

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**November 18, 2025**

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

Legislator Moser called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

Legislator Moser moved to approve October 21<sup>st</sup> committee meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Legislator Lyndaker, and carried.

**Community Health Improvement Plan – Ashley Waite, Director of Public Health**

Ashley Waite outlined the five health priorities for Lewis County, detailing specific interventions to be implemented over the next five years. The first priority discussed was housing stability and affordability, which includes conducting a community assessment and improving access to community land trusts.

Several mental health interventions targeting anxiety and stress were outlined, emphasizing the importance of social-emotional learning in schools and mental health first aid training for community members. The introduction of the Credible Minds app aims to provide accessible mental health resources and promote resilience among residents. Additionally, the Getting Ahead program focuses on supporting individuals from poverty by building essential resources.

Plans were outlined to implement trauma-informed training within the workforce, focusing on health and education sectors, with Fort Drum Regional Health Plan Organization as a key partner. Additionally, rising smoking rates among adults were addressed, and initiatives aimed at youth prevention and cessation efforts were proposed, leveraging funding from the JUUL settlement. Concerns were raised about outreach for suicide prevention among homebound elderly individuals.

The following draft resolutions were read:

1. Authorizing a budget transfer of \$38,400.00 from Jail to Community Services to cover the cost of an inmate's expenses at an OMH Forensic Facility.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
2. Reappointing Musnicki, Jones, and Ross as members of the Hospital Board of Managers to serve a five-year term effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
3. Appointing Teresa Hoch of Lowville, New York as the District No. 4 representative to the Office For Aging Advisory Council to serve a three-year term effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.  
AYE   5   NAY   0

4. Reappointing Bango, Ross, and Karelus as members of the Office For Aging Advisory Board to serve a three-year term effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
5. Authorizing the annual renewal agreement between Office For Aging and NNY Senior Services, Inc. D/B/A/ Seniors Helping Seniors to provide housekeeping/chore and/or respite services to designated elderly residents in Lewis County that are homebound, ill, or disabled and who have been accepted into care by OFA at a cost not to exceed \$34.00 per hour.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
6. Authorizing a two-year renewal agreement between Office For Aging and Double Play Community Center to provide a congregate site for OFA's Nutrition Program for eligible seniors, at a cost of \$1,600.00 per month, for a total of \$19,200.00 annually.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
7. Authorizing an agreement between Probation, Social Services and Rubenzahl, Knudsen & Associates Psychological Services to provide sex offender evaluations, counseling services for individuals or families, attachment parenting classes, psychological evaluations, and treatment for juvenile delinquents/adolescent offenders when required.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
8. Reappointing Dr. Roggie and Dr. Zeger as members of the Lewis County Health Services Advisory Committee to serve a four-year term effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
9. Authorizing agreement between Sheriff's Office and Black Creek Integrated Systems Corporation for maintenance and support of the Inmate Database software and Watch Tour Manager software in an amount not to exceed \$28,530.00.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
10. Authorizing agreements between Social Services and Law Department to provide legal representation on family court matters, child support enforcement proceedings, collection of overpayments or recovery of assets in certain programs that provide financial support to Lewis County citizens, and adult protective proceedings.  
AYE   5   NAY   0
11. Appropriating Adult and Dislocated Worker Program funds in the amount of \$121,783.32 in accordance with the Notice of Obligational Authority issued July 31, 2025 by the New York State Department of Labor.  
AYE   5   NAY   0

There being no other business to come before the committee, Legislator Moser moved to adjourn at 3:10 p.m., seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board