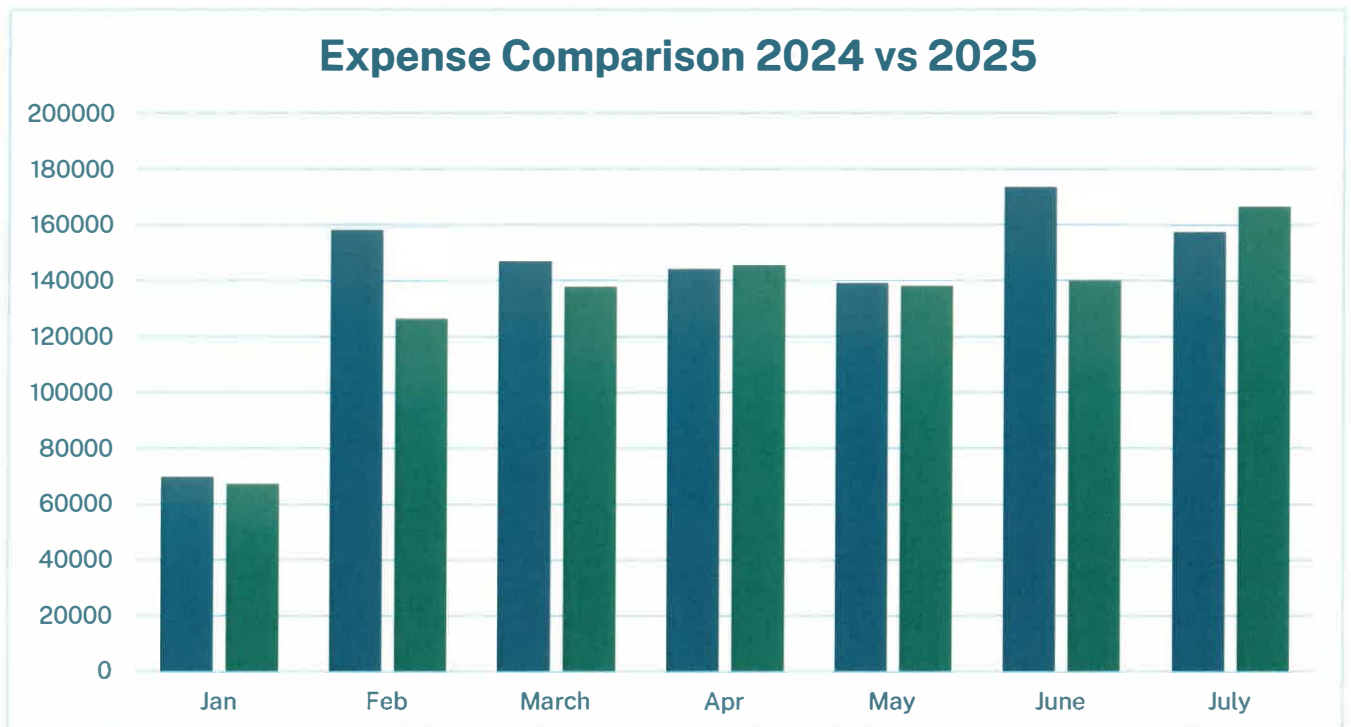
July 2025

- Probation Department supervised cases remain virtually unchanged from the previous month.
- Lewis County STOP-DWI shared a booth with the Lowville Village Police Department and the Lewis County Sheriff’s Office at the Lewis County Fair. Probation Officers assisted the Lowville Village Police Department all week at the fair with the Safe Child IDs.
- Probation Officer’s joined members of the Lewis County Sheriff’s Office and Lowville Village Police Department to patrol the fairgrounds during the Midnight Madness event on Thursday, July 17. This has become an annual tradition of collaboration between the agencies. Probation hopes that our involvement at the Lewis County Fair will help strengthen our collaboration with our law enforcement partners as well as build/strengthen trust and relationships with our community.
- Probation Officer Kylie Simpson attended the New York State Probation Officers Association (POA) annual conference on Thursday, July 31st in Fairport, NY. PO Simpson was able to attend training sessions on current drug trends, juvenile supervision, social media investigations, and K-9’s in probation. The POA conference is an excellent opportunity for probation officers to collaborate with peers from around the state and learn about the best probation practices.



July 2025

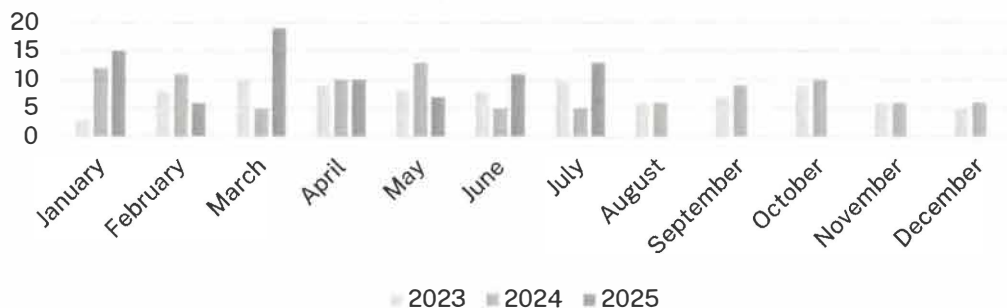
- Nutrition Program meals provided: 5,121 (4,094 home delivered, 883 congregate, 144 Milk Plant Tavern)
- Expanded in-home services for the elderly hours for June: 547 hours (housekeeping, personal care, and respite)
- Companion pets to help with social isolation/loneliness: 71
- Personal emergency response units: 51
- Health and Wellness class participants: 50
- Home Energy Assistance Program clients served: 1
- Health Insurance Counseling clients served: 42
- Legal clients served and referred: 3
- New York Connects information, assessment, follow up: 129
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Class ended July 16th
- Successful Healthy Aging Day at the fair July 17th
- Wellness Matters Lions Club presentation of OFA services July 22nd



July 2025

- Mobile Crisis services are now available to Lewis County residents, 24/7, 365 days a year. The phone number is (315) 405-0696. Please help us spread the word!**
 - We have been working with CHJC, Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and our community partners to spread the word about this new service. If anyone would like a flyer, poster, magnet or business card, please let me know.
- The department has been working with the DA, public defender's office and local courts to address our two most recent 730 evaluation requests, both of which have unique complexities. One request has been fulfilled, and that individual is in custody awaiting placement. The department will be responsible for 50% of the per diem costs once the individual is placed in the appropriate forensic unit.
 - We will continue to meet regularly with these parties to discuss issues that arise when those with a mental illness or developmental disability are involved in criminal courts.
- THRIVE Wellness & Recovery has been awarded a grant to add methadone treatment for opioid use disorder to their outpatient program in Lewis County. Implementation must happen within two years but THRIVE is hopeful that they will be able to do it in one.
- CHJC has been awarded a grant to implement Home Based Crisis Intervention (HBCI) Mental Health and Intellectual and/or Disabilities (MH/IDD) in Lewis County. The anticipated contract start date is January 1, 2026.
- The housing and substance use disorder PSA campaigns are complete and plans are in the works for public distribution.
- Round #2 of the Future Stories Fund (grant program using opioid settlement funds) will launch in mid-August.

Single Point of Access/Entry (SPOA/E)* Referrals





LEWIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

5252 Outer Stowe Street
P.O. Box 233
Lowville, New York 13367
Telephone: (315) 376-3511
Fax: (315) 376-5232

Michael P. Carpinelli
Sheriff

mikecarpinelli@lewiscounty.ny.gov

Jason A. McIntosh
Undersheriff

jasonmcintosh@lewiscounty.ny.gov

MONTHLY REPORT July 2025

JAIL:

- Inmate Population as of July 31st: **39**
- Number of Inmates Boarded Out as of June 31st: **6**

DISPATCH:

- Calls Handled: **5841**
- Cads Created: **2006**

ROAD PATROL:

- Complaints Handled: **582**
- Criminal Arrests Made: **26**
- Vehicle and Traffic Stops: **137**
- Vehicle and Traffic Arrest: **61**
- Pistol Permits Completed: **24**
- Drug Overdoses: **2**

CIVIL:

- Papers Served: **59**
- Evictions: **4**
- Civil Executions Against Property or Income: **8**
- Funds Received and Disbursed: **\$16,452.86**