

October 15th, 2024

The Lewis County Youth Bureau met last week and voted on allocations for Youth Development Program Funds (YDP), Youth Sports and Education Funds (YSEF), and Youth Team Sports Funds (YTS) through the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) for programs running October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025.

Listed below are outcomes of the Youth Bureau’s decisions. We want the community to be aware of what our advisory board does, where funds are going, and how they are being used in the county.

Youth Development Funding (\$22,984):

Program	Agency	Awarded	Purpose of Funding
Gizmo’s Guide to Pawesome Mental Health	Lewis Co. Suicide Prevention Coalition	\$7,488	-Book and stuffed animal to every 3 rd grade student -Pre and post-test surveys on MH
Youth Weekend Activities	Youth of Lewis County	\$6,123	-12-4pm Saturday group activities -Physical engagement and healthy lifestyles
Peer Educators	Planned Parenthood	\$6,123	-Community Impact Manager, Lead Peer Educator, and Peer Educator
4-H Club	Cornell Cooperative Extension	\$1,250	-STEAM curriculum and supplies
Beaver Falls Beach	Beaver River Recreation Association	\$2,000	-4 lifeguard salaries for swim lessons OR salaries of 2 employees during beach operations

Youth Sports and Education Funding (\$20,000):

Winter Recreation	Town/Village of Lowville	\$15,000	Increased expenses: -Program running 2.5 weeks longer -Increase in minimum wage
Youth Sports Basketball & Swim	Double Play	\$5,000	-Staff salaries for swim and basketball -Equipment (portable basketball hoops)

Youth Team Sports (\$14,912):

Wagner Field Fencing	ReNew Bremen, Inc.	\$8,000	-New safety fencing around little league field
Youth Lacrosse	Lowville Youth Lacrosse	\$3,456	-Equipment & gear -Tournament fees
Snow Ridge Ski Club	Snow Ridge Ski Club	\$3,456	-Coach & race fees -Membership dues & Insurance

It will be announced to the county through the Youth Bureau when the next round of state funding opportunities become available for 2025-2026 since all state and county funding has been allocated for this year.

The Youth Bureau is thankful to its current student members who help make these decisions and provide input, along with the government and non-government workers, and community members of Lewis County. We hope the community sees positive results from these funding opportunities and that youth services are supported within Lewis County.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Lawler
Lewis County Youth Bureau Director