

TO: Lisa Virkler, Chair; Andrea Moroughan, Vice-Chair; Richard Chartrand; Jeffrey Nellenback; and Jessica Moser.

FROM: Ryan Piche, County Manager

DATE: April 13, 2023

SUBJECT: Health & Human Services Committee Agenda

Please let this correspondence serve as notification that the Health & Human Services Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 18th 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 March 21st committee minutes if no amendments.

Presentations / Discussion Items:

1. Preschool Provider Rate Increase Justification – Ashley Waite, Public Health Director (15 minutes)

Draft Resolutions:

1. Authorizing adjustments to Preschool Special Education Provider Service Rates with Lewis County Public Health Department effective July 5, 2023, to make the rates competitive with the intention of enticing other providers to contract with the County in order to meet the growing demand of children that need these services which should combat the waitlist of students.
AYE ____ NAY ____

Motions:

Executive Session:

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

Social Services
Veterans Service Agency
Public Health

RESOLUTION NO. __ - 2023

**RESOLUTION ADJUSTING PRESCHOOL PROVIDER SERVICE RATES
WITH LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by Legislator Lisa Virkler, Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators is authorized to approve a rate list for Preschool Special Education Service Providers; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the growing demand of children that need these services in the County, the changes are provided as such to make the rates competitive with the intention of enticing other providers to contract with the County to combat the waitlist of students. The former and proposed rates are as such:

Service	Former Rate Individual	Proposed Rate Individual	Former Rate Group	Proposed Rate Group
Aid 1:1	\$9.00	\$17.00	\$7.00	\$8.50
Audiology	\$355.00	\$177.50	\$300.00	\$100.00
Psychological	\$64.00	\$100.00	\$53.00	\$75.00
Occupational Therapy	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$54.00	\$65.00
Physical Therapy	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$54.00	\$65.00
Physical Therapy Assistant	\$43.00	\$55.00	\$27.00	\$47.00
Speech Therapy	\$64.00	\$74.00	\$53.00	\$65.00

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Health seeks to have the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorize and approve this list of proposed rates for preschool related services, effective July 5, 2023;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes and approves an amendment to the Preschool Special Education Provider Agreements to change their pay rates, effective July 5, 2023.

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

April Report

BOL summary:

NYS Office of Mental Health held in-person Community Engagement sessions on 4/19 and 4/20. This provided people with information about the mental health priorities outlined in Governor Hochul's 2023 State of the State plan and Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget and asked for feedback on how to best make the new opportunities work for the community. Funds to be used to expand housing, outpatient programs, school-based clinics, and hospital services, and increase insurance coverage for mental health services.

Community services office

- Case management activities continue for AOT. Of the 3 730 evaluations 2 were remanded to state forensic facilities for 1 year at a daily rate of \$1100.00
- Working with BOCES school counseling staff and hospital staff to provide education and training about 9.45 pick-up orders
- This is on hold: Will be convening a workforce ad hoc group
- Tentatively moving back to the DSS building 1st part of June
- Attending a planning meeting with hospital leadership

Agency updates

- MVPS interim executive director has resigned effective 4/30. The OASAS site visit that was done went well
- TLS had a positive OMH site visit.

Tri county

- Citizens Advocate is opening a "behavioral health campus" in Watertown. The one service located there will be a psychiatric urgent care. Ribbon cutting on 4/21
- Proposed supportive housing for Lewis County application led by Sno Belt Housing in partnership with Credo and TLS. Forums and meetings were held to address concerns about the location

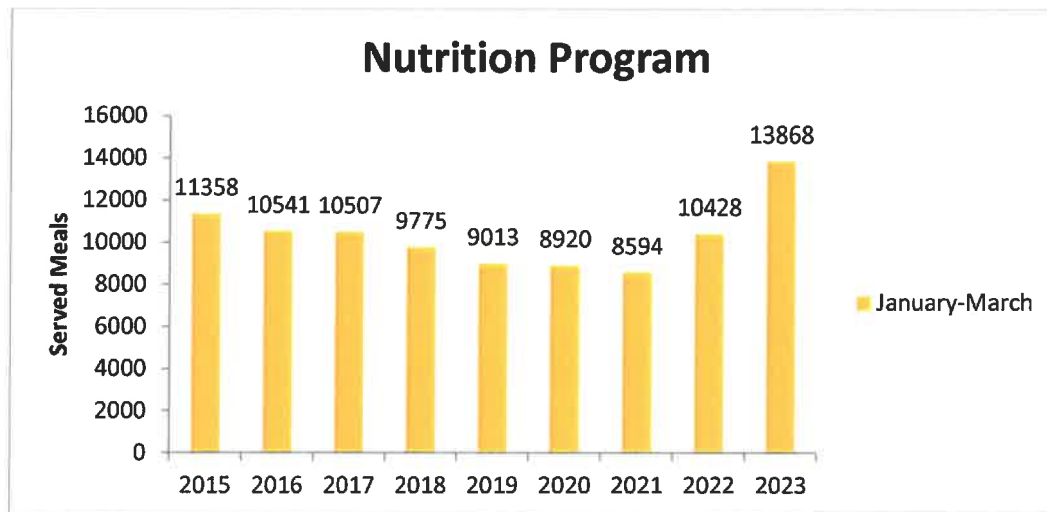
Statewide

- Monitoring the NYS budget process
- OMH is having Community Engagement sessions tentatively set up for 4/19 and 4/20
- 1115 Waiver still waiting on the application
- Access to psychiatric inpatient beds. This continues to be a challenge. This is impacted by staff shortages. And particularly troublesome for children's beds

Current projects

Project	UPDATE
MAT jail	The jail will be empty by 4/17. It is expected to be empty for 8 weeks. At this stage we are looking a a MAT start date of 6/19/23. I am meeting weekly with jail staff to finalize program details. Meeting with hospital RN re" medication distribution at the jail
VET PEER TO PEER	Meeting set for 4/13 to begin phase 2 of program implementation. Site visit of the Watertown location
SYSTEMS OF CARE	Holding a logo contest with area school districts. Judging end of month
OPIOID LITIGATION DOLLARS	N/A
OASAS OPIOID LITIGATION DOLLARS	OASAS approved spending /use plan. Naloxboxes for schools have been ordered
OPWDD RESPITE	DD subcommittee meeting monthly to address the challenges of the administrative bulletin regarding respite reimbursement for families

	March 2023		
	Health and Human Services Committee Report		
2023	March	YTD	Budget
Revenue	\$189,857	\$207,927	\$1,249,462
Expenses	\$142,704	\$326,126	\$1,769,627



- 205 clients receiving home delivered meals and 225 people attended the community dining sites (28 clients choosing takeout meals)

Home Care (February 2023)

- Personal Care and Housekeeping- 438 hours of care provided to 34 people. Consumer Directed- 48 hours of care provided to 3 people.
- Caregiver Respite- 107 hours of care provided to 5 people.
- 19 people on waiting list at the end of February.

General Services

- Health Insurance Counseling- 39 clients served.
- Legal- 17 clients served.
- NY Connects- 175 clients served with information and referral.
- Personal Emergency Response Devices- 73 clients.

Blooming Health

- LCOFA has signed a MOU with Blooming Health. (www.gobloominghealth.com) This is a service that will allow us to send automated voice and text messages to clients with their consent. This service is being paid for by the New York State Office for the Aging and the New York Association on Aging.

PO Box 193, 5274 Outer Stowe Street • Lowville, NY 13367 • 315-376-5313
lewiscounty.org/departments/office-for-the-aging

Lewis County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be made known to the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

Monthly Update: April 2023

Fiscal Update	February	Year to Date	2023 Budget
Revenues	\$87,344	\$-197,976	\$4,139,227
Expenditures	\$257,871	\$459,061	\$5,656,579

Services Update	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023
Preschool Program (Enrolled)	129	136	158
Early Intervention Program (Initial and Ongoing)	47	42	60
CYSHCNSS (Enrolled)	32	20	13
CYSHCN & Child Find (Referrals & Enrolled)	8	16	15
Communicable Disease Investigations (not flu)	48	33	61
Influenza Cases Season to Date	4	118	446
COVID-19 Cases	209	89	71
COVID-19 1 st dose Vaccines Administered	1213	4	4
COVID-19 2 nd dose Vaccines Administered	722	1	2
COVID-19 Booster doses Administered	0	15	3
Rabies Investigations	9	4	6
Lead Case Management Caseload	34	39	35
Maternal Child Health Caseload	1	2	2
Immunization Clinic Attendance	15	38	21
Free Onsite Testing	0	0	5
Evidence Based Classes Enrollment	0	6	19
Pounds Lost by Class Participants	0	5	90
Individuals Reached Via Social Media (viewed message)	39,404	12,240	9,566
Social Media Engagements (likes, shares, comments)	2,602	2,060	2,633

Informational Update	
COVID-19	Reported COVID-19 cases decreased for the month of March. 1 individual was hospitalized with COVID-19 in March, this is also a decrease. The Village of Lowville is conducting weekly wastewater testing for the COVID-19 virus. The latest results at the time of this report show the area is experiencing a decreasing trend in COVID-19 cases.
Fiscal	The negative revenue balance is due to 2022 revenue coming in 2023 and being pushed back to 2022.
Program	Registration for the 5 th annual Community Cup is live! The event will be May 31 st -June 3 rd . 25 people completed a Bridges out of Poverty training March 7 th . 11 participants attended the March Staying Ahead class. National Bridges out of Poverty trainers are coming to do a Bridges to Healthcare (April 18 th) and a Tactical Communication (May 11 th) training for healthcare staff and first responders. 15 medication lock boxes were distributed in the month of March. 7 people attended the first Expressive Speech Therapy Group held in March. We started a new Healthy You! Program at BOCES, 6 students are participating in the program learning about healthy behaviors. The spring Rabies clinics being held in May are set and are currently being advertised.

**Social Services
Monthly Report
March 2023**

Program Area Update	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023
Child Protective Reports Received	42	40	46
Child Welfare Open Cases	22	17	17
Children in Foster Care	11	11	12
Adult Services Referrals	4	8	7
Adult Service Open Cases	73	73	71
Incoming Phone Calls	9357	7608	8355
Visitor Total DSS	612	503	601
Visitor Total One Stop	60	52	54
Child Care Subsidy	33	28	28
Applications Temporary Assistance	41	24	34
Open Temporary Assistance Cases	64	65	65
Homeless BedNights	74	1	57
Applications SNAP	114	70	96
Open SNAP cases	1623	1601	1607
Medicaid Applications	44	42	43
Medicaid Open Cases	1752	1765	1782
Applications HEAP	419	310	368
Total Case Denials	139	106	106
Total Case Transactions	3749	3314	1717
Fraud Referrals	21	32	33
Child Support Petitions Filed	24	18	37
Child Support Open Cases	1079	1074	1074

Other Program Highlights

HEAP has been extended and remains open to applications until April 28, 2023. This is for Regular and Emergency benefits as well as Furnace Repair and Replacement.

Medicaid recertifications start in April 2023 after almost 3 years of automatic extensions due to the Public Health Emergency. Medicaid for Cancer Patients (MCTP) that are eligible for Medicare are transitioning to the local districts for eligibility review.

On April 1, 2023 changes to NYS Medicaid include the transition of pharmacy benefits back to the Fee For Service Medicaid Program from Medicaid Managed Care. The Pharmacy benefit will be called NYRx. This affects approximately 7,800 beneficiaries in Lewis County.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Awareness month. In 2022; Lewis County CPS; responded to 494 reports of child abuse and maltreatment. 34 cases were worked on jointly with the Child Advocacy Center using a multidisciplinary approach. 4 petitions were filed in family court affecting 7 children.

A recent review of Child Support Enforcement cases for Lewis County showed all cases met or exceeded established standards. Assessments included timeliness and efficiency (confidence) of activities including case closure, establishment, enforcement, disbursement, interstate and review and adjustments. Nice Work by our Child Support Team!

The DSS Fraud unit achieved a \$21,888 cost avoidance for 2022. This means \$21,888 was not issued in benefits due to up front review and investigation.

Budget Update

Lewis County Department of Social Services													2022
	Daycare	Recipient Services	Medical Assistance	MMIS	TANF	Fostercare	Juvenile Delinquents	Safety Net	HEAP**	Burials	Aid to Adults	Total	By Month
	A0605500	A0607000	A0610100	A0610200	A0610900	A0611900	A0612300	A0614000	A0614100	A0614800	A0614200		
Budget	\$ 178,714	\$ 55,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,200,000	\$ 852,491	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ 77,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,940,205	
Revised Budget	\$ 178,714	\$ 55,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,200,000	\$ 852,491	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ 77,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,940,205	
Local Share %	0.00%	35.00%	25.00%	100.00%	0.00%	30.00%	30.00%	71.00%		90.00%	50.00%		
Avg Monthly Budget	14,893	4,583	167	433,333	71,041	100,000	1,250	29,167	-	6,417	833		
Expenditures													
January	17,846	6,520	-	414,340	51,256	50,210	-	17,155	(6,959)	-	-	\$ 550,369	
February	19,786	369	-	331,472	21,155	32,691	-	20,766	(5,414)	2,700	170	\$ 423,697	
March	19,345	5,478	-	331,472	40,746	41,236	-	27,198	(1,550)	4,500	712	\$ 469,137	
April												\$ -	
May												\$ -	
June												\$ -	
July												\$ -	
August												\$ -	
September												\$ -	
October												\$ -	
November												\$ -	
December												\$ -	
Total Expended	58,979	12,367	-	1,077,284	113,158	124,137	-	65,118	(13,922)	7,200	882	1,443,202	
Percentage Expended	32%	22%	0%	21%	13%	10%	0%	19%		9%	9%	18%	
Balance	\$ 121,735	\$ 42,633	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,122,716	\$ 739,333	\$ 1,075,863	\$ 15,000	\$ 284,882	\$ 13,922	\$ 69,800	\$ 9,118	\$ 6,497,003	
YE Projection	\$ 341,875.62	\$ 74,193.42	\$ -	\$ 6,463,704.00	\$ 678,945.72	\$ 744,824.40	\$ -	\$ 330,708.12	\$ (83,534.40)	\$ 43,200.00	\$ 5,292.00	\$ 8,659,214.88	

IGT	2021	2022	2023
Monthly Expenditure	\$474,085	\$0	\$0
Budget	\$2,920,321	\$2,969,186	\$2,400,000
Revised Budget	\$2,920,321	\$0	\$0
IGT TO DATE SPENDIN	\$1,622,803	\$1,286,342	\$3,649,126
Balance	\$1,297,518	\$1,682,844	(\$1,249,126)
	56%	43%	152%