



TO Y10, 1506, CAC
on 7/16/2020

LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny (Demo) Moser, Director

Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Minutes of July 15, 2020

Scott Mathys, Co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:01pm. The meeting was held at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.

Present: Kallie Bauter-Co-Chair and Student Representative South Lewis Central, David Fayle and Ramsey Metzler-Student Representatives Lowville Academy, Amy Manchester-Student Representatives Harrisville Central, Emma Reid-Student Representative South Lewis Central, Adah Simpson-Student Representative Beaver River Central, Ward Dailey, Deanna Edick, John Exford, Mike Leviker, Brian Finn, Katie Zehr and Eileen Mathys. *Others Present:* Penny Moser-Director Lewis County Youth Bureau. *Excused:* Randy LaChausse-Chairperson Health & Human Services Committee, Dick Chartrand and Greg Kulzer-Legislators, Michele Ledoux and Peyton Walker-Vice Chairperson and Student Representative Copenhagen Central. *Guest Present:* Kiley Hilyer-Lead Advocate for Lewis County Safe Harbour.

Introductions and Welcome:

Minutes: Review of the June 17, 2020 Youth Bureau Advisory Board meeting minutes. Co-Chairperson Mathys made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Katie Zehr seconded. **Motion Carried.**

Old Business:

Safe Harbour-Seed Funding: Kiley Hilyer-Lead Advocate for Lewis County Safe Harbour provided a power point and update on Lewis County Safe Harbour. The 1st of 5 years of Safe Harbour funding is to raise local outreach and awareness in an effort to support youth survivors of trafficking.

Outreach: Kiley reported that prior to the onset of Covid-19 she had begun to provide trainings to an array of agencies and now has begun to offer free virtual trainings. **Awareness:** Kiley is utilizing our local media outlets for ongoing distribution of awareness and educational materials. **Conference:** Due to the continuation of Covid-19 protocols, specifically social distancing, Rachel Lloyd Founder and CEO of GEMS (Girls Educational & Mentoring Services) has agreed to a Virtual Keynote and training on November 17th. Kiley and her team are working out the logistics of the virtual conference. Invites to the virtual conference will include but not limited to health & human services agencies; educators, law enforcement and the general public.

2020 OCFS Youth Development Funds – Update: To date the Office of Children and Family Services have not yet officially released the 2020 allocation of Youth Development funds allocated to counties engaged in comprehensive planning for youth services. The Association of NYS Youth Bureaus Administration has been clear that without sufficient federal funding, the Governor will have

no choice but to impose budget cuts in which 2020 OCFS Youth Development funds may be affected with an estimated decrease of 19% to 31% or more. **Update:** Prior to Covid-19 the Youth Bureau had allocated funds in the total amount of **\$14,500** in 2020 OCFS YDF's for programs that target early intervention and prevention services that are designed to curb the high priority problems affecting youth. Recipients of the funds included: Mountain View Prevention Services- School Based Prevention Counseling Program **\$3,000**; Lowville Police Department-Youth Aid Officer Program **\$6,000**; and Lewis County Sheriff's Office-Juvenile Aid Officer Program **\$5,000**. The Youth Bureau also allocated **\$500** in 2020 OCFS YDF's for Youth Bureau Administrative costs to include: OCFS dues; postage, and miscellaneous costs. *****Recipients of 2020 OCFS YDF's have been notified that should the 2020 Final allocation be severely decreased their award amounts may be reduced accordingly. Important Note:** Once 2020 OCFS YDF's allocations are officially released, if we do have a decrease in funds, we have not yet expended **\$6,615** of the projected \$21,115 in 2020 OCFS YDF's, therefore that amount could support the decrease.

2020 County Project Funds- Reminder: The Youth Bureau has a balance of \$800 in 2020 County Project funds. We will reissue a request for proposals for programs that support direct services for youth later this fall. These funds cannot be used for salaries.

Youth Bureau/DSS Merger – Update: Beginning November 2019 in an effort to help alleviate some duties associated with the youth bureau, it was suggested to umbrella the youth bureau under DSS as they have staff that can assist with the work. **Update:** Due to Covid-19 the process had slowed down, however OCFS will again begin working on the merger.

New Business

Unmet Need Project-Discussion: With personal hygiene, kitchen and bathroom supplies collected during the Youth Bureau's Annual "Homeless Christmas Tree" Initiative, we have been able to not only meet the needs of homeless and economically vulnerable individuals and families, however since the onset of Covid-19 we have also been able to help individuals and families that either lost their job or were laid off. • Discussion was held as to if there is any other unmet need or project in our community that the youth bureau would like to work on. Please email ideas to Penny.

Adirondack Teen LLC – Honors Youth Bureau Senior Student Representatives: Adirondack Teen LLC 's purpose is to seek out a teen or group of teens to feature/honor in their monthly "Hotshot piece on their webpage. The Adirondack Teen LLC Board, believes that our community's youth possess a high capacity for compassion, the potential for resilience and determination, and the ability to strive for and achieve great successes starting right here, at home. A letter was submitted to Adirondack Teen LLC on behalf of our senior student representatives whose term on the board ended June 30th. The letter contained information on the purpose of the youth bureau as well as what our senior representatives had participated in since their tenure on the board. Notification was received on June 17th that the Adirondack Teen LCC Board, had voted to offer the next "HotShot" nomination to the youth bureau senior student representatives. Our senior representatives were contacted as they had to have their parents sign parental consents and the students had to submit information such as: What their experience was like while serving on the board, what they learned from being on the board, how the experience will impact their future etc. Kirstin Moshier and Alyssa Brower worked with an

Adirondack Teen LLC Board Member in providing their information to them for the webpage. The webpage has been completed. To view or seniors submissions please go to <https://www.adirondackteen.com/adk-hot-shots> (this is the Adirondack Teen LLC to their main Hotshot page) or you can visit their direct link to Senior Rep page at <https://www.adirondackteen.com/2020-yb-senior-representatives>. If you click on their pictures and or accomplishments, you can read more about the students experience while serving on the youth bureau board.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Lewis County Youth Bureau is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 4pm at the Lewis County Courthouse, 2nd Floor in the Legislative Chambers.**

Adjournment: Mike Leviker moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 pm, John Exford seconded.
Motion carried.

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