

Annual Report 2015




Jefferson County Youth Bureau

A Division of Jefferson County Department of Social Services
250 Arsenal Street Watertown, New York 13601

JEFFERSON COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY 1— DECEMBER 31, 2015



In 2015, the Youth Bureau and Advisory Board acted in an advisory capacity to the Jefferson County Board of Legislators through the Health and Human Services Committee

Carolyn Fitzpatrick, Chairwoman of the Board of Legislators

Health and Human Services Committee

Michael Montigelli, District 5, Chair

Michael Docteur, District 1, Liaison with Youth Bureau

William Johnson, District 2

Allen Drake, District 4

Daniel McBride, District 6

Jeremiah Maxon, District 10

Anthony Doldo, District 15

Youth Advisory Board

Anne Boulter, Watertown, Chair

Rebecca Reed, Watertown, Vice Chair

Rebecca Davis, Watertown, Secretary

Stephanie Graff, Lowville, Liaison with DSS

Elizabeth Davis, Watertown (youth member)

Sharon Chaple, Watertown

Sheryl Foan, Copenhagen

Jane Gendron, Watertown

Alyssa Hill, Watertown (youth member)

Kathleen LaClair, Clayton

Kay Peck, Antwerp

Jesse Roshia, Watertown

Jayne St. Croix, Watertown

Anita Seefried-Brown, Watertown

Carol West, Watertown

Irene Wilson, Brownville

Thomas Powlin, Watertown

Karlie Maloney, Belleville

Mary Jane Mathewson, Watertown

Robert Hagemann, County Administrator

Michael Kaskan, Deputy County Administrator

Teresa Gaffney, Commissioner, DSS

James Schell, Deputy Commissioner/Youth Bureau Director



Funding

\$88,659 in funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services supported:

- ★ 6 programs operated by non-profit agencies
- ★ recreation scholarships

The Young People

Programs reported a total of 1004 children and youth attending Youth Bureau funded programs. (Children may have been counted more than once if they attended more than one program.)

Gender

48% were boys and 52% were girls

Ethnicity

79% Caucasian~8% African-American ~ 4% Hispanic~2% Asian~7% Two or more races

Ages *~64 under five years old*

~ 307 five to nine years old

~ 375 ten to fourteen years old

~ 233 fifteen to seventeen years old

~25 eighteen to twenty-one years old

Mission Statement: to provide, promote and expand opportunities for the positive development of all children and youth in Jefferson County

Highlights

Community Support

The Youth Bureau provided opportunities for youth-serving programs to share information and resources and for the community to respond to identified youth needs. The Youth Services Network provided information on the topics of Army Community Services; Community Action Planning Council services, Jeff/Lewis Child Care Project, Head Start, weatherization, Youth Advocacy, Summer Reading Program; Sci-Tech Center; YMCA programs; JCC Summer Camps; Summer Youth Employment; North Country Parent Assistance Center; Hospice Bereavement Services for Youth; ACCESS-VR, GPS for Success. The Youth Services Network provides information from all the attendees and the programs they provide.



Recreation Scholarships

18 girls & 20 boys ranging in age from three to seventeen received scholarships for activities such as JCC classes, Tae Kwon Do, swimming lessons, horseback riding, overnight camps, various sporting camps, summer day camps and music camps.





Contracted Funded Programs

Child Abuse Prevention and Family Support



Youth Development

CASA

(Resolution Center \$7,109)

Trained volunteers work with Family Court, DSS and parents to determine the best and most permanent placements for children.

Watertown Teen Center Life Skills

(Children's Home of Jefferson County \$19,460)

Teens learn healthy living skills with a focus on nutrition, food choices, menu planning, food preparation and careers in the culinary arts field.

School Age Child Care Scholarships

(Watertown Family YMCA \$16,460)

Scholarships for safe and enriching child care.

Hearts for Youth

(Town of Alexandria \$13,860)



Recreation, leadership development, job shadowing, mentoring and homework assistance.

NCPPC Certified Babysitting/CPR Classes

(North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council \$9460)

Youth who care for children are trained in a variety of aspects related to infant and child care as well as emergency care. At least one babysitting course with CPR/First Aid offered in each of the 12 Jefferson County school districts. All participants that complete the class received CPR certification at no cost.

Youth Court

(Resolution Center \$12,310)



Youth volunteers are trained to oversee sentencing of younger children who have pled guilty to misdemeanors and infractions of the law.

Recreation Scholarships

(Youth Bureau \$10,000)

Financial assistance to cover the costs of skill-building activities, camps, sports and lessons for children from financially needy families.

2015 Youth Awards

In recognition of outstanding accomplishments, annual youth recognition awards were presented to:

Outstanding Youth Volunteer

Natalie Kennedy

Youth Achievement/Overcoming Odds

Ashley Finerson

Promising Ability in Youth Service

Riley Keenan

Outstanding Professional Youth Worker

Daniel Deegan

It Takes A Community

Torrie Danks

