

Aiming
High

2025

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



JOSHUA A. POTOSEK, MBA
Sullivan County Manager

County of Sullivan, NY

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FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

The year 2025 served to be a high point for Sullivan County, with both great success and great challenges. We continued to lead the State in job growth, enjoyed relatively low **unemployment (even in the “off” season), finished our** spectacular new airport terminal, and offered residents and visitors the most services & activities this County government ever has.

But the fiscal boom times of the prior years came to an end, with room and sales tax revenues peaking (and then declining). We also continued to wrestle with a housing crisis, the resultant increase in homelessness, and general affordability challenges.



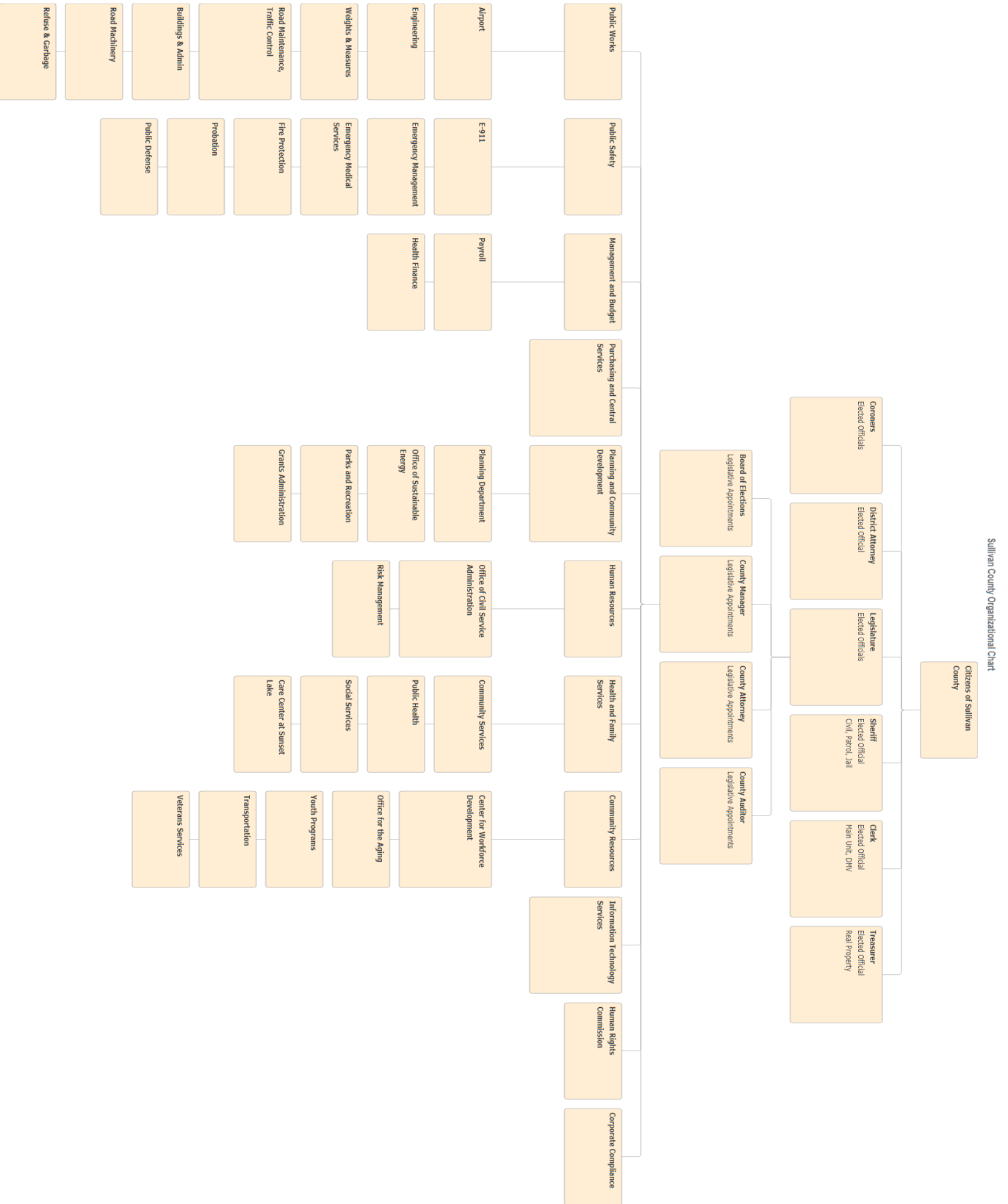
Legislators pared down a proposed 9% property tax increase to 2%, under the State’s property tax cap, but we ended 2025 with deep concerns about our financial health in 2026 and beyond.

Amidst this belt-tightening period, an urgency remains to address the need for affordable housing while maintaining the services and programs our residents and businesses **rely on. In the meantime, we’re continuing to directly invest in our residents, from the Sullivan Promise scholarship program (giving HS grads two years of paid tuition at SUNY Sullivan) to adult education in the vocational trades via our partner, Sullivan BOCES.**

Economic development across the County will be key to our future fiscal health, in both **jobs and taxes. We’re beginning to market the new airport terminal to pilots and businesses** who can bring us revenue. And the County is diligently studying our solid waste options and water resources, so that we can properly accommodate new development.

But this effort will take all of us—citizens, town and village leaders, and State officials—to successfully accomplish. We do not have the luxury of thumbing our noses at responsible economic development, considering the price will be significantly increased property taxes. What we do have is plenty of space (properly zoned) to create businesses and homes for a growing population. We just need the will, as a community, to create a County that can sustain working-class families in future decades.

ORGANIZATION CHART



DIVISION, UNIT AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The following reports are presented as submitted to the County Manager's Office. They have been modified only where page formatting requires it.

Unless otherwise noted, statistics and accomplishments relate solely to calendar year 2025. Listed goals represent those goals set for calendar year 2025 and may or may not reflect whether the goals were achieved or remain to be accomplished.

The 2025 Annual Report is available in its entirety at www.sullivanyny.gov. If a printed copy is desired, contact Director of Communications Dan Hust at 845-807-0450 or dan.hust@sullivanyny.gov.

Note: Any department not appearing in this report did not submit data in time to be included. Those offices should be contacted directly if a report is sought.

The County Manager thanks each office, department and division for submitting data to be included in this Annual Report, which was compiled and created by the Office of Communications.



COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Joshua Potossek, Sullivan County Manager

Accomplishments

- Maintained stable and accountable finances
- No fiscal stress on the County, as designated by New York State's Comptroller's Office (continuing our best score ever achieved)
- Very high bond rating
- We have the appropriate, best-practices level of fund balance
- County continues to earn national budget awards
- Undertook and continue to oversee efforts to mitigate the impact of the arrival of downstate casinos, including engaging and working closely with lobbyist
- Continued efforts to deploy wireless and hardwired broadband expansion throughout County, which resulted in receiving the largest single grant in Sullivan County history (nearly \$30 million) to build out service
- Maintained open and consistent communication with commissioners, department heads and staff, with a focus on best practices
- Allocated funds for and hired a leadership development educator/consultant, who continues to enhance the capabilities and opportunities of staff (including those who might not have considered leadership before)
- Participated in various discussions and planning to take full advantage of the new terminal and other services coming to the County Airport
- Coordinated operational efforts to strengthen compliance and accountability to improve constituent services
- Supported workforce planning, including restructuring positions to better meet operational needs
- Led efforts to implement Strategic Plan and long-term County initiatives

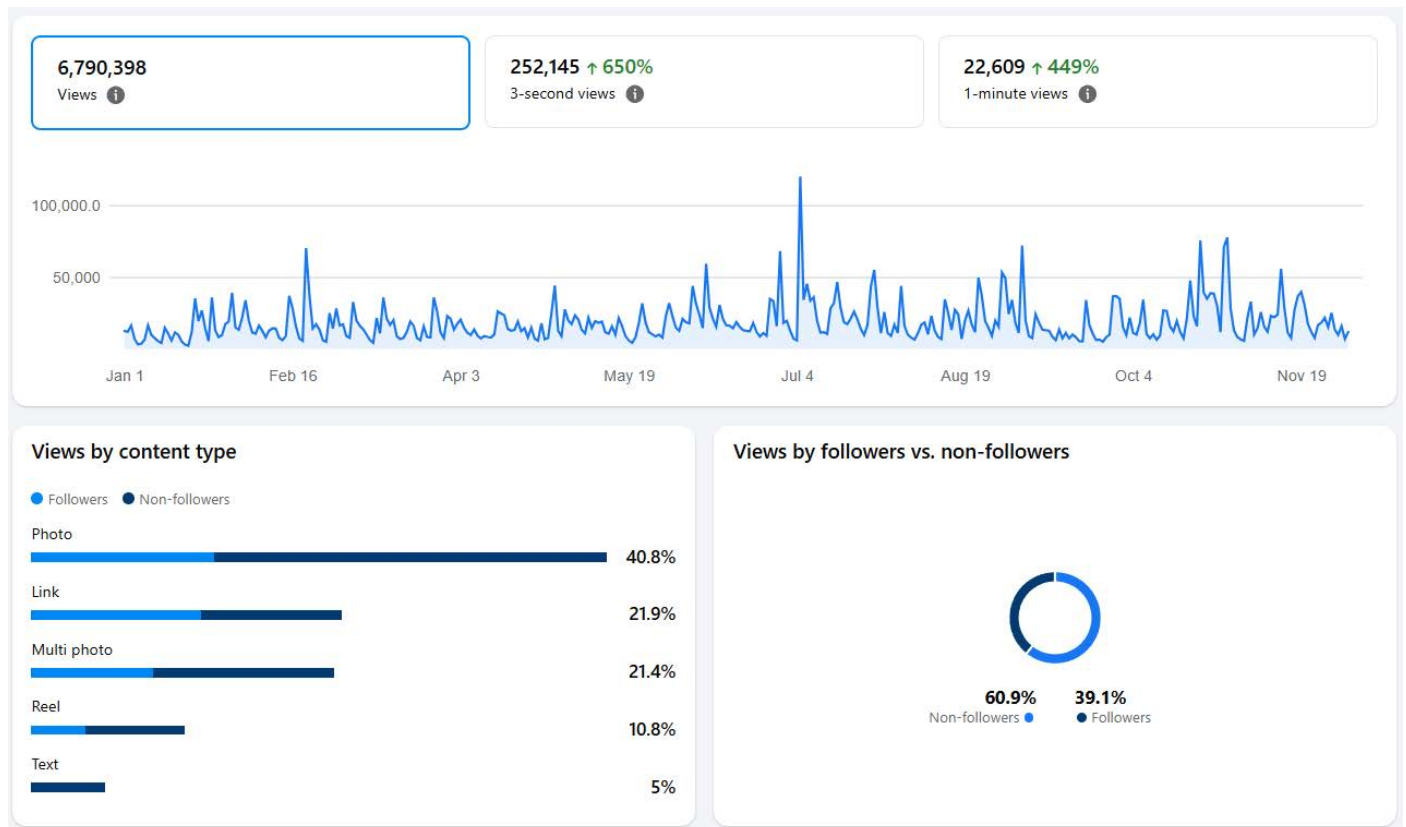
Communications

Dan Hust, Director of Communications

Accomplishments

The Office of Communications continued to provide critical services to virtually every County department and office in 2025. Highlights included:

- Hundreds of mentions and full stories about County government in local, regional, online and national news outlets – newspapers, radio, TV, online-only
- Coordinated multiple advertising campaigns to increase awareness of County services and personnel, with billboards, radio spots and digital ads across the County, promoting DMV, County Clerk's Office, Move Sullivan and Board of Elections
- Nearly 100 press releases issued to approximately 100 media outlets, State and Federal officials, and interested individuals
- Conducted weekly radio interviews on Bold Gold (Catskills News Talk, 10-minute update every Tuesday, two-hour "co-host" first Tuesday of every month) and WJFF Radio Catskill (30-minute update every Friday), promoting the latest County news and offerings
- Main Facebook page content viewed nearly 7 million times



- Reached almost 400,000 individual viewers on main Facebook page, an increase of nearly 150% from 2024



- Exceeded 13,000 Facebook followers (7.6% increase over 2024) and 3,400 Instagram followers
- Administered/oversaw 26 social media channels (14 Facebook, 6 Instagram, 2 LinkedIn, 1 Twitter (X), 1 Threads, 1 Nextdoor and 1 YouTube)
- Over 500 YouTube subscribers viewed videos nearly 51,000 times, a 185% increase from 2024
- At present, the County has 13,673 Facebook followers (just counting the main page), 3,474 Instagram followers (again, just counting the main page), 1,101 X (Twitter) followers, 846 LinkedIn followers and 688 Threads followers (all increased over 2024)
- Maintained primary content creation on and oversight of County website
- Coordinated and organized groundbreaking at Bethel Woods for broadband initiative with Archtop Fiber
- Created videos for Center for Workforce Development, Legislature and Division of Public Works, among others
- Continued to serve as Public Information Officer for contagious disease updates
- Maintained frequent contact with press, public and outside politicians to ensure County's message is emphasized and well-understood
- Facilitated internal communications
- Continued to regularly produce County Manager's external newsletter, "Inside Insights," published every other month
- Routinely provided communications strategy advice to staff and officials
- Trained staff on website editing
- Scheduled, coordinated and filmed ever-popular Holiday Concert Series, where local school groups (vocalists, instrumentalists, dancers, band members) publicly perform at the Government Center
- Successfully completed leadership training
- Coordinated and prepared Airport marketing campaign, to launch in 2026

Goals Yet to Be Realized

- Revamp of County website (long-term)

Compliance

Christine Panos, Corporate Compliance Officer

CORPORATE COMPLIANCE Updated Key Strategies

- Continue to develop the Corporate Compliance Program in alignment with Medicaid and Medicare compliance requirements.
- Create and implement the 2026 Corporate Compliance Workplan in alignment with Part 521-1.4(b)(1)(ii) which outlines the County's proposed strategy for meeting the requirements of this subpart with a specific emphasis on policies and procedures, training and education, auditing and monitoring, and responding to compliance issues.
- Implement the Corporate Compliance Education Plan in alignment with Part 521-1.4(d) by training 100% of the County's workforce by the end of Q3 2026.
- In alignment with the seven key elements of an effective compliance program and the ten risk areas identified in Title 18 Part 521, create, revise, and adopt 80% of written policies and procedures by the end of Q4 2026.
- By the end of Q4 2026, draft the 2027 Corporate Compliance Work Plan which outlines the County's proposed strategy for meeting the requirements of Title 18 Part 521 for the coming year.

2026 Actions

- Work with the County's compliance advisor on the development of an effective compliance program to facilitate compliance with Medicaid and Medicare requirements.
- Conduct internal and external audits focusing on Part 521 risk areas to promote a comprehensive and effective compliance program.
- Work with departments to identify role-based and risk-based needs for educational opportunities to promote compliance program effectiveness.
- Foster a culture of compliance through continuous engagement and promotion of the County's Corporate Compliance Program standards.
- Continue to host quarterly Corporate Compliance Committee meetings including the provision of agendas and meeting minutes while strengthening their structure and focus to satisfy requirements set forth in Title 18 Part 521(c).
- Work with the Department of Grants Administration and County departments receiving state and federal grants to identify and prioritize oversight efforts based on fiscal risk.
- Take prompt action to investigate compliance issues and finalize investigations in a timely manner.
- Work with departments to promote contractor oversight efforts amending the County's Corporate Compliance Contract template as necessary to promote alignment with Title 18 Part 521(c) and County policy and procedure.

HIPAA COMPLIANCE

Key Strategies

- Continue to develop the HIPAA Compliance Program in alignment with 45 CFR Parts 160, 162, and 164 (The Privacy Rule, Security Rule, Enforcement Rule, and Breach Notification Rule) and 42 CFR Part 2 (Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records).
- Revise the Access to Protected Health Information Policy to be in alignment with state and federal applicable laws and regulations by the end of Q1 2026.
- Provide training on the revised Access to Protected Health Information Policy to appropriate staff in the County's covered healthcare components by the end of Q1 2026.
- By the end of Q2 2026, update the County's HIPAA Compliance training to be in alignment with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- By the end of Q2 2026, create a Role-Based Access Policy to be in alignment with the requirements set forth in 45 CFR Parts 160, 162, and 164 and 42 CFR Part 2.
- By the end of Q2 2026, identify 100% of the protected health information containing platforms and solutions utilized by covered healthcare components including the identification of authorized administrators and users to support the development of auditing and monitoring activities.
- By the end of Q3 2026, revise the Accounting of Disclosures Policy pursuant to the requirements set forth in 45 CFR Parts 160, 162, and 164 and 42 CFR Part 2.
- By the end of Q3 2026, create a Responding to Legal and Law Enforcement Requests Policy pursuant to applicable state and federal compliance requirements.
- By the end of Q4 2026, create a training/in-service for individuals completing departmental HIPAA walkthroughs to mitigate HIPAA related violations and breaches.

2026 Actions

- Foster a culture of HIPAA compliance through continuous engagement and promotion of the County's HIPAA Compliance Program standards.
- Work with covered healthcare components to strengthen health finance oversight efforts.
- Identify and revise procedures for establishing qualified persons relative to a patient's personal representative, emergency contact, health care proxy, guardian, and other relevant authorized persons.
- Work with departments to ensure that appropriate Business Associate Agreement (BAA) provisions are in place for vendors who are paid via a purchase order (PO) and contractors paid via a contract.
- Take prompt action to investigate compliance issues and finalize HIPAA Compliance investigations in a timely manner.
- Report breaches of protected health information to patients and to the Office of Civil Rights as necessary.
- Continue to host quarterly Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) meetings including the provision of agendas and minutes to facilitate the County's HIPAA Compliance standards.

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Russell Reeves, Sullivan County Clerk

2025 By the Numbers

16,557.....	Cubic Feet of Records Stored
36.....	Departments records stored
20,040.....	Cubic Feet of paper destroyed
69,239	DMV Transactions
49,553.....	Documents processed by Civil Court Office
6,189.....	Judgements processed
55,623.....	Documents scanned by Civil Court Office
29,026...	Documents indexed/verified by Civil Court Office
788.....	Passports Issued
488.....	E-Z-Passes Sold
8171.....	Fraud Letters Sent
10,534.....	Documents processed by Land office

2025 Highlights:

- Hosted three Naturalization Ceremonies, where 70 individuals took the Oath of Citizenship and officially became American citizens.
- Organized and administered a Notary Exam for 65 candidates, helping them earn the credentials needed to certify documents, serve the public, and expand their professional opportunities.
- Conducted several Saturday Passport service days to expand access for working members of the community.
- In coordination with the Treasurer's Office, implemented a system to process surplus funds claims.
- Records Management continues to consolidate and organize stored records following the centralization of storage primarily under one roof.
- DMV satellite offices have proven to be highly successful, offering residents convenient, community-based access to services and reducing travel and wait times at the main office.
- Held several after-hours Enhanced License service days to improve availability and accommodate increased demand resulting from changes to domestic air travel identification rules.

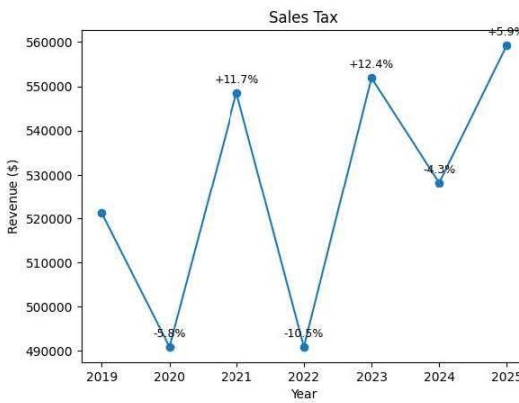
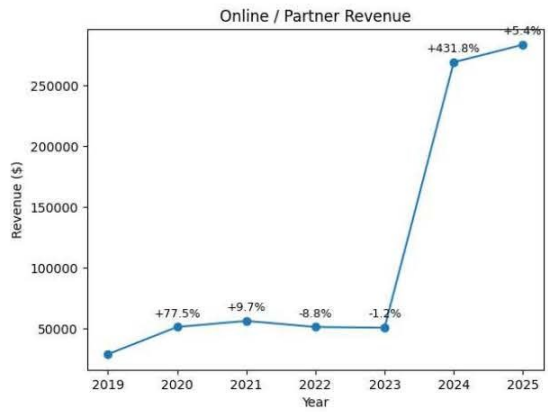
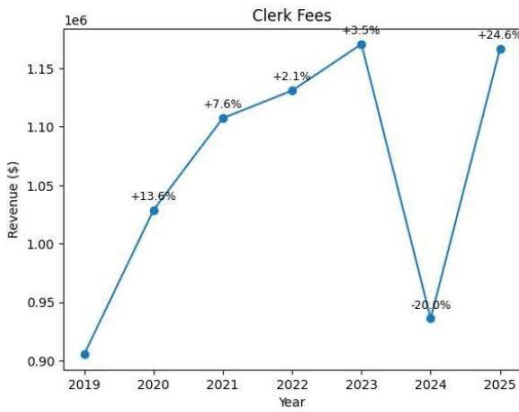
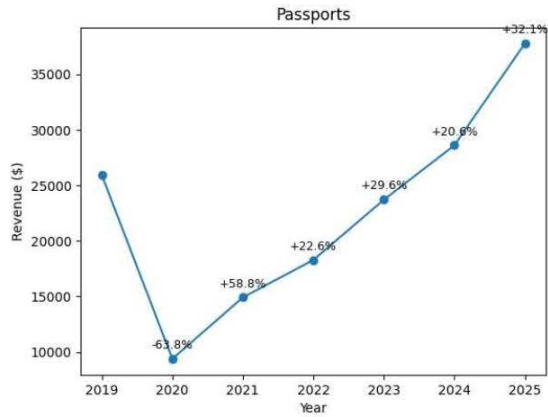
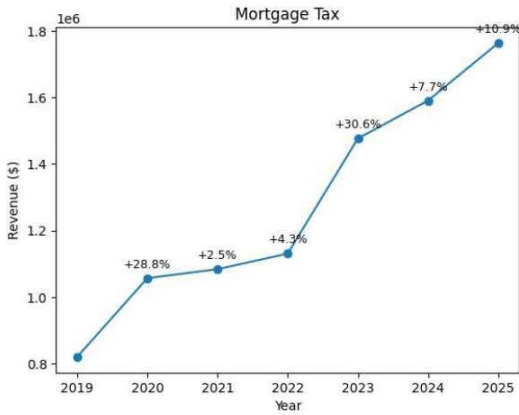
2026 Goals:

- Seek additional grant funding to further digitize additional historical and active records.
- Explore and develop improved communication procedures for the DMV to provide clearer, more consistent information to customers via phone and email regarding motor vehicle transactions.
- Modernize the DMV office layout to support more efficient workflows and improved use of space.
- Maintaining a continuous review of office procedures to strengthen customer service and improve efficiency.
- Update the Veteran's Return the Favor card by expanding its scope and increasing participation.
- Upgrade outdated software and hardware in DMV and Clerk's Office.
- The continued popularity of DMV satellite offices highlights opportunities to expand or enhance satellite services to meet growing demand.
- Explore new options to increase revenue.
- Improve and streamline the website for easier customer navigation.
- Work with County officials to reintroduce the IDP program and expand access to Spanish-speaking residents.

CLERKS REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY			
2025	State Revenue	County Revenue	Town Revenue
MORTGAGE TAX			
Mortgages Recorded-2189			
Town Mortgage Tax			\$3,516,243.14
County Mortgage tax		\$1,763,257.92	
SONYMA Mortgage Tax	\$1,661,667.74		
Total	\$1,661,667.74	\$1,763,257.92	\$3,516,243.14
CLERK FFES			
Documents Recorded-9810			
Clerks Fees		\$1,166,482.42	
Passports		\$37,760.00	
Pistol Permits		\$28,270.00	
County Court Fines		\$2,055.00	
County Court Stop DWI Fines		\$8,970.00	
Total		\$1,243,537.42	
STATE TAXES/FEEES			
Deeds Recorded-4009			
NYSDTF-Real Estate Transfer Tax Unit	\$3,380,187.17		
NYS Unified Court System	\$558,943.10		
NYS Education Dept.	\$231,394.00		
NYSDTF-Office of Real Property Tax Servc	\$595,018.00		
Total	\$4,765,542.27		
Clerk's Office total revenue \$3,006,795.34			

DMV REPORT TO THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE		
2025		
REVENUE		
County Bad Check Fees	\$200.00	
Voluntary Surrenders	\$9,602.00	
ONLINE/PARTNER REVENUE SHARING	\$283,532.23	
Sales Tax	\$3,057,569.84	
EZ-Pass	\$5,900.00	
Terminal Issuance	\$4,324,985.50	
Total Revenue	\$7,681,789.57	
DISBURSEMENTS		
NYS DMV COMMISSIONER		3,898,918.12
COUNTY CLERK		732,426.60
CASHIER SHORTAGE		39.26
NYS TAX/FINANCE		3,050,405.59
		7,681,789.57
COUNTY REVENUE SHARE		
ONLINE/PARTNER REVENUE SHARING	\$283,532.23	
DMV FEES	\$448,894.37	
Sales Tax	\$559,287.61	
Total County Revenue	\$1,291,714.21	
DMV total revenue \$1,291,714.21		

2025 Revenue:



Percentage change highlights (2019-2025):

- **Mortgage Tax: ↑ ~115%**
 - More than doubled since 2019, with accelerated growth beginning in 2023.
- **Clerk's Fees: ↑ ~29%**
 - Overall growth despite a temporary dip in 2024; strong rebound in 2025.
- **Passports: ↑ ~46%**
 - Sharp decline in 2020 followed by steady annual growth, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.
- **Online/Partner Revenue Sharing: ↑ ~883%**
 - Largest percentage increase of all categories, driven by a retention rate change in 2024–2025.
- **Sales Tax: ↑ ~7%**
 - Relatively stable overall, with 2025 representing the highest year in the series.

COUNTY TREASURER

Kathleen Lara, Sullivan County Treasurer

The Sullivan County Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the County. As such, the powers and duties of the County Treasurer include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Collect, receive, have custody of, deposit and disburse all fees, revenues and other funds of the county.

- Perform all aspects relating to the collection of taxes.

- Borrow money in the name of the County as authorized by the County Legislature.

- Act as an escrow depository for court funds and funds and personal belongings of deceased persons from the Sullivan County Coroners.

- Maintain complete accounting records of all receipts and disbursements of the county and procure and reconcile all bank accounts with county funds.

- Have all other duties conferred or imposed by law on a County Treasurer including, without limitation, acting as a Public Administrator.

- Collaborate with the County Manager and the Commissioner of Management and Budget regarding the annual estimate of revenues available in developing the succeeding fiscal year budget.

Over the past three decades, the County Treasurer's Office has evolved and adapted to the ever-changing times. The Office is currently made up of five different divisions, with Real Property Tax Map Services being the newest addition to our organizational chart in late 2020:

- Accounting

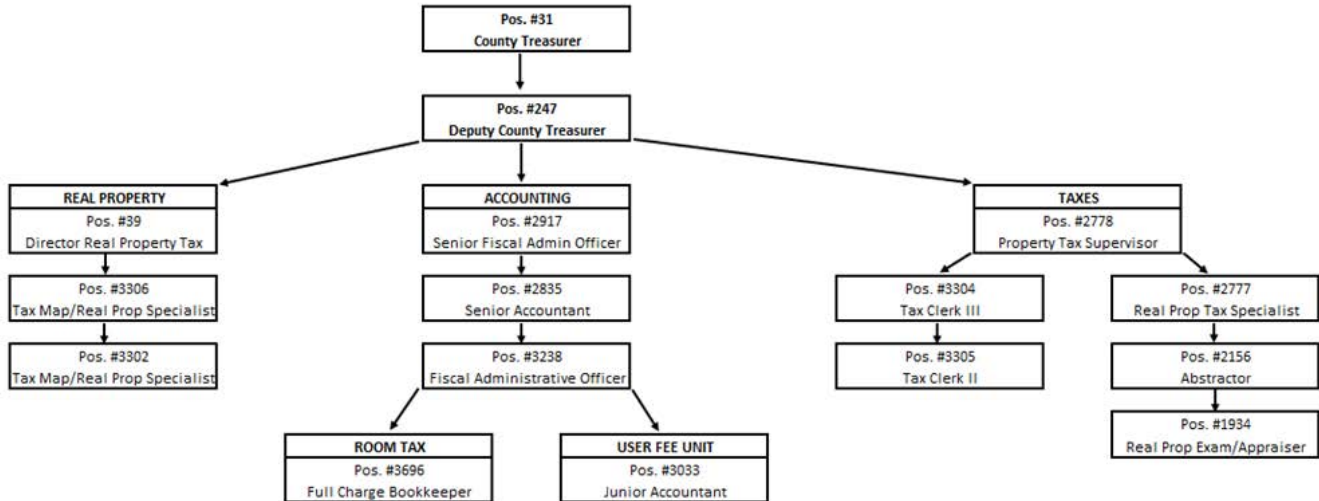
- Room Tax Collection

- Property Tax Collection

- User Fee Unit

- Real Property Tax Map Services

County Treasurer Organizational Chart



Accounting

Goals: The Accounting Department is responsible for the accounting of all of the County Departments. Our goal every year is to compile and complete all of the County's fiscal transactions in order to file all required State/Federal Reports in a timely manner. Some of the major filings and their dates are listed below:

Constitutional Tax Limit – Filed 1/11/25

Annual Update Document – Filed 4/29/25

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – Filed 7/30/25

Federal Single Audit – Filed 9/30/25

DOT Audit – Filed 9/30/25

Timely, transparent, accurate filings of the County's financials assist in the County being awarded and maintaining Federal and State funding, grants, and excellent credit ratings for lower interest rates. This, in turn, allows for the County to continue providing services and completing needed capital projects throughout the County.

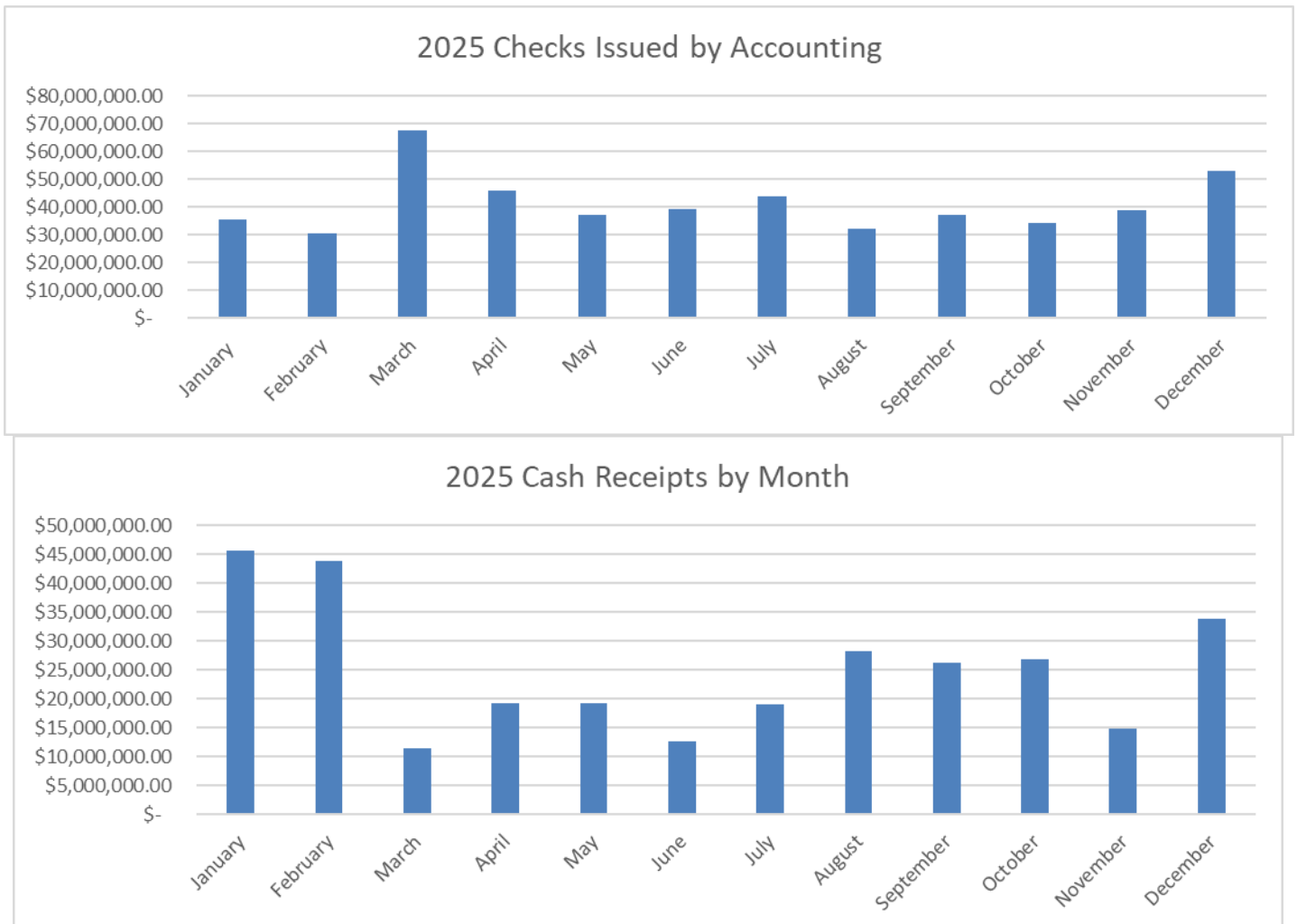
For the 34rd consecutive year, the Sullivan County Treasurer's Office has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the GFOA. This prestigious award is a testament to the Treasurer's Accounting Office's dedication to assist other Departments within the County as well as preparation and fair presentation of

accurate financial statements using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error

The Accounting Department continues to significantly reduce the amount of paper being used. We now store all backup to transactions within our financial software, making it paperless and much more efficient to find information. We continue to find new ways to reduce waste.

Our main goal is to always provide excellent support to all County Departments. We have an open door policy and love to help any department that needs assistance. We are available to help with New World support, Project Accounting, Budget questions, accounting principles and policies, banking, and department procedures regarding any financial transactions.

Accounting Statistics:



Room Tax Collection

Room Tax Statistics:

The Treasurer's Office is responsible for the administration, collection and enforcement of operators who collect Room Tax on behalf of the County of Sullivan. We currently have 910 active registered rental properties. In 2025 we registered 455 new rental properties but closed 49 accounts. As of 12/31/2025, we have collected \$3.9M in Room Tax Revenue. This is not the final figure for 2025, as the quarterly return which includes December 2025 is not due to be filed by operators until February 2026. However, we estimate that the total collection for 2025 should reach approximately \$4.1 Million.

Goals:

The Treasurer's Office continues to seek out short term rental property owners and advise them of our Room Tax Law, register them and have them submit returns per the requirements of the Law. To assist with locating active rental properties, the County has contracted with Deckard Technologies, Inc. to identify short term rentals within each town. The Treasurer's Office is working with Deckard Technologies, Inc. to set up an on-line portal where property owners can register, report and submit tax payments.

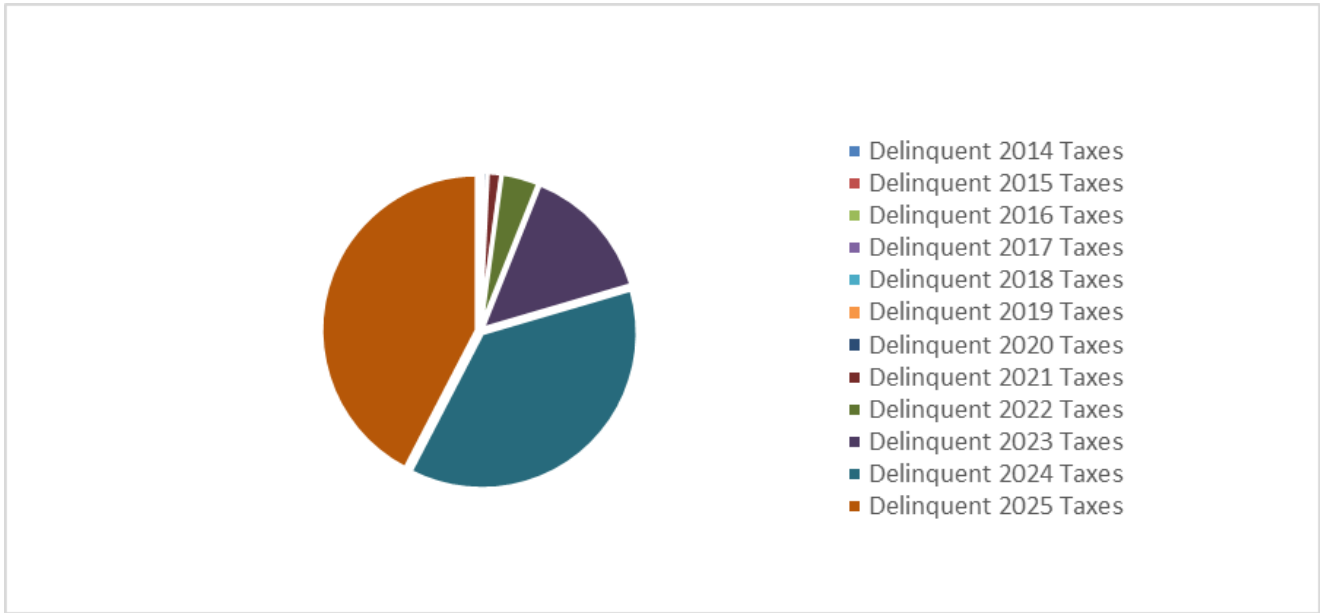
Sullivan County continues to contract with Airbnb, VRBO/HomeAway, Hipcamp Inc., and Evolve Vacation Rental Network, Inc. to voluntarily collect and submit Room Tax on behalf of their clients. We continue to actively seek out other platforms to contract with.

Sullivan County updated its Local Room Tax Law to coincide with the verbiage of the recent New York State Sales Tax Bill with regards to short-term rental properties.

Property Tax Collection/Real Property

Property Tax Statistics and Goals:

In April of each year, each of the fifteen Town Tax Collectors turn over their unpaid property taxes to our office, which average over \$21.6 million each year. Our office first reconciles their amounts for accuracy and thereafter begins processing payments on those unpaid taxes. Our office then sends two letters to taxpayers with the current year's delinquent taxes in May and September to make sure they are aware of the process. In 2025 our office collected 19 million dollars in taxes which included the years 2014 through 2025.



The Treasurer's Office continues to take great efforts to ensure that addresses for taxpayers are updated and that statements are forwarded to those taxpayers with delinquent taxes. Our office worked with all Town Assessors to request that we be provided with updated address information as their office receives the same. In addition, extensive research is done for taxpayers whose mail is continually returned by the Post Office. This has reduced costs, including copying and postage. In addition, our efforts have provided many taxpayers whose mail was continually returned by USPS with an opportunity to pay their delinquent taxes prior to being served in our foreclosure proceedings.

In 2024, sweeping changes to NYS Real Property Tax Law required our office to make many changes to our local laws concerning property taxes, the sale of County-owned property and tax installment agreements. In addition, working with the Sullivan County Court Judge and the County Clerk's Office, the Treasurer's Office created forms and a process for former owners to claim surplus funds after the parcel formerly owned by them was sold at public auction. To date, we have disbursed almost \$2.5 million to former owners from parcels sold at our 2023, 2024 and 2025 auctions.

We are currently serving as a beta test group for our tax collection software, with the goal of providing meaningful feedback that will enhance functionality, streamline internal processes, and create a more intuitive, user-friendly experience for taxpayers.

Solid Waste User Fee Unit

User Fee Unit Statistics:

The Solid Waste User Fee Unit is responsible for maintaining the integrity of the Solid Waste customer account database in the Waste Works system. Once all Hauler Applications

are submitted, reviewed, and approved, the User Fee Unit is responsible for creating, updating, and activating all customer accounts in the Waste Works system. In addition to maintaining all customer accounts in Waste Works, the User Fee Unit is responsible for recording and reconciling all revenue and deposits for all the transfer stations and processing monthly billing statements for the charge customer accounts.

In 2025, the County of Sullivan User Fee Unit processed 127 Hauler Permit Account renewals and 14 new applications, for a total of 141 accounts. These permit accounts allow both Hauler's and Commercial Users to access the Landfill quickly and efficiently. Once these accounts are established, the User Fee Unit is responsible for monitoring and collecting valid Certificates of Insurance and Bonds if they become expired. The User Fee Unit also assists both the transfer station personnel and Hauler Permit holders with questions concerning account status, daily landfill tickets, billing, and other financial matters. The User Fee Unit recorded \$11.3M in revenue for 2025.

Goals:

In 2025 we increased the late fee on accounts from 2% to 4%. We continue to track expiring Certificates of insurance and Bonds. Weekly reports in excel format are sent to a select number of haulers, along with the account balance and notification of any amounts over 60 days past due. We have enforced the rule that accounts be put on hold once the balance is over 60 days past due, and have also increased the bond limit from \$50k to \$100K. In late 2025 we began the process to automatically email monthly statements directly from Waste Works software rather than scanning printed copies and emailing them to customers. We also continue to cross-training employees on the daily, weekly, and monthly processes to ensure that transactions and customer accounts are updated efficiently and accurately within Waste Works.

Real Property Tax Department

Christopher Knapp, Director

The Sullivan County Department of Real Property Tax Services functions in conformance with the New York State Real Property Tax Law and the Rules and Regulations of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Real Property Tax Services.

During 2025, the office operated with a staff of three; the Director and two Tax Map/ Real Property Systems Specialists. The department was overseen by the County Treasurer and Deputy County Treasurer and is under the jurisdiction of the Treasurer's Office; the Treasurer's Office assists us daily with our operations.

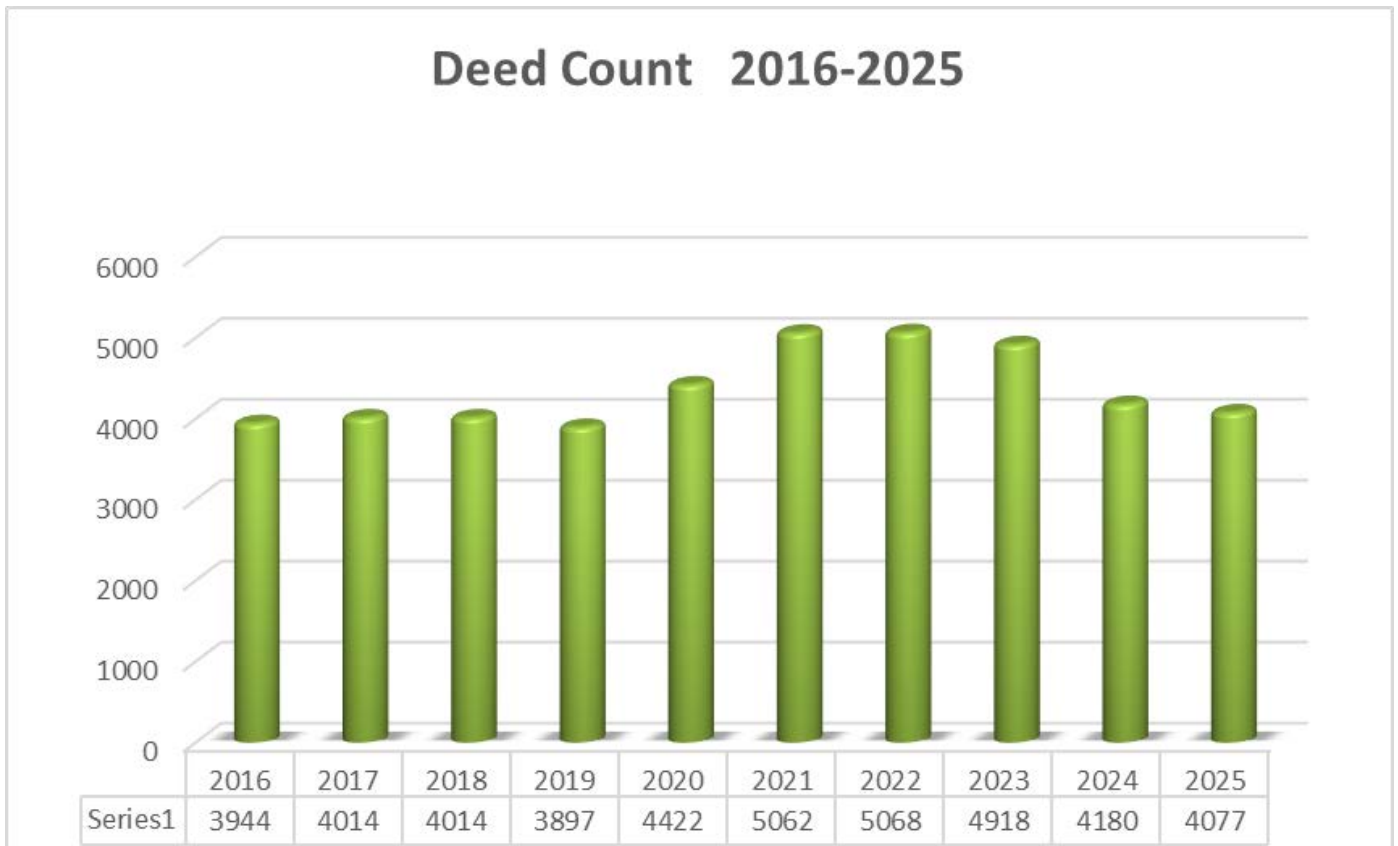
This Department maintains a close working relationship with the county's 15 assessing

units, local title companies, surveyors, attorneys, and other local governments to ensure that our real property records and tax maps are accurate and up to date.

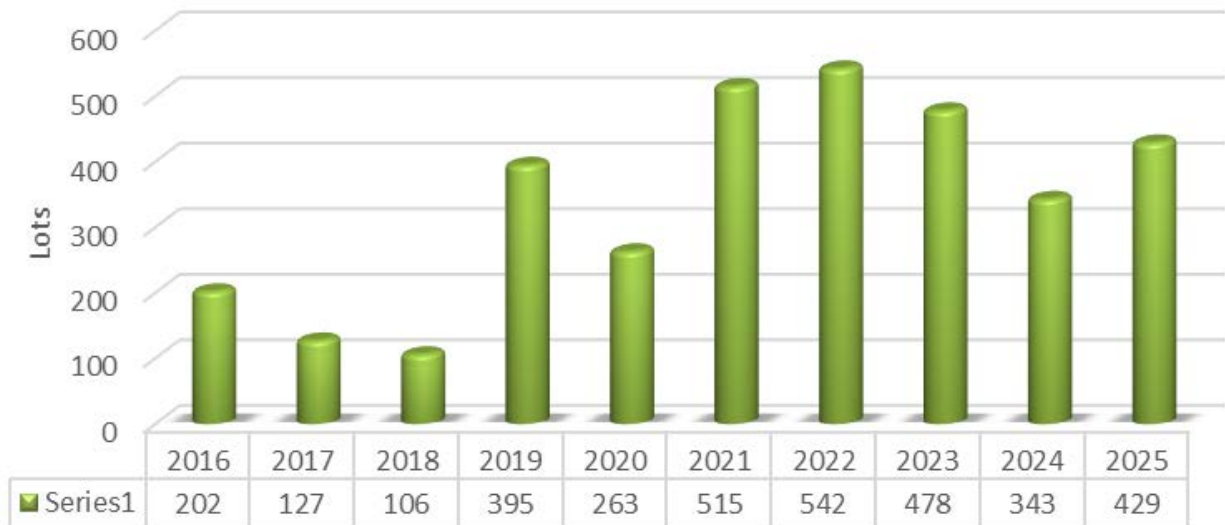
2025 Statistics:

- Sullivan County parcels: 67,864 +/-
 - Deeds: 4077
 - Subdivisions: 66
 - Parcels conveyed: 5055
 - Subdivision Lots created: 429
 - Parcel combinations: 270 parcels combined

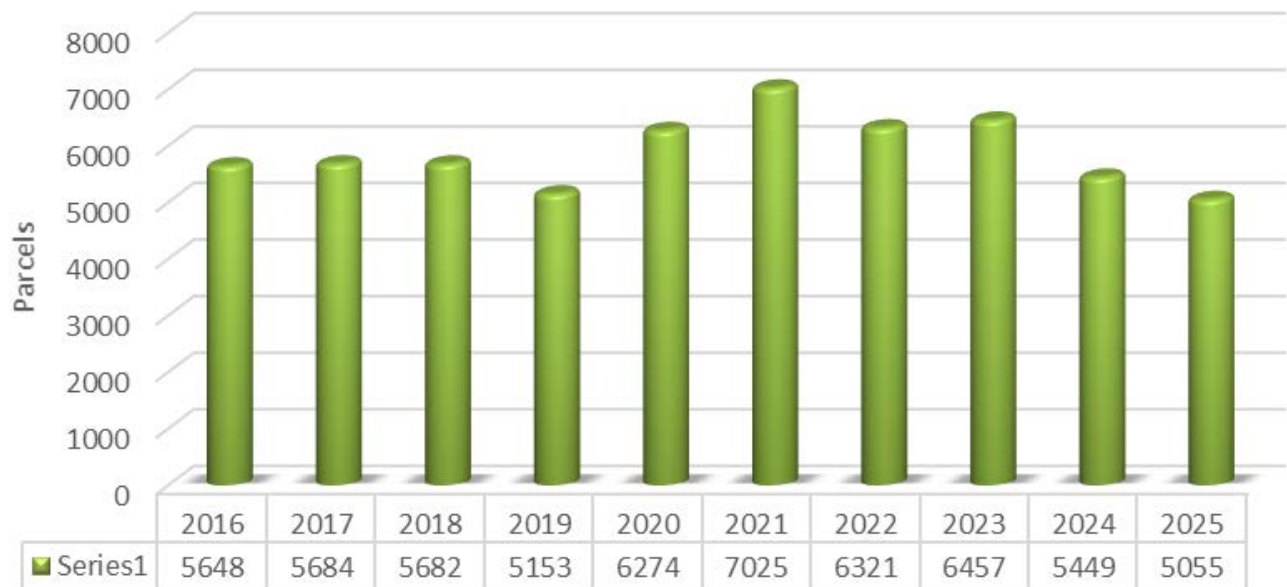
The ten year history as depicted below reveals that the amount of deeds recorded for processing in our office had been steadily increasing over the past several years. Over the last 3 years, the number of deeds recorded have been averaging about 4300 deeds per year.



Subdivision Lots 2016-2025



Parcels Conveyed 2016-2025



Additional Duties - 911 Addressing Program

- *New Site Address Points added: 1379*
- *Other issues resolved: 179*
- *New Roads created: 29*

The office maintains the 911 addressing database and provides addressing services as part of the 911 Addressing Program. The 911 addressing program is co-administered with the help of the GIS Coordinator who is housed in the ITS department. The GIS Coordinator assists with addressing larger developments along with providing technical assistance and database updates to the E-911 center.

The office also maintains zoning maps for some of the towns and villages in the county. This responsibility is currently handled by the Director.

Highlights for 2025

- *New Assessors:* The acting assessor for the Town of Tusten was appointed as sole assessor, and the Town of Thompson appointed a new sole assessor following a retirement in August. The sole assessor for the Town of Liberty resigned in October and the vacancy is expected to be filled in early 2026, while the Town of Forestburgh appointed a new assessor after choosing not to reappoint the prior assessor.
- *Major Changes:* The new Village of Ateres was mapped, requiring assessment roll updates in two towns. In addition, the Livingston Manor and Roscoe School Districts merged to form the Rockland Central School District, prompting tax map updates and assessment roll revisions in five towns.
- *Historic Tax Map Scanning Project:* Staff organized, packaged, and shipped approximately 450 town tax map rolls—about 24,450 individual map sheets—for vendor scanning. Office staff, a summer intern, and County Treasurer's Office staff have verified more than one-third of the completed scans to date.
- *New Law – RPTL §457-a:* This local option exemption allows qualifying low-income first-time homebuyers purchasing certain regulated or restricted residential properties to receive an exemption of 25% to 75% of assessed value. The exemption applies to properties transferred through qualifying housing programs, including community land trusts and nonprofit or governmental housing initiatives.
- *New Law – RPTL §458-d:* This local option exemption provides eligible active military service members who served in a combat zone with up to a 25% exemption on qualifying residential property, capped at \$20,000 (adjusted by equalization rate). Applicants receiving another veterans' exemption are not eligible, and school districts may not offer this exemption.
- *Amended Law – RPTL §467:* This local option senior citizen exemption provides up to a 65% reduction in assessed valuation for qualifying seniors who meet income and eligibility requirements. The amendment allows jurisdictions to establish up to three additional

income brackets below the 50% exemption threshold.

Departmental Goals - 2025

GOALS REALIZED

- Maintained tax maps and property ownership records in accordance with Real Property Tax Law.
- Provided new 911 addresses and resolved addressing concerns.
- Prepared 450 of the office's historic tax maps for scanning by developing a spreadsheet and organizing them into boxes.
- Began storing and keeping track of the majority of the offices work digitally.
- Improved workflows with respect to the preparation of assessment rolls, tax rolls and tax bills between the assessors, the county and the county's vendor.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Brian P. Conaty, Sullivan County District Attorney

OFFICE OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Brian P. Conaty
District Attorney



(845) 794-3344 (tel)
(845) 807-0649 (fax)

14 Bushnell Avenue
Monticello, New York 12701

January 30, 2026

RE: 2025 END-OF-YEAR MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Dear Sullivan County residents:

As your District Attorney, I am proud to present the inaugural 2025 End-of-Year Report of the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office. In this report, you will see results of the hard work of our prosecutors, investigators, support staff, and crime victim specialist coordinator working together with our law enforcement partners in the County and throughout the State to secure justice for crime victims, as well as some of our significant achievements beyond the courtroom.

Throughout 2025, this office secured significant case outcomes, innovated criminal investigative strategies, and improved services for crime victims and their families. Additionally, we continued to strengthen our collaboration with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, community organizations, and governmental agencies.

In pursuit of these endeavors, we are proud to have achieved several notable firsts in the history of the Sullivan County. Specifically, and as further detailed herein:

1. The creation of the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office's Cyber Investigations Unit;
2. The creation and partnership with Sullivan County's Quick Response Team;
3. The employment of this Office's first Crime Victim Specialist Coordinator; and
4. The promotion of Scott Kinne to the Chief Investigator for the District Attorney.

Additionally, this office secured many other remarkable achievements, such as the recruitment of the full complement of Assistant District Attorneys allotted for within our budget. These are noteworthy highlights of a transformed and modernized DA's Office with an eye toward additional goals that I have set for my team in 2026.

Indeed, there is much more to be done. Safeguarding public safety requires adapting to the ever-evolving world of narcotics trafficking and dynamic technological advancements within our community, among others. Nonetheless, as a result of the foregoing achievements, my team and I are likewise evolving and are now better equipped to meet these emerging threats, ensure

dangerous offenders are held accountable, vindicate the rights of crime victims during the judicial process, and support pathways to rehabilitation when appropriate.

Throughout last year, our prosecutors, investigators, victim specialist, and support staff demonstrated exceptional skill and resilience. I am deeply grateful for the professionalism and dedication of every member of this office. Their work reflects not only technical expertise but also a profound dedication to the people of Sullivan County. From complex major criminal investigations and prosecutions, to appellate victories that safeguarded hard-won convictions, each unit contributed to a safer and more just community.

Change comes from more than just re-writing handbooks and changing certain policies and procedures. Change is most meaningfully achieved through the changing of culture. I am confident that many of our changes are now part of the culture of this office.

I am also grateful to our fellow colleagues in law enforcement who have been excellent partners in keeping Sullivan County safe and, most importantly, the residents of Sullivan County. It is an honor to serve as your District Attorney.

With heartfelt appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B.P. Conaty", with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Brian P. Conaty
District Attorney
Sullivan County

MISSION STATEMENT

The District Attorney serves as the chief law enforcement officer of Sullivan County, responsible for prosecuting all cognizable crimes and offenses in courts of law and ensuring the fair administration of justice. Beyond courtroom advocacy, the office plays a critical role in public safety by preventing crime and reducing recidivism through data-informed strategies and interagency collaboration. Our approach emphasizes accountability, victim protection, and evidence-based solutions that reduce recidivism and strengthen trust in the justice system.



MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

A strong leadership team provides organizational coherence, a clear sense of mission, and instills a value system that guides every aspect of performance. While deep field and frontline experience is essential to success, executive management must also demonstrate open, innovative, and critical thinking to ensure that this office's strategic goals are clearly mapped and effectively achieved.

A culture of respect for individual worth, talent and innovation as well as collective accomplishments permeate every level of this organization, beginning with those on the Executive Team. Our prosecutors, investigators, and our administrative support professionals are among the most elite in their respective fields. The Executive Team provides the necessary tools and resources that allow the members of the office to perform at their highest potential and remain unified in shared successes.

Honorable District Attorney Brian P. Conaty



District Attorney Brian P. Conaty is a lifelong resident of the Village of Monticello and a graduate of Burke Catholic High School. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management from West Virginia University, with minors in Business Administration, Communication Studies, and Personal Training. Brian pursued his Juris Doctorate at Touro Law Center graduating Magna Cum Laude.

Brian's career in public service began in the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office as a summer intern under District Attorney James Farrell. He went on to complete an externship with New York State Supreme Court Justice Mark D. Cohen and served as a student intern in Touro Law Center's Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic.

After law school, Brian returned home to Sullivan County to begin his prosecutorial career as an Assistant District Attorney. He was quickly promoted to lead prosecutor for the Family Violence Response Team, which streamlines the investigation and prosecution of child sexual abuse cases through the Child Advocacy Center. His work ensured coordinated collaboration among the New York State Police, Child Protective Services, and medical professionals, thereby reducing re-traumatization of vulnerable victims due to multiple disclosures and improving case outcomes for victims and their families.

Brian's responsibilities expanded to include lead roles in the Sullivan County Court Youth Part where he was responsible for litigating criminal cases involving adolescent and juvenile offenders charged with felony offenses; and the Sullivan County Diversionary Courts where he was responsible for fashioning problem-solving criminal court dispositions for eligible offenders aimed at reducing recidivism by focusing on treatment, community service, and education as an alternative to traditional prosecutions. Additionally, Brian was assigned to both the Prison Task

Force and Welfare Fraud Task Force, reflecting his versatility and commitment to community-centered justice.

On December 9, 2022, Brian was promoted to, and sworn in as, Sullivan County's Chief Assistant District Attorney by then-District Attorney Meagan K. Galligan. On January 3, 2023, Brian was sworn in as Sullivan County's Acting District Attorney and on January 3, 2024, Brian officially began his term as District Attorney of Sullivan County.

Since taking office, he has focused on combating the opioid epidemic, improving services to victims of crime, and strengthening public safety through a coordinated, collaborative approach to criminal investigations and prosecutions. As District Attorney, Brian is primarily responsible for leading all major and complex criminal investigations and prosecutions; offering guidance and professional development opportunities to prosecutors; and ensuring that prosecutors remain current on New York State's evolving criminal justice reforms, including bail, discovery, and raise-the-age legislation.

Every day, District Attorney Conaty leads with a strong commitment to public service focused on protecting the residents of Sullivan County, ensuring justice for victims, and upholding public confidence in the criminal justice system.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Michael Puma



Michael obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Adelphi University and obtained his Juris Doctorate Degree from Touro Law Center, graduating Cum Laude. In July of 2021, Michael began his career with the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office and in 2023, was promoted to the position of Chief Assistant District Attorney. While employed by the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office, Michael has litigated many high-profile cases such as homicides, shootings, armed robberies, burglaries, sex offenses, and domestic violence cases. Michael reports directly to the District Attorney, Brian P. Conaty, and is responsible for litigating major cases and the supervision and development of Assistant District Attorneys.

Michael began his career in public service with the Nassau County District Attorney's Office in September of 2012. While there, Michael litigated several misdemeanor criminal jury trials, handled numerous hearings, and supervised junior attorneys. While at the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, Michael was promoted to the Felony Screening Bureau, the Grand Jury Bureau and finally to the County Court Trial Bureau. After leaving the Nassau County District Attorney's Office in 2016, Michael continued his legal career in civil practice in the field of estate planning and litigation. Soon thereafter, Michael ventured back into his passion for law enforcement by working for the New York City Police Department Legal Bureau. While there, Michael was responsible for advocating against the settlement of frivolous and non-meritorious civil litigation against New York City Police Officers, and for conducting trainings for the New York City Police Officers in police tactics in an effort to prevent civil class action lawsuits against

New York City Police Officers, and for conducting trainings, and modifying policy for the New York City Police Officers in police tactics in an effort to prevent civil class action lawsuits.

As Chief Assistant District Attorney, Michael provides mentorship and guidance to all of the Assistant District Attorneys, supporting their professional development, enhancing their courtroom advocacy, and ensuring the highest standards of excellence in case preparation and prosecution.

Chief Investigator Scott Kinne



Chief Investigator Scott Kinne joined the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office in April 2021, bringing with him nearly three decades of distinguished law enforcement experience. His career began in 1994 with the Village of Liberty Police Department, where he served for 28 years and advanced through increasingly responsible leadership roles, including Patrolman, K-9 Officer, Detective, Detective Sergeant, and ultimately Chief of Police. Throughout his career, he demonstrated a consistent ability to lead complex investigations, manage personnel, and coordinate multi-agency operations.

In July 2025, Investigator Kinne was promoted to Chief Investigator in recognition of his proven leadership, institutional knowledge, and demonstrated effectiveness within the District Attorney's Office. Prior to his promotion, he had already assumed informal leadership responsibilities within the Investigations Unit, serving as a mentor to investigators and newly appointed Assistant District Attorneys, and providing guidance on investigative best practices, case development, and courtroom preparation. His ability to bridge investigative and prosecutorial functions ensured continuity, efficiency, and professional standards across complex criminal matters.

As Chief Investigator, Chief Kinne assigns all cases to investigative personnel and performs administrative functions of the Investigations Unit, ensuring cases are thoroughly, professionally, and consistently investigated from initial inquiry through prosecution with case reviews. He serves as a principal liaison to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies operating throughout Sullivan County, strengthening interagency coordination, improving communication, and enhancing countywide investigative strategies. His promotion reflects both his demonstrated performance and the critical need for experienced, steady leadership within the District Attorney's Office. His extensive field experience, supervisory expertise, and commitment to public safety continue to play a vital role in advancing the mission of the Office.

Confidential Secretary Susan Landis



Susan Landis has served Sullivan County with distinction since 1989, beginning her public service career with the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office. In 1996, she joined the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office, where she has provided more than three decades of dedicated service. During her tenure with the District Attorney's Office, Susan has served under four different District Attorneys, offering continuity, institutional stability, and unwavering professionalism through multiple administrations.

In her role as Confidential Secretary to the District Attorney, Susan has been responsible for a wide range of critical administrative and operational functions, including schedule management, preparation of subpoenas, orders to produce, restitution orders, coordination of grand jury proceedings and manages administrative staff. She has also served as a primary liaison with law enforcement agencies, and the courts, while overseeing budgetary matters and accounts payable. Her exceptional organizational skills and attention to detail have been instrumental in keeping the Office operating efficiently, on schedule, and within budget.

Susan's extensive institutional knowledge has been an invaluable resource to the Office. She has consistently shared her expertise with newly appointed Assistant District Attorneys, helping them quickly understand office procedures, expectations, and the operational framework of the District Attorney's Office.

After 36 years of dedicated public service, Susan Landis will retire in February 2026. Her contributions to the District Attorney's Office have been significant and lasting, and her commitment and professionalism have played a vital role in the continued success of the Office. We extend our sincere gratitude for her service and wish her every happiness and success in her well-earned retirement.

PROSECUTIONS & COURT OPERATIONS

The Sullivan County District Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting a wide range of cases from routine and complex criminal prosecutions to appellate litigation, ensuring that justice is administered efficiently, fairly, and consistently throughout the county.

With a presence in all of Sullivan County's 18 local magistrate courts, as well as the Sullivan County Court, the Sullivan County Diversionary Court, the Sullivan County Court Youth Part, the Sullivan County Supreme Court, and the Appellate Courts, District Attorney Conaty and his team work closely with law enforcement agencies, victims, and community members thereby fostering trust, collaboration, and effective case outcomes. Through professionalism, diligence, and a steadfast dedication to public safety, the office's personnel exemplify the highest standards of public service and reflect the very best of what our community has to offer.

Assistant District Attorneys are assigned to attend local magistrate courts on a daily and nightly basis to prosecute the criminal cases arising out of their respective jurisdictions, with proceedings often extending late into the evening hours depending on the volume of cases. Additionally, ADAs are responsible for presenting serious felony cases to the Grand Jury and litigating such cases in the Sullivan County Supreme Court and the Sullivan County Court. In these venues, ADAs are responsible for handling all aspects of criminal prosecution from meeting with victims and witnesses; drafting search warrants; making bail recommendations; advocating for the issuance of orders or protection for victims of crimes; conducting preliminary hearings; obtaining, reviewing, redacting, and providing discovery to defense attorneys; reviewing hours-long body worn camera footage; responding to pre-trial motions; conducting pre-trial hearings; and, ultimately, prosecuting cases to jury trials, among many other responsibilities.



Pictured: Sullivan County Courthouse

MEET THE TEAM

District Attorney Conaty recognizes and deeply values the commitment made by each Assistant District Attorney when joining the Sullivan County team. Every ADA takes an official oath upon becoming a practicing attorney in New York State, and when they join the District Attorney's Office, they further commit themselves to public service on behalf of the residents of Sullivan County, with the shared goal of protecting the community and upholding justice.

The District Attorney understands the significant demands placed on ADAs. Their work extends far beyond a traditional schedule often requiring working nights, weekends, and traveling throughout the county. Each case demands focused engagement with victims and their families, as well as careful coordination with law enforcement, defense attorneys, judges, court reporters, and Grand Juries to ensure matters are fully prepared for prosecution. The role requires exceptional legal skill, emotional resilience, and unwavering professionalism.

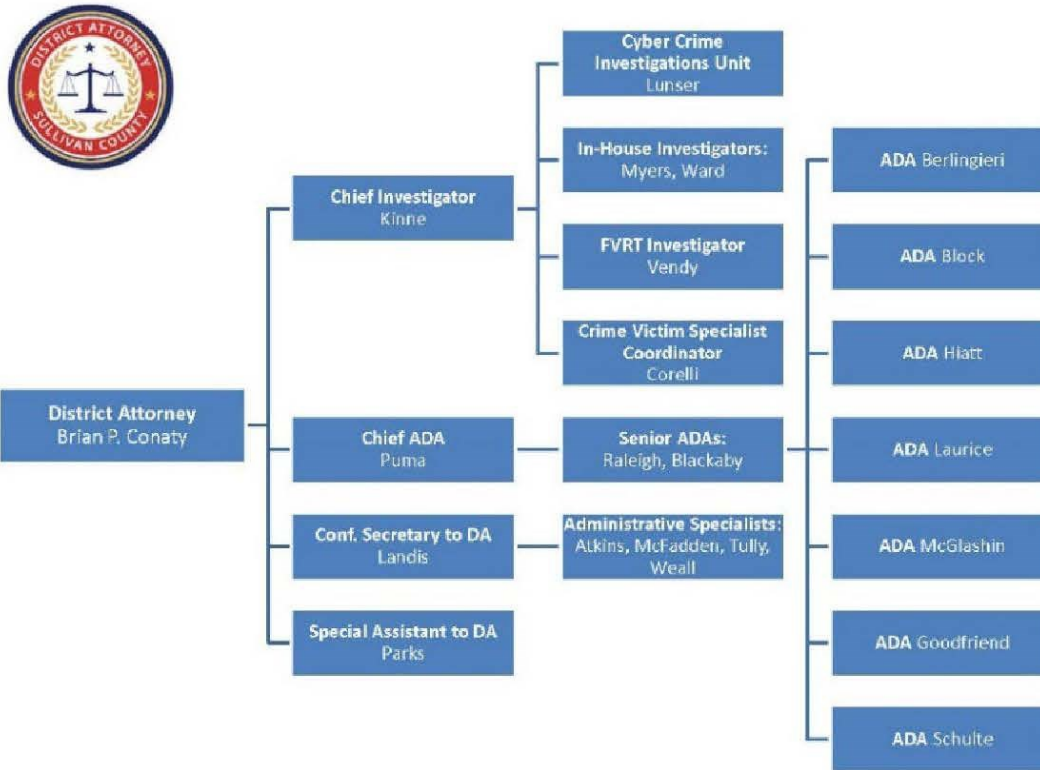
In recognition of these challenges, the District Attorney has worked closely with the Sullivan County Legislature and the County Manager's Office to ensure that staff are fairly compensated through salary adjustments and stipends, as budgets allow. Beyond financial support, the Office places strong emphasis on professional development, mentorship, and fostering a workplace culture where every staff member feels respected and supported. These efforts reflect an experienced approach to retention that not only attracts talented attorneys to the office but also nurtures their growth and encourages long term dedication to serving the people of Sullivan County.

As a result of these efforts, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office now enjoys the full compliment of 10 ADAs allotted for within our budget a milestone that hasn't been reached in nearly a decade. What is more, the majority of our prosecutors are Sullivan County natives:

1. DA Conaty;
2. Sr. ADA Blackaby;
3. ADA Block ;
4. ADA Hiatt;
5. ADA Goodfriend; and
6. ADA Schulte.

The District Attorney's aggressive recruitment strategy prioritized putting Sullivan County first by hiring from within our own borders and creating career paths for those who already have deep roots within our community.

SULLIVAN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



Appellate Unit



Pictured: Senior ADA Raleigh, Senior ADA Blackaby

Senior ADAs Thomas Raleigh and Danielle Blackaby (pictured left to right) achieved significant success throughout 2025 with the Appellate Unit's cases. This specialized litigation focuses primarily on defending trial-level convictions in state appellate courts. Serving as the District Attorney's legal representatives in higher courts, the Appellate Unit works to preserve the integrity of jury verdicts, ensure consistency in the application of the law, and advance legal precedents that shape criminal jurisprudence across New York State.

Appellate litigation is highly complex and time-intensive yet successful outcomes protect the substantial work invested by prosecutors, investigators, and law enforcement partners at the trial level.

Senior ADAs Raleigh and Blackaby also provide specialized training and legal education to Assistant District Attorneys helping them strengthen their legal research, legal writing, and oral advocacy skills to ensure consistent, high-quality representation at all stages of litigation.

2025 New Class



Pictured: ADA McGlashin, ADA Schulte, DA Conaty, ADA Goodfriend

Three new Assistant District Attorneys were officially sworn into the New York State Bar this year. District Attorney Conaty congratulated ADA McGlashin, ADA Schulte, and ADA Goodfriend (pictured left to right) on their admission to the Bar.

Prior to their swearing in, each attorney served under a “Practice Order,” which allows law school graduates to appear in court under the supervision of a licensed attorney as approved by the NYS Appellate Division. Over the past year, the Executive Team has worked closely with the new ADAs, ensuring they were accompanied by a licensed attorney at every court appearance while receiving hands on professional development.

All three ADAs also completed an intensive prosecutorial training program through the New York State Prosecutors Training Institute. With their official admission to the Bar, each now holds a permanent court assignment within the County.



Sullivan County District Attorney Investigators



Pictured: Inv. Myers, Inv. Lunser, Chief Kinne, Inv. Vendy, Inv. Ward

The District Attorney Investigators play a critical role in supporting prosecutors through comprehensive case preparation and proactive investigative strategies. By coordinating with local law enforcement agencies, conducting victim and witness interviews, and gathering and analyzing evidence, investigators ensure that cases are built upon a strong foundation.

Under the guidance of Chief Investigator Kinne the team of Investigators operate across local, county, state, and federal jurisdictions. The Investigators enhance case quality and strengthen public safety outcomes. These efforts demand exceptional investigative skills, precision, and an unwavering commitment to protecting victims while maintaining the integrity of the criminal justice process.

District Attorney Conaty and Chief Kinne have cultivated a specialized Investigative Unit that have provided continuity and expertise in high-stakes investigations, thereby directly contributing to successful prosecutions and improved community safety. Their work reinforces the mission of the District Attorney's Office, to deliver justice across Sullivan County.

INVESTIGATIVE UNIT EXPERTISE

Under the leadership of District Attorney Conaty and Chief Investigator Kinne, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office has developed a specialized Investigative Unit composed of highly experienced former New York State Police investigators. Each investigator brings decades of service, deep knowledge of Sullivan County, and specialized expertise in high-stakes, sensitive, and complex investigations. Together, this team provides continuity, independence, and advanced investigative capability that directly supports successful prosecutions and enhances community safety countywide.

INVESTIGATOR TIM WARD

Investigator Tim Ward brings more than 21 years of law enforcement experience with the New York State Police, including service as an Investigator assigned to the Forensic Investigation Unit covering Sullivan, Ulster, Orange, and Greene Counties. A Level III Certified Fingerprint Analyst, Investigator Ward possesses extensive expertise in crime scene processing, forensic analysis, evidence handling, and expert testimony. Since joining the District Attorney's Office in 2023, he has applied his deep community knowledge and forensic skill set to homicides, violent felonies, narcotics conspiracies, and other high-risk investigations, strengthening complex prosecutions and public safety.

INVESTIGATOR ERIC LUNSER

Investigator Eric Lunser brings more than 21 years of investigative experience with the New York State Police, having served across Greene, Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster Counties, and New York City. His background spans patrol operations, crime scene processing, emergency response, and specialized cybercrime investigations, including child exploitation offenses. Investigator Lunser is spearheading the creation of the District Attorney's Cyber Investigation Unit, applying advanced digital forensic training and nationally recognized certifications to support investigations ranging from violent crime and narcotics trafficking to fraud and online exploitation.

INVESTIGATOR JOHN VENDY

Investigator John Vendy brings more than 32 years of law enforcement experience with the New York State Police, including nearly two decades assigned to Sullivan County. His investigative background includes homicide, narcotics conspiracies, fraud, police misconduct, and extensive felony-level sex crime investigations involving child and juvenile victims. A certified ChildFirst Children's Forensic Interviewer, Investigator Vendy is assigned to the Family Violence Response Team/Child Abuse Unit, where his multidisciplinary work and expert testimony have contributed to successful prosecutions and the protection of vulnerable victims.

INVESTIGATOR DAVID MYERS

Investigator David Myers brings more than 20 years of law enforcement experience with the New York State Police, including ten years assigned to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation in Wurtsboro focusing on major crimes. His investigative background includes homicides, gang violence, cold cases, hate crimes, and special victim investigations. Appointed to the District Attorney's Office in November 2025, Investigator Myers leads major crime investigations, leveraging longstanding community knowledge and strong interagency relationships to support complex prosecutions and enhance countywide public safety.

Administrative Support



Pictured: Cynthia Atkins, Natalie Tully, Susan Landis, Danielle McFadden, Nicole Weall

The District Attorney's Office is supported by a highly skilled and dedicated administrative staff whose work is essential to the effective operation of the office. This team plays a critical role in the day-to-day functioning of the criminal justice system, providing the organizational structure and continuity necessary for the prosecution of cases across all courts in Sullivan County.

Administrative staff are responsible for coordinating and preparing weekly Grand Jury proceedings, ensuring the timely and accurate transmission of legal documents, maintaining and updating case files on a daily basis, and managing complex court calendars involving multiple jurisdictions. Their attention to detail and adherence to strict deadlines help safeguard the integrity of the office's proper functioning and ensures compliance with statutory and procedural requirements.

Additionally, the administrative team serves as a primary point of contact for the District Attorney's Office to the courts, law enforcement agencies, defense attorneys, and the public. Their professionalism, institutional knowledge, and commitment to accuracy enable Assistant District Attorneys and Investigators to focus on legal advocacy, investigations, and courtroom responsibilities.

The high level of service provided by the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office would not be possible without the dedication and expertise of its administrative staff. Their behind-the-scenes work is fundamental to the Office's mission of promoting public safety, ensuring fairness, and delivering justice for the residents of Sullivan County.



Crime Victim Services



Pictured: DA Conaty, Crime Victim Coordinator

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office strengthened its commitment to victim services with the addition of Jade Corelli, who joined the team as the Office's Crime Victim Specialist Coordinator. This role is an essential component of DA Conaty's mission to support victims and their families throughout the criminal justice process.

Ms. Corelli serves as a direct resource for individuals impacted by crime, offering guidance, emotional support, and assistance in navigating court proceedings. She plays a key role in connecting victims with critical services, including counseling, crisis intervention, safety planning, and restitution resources.

Her work enhances communication between victims, prosecutors, law enforcement, and community organizations, ensuring that victims' rights are upheld and their needs addressed with compassion and professionalism. Her expertise strengthens the Office's ability to provide trauma-informed, victim-centered support.

The expansion of victim services reflects the District Attorney's ongoing commitment to ensuring that justice includes not only accountability for offenders but meaningful support for those harmed by crime. Ms. Corelli's work contributes to improved victim engagement, enhanced service coordination, and a more responsive, compassionate approach to victim advocacy across Sullivan County.

By ensuring that victims are well-informed, supported, and empowered throughout the legal process, Jade also plays a critical role in supporting successful case outcomes and strengthening prosecutions, as engaged and well-supported victims are better able to meaningfully participate in the pursuit of justice.



Sullivan County District Attorney's Office Internship Program



Pictured: Samuel Sherlock, DA Conaty, David Allison

As the District Attorney continues to strengthen recruitment efforts to meet the Office's staffing needs, he remains committed to investing in the next generation of law enforcement professionals. To attract the best and brightest, both locally and from outside Sullivan County, the District Attorney has established a comprehensive Internship Program designed to immerse students in the full scope of the criminal justice process.

Through firsthand exposure to each stage of a case from the initial contact with a victim of crime through the final adjudication, interns gain a deep understanding of the professionalism, dedication, and passion for public service required in this field. This experience equips future law enforcement professionals with the insight and preparation needed to serve our community with integrity and commitment.

This past summer, District Attorney Conaty proudly recognized Samuel Sherlock, of Goshen, and David Allison, of Woodbourne, for successfully completing the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office Internship Program. Samuel is currently attending Vermont Law School and plans to sit for the New York State Bar Examination in 2027. David is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice Studies at Mansfield Commonwealth University.

Throughout their internship, Samuel and David made significant contributions to the mission of the District Attorney's Office. Their work included engaging with police officers and victims of crime, researching complex legal issues, supporting discovery compliance, drafting pre-trial motions and appeals, and assisting Assistant District Attorneys in preparing cases for court. Both have expressed a strong interest in pursuing careers within the criminal justice field after completing their studies.

District Attorney Conaty believes the office's Internship Program is an invaluable resource for young professionals seeking to deepen their understanding of the criminal justice system. As a product of the program himself, District Attorney Conaty attests to the unparalleled experience and insight gained from assisting and shadowing prosecutors prior to being admitted to the New York State Bar. This Office was fortunate to recruit two local young professionals as dedicated as Samuel and David, who are motivated by public service. Their commitment to the Internship Program helped to make Sullivan County a safer place.

THE TEAM



Back row from left to right: Danielle McFadden, Nour Goodfriend, Michael Schulte, James McGlashin, Howard Block, Tom Raleigh, Eric Lunser, Michael Puma, Scott Kinne, Jade Corelli, John Vendy, Jeff Laurice, Timothy Ward, Kristopher Berlingieri, David Myers; Front Row: Nicole Weall, Natalie Tully, Susan Landis, District Attorney Brian Conaty, Danielle Blackaby, Cynthia Atkins. Missing from photo: Sheila Parks and Halley Hiatt

2025 CASELOAD

The Sullivan District Attorney's Office operates as a statutorily mandated entity under New York State law, in which the District Attorney must maintain a fully functioning DA's office as established by Article 17 of the New York County Law.

In calendar year 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office managed a total of 3,562 criminal cases, encompassing 7,735 individual charges. This work was carried out by a dedicated team consisting of the District Attorney, ten Assistant District Attorneys, five Investigators, a Crime Victim Coordinator, and supporting administrative staff. Each case, while unique, often involves complex and time-intensive processes, including careful review, charging decisions, engagement with victims and witnesses, motion practice, hearings, trials, and case resolution.

This substantial caseload highlights the significant demands placed on prosecutorial staff and underscores the Office's ongoing commitment to upholding high standards of justice, public safety, and due process, even with limited staffing resources.

2025 NOTABLE CONVICTIONS

The notable cases outlined below represent a small selection of cases resolved during the 2025 calendar year and do not include cases that remain open at year's end.

District Attorney Conaty is proud of the accomplishments of his Assistant District Attorneys, whose expertise and dedication have strengthened the pursuit of justice in Sullivan County. The following cases highlight a few of the significant trial and court level convictions that demonstrate the Office's commitment to public safety and justice throughout the County.



People V. Wunner: Following a five-day jury trial prosecuted by Chief ADA Puma, Jonte Wunner was sentenced to 33 years to life in state prison for Murder in the Second Degree, Concealment of a Human Corpse, and Tampering with Physical Evidence. Evidence presented by Chief Assistant District Attorney Michael Puma included cell site analysis, video evidence, witness testimony, and DNA evidence that linked Wunner to the murder of Jose Rodriguez, 42, and the location where his body was found.

People V. Weir: Following a three-day jury trial prosecuted by DA Conaty, Lavaun Weir was convicted of Predatory Sexual Assault Against a Child and sentenced to the statutory maximum of 25 years to life in state prison and was ordered to register as a sex offender. The conviction stemmed from the repeated sexual abuse of a child under the age of 13 over an extended period of time. The case was investigated by the Sullivan County Family Violence Response Team in coordination with the District Attorney's Office.

People V. Robinson: Following a 4-day jury trial prosecuted by Chief ADA Puma, Bryan Robinson was convicted of Robbery in the First Degree and related offenses and sentenced to 22 years to life in state prison as a Persistent Violent Felony Offender. These convictions and sentence stem from an armed robbery of a Monticello gas station, during which Robinson threatened the store clerk with a knife and forcibly stole cash and merchandise. The court also ordered \$1,566 in restitution to the victim's business. Robinson's sentence was based in part on his extensive history of violent felony convictions, including multiple prior robbery offenses.

People V. Eck: In 2024, Ollen Eck committed multiple armed robberies at local businesses in Livingston Manor and later committed a burglary in the Town of Thompson. Following his convictions for Robbery in the Second Degree and Burglary in the Second Degree, he was sentenced to 10 years in state prison to be followed by 5 years of post-release supervision. These convictions hold Eck accountable for a series of violent crimes and remove him from the community for a significant period of time. The cases were prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Jeffrey Laurice.

People V. Flood: On May 2, 2025, Joseph Flood was sentenced to a total indeterminate sentence of 8½ to 17 years in state prison for three felony convictions in Sullivan County. He plead guilty to two Grand Larceny in the Third-Degree charges for the theft of trailers and other equipment from small business owners in the county. He was also sentenced on his conviction of Reckless Endangerment in the First Degree for a high-speed pursuit, in which Flood exceeded 110 miles-per-hour on public roads, endangering members of the Sheriff's Office and the public. The case was prosecuted by Sr. Assistant District Attorney Thomas Raleigh.

People V. Reynolds: In 2025, Rawle Reynolds was convicted for aggravated cruelty to animals, a class E Felony, and sentenced to 20 months incarceration in the Sullivan County Jail (a 24 month sentence is the maximum permitted by law), ordered to pay \$1,315.71 in restitution, and further order to register under Dean's law thereby barring Reynolds from owning a companion animal for 7 years from the completion of his jail sentence. This prosecution resulted from a domestic violence complaint whereby Reynolds choked "Cassidy" a 3-month-old American Pit Bull Terrier mix, and proceeded to stab her in the head with a knife. Sr. ADA Thomas Raleigh and ADA Jeffrey Laurice handled the prosecution of this case.

People V. Jorge: On June 18, 2025, Jonathan Jorge was found guilty after a jury trial of 2 counts of criminal possession of a large-capacity ammunition feeding device, and criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fourth degree, for possession of cocaine. Jorge was sentenced to 7 years in state prison, plus 5 years of post-release supervision. This prosecution was the result of an undercover investigation by the New York State Police Violent Gang, Narcotics Enforcement

Team which resulted in a search warrant of Jorge's residence, resulting in the discovery of the drugs and other contraband prosecuted in this action. The case was prosecuted by Sr. Assistant District Attorney Thomas Raleigh.

People V. Hiller: On March 7, 2025, Michael Hiller, 46, of Liberty, was sentenced to 12 years' incarceration followed by five years' post-release supervision upon his conviction for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C violent felony. He was also sentenced to 12 years' incarceration followed by three years' post-release supervision for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B felony. The sentences were ordered to run concurrently.

The convictions stemmed from a lengthy New York State Police investigation that resulted in multiple undercover narcotics purchases and the execution of a search warrant at Hiller's residence in July 2022, where investigators recovered significant quantities of crack cocaine, heroin/fentanyl, and suboxone. While released pending resolution of those charges, Hiller was arrested again in March 2024 following a domestic incident and found in possession of a loaded and operable handgun. Hiller, who had five prior felony convictions, pled guilty to all charges. The case was prosecuted by DA Conaty and Chief ADA Puma.

People V. Holden: On January 16, 2025, Davina Holden, was sentenced to 10 years' incarceration followed by five years of post-release supervision after pleading guilty to Arson in the Second Degree, a Class B violent felony. The conviction stemmed from a July 16, 2024 incident in which Holden intentionally set fire to her residence while knowing her son was inside. The fire was promptly responded to by the Village of Liberty Police and Fire Departments, the Sullivan County Fire Investigation Team, and Emergency Medical Services. The case was prosecuted by Sr. Assistant District Attorney Danielle Blackaby.

People V. Punter: On January 26, 2025, Timothy Punter pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C violent felony, and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a Class B felony, and was sentenced Punter to 12 years' incarceration followed by five years' post-release supervision for the weapon charge and 2½ years' incarceration followed by three years' post-release supervision for the drug charge, with the sentences to run concurrently. This case was prosecuted by Chief ADA Michael Puma and Sr. Assistant District Attorney Thomas Raleigh.

Punter was arrested following the execution of a search warrant by the New York State Police at his Monticello residence, where officers recovered a loaded Glock 40 and approximately two ounces of crack cocaine.

People V. Pafraimy Rosario & Onelfry Rosario: On December 22, 2022, New York State Police stopped a vehicle on State Route 17 in the Town of Rockland, leading to the seizure of approximately 8,525 grams of fentanyl. The occupants, Pafraimy Rosario and Onelfry Rosario, each pled guilty to Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree. On January 23, 2024, they were sentenced to state prison terms of 10 years' and 6 years', respectively, followed by 5 years of post-release supervision, consistent with the District Attorney's recommendation. These cases were prosecuted by Chief ADA Michael Puma.

People v. Joseph Powell: On October 28th, 2019, Village of Monticello Police attempted to stop a vehicle on Evergreen Drive, Village of Monticello, and the operator of the vehicle, Joseph Powell failed to stop. The vehicle continued traveling westbound until Joseph Powell jumped out of the moving vehicle and fled on foot. Officers gave chase and observed the defendant throw a firearm. The firearm was recovered and the defendant was placed under arrest. On June 3rd, 2022, the defendant pled guilty to Attempted Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the 2nd Degree and then absconded for sentencing while released on bail. On November 27th, 2024, the defendant was returned on the warrant and on January 24th, 2025, the defendant was sentenced as a second felony offender to a prison term of 7 years, followed by 5 years of post release supervision. At sentencing, the People argued to enhance the defendant's sentence for his failure to appear at sentencing. The court agreed and enhanced the defendant's sentence from the prior agreed upon prison term of 5 years to the 7 year prison term requested by the People. The case was prosecuted by Chief ADA Michael Puma.

People V. Blanch: Isaiah "Tall Blood" Blanch, was sentenced to 12 years' incarceration followed by five years of post-release supervision upon his conviction for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a Class C violent felony. The conviction followed a three-day jury trial, during which the jury found on June 12, 2023, that Blanch, who had two prior felony convictions, illegally possessed a loaded and operable .380 caliber Cobra ENT of Utah pistol outside his home or place of business. The case was prosecuted at trial by Chief ADA Michael Puma.

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney’s Office managed a substantial caseload consisting of 1,418 felony cases, 3,704 misdemeanors, 2,078 infractions, and 484 violations. During this period, the Office secured over 200 Indictments and Superior Court Information filings for charges ranging from violent felonies and major narcotics offenses to financial crimes, weapons possession, and offenses against vulnerable victims.

Driving While Intoxicated	Possession of prison contraband	Murder	Gang assaults	Arsons
Vehicular Manslaughter	Felonious assaults	Vehicular assault	Sexual abuse	Possession of child pornography
Felony narcotics possession with intent to sell	Illegal weapons possession	Rape	Criminal sale of a controlled substance	Tampering with Physical Evidence
Bail jumping	Grand larceny	Forgery	Attempted murders	Predatory sexual assault against a child
Criminal negligent homicide	Strangulation	Criminal contempt	Criminal mischief	Course of sexual conduct against a child
Kidnapping	Aggravated cruelty to animals	Failure to register as a sex offender	Hindering prosecution	Burglaries & Robberies

To support these prosecutions, the Office drafted and successfully executed in excess of 100 search warrants, encompassing a broad range of investigative categories including residences, vehicles, Blackbox and infotainment centers, clothing, cellular telephones, cell towers, digital devices, social media accounts, financial records, biological evidence, security camera footage, and other critical evidentiary sources.

As a direct result of these court-authorized searches, the Office seized 250 illegal or stolen firearms, including 11 ghost guns, removing dangerous weapons from our communities. In addition, law enforcement recovered a wide spectrum of illegal drugs and controlled substances, including cannabis, hallucinogens, methamphetamine, methadone, ketamine, and cocaine, with an estimated street value of more than \$150,000.00

2025 NOTABLE APPELLATE CASES

The notable cases outlined below represent a small selection of cases resolved during the 2025 calendar year and do not include cases that remain open at year's end.

District Attorney Conaty is proud of his Appellate Unit's accomplishments, recognizing that their expertise and perseverance have strengthened the pursuit of justice in Sullivan County. To showcase the breadth and significance of the Appellate Unit in 2025, the following cases highlight a few of the key victories that reinforce justice within Sullivan County and across the State.

People v. Clark: Sr. ADA Raleigh successfully argued that, following a jury verdict convicting Clark of *inter alia*, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C violent felony, and Attempted Assault in the First Degree, a class C violent felony, and being sentenced to 22 years in state prison, it was lawful for the sentencing court to impose consecutive terms of incarceration upon such counts as Clark's possession of the weapon preceded his intent to use the same to cause the assault. As a result, this sentence was affirmed.

People v. Archer: Sr. ADA Blackaby successfully argued, in this pair of cases as Special Prosecutor for Orange County, that Archer's waiver of the right to appeal was knowing, voluntary, and intelligently entered and that his sentence was not unduly harsh or excessive upon his 2021 convictions and sentences for Course of Sexual Conduct Against a Child in the First Degree, a class B violent felony, Criminal Sexual Act in the First Degree, a class B violent felony, Use of a Child in a Sexual Performance, a class C felony, and Possession of a Sexual Performance by a Child, a class E felony, for which he was sentenced to 20 years' incarceration in state prison to be followed by 20 years of post-release supervision and was also ordered to register as a sex offender. As a result, these convictions and sentences were affirmed.

People v. Ford: Sr. ADA Raleigh successfully argued that Ford's waiver of appeal and subsequent plea were both knowing, voluntary, and intelligently entered upon his 2022 convictions for Attempted Operating as a Major Trafficker, a class B felony, Conspiracy in the Second Degree, a class B felony, and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a class B felony, for which he was sentenced to an indeterminate term of 14 to 15 years incarceration in state prison. As a result, these convictions and sentences were affirmed.

People v. Loadholt: Sr. ADA Raleigh successfully argued that Loadholt's sentence of a cumulative 9-11 years' incarceration in state prison upon his 2017 convictions for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree, a class B felony, and for Perjury in the Second Degree, a class E felony, were not unduly harsh or excessive. As a result, these sentences were affirmed.

People v. Griffin: Sr. ADA Blackaby successfully argued that Griffin failed to properly preserve his claim that he should not have been sentenced as a second felony offender for his 2022 sentence and conviction for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C violent felony, for which he was sentenced to 7.5 years' incarceration in state prison to be followed by five years of post-release supervision. As a result, this sentence was affirmed.

People v. Olsen: Sr. ADA Blackaby successfully argued that the Sullivan County Court did not impose an unduly harsh or excessive sentence upon Olsen's 2021 conviction for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, a class C felony, following a jury trial, for which he was sentenced to 5 years' incarceration in state prison to be followed by three years of post-release supervision. As a result, this conviction and sentence were affirmed.

Animal Cruelty

Animal cruelty is a serious crime under the New York State Agriculture & Markets Law. District Attorney Conaty firmly believes that prosecuting animal cruelty cases can deter broader violence, as research has shown a link between cruelty to animals and subsequent crimes against people. In this vein, DA Conaty committed himself and his office to protecting the most vulnerable members of our community and addressing crimes that often intersect with broader public safety concerns.

Working closely with law enforcement, veterinarians, and local humane organizations, we continue to strengthen our response to animal cruelty cases to hold offenders accountable while seeking monetary reimbursement to the appropriate humane societies for their dedication and compassion in nurturing abused animals that have been seized by law enforcement.

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office received 6 new cases of animal cruelty. Of these cases, 1 case secured a felony conviction for same and is pending sentencing while the other 5 remain pending.

In the coming year, our office will increase outreach to ensure that compassion and justice remain at the forefront of our work and DA Conaty encourages the public to report suspected abuse.

Welfare Fraud and Public Assistance Integrity

District Attorney Brian P. Conaty places significant value on protecting the integrity of public funds, particularly at a time when economic pressures require governments and families alike to operate with greater fiscal restraint. As available resources become more limited, ensuring that taxpayer supported assistance programs are safeguarded from fraud is not only a legal responsibility but a matter of public trust. Welfare fraud prosecutions reflect the Office's commitment to responsible stewardship of public dollars holding accountable those who intentionally misuse benefits while preserving essential resources for residents who genuinely qualify for and depend upon them. By prioritizing enforcement in this area, District Attorney Conaty reinforces the principle that public assistance systems must remain both compassionate and accountable, especially during periods when every dollar carries heightened significance for the community. Safeguarding the integrity of public assistance programs is critical to ensuring that limited taxpayer-funded resources remain available to the vulnerable individuals and families who legitimately qualify for and rely upon them. In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office continued its focused enforcement efforts in partnership with the Sullivan County Department of Social Services and the local law enforcement agencies, particularly the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, to investigate and prosecute welfare fraud and related public assistance offenses.

During this calendar year, our office initiated the prosecution of twenty-two (22) new welfare fraud cases. These enforcement efforts resulted in \$36,259.00 in restitution being returned to New York State public assistance programs. Additionally, the Office secured nineteen (19) Intentional Program Violations (IPVs). An IPV formally disqualifies an individual from reapplying for public assistance benefits, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, for a period ranging from six (6) months to one (1) year, depending upon the value of benefits unlawfully obtained.

These prosecutions serve multiple public interests. They protect taxpayer dollars, reinforce the integrity of essential assistance programs within our County, and ensure that limited resources remain available to residents who genuinely qualify for and rely upon these benefits. Public assistance fraud is not a victimless crime it diverts funds from struggling families and undermines public trust in critical safety net programs. The restitution recovered through these prosecutions represents meaningful support that could otherwise fund nearly \$1,000 per month in SNAP benefits for approximately 36 families of four underscoring the tangible community impact of safeguarding public assistance resources.

The District Attorney remains committed to holding accountable those who intentionally exploit these programs while safeguarding benefits for law-abiding residents of Sullivan County, New York.

2025 / 2026 GRANTS:

PLEASE NOTE SEVERAL INITIATIVES ARE IN THE CONTRACT APPROVAL PHASE.

District Attorney Conaty is acutely aware of the County's financial constraints and has made it a priority to offset taxpayer-funded expenses by securing and maximizing state and federal grant funding. These efforts have allowed the Office to enhance services, modernize technology, and strengthen public safety initiatives while minimizing additional burden on local taxpayers.

Federal Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Use Program (COSSUP)	\$233,705.88
Aid to Prosecution (ATP)	\$275,808.00
Discovery Compliance	\$229,760.42
Office of Victim Services	\$91,272.52
District Attorney Salary Aid	\$71,000.00

Sources of Grant Funding: NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS) U.S. Dept. of Justice Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) – Crime Victim Services / NYS Dept. of Motor Vehicle Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Intoxicated (Stop DWI) / NYS Division of Criminal Justice (DCJS) -Aid to Prosecution (ATP) / NYS Division of Criminal Justice (DCJS) – Discovery / NYS Division of Criminal Justice (DCJS) – DA Salary Aid

2025 INITIATIVES

Countywide Quick Response Team

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office expanded its overdose response strategy by securing federal Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) funding to establish a countywide Quick Response Team (QRT) in partnership with Hope Not Handcuffs and the Village of Liberty Police Department. This initiative reflects District Attorney Conaty's commitment to addressing the opioid epidemic through proactive, coordinated, and evidence-based approaches that prioritize both public safety and public health.

The opioid crisis remains one of the most serious and persistent challenges facing Sullivan County and communities nationwide. Its impact extends beyond the criminal justice system, affecting families, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods throughout the County. The continued designation of the opioid epidemic as a federal public health emergency underscores the urgent need for innovative responses that go beyond traditional enforcement strategies.

Recognizing substance use disorder as both a public safety and public health issue, the District Attorney sought to implement a model that responds rapidly to overdose incidents while offering individuals a meaningful opportunity to access treatment and recovery services. The Sullivan County QRT was designed to provide timely, coordinated outreach following overdose events, ensuring that individuals and their families receive immediate support, guidance, and connection to available resources.

The QRT brings together law enforcement officers, public health professionals, peer recovery specialists, and community-based service providers to work collaboratively in the aftermath of overdose incidents. Through real-time overdose notifications and coordinated follow-up, team members engage individuals at critical moments, offering pathways to treatment, harm-reduction services, and long-term recovery support. This multidisciplinary approach improves engagement, reduces barriers to care, and helps prevent repeat overdoses and associated criminal activity.

Since its implementation, the QRT has contributed to more rapid interventions, increased referrals to treatment services, and improved coordination among partner agencies. By focusing on early engagement and sustained support, the program enhances public safety while reducing the long-term strain on law enforcement, emergency services, and the court system.

This initiative exemplifies the District Attorney's commitment to data-informed, collaborative solutions that address the root causes of crime and addiction. The QRT also reflects the best of Sullivan County's public safety and community partnerships demonstrating how law enforcement, public health, and community organizations can work together with compassion and purpose to save lives, strengthen families, and protect the broader community.



Pictured: Greg Metakes, Robert Morse, Daryn Bleach, Officer Puma, DA Conaty, Chief D'Agata, Chief Pavese, Chief???, Sheriff Schiff

This initiative reflects what is best about Sullivan County: your Public Safety leaders and community partners ability to innovate, collaborate, and act decisively to save lives and protect the community. It demonstrates that public safety, public health, and human compassion can, and must, work together to address the opioid epidemic.

Cyber Investigation Unit

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office launched a new Cyber Investigation Unit (CIU) to address the increasing volume and complexity of crimes involving digital evidence, online exploitation, and cyber-enabled criminal activity. Recognizing that nearly every major criminal investigation now involves electronic devices, digital communications, or online platforms, the District Attorney invested in developing in-house cyber investigative capabilities to better support law enforcement agencies countywide.

The CIU is designed to reduce reliance on outside agencies and costly third-party forensic services, resulting in direct savings to local police departments. By centralizing advanced digital forensic expertise within the District Attorney's Office, agencies are no longer required to seek external assistance or absorb the expense of specialized software, equipment, or training. This shared-services model allows smaller departments to access high-level cyber investigative support without duplicating costs or diverting limited resources.

Beyond cost savings, the CIU has created significant operational efficiencies. Digital evidence is now processed more quickly, reviewed earlier in investigations, and coordinated directly with prosecutors, allowing cases to move forward without delay. Faster forensic analysis leads to more timely charging decisions, improved discovery compliance, and stronger case preparation,

particularly in investigations involving child exploitation, fraud, narcotics trafficking, violent crime, and online threats.

The District Attorney's investment in the CIU reflects a forward-looking approach to public safety. Establishing the unit required not only advanced technology and secure infrastructure, but also specialized expertise and certifications in digital forensics, cybercrime investigation, and evidence recovery. By assigning a highly trained investigator to lead the unit, Investigator Lunser, the Office ensured that cyber investigations meet the highest legal, technical, and evidentiary standards, safeguarding the integrity of prosecutions.

As digital evidence continues to play a central role in criminal investigations, the Cyber Investigation Unit strengthens the District Attorney's ability to support partner agencies, protect vulnerable victims, and deliver justice efficiently and responsibly while minimizing costs to taxpayers and enhancing countywide public safety.

Every Day is Drug Take Back Day

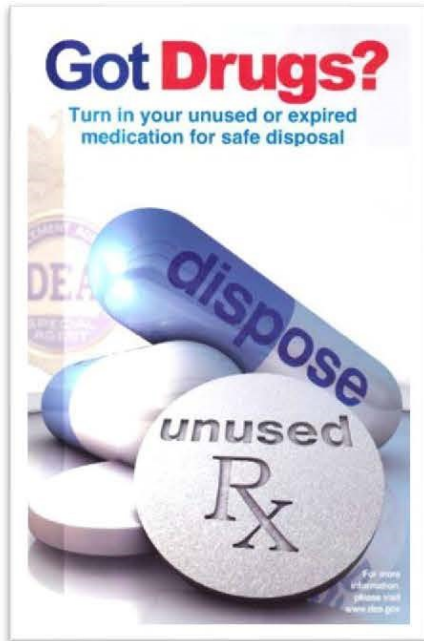


Pictured: DA Conaty and Chief Pavese

As Co-Chair of the Sullivan County Drug Task Force, District Attorney Conaty continues to highlight the many prevention and public safety programs available to residents. On August 26, 2025, DA Conaty joined Chief Brendan Pavese of the Town of Fallsburg Police Department to promote Sullivan County's Drug Take Back Program, emphasizing the importance of safe and responsible medication disposal. Drug drop boxes located in police departments across the county provide residents with a secure, convenient way to dispose of unused or expired medications, reducing the risk of misuse and preventing harmful substances from entering the community.

Every Day Is Drug Take Back Day, and while this initiative helps limit access to harmful substances, we recognize that more work remains in identifying, disrupting, and arresting those who distribute these drugs in our communities. Strengthening prevention must go hand-in-hand with strong enforcement, and the District Attorney's Office remains committed to both.

THE MESSAGE REMAINS SIMPLE AND CONSISTENT:
EVERY DAY IS DRUG TAKE BACK DAY



Below is year-round business drop off locations within Sullivan County as registered with the U.S. Department of Justice (DEA), Diversion Control Division:

Wal-Mart Pharmacy
41 Anawana Lake Rd. Monticello, NY 12701

DPR Equity Inc., The Medicine Shoppe
1987 State Route 52 Liberty, NY 12754

Arlington Pharmacy Inc.
187 Mill St. Liberty, NY 12754

Sullivan Pharmacy Inc.
267 N. Main St. Liberty, NY 12754

Jadd Pharmacy Corp.
253 Rock Hill Dr. Rock Hill, NY 12775

Riverside Remedies RX Corp.
39 Lower Main St. Callicoon, NY 12723

Year-round government drop-off locations:

Town of Fallsburg Police Department 19 Railroad Plaza South Fallsburg, NY 12779

Village of Liberty Police Department 159 N. Main St. Liberty, NY 12754

Village of Monticello Police Department 2 Pleasant Street Monticello, NY 12701

Sullivan County Department of Social Services 16 Community LN. Liberty, NY 12754

Law Enforcement Collaboration

The work of the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office is strengthened every day by our deep partnerships with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Throughout the past year, we have collaborated closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Secret Service, Department of Justice, and Department of Homeland Security to support complex investigations that require national-level expertise and resources. At the state level, our office has worked in concert with the New York State Attorney General's Office, the New York State Comptroller's Office, the New York State Inspector General's Office, and the New York State Police to advance financial crime enforcement, strengthen narcotics and gun investigations, cold cases, and ensure accountability. These efforts are complemented by our ongoing cooperation with local police departments and the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, whose daily work forms the backbone of public safety in our communities.

This coordinated approach ensures that cases involving financial fraud, cybercrime, narcotics trafficking, violence, and threats to vulnerable populations are handled with the highest level of professionalism, precision, and integrity. Our shared commitment to information sharing, joint training, and unified investigative strategies allows us to respond more effectively to emerging challenges while earning the trust and confidence of the residents we serve.

Together, these partnerships reflect our office's unwavering dedication to a modern, collaborative, and community centered model of justice that strengthens public safety, supports victims, and upholds the integrity of our county.

A LOOK AHEAD TO 2026

As we look ahead to 2026, this office remains committed to strengthening public safety through modern, data-driven strategies and close collaboration with our law enforcement partners.

In the coming year, our central priority will be our continued efforts to combat the opioid epidemic by disrupting illicit supply chains, aggressively prosecuting those who profit from addiction, expanding treatment-focused pathways for those so inflicted with disease of addiction, and supporting prevention efforts.

Additionally, this office aims to continue advancing the modernization of our local law enforcements technological capabilities to ensure that agencies across Sullivan County have the tools necessary to respond effectively, collaboratively, and transparently to emerging threats.

Together, with the partnership of our residents, service providers, and law enforcement agencies, we will continue building a safer, healthier, and more resilient Sullivan County.

Modernizing Law Enforcement Technology



District Attorney Conaty is looking ahead to 2026 with a continued focus on modernizing Sullivan County's criminal justice infrastructure through the strategic use of New York State DCJS Discovery Reform funding. In partnership with the Sullivan County Division of Public Safety, the District Attorney's Office will seek to expand technology-driven initiatives designed to enhance data-sharing across all public safety agencies.

Currently, law enforcement agencies within Sullivan County operate on multiple, incompatible records management platforms. The Monticello and Fallsburg Police Departments utilize the IMPACT Records Management System, which requires each agency to independently fund licensing, maintenance, and support. The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office and the Village of

Liberty Police Department utilize the Spectrum Justice System (SJS), which is supplied by New York State at no cost to local law enforcement agencies. However, SJS will soon reach the end of its service lifecycle and will be sunset, and will no longer be supported by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). As a result, no future updates, security patches, or system enhancements will be available, creating operational, cybersecurity, and compliance risks for agencies that continue to rely on the platform.

The urgency of transitioning away from SJS is underscored by the fact that the New York State Police have already migrated to NicheRMS, reflecting a statewide movement toward a modern, supported, and interoperable records management solution.

Procuring a single, countywide RMS through Niche will eliminate system fragmentation and ensure that all local law enforcement agencies operate on a uniform, fully supported, and contemporary platform. This standardization will significantly improve information sharing, investigative efficiency, data integrity, and case coordination between law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office, while also enhancing officer safety and evidentiary access.

In addition, the District Attorney's Office will leverage existing Niche RMS licenses through an inter-county partnership with Orange County, which is also operating on the Niche platform. This arrangement will allow for direct, secure, cross-county information sharing and regional investigative coordination while avoiding duplicative system costs. By utilizing this shared-license structure, the District Attorney's Office will be required to procure software access only, eliminating the need to purchase or maintain dedicated hardware infrastructure and resulting in substantial cost savings and reduced long-term maintenance obligations.

Centralized procurement and administration by the District Attorney's Office along with our Public Safety Division will further reduce duplicative expenses, ensure consistent training and support, and allow smaller agencies access to enterprise-level technology that may otherwise be cost-prohibitive. Most importantly, this initiative provides Sullivan County with a sustainable, secure, and future-ready records management solution that supports effective law enforcement operations and the fair administration of justice countywide.

Safe Gun Storage

DA Conaty has launched a pilot Safe Gun Storage initiative, in partnership with NYS Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP), to improve community safety and well-being by reminding residents about the importance of firearm safety and how they can prevent gun-related injuries and death, especially among children.

As part of this initiative, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office provides free gun locks to the public along with Safe Storage brochures containing information on firearm safety and safe storage. The Safe Storage Brochure details safe practices and the importance of keeping firearms unloaded, locked, and stored separately from ammunition to prevent unintentional injuries, deaths, suicides, and the unlawful access to same.

SAFE STORAGE OPTIONS

GUN SAFE **GUN CASE** **TRIGGER LOCK** **LOCK BOX** **CABLE LOCK**

VEHICLE STORAGE
Any handgun or long gun in a vehicle must be unloaded and locked in a storage container: for example, a plastic or aluminum hard-sided case or safe, not the glove box. The container must be hidden from view.

EVERY 9 MINUTES
At least one gun is stolen from a car in the United States, most frequently from one parked at home.

Get tips on how to be a responsible gun owner:
gunsafety.ny.gov

GUN STORAGE AND SUICIDE
Easy access to guns can turn a moment of crisis into a deadly event.
Storing firearms safely can help prevent suicide.
Call or text **988**, or chat at 988lifeline.org if you or someone you know needs to talk.

EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER (ERPO)
If someone you know is in crisis and has access to a firearm, consider an Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO). An ERPO temporarily prevents individuals from having firearms if they pose a risk of harming themselves or others.
Call **911** if there is an emergency.
Visit nycourts.gov to learn more.

ALWAYS LOCK YOUR GUN
Use a cable or trigger lock.

STORE GUNS UNLOADED
Keep them in a locked safe only you can access.

STORE AMMO SEPARATELY
Secure it away from your guns in a locked container.

PROTECT KEYS AND CODES FOR SAFES
Store them out of children's reach.


TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT GUN SAFETY
"Guns are not toys." "Guns should never be handled without adult supervision."

REPORT A STOLEN OR LOST GUN
Notify authorities immediately.

KNOW THE LAW
Stay up to date about firearm laws and how to store firearms safely.

TRANSPORT GUNS SAFELY
Unload and lock your gun in a storage container when traveling in a vehicle.

CONSIDER A DIFFERENT STORAGE LOCATION
Check the New York Firearm Storage Map for out of home solutions.



bit.ly/NYGunStorage

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Throughout 2025, the District Attorney and members of the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office maintained an active presence in the community while continuing to invest in professional development and specialized training. These efforts strengthen public trust, enhance interagency collaboration, and ensure the Office remains current with evolving legal standards and best practices.

In 2025, the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office remained deeply engaged in both the community and ongoing professional development for staff. District Attorney Conaty participated in a variety of public outreach initiatives, including presenting at the semiannual Sullivan County Drug Task Force meeting, discussing driver safety with students at Sullivan West High School, and speaking with WJFF Radio Catskill to highlight notable prosecutions, including cases such as Jacob McCoy and Bryan Robinson. DA Conaty also joined the community at the Monticello Trunk or Treat festivities, strengthening connections between the Office and local families.

Staff professional development was a continued priority. Assistant District Attorneys attended the New York Prosecutors Training Institute for continuing legal education, participated in Animal Cruelty Training offered by New York Agriculture and Markets, and took part in both winter and summer conferences with the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DASSNY). The Crime Victim Specialist Coordinator completed multiple advanced trainings and certification courses, including sessions through the New York State Office of Victim Services, Child Forensic Interview Training (CFIT) via the National Organization for Victim Advocacy (NOVAA), Trauma-Informed Response with the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), and Gender-Based Violence workshops.

District Attorney Investigators enhanced their skills through participation in the Ghost Gun Safety Conference hosted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, as well as the Office's annual firearms qualifications. Fiscal personnel strengthened the Office's grant management capacity by attending Department of Justice Basic and Advanced Grants Financial Management Training.

These events and trainings reflect the Office's ongoing commitment to professional excellence, community engagement, and public safety, ensuring that all staff remain equipped to provide thorough, responsive, and effective service to victims, witnesses, and the broader community.

The photos below capture some moments from the Sullivan County District Attorney's Office throughout 2025. They illustrate staff engagement in community events, public outreach, and efforts to engage with our community. Each image reflects the dedication, expertise, and collaborative spirit of our team as they work to serve victims, support witnesses, and maintain public safety across the County



District Attorney Conaty with Sheriff Schiff speaking before the Legislature

District Attorney Conaty delivering the 2025 Commencement address at his alma Marta, John S. Burke Catholic High School



DA Conaty, Chief Brendan Pavese and former Monticello Officer Dave Weiner attend the NYS Police Academy graduation in Albany, October 22, 2025

Chief ADA Puma, ADA Schulte





Kelsey Collins, DA Conaty, Vanessa McPhillips, Legislator Matt McPhillips, Legislature Chair Rajsz at the Bagel Festival

DA Conaty, Investigator Kinne join Officer Lake and Officer Totino local law enforcement in handing out Thanksgiving meals



Sullivan County District Attorney Chief Investigator Scott Kinne receives Award of Service from Rabbi Joel Friedman. DA Brian Conaty looks on.

DA Conaty and Senator Peter Oberacker





Crystal Gadson, SC Chief Clerk Surrogate's Court, Tim Havas, Executive Director Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, DA Conaty, Ryan Walker, Attorney, E Danielle Jose-Decker, Sullivan County Court Judge, Alexandra Bourne, Principal Court Attorney, and Constantina Hart, Attorney at Rutherford Elementary School in Monticello promoting Read Across America. A week-long celebration created by the National Education Association (NEA) created to promote reading in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday.

DA Conaty, Legislator Matt McPhillips and Vanessa McPhillips attend the 13th anniversary dinner for Ride 2 Survive-Sullivan County, Inc., a community-based volunteer organization whose mission is to assist with transportation expenses for residents receiving treatment locally who are under the care of an oncologist.

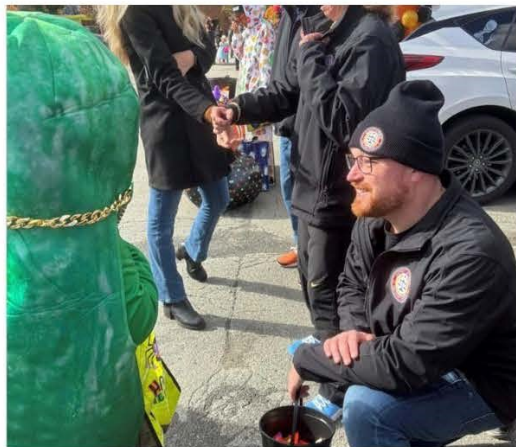


Abe Rutner, Democratic State Committeemen and Town of Liberty Democratic Chair Bill Liblick, Legislature Chair Rajsz and DA Conaty at the Jewish Community Council meet and greet.



DA Conaty donated pizza to the day and night shift hard working Correctional Officers at the Sullivan County Jail to show appreciation for all that they do during National Corrections Officers Week.

DA Conaty donated pizza to the day and night shift Nurses at Garnett Health Catskill to show his appreciation for their dedication to our community in recognition of National Nurses Week!



DA Conaty handing out candy to children at Monticello's Trunk or Treat.

Chief Investigator Kinne speaks with students from Eldred High School's government class.



OFFICE OF AUDIT AND CONTROL

Angela Chevalier, Sullivan County Auditor

MISSION

The mission of the Office of Audit and Control is to audit and process all lawful claims or charges against the County or against funds for which the County is responsible. Our office promotes accountability throughout the County government, and serves the public interest by providing the Legislature, County Manager and other County management with reliable information, unbiased analysis and objective recommendations.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

During 2025, the Office of Audit & Control ("Audit Department") worked diligently to process over 61,500 invoices for payment. These payments included but were not limited to operational cost such as goods, contractual obligations and utilities as well as capital expenditures. My office has procedures in place which segregate duties amongst staff. This is an important administrative control to prevent fraud and abuse of tax payers' dollars.

In 2025, vouchers totaling over \$842,000 were removed from processing after having been submitted without a fully executed contract on file. The Department was also able to save the County just under \$578,000 through voucher corrections and the removal of duplicate submissions from processing. We report the duplicate submissions to the County Manager as well as to each Department who submitted a duplicate payment request.

VENDOR CREATION

The Audit Department continued to process new vendor creation and maintenance in the financial software which included requesting I.R.S. Form W-9 from vendors for proper business entity information. This is a continuous process and the ability to create new vendors is extremely limited for internal control purposes.

NEC & MISC 1099 REPORTING REQUIREMENT

The Audit Department complied with IRS regulations and issued Form Misc-1099 and NEC -1099 to all applicable County vendors for the fiscal year. Each year, regardless of the form, this process has included manual entry of Care Center at Sunset Lake data and the importation of State BICS system data to properly issue 1099s County Wide. My office issued approximately 400 of Form Misc-1099 and NEC-1099 to all applicable County vendors annually.

CONTRACTS

The Audit Department is the repository for all County contracts. As such, all contracts were analyzed to ensure they were fully and properly executed. ie. signatures, insurance, legislative authority and attachments/exhibits etc. Once reviewed for completeness, each contract was entered into the County's contract database, scanned and attached. This information is made available to the public on the County's website. Efforts are underway to streamline the current process.

COUNTY SURPLUS AUCTION

We coordinated the County's Surplus Auction as it related to physically inventorying the items for sale, photographing, authorizing titles (when necessary), ensuring each Bill of Sale was signed as received from buyer, as well as signing on behalf of the County on the Bill of Sale for the buyer.

ASSETS and LEASE REPORTING

On a regular basis, Audit compiled source documents for the recording of and/or tracking of Fixed Assets (including tagging and photographing). At yearend, my office completed the asset reporting in accordance with GASB reporting requirements.

TAX LEVY

The County Auditor prepared the County and Town Tax Levy. The County utilizes each of the town's budgets, associated information on special districts, equalization rates from NYS Office of Real Property along with Prorats/Omits and chargebacks to calculate each corresponding tax rate. Each town's relieves were also included in this calculation

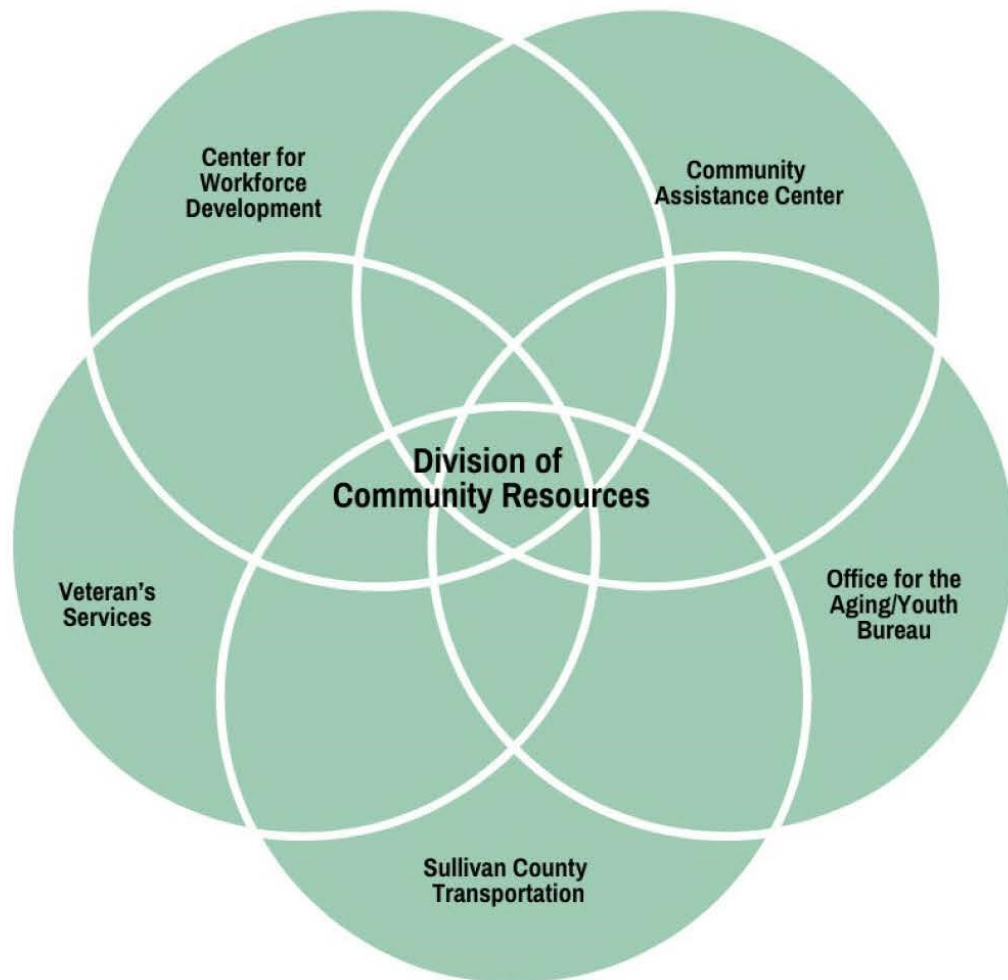
to create each town's tax abstract.

OTHER ACTIVITY (NOT ALL INCLUSIVE)

- Attended regularly scheduled Corporate Compliance Meetings
- performed exclusion screenings for county vendors on a regular basis. Report submitted to Compliance each month.
- Updated Travel Policy
- Updated Fixed Asset Policy
- Worked closely with DA and OMB on the OPIOID Grant
- Worked closely with DFS fiscal staff to ensure daily processing of check runs from BICS system.
- Worked closely with PHS and OMB on transportation and other Early Care issues
- Worked closely with County Attorney's Office as it relates to County contracts
- Participated in New World Security Group
- Attended OPIOID settlement meetings when needed
- Various meetings/phone calls/communications with key departments and personnel regarding daily operations, contract balances and general ledger questions
- The County Auditor is also a Hearing officer upon request

COMMUNITY RESOURCES DIVISION

Laura Quigley, Commissioner of Community Resources



Laura Quigley, Commissioner

Michelle Cruz, Director, Center for Workforce Development

Lise-Anne Deoul, Director, Office for the Aging / Youth Bureau

Ruthann Hayden, Director, Sullivan County Transportation

Stephen Walsh, Director, Veterans Services

County of Sullivan
Center for Workforce Development
2025 Annual Report

www.sullivanworks.org
www.facebook.com/SullivanCWD



The Center for Workforce Development (CWD) office is located at 50 North Street, Monticello, New York, housed and partnered with the office of the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL). The mission of the CWD is to be the recognized leader in providing high quality employment and training related resources and services to individuals and businesses within our community. The CWD works closely with DOL and other local partners to provide these services to individuals and businesses in Sullivan County. CWD manages the Sullivan County Career Center and the Director is the designated Center Operator. CWD is primarily funded with federal dollars that are passed through the NYSDOL and then to the County.

The Federal Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA) mandates the creation of a local Workforce Development Board (WDB) comprised of local businesses and workforce partners. There is a requirement for one physical, comprehensive Career Center where services can be accessed. The WIOA Title I funding includes the Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs. The New York Systems Change and Inclusive Opportunities Network (NY SCION) is funded under WIOA Titles I and III for the position of the Disability Resource Coordinator.

Other services provided by CWD include employment and training services individuals who have applied for or are in receipt of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and/or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). This program is operated through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the local Department of Social Services (DSS).

The CWD also runs the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) providing eligible local youth with six weeks of paid work experience and work readiness skills while assisting local businesses with their hiring needs. This program is funded through OTDA.

Sullivan County and the rest of the Mid-Hudson region were not immune to the challenges faced by many across the country in 2025. The increase in the costs of housing, daily living, childcare support, food accessibility, debt burdens, and increased taxes contributed to financial strains for workers. Employees in 2025 prioritized flexibility, remote work, and better benefits, while employers focused on retention, inflation and regulations, which created a mismatch. The difficulty attracting and

retaining talent due to demand for flexibility and inflation fears increased as financial independence became more difficult. Despite openings, businesses struggled to find workers with the needed digital, technical, and work readiness skills. The slowing of job creation in 2025 compared to the prior year, aligned with national trends. It is important that moving forward, shaping programs for evolving needs, focus on high-growth sector investment, initiatives for employers and worker support to create pathways, and innovative solutions to these areas will be emphasized. New York's "Workforce Plan" launched a multi-pronged effort to boost development, including new offices for workforce/economic development, and disability advocacy.

Looking at December 2025, private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley increased year over year by 1,900 or 0.2 percent, to 847,400 with the largest gains in private education and health services. Even though the job count in the region's private employment sector was a record high for December 2025, the pace of job growth slowed considerably to its lowest December growth rate since 2020. Sullivan County posted the strongest gains in the Mid-Hudson region, up 3.6 percent year-over-year, followed by Rockland County (+1.5%), and Westchester County (+0.1%). The Kingston MSA and the Kiryas Joel-Poughkeepsie-Newburgh MSA both declined by 0.4%.

Sullivan County's unemployment rate for December 2025 was 3.6%, an increase of 0.3% over December 2024. Year over year comparison shows an increase of 5.3% in the overall civilian labor force consisting of a 4.9% increase in employed residents and a 16.7% increase in unemployed residents. December 2025 saw a civilian labor force of 38,000 (36,600 employed / 1,400 unemployed). December 2024 saw a civilian labor force of 36,100 (34,900 employed/1,200 unemployed).

Key Highlights for 2025: (Statistics on following pages)

- ✓ CWD served 6,875 customers at the Career Center for 2025, a slight increase over 2024 (6,765). Customers can walk in or be scheduled for appointments. The Resource Room is available for self-directed or staff assisted use of computers for job search and resume development. Staff help with resume building, interviewing skills, educational training, upgrading skills, and workshops to support an individual in finding and keeping a job/career.
- ✓ The Sullivan County Legislators approved funding for 2025 for the development and provision of local Trade Training Programs. As a result, Sullivan County residents had opportunities for training and employment in the Electrical trade and the Certified Nursing Assistant field. The Electrical Trades Program concluded in 2025, achieving a success rate of 73% placement in employment. Throughout these programs, CWD offers resume building and interview skills training, while also connecting businesses directly with participants for potential hiring opportunities.
- ✓ In 2025, CWD social media presence continued to expand, with a notable 14% increase in Facebook visits year over year. The highest traffic occurred during April and October. CWD hosted a job fair in early March for employees who were dislocated as a result of the closing of PepsiCo. Those dislocated workers visited our Facebook page throughout April. The surge in traffic in October can be linked to the Bold Gold targeted marketing campaign that effectively directed people to our Facebook page and enhanced the visibility of our posts. However, CWD experienced a decline in website traffic, which can be linked to a more strategic use of the Facebook page for disseminating information to the public. CWD now releases the Hot Jobs report bi-weekly to thousands of businesses and individuals, recognizing that weekly posts were unnecessary for effective outreach and visibility through email, Facebook feeds, and other public postings across the county.

- ✓ Our business services achieved notable success with In-House Hiring Events in 2025. Although the number of events decreased, participant volumes rose significantly. Year over year, there was a 42.5% increase in local businesses participating in these events, while job seeker attendance grew by 20%. Notably, 73% of job seekers attending the in-house hiring events were currently unemployed. Out of 260 attendees, 123 came from the Town of Thompson, followed by 53 from Liberty and 40 from Fallsburg.
- ✓ CWD enrolled youth in paid work experience opportunities, GED trainings, and jobs throughout the year.
- ✓ CWD implemented the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), providing 48 youth with employment along with a Supervising Crew Leader and three additional Crew Leaders. There were 13 worksites for 2025 including Bold Gold Media, the Federation for the Homeless, Literacy Volunteers, A Single-Bite, Monticello School, Village of Monticello, United Way, Catholic Charities, Hurleyville Performing Arts Center, Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, WJFF Radio, and Woodridge Housing Authority. All participants were offered the opportunity to attend financial literacy through Liberty Partnership at SUNY Sullivan.
- ✓ An additional \$100,333 of WIOA funding was received for Adult, Dislocated and Youth Programming due to CWD meeting fiscal and programmatic measures. These funds will provide additional training and supportive services for participants enrolled in WIOA programs.
- ✓ The position of Disability Resource Coordinator (DRC), funded through New York Systems Change Inclusive Opportunity Network (NYSCION), provides support to individuals with disabilities who are in receipt of SSI or SSDI benefits. In 2025 the DRC experienced a 16% increase in participant numbers compared to 2024. Impressively, 94% of participants have disclosed a disability, underscoring the DRC's commitment to fostering relationships with local individuals with disabilities. This focus enables the DRC to provide essential assistance for employment and other crucial supportive services.
- ✓ In 2025, Bold Gold Media's Outreach Strategic Plan continued under the two-year contract. The rebranding of Adult and Dislocated Workers has been completed and renamed "Adult Career Programs", along with new program materials, rack cards and website designs. In 2026 the focus will be on WIOA Youth and NYSCION rebranding. The Summer Youth Program (SYEP) 2025 season under a separate contract with Bold Gold produced a SYEP logo to coincide with our current logos:



- ✓ Administered all WIOA grants received and expended monies accordingly.
- ✓ Operated the Temporary Assistance (TA) Employment Program under the MOU with DSS.
- ✓ A Financial Literacy program for participants on Temporary Assistance was created to assist individuals when moving to employment. Topics such as getting a job, budgeting and understanding how to move forward without receiving assistance. This will be launched in 2026.
- ✓ CWD experienced two WIOA audits during 2025 for program and fiscal conducted by NYSDOL. CWD also assisted the Department of Social Services on the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OTDA) audit of the Temporary Assistance Program.

- ✓ CWD remains committed to the residents and businesses of Sullivan County, eagerly anticipating numerous new initiatives, upcoming grants, and innovative services slated for 2026.

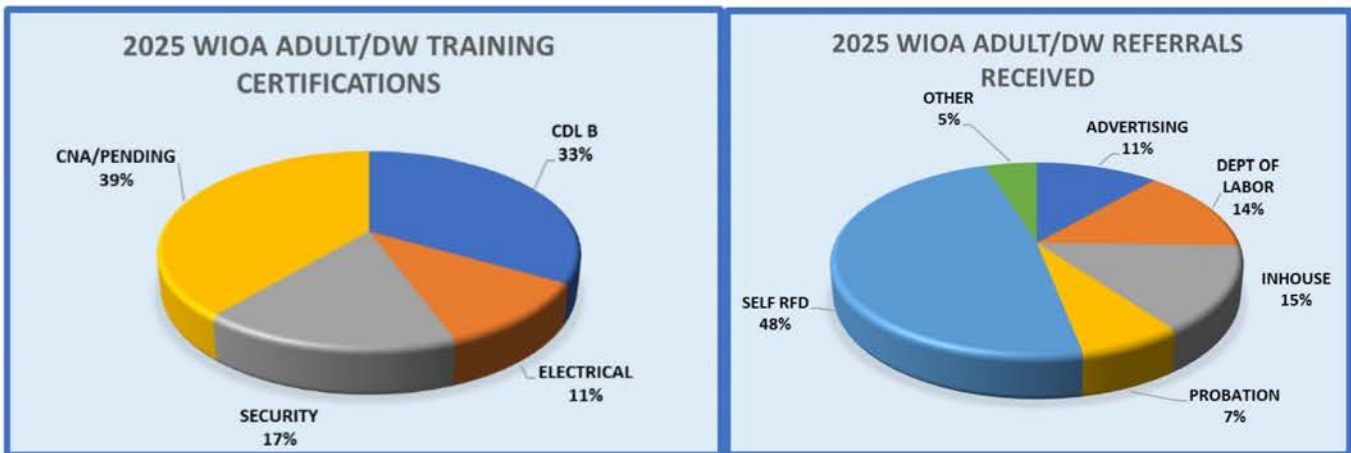
CUSTOMER & CAREER CENTER SERVICES



CAREER SERVICES RENDERED TWO YEAR COMPARISON



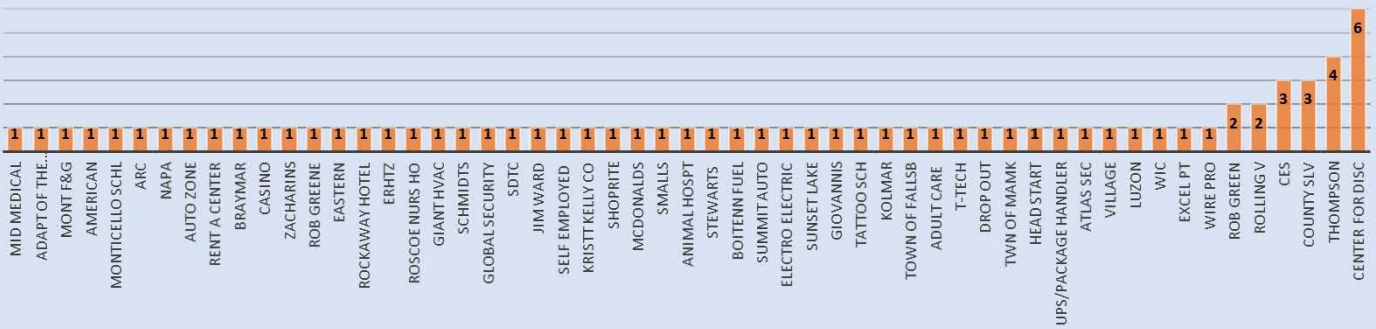
WIOA ADULT & DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAMS



*Only WIOA funded training

2025 SULLIVAN COUNTY WIOA ADULT/DW REPORTED HIRES

74



2025 ADULT JUSTICE INVOLVED SERVED

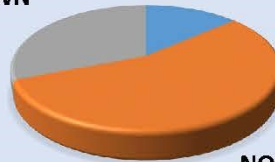
TOTAL = 234

CRM BKGD

14%

UNKNOWN

31%



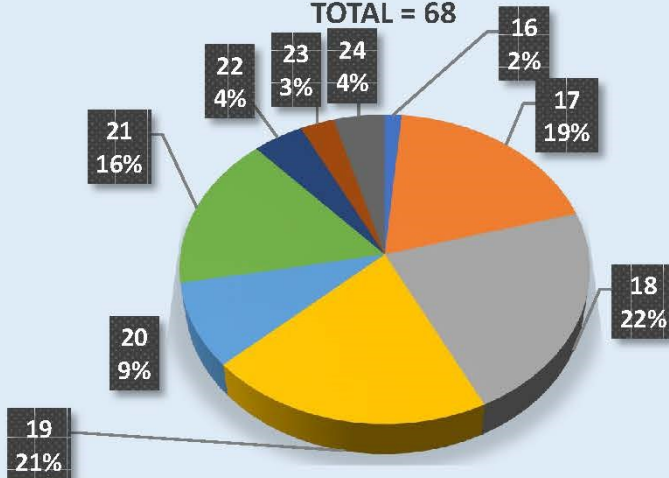
NO BKGD

55%

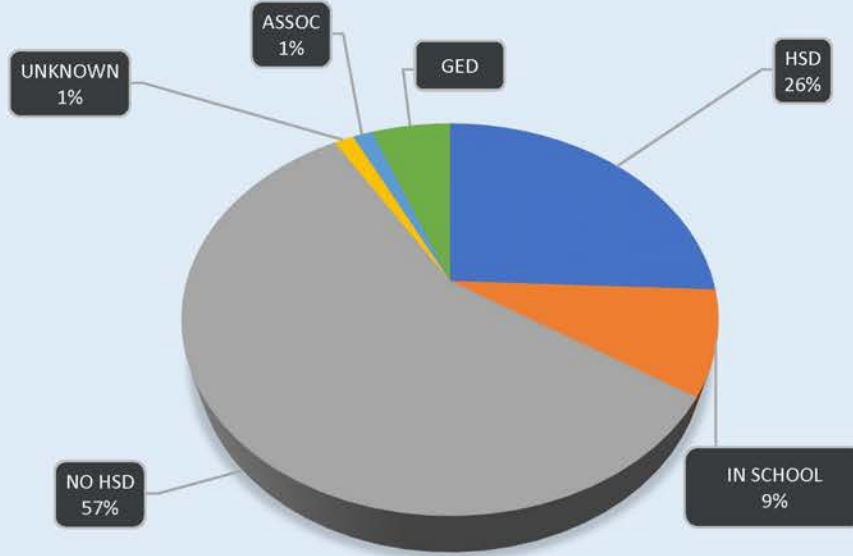
WIOA YOUTH PROGRAMS

2025 WIOA YOUTH SERVED BY AGE

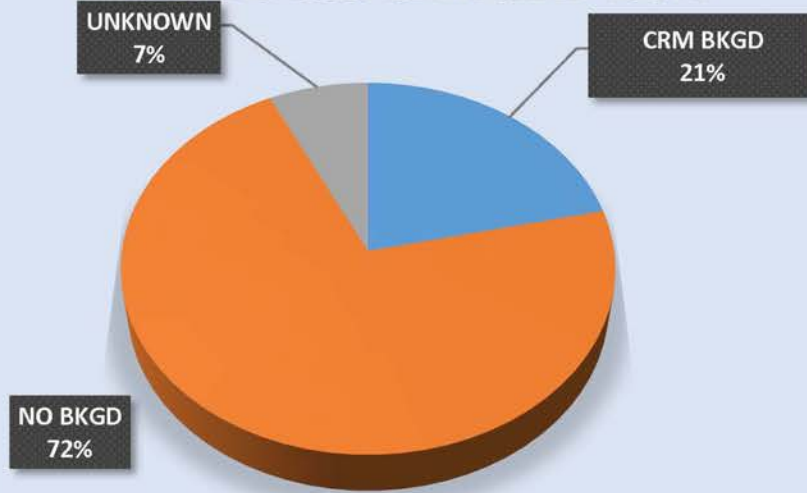
TOTAL = 68



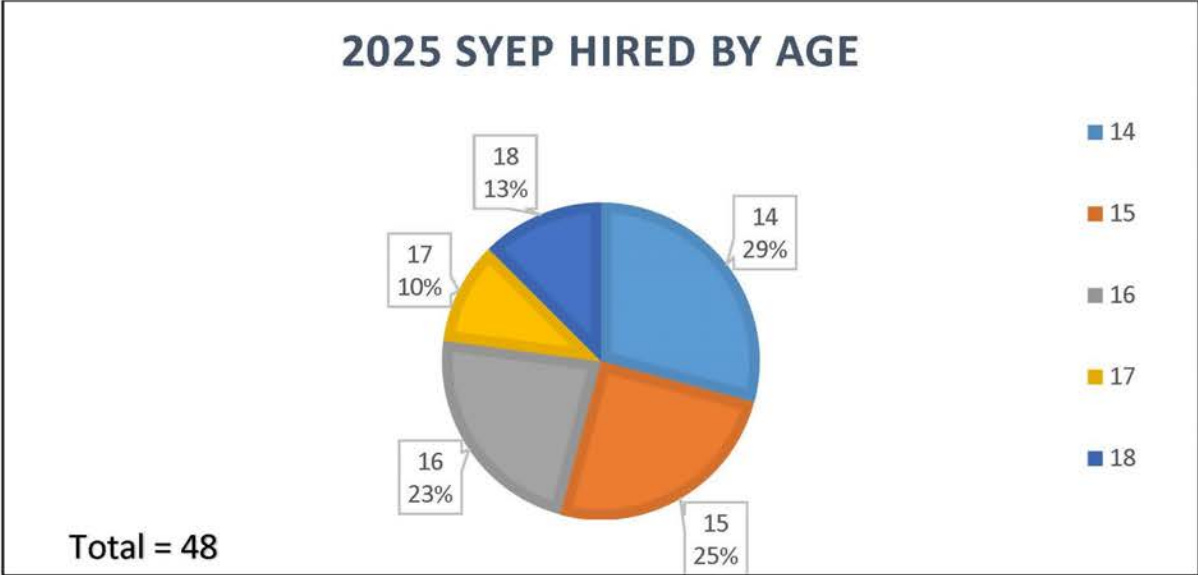
2025 WIOA YOUTH SERVED BY EDUCATION



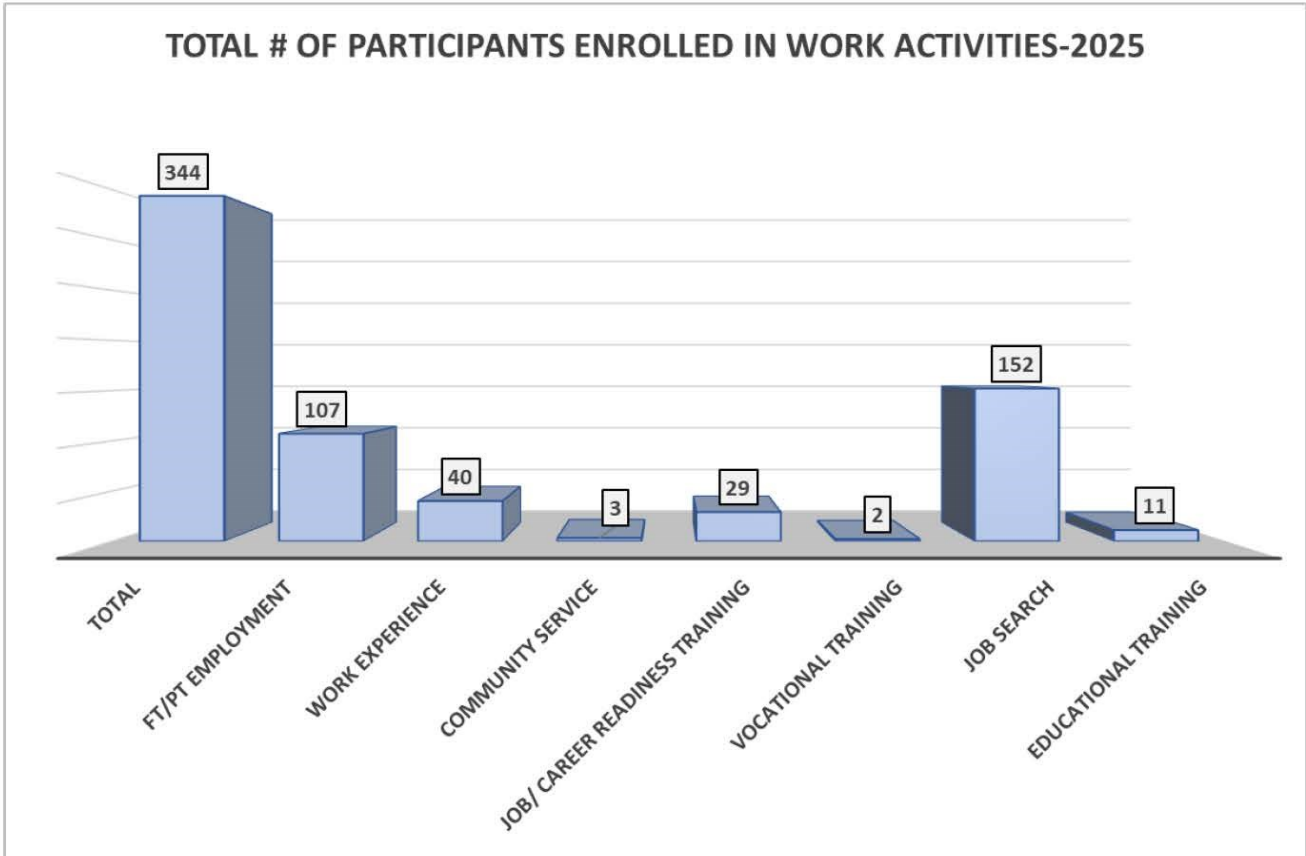
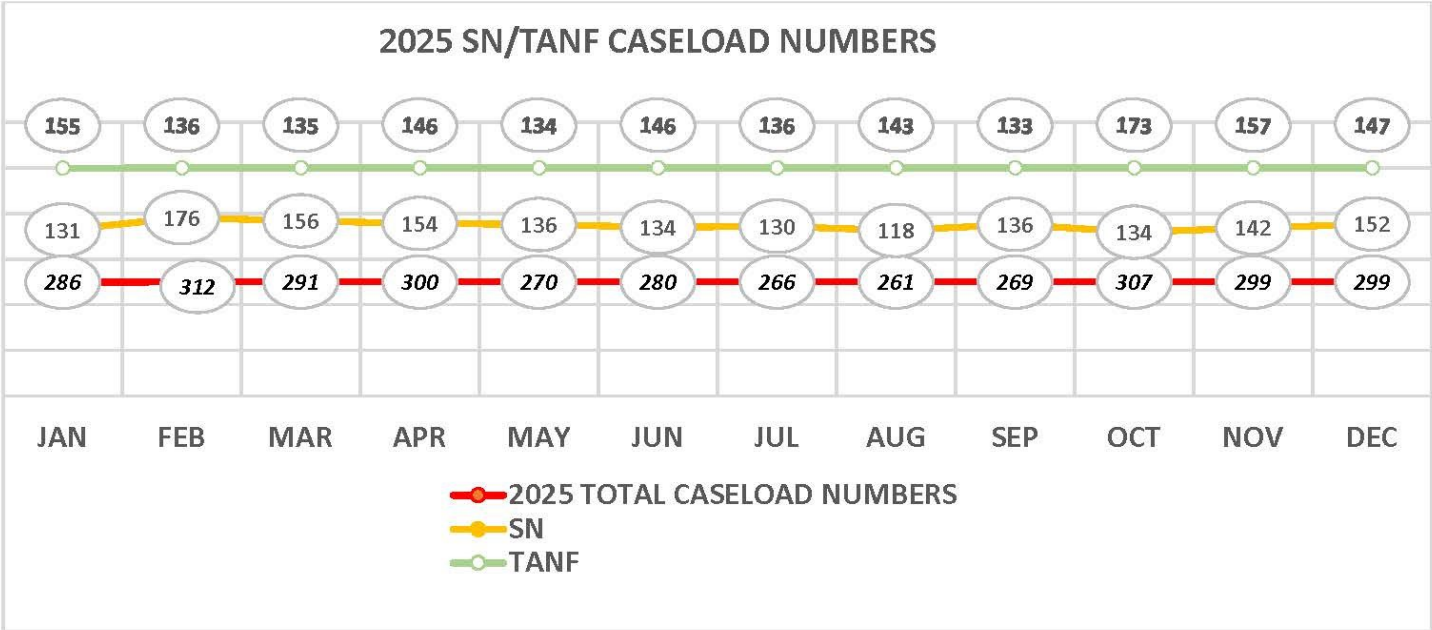
2025 WIOA JUSTICE INVOLVED YOUTH



SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SYEP)

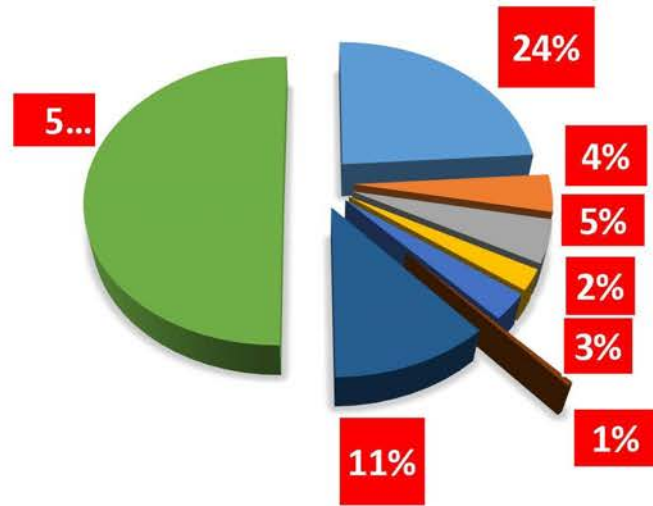


TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



2025 TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE LEGAL BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

- Clients with Criminal Background
- Second Chance Job Seekers
- Clients on Parole
- Clients on Probation
- Medical Issues (Code 70, 41, 42)
- Drug & Alcohol (Code 63 & 64)
- Childcare Issues
- Employable/No Barriers

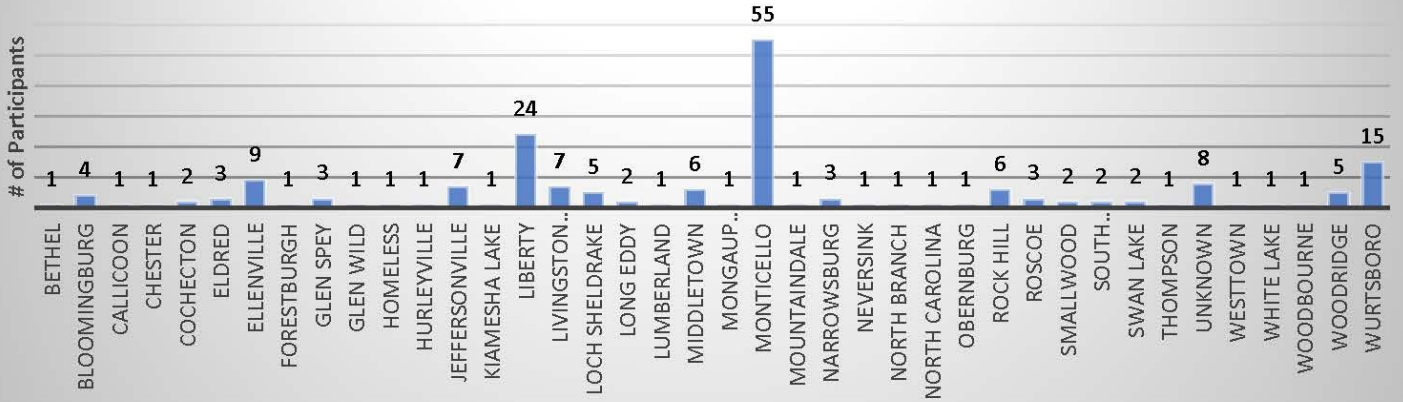


2025 TANF/SN CASES CLOSED DUE TO EMPLOYMENT

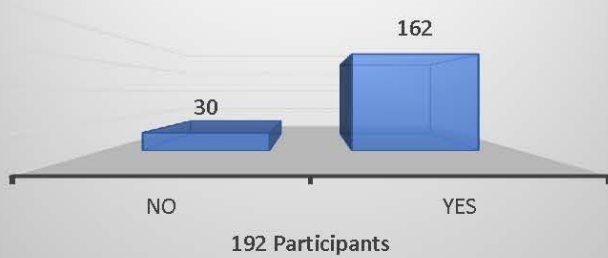


NEW YORK SYSTEM CHANGE INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY NETWORK (NYSCION)

Towns Served under NYSCION in 2025



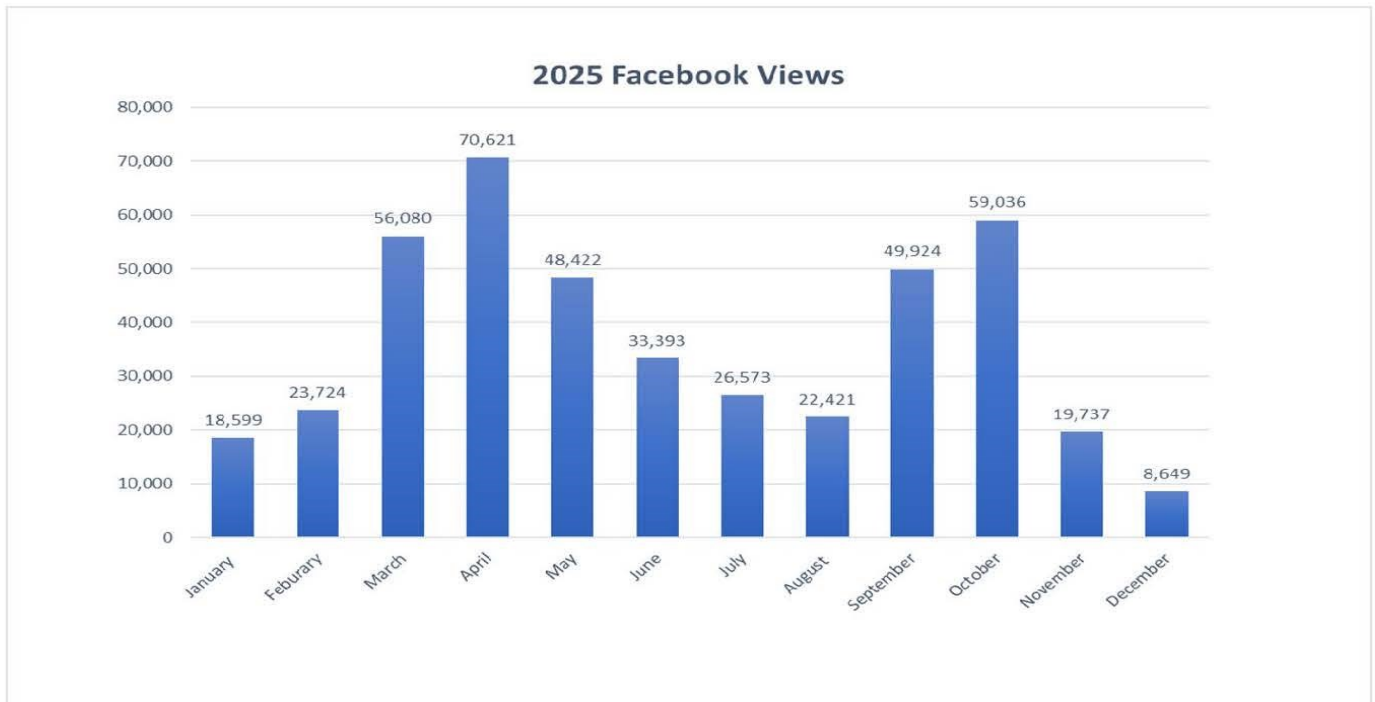
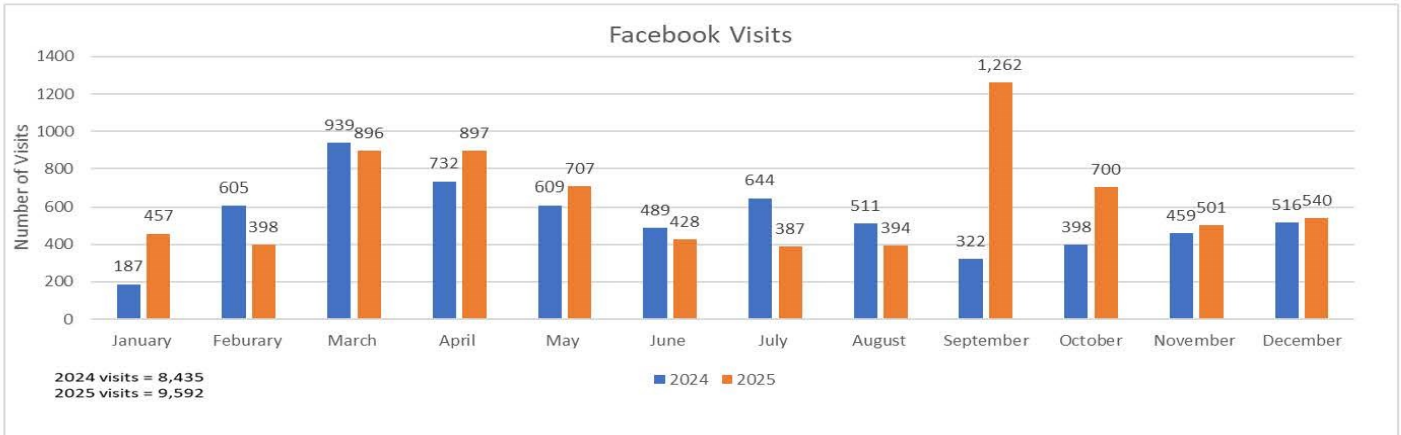
NYSCION Enrolled Participants in 2025

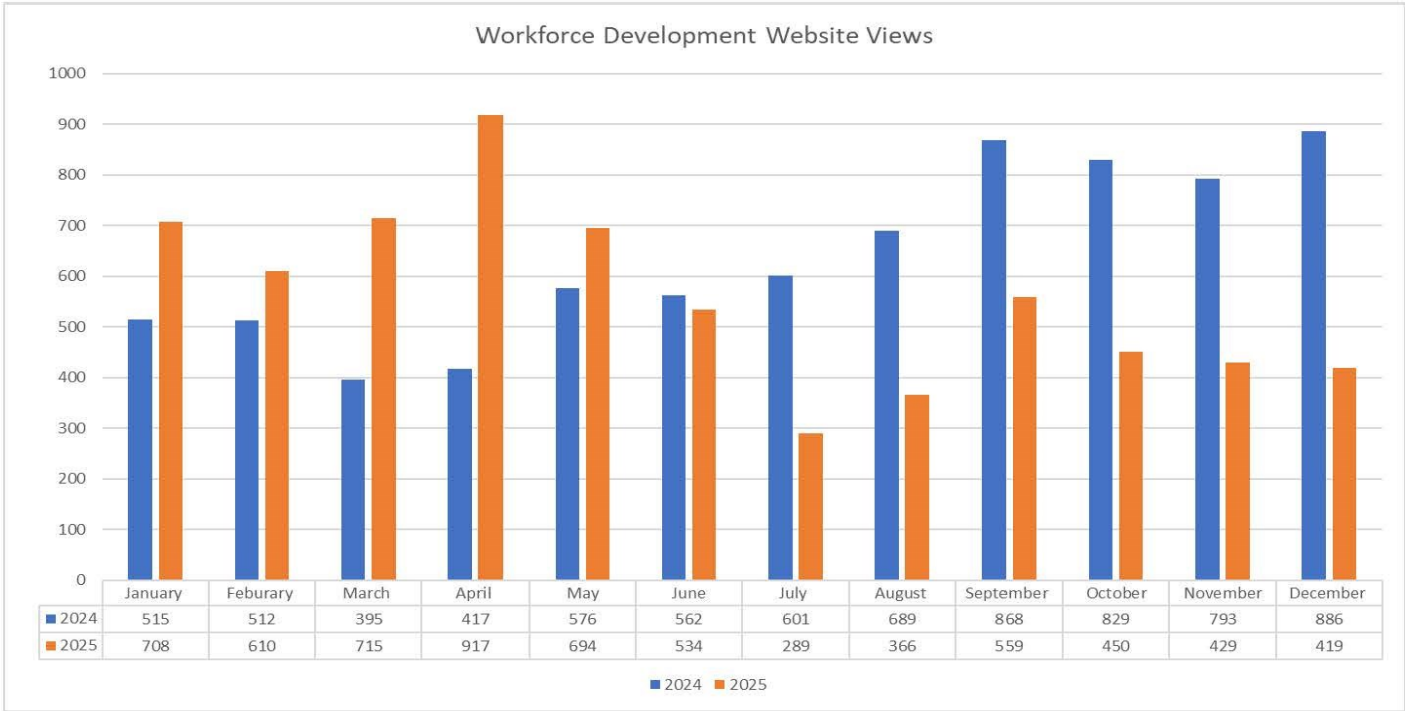


Participants with Disabilities served in 2025

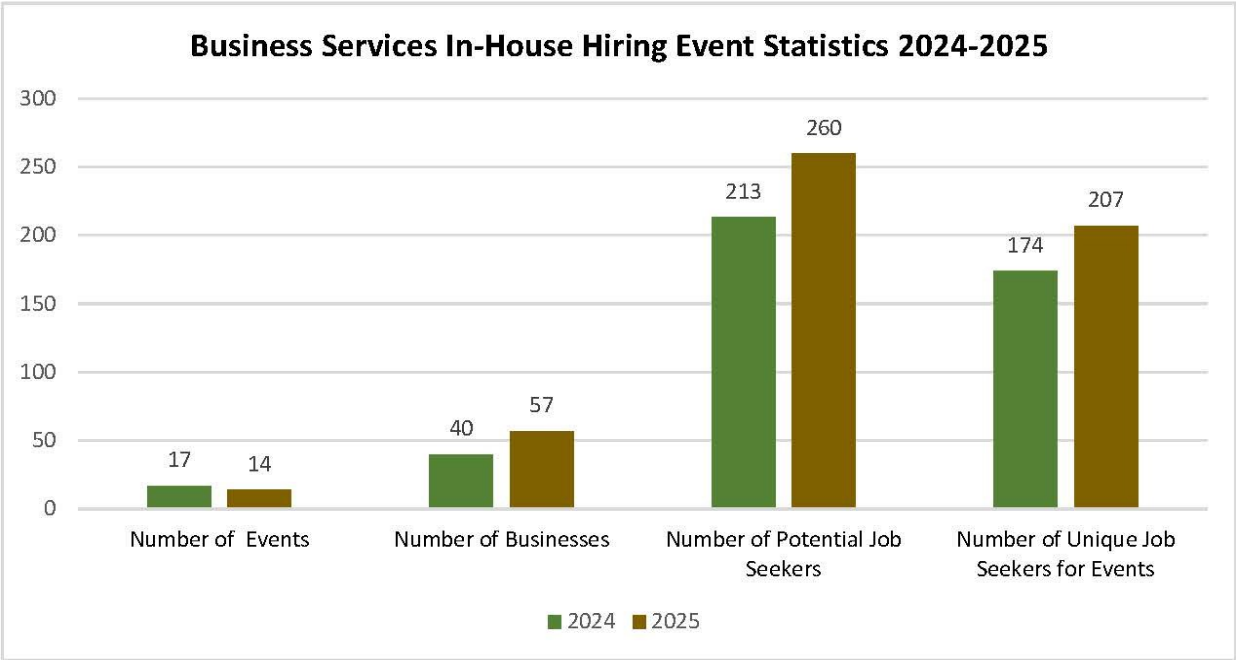


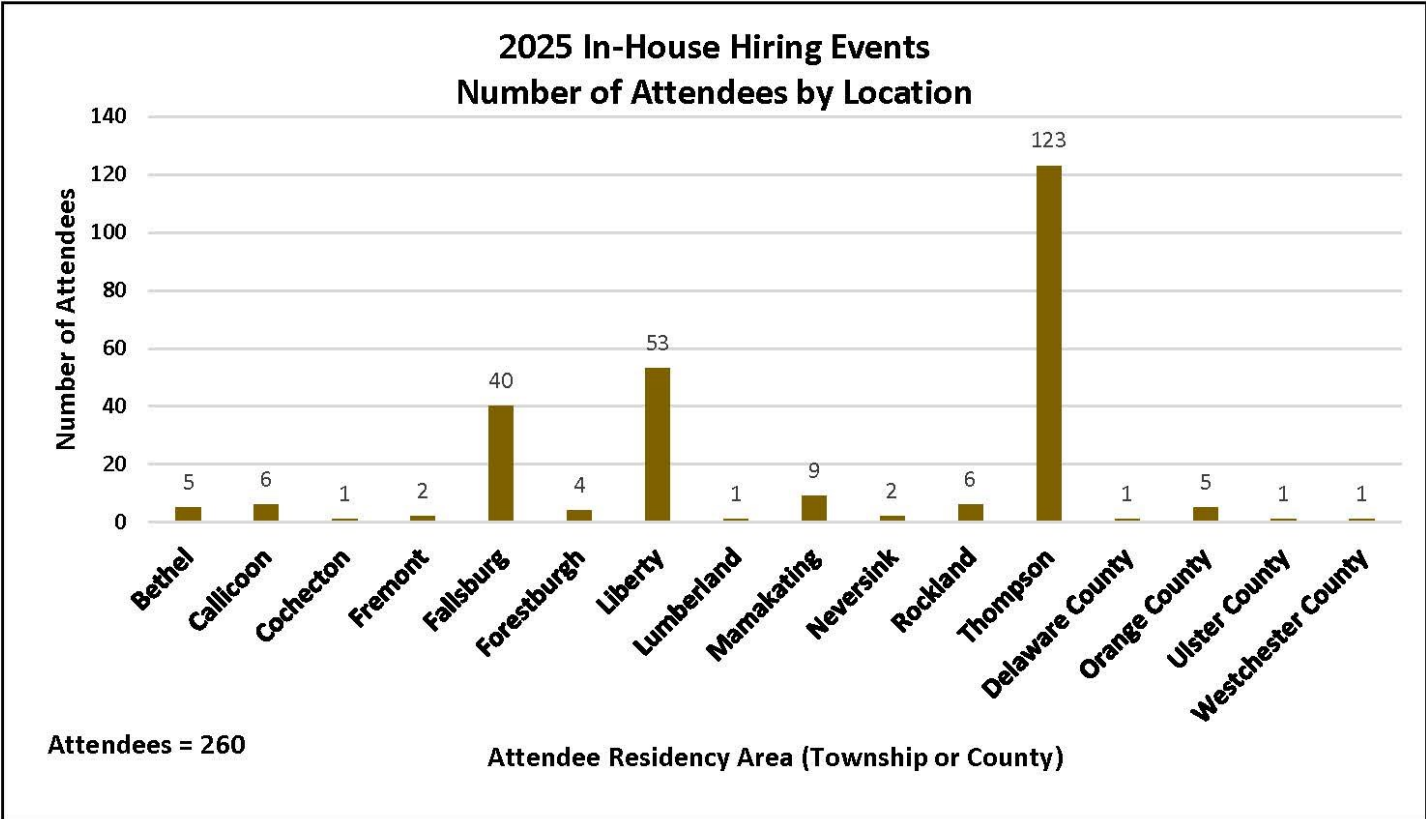
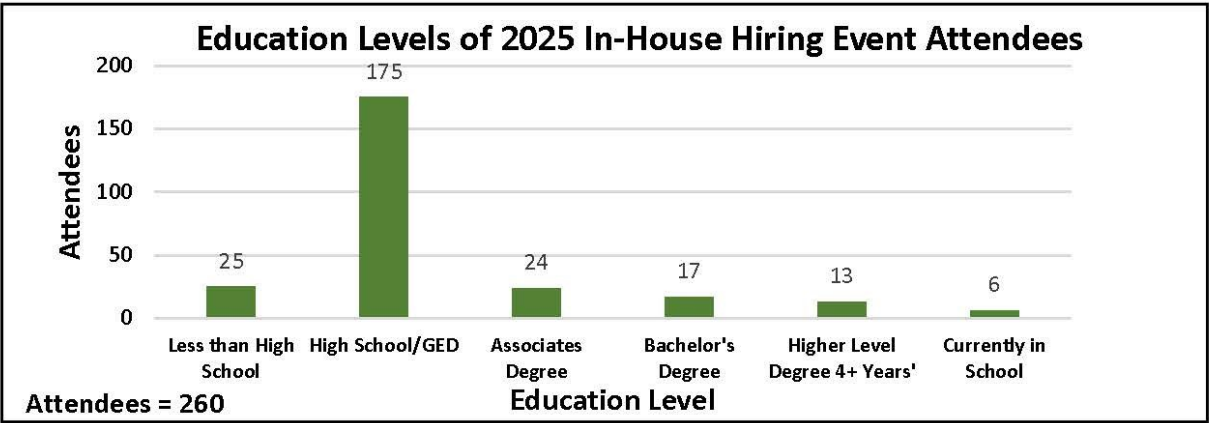
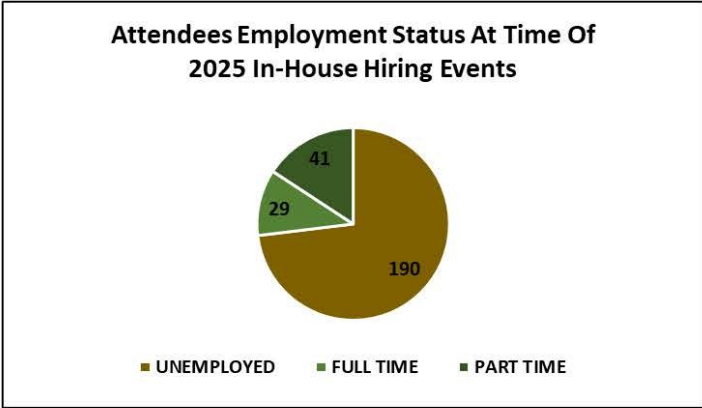
WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK ANALYTIC REPORT



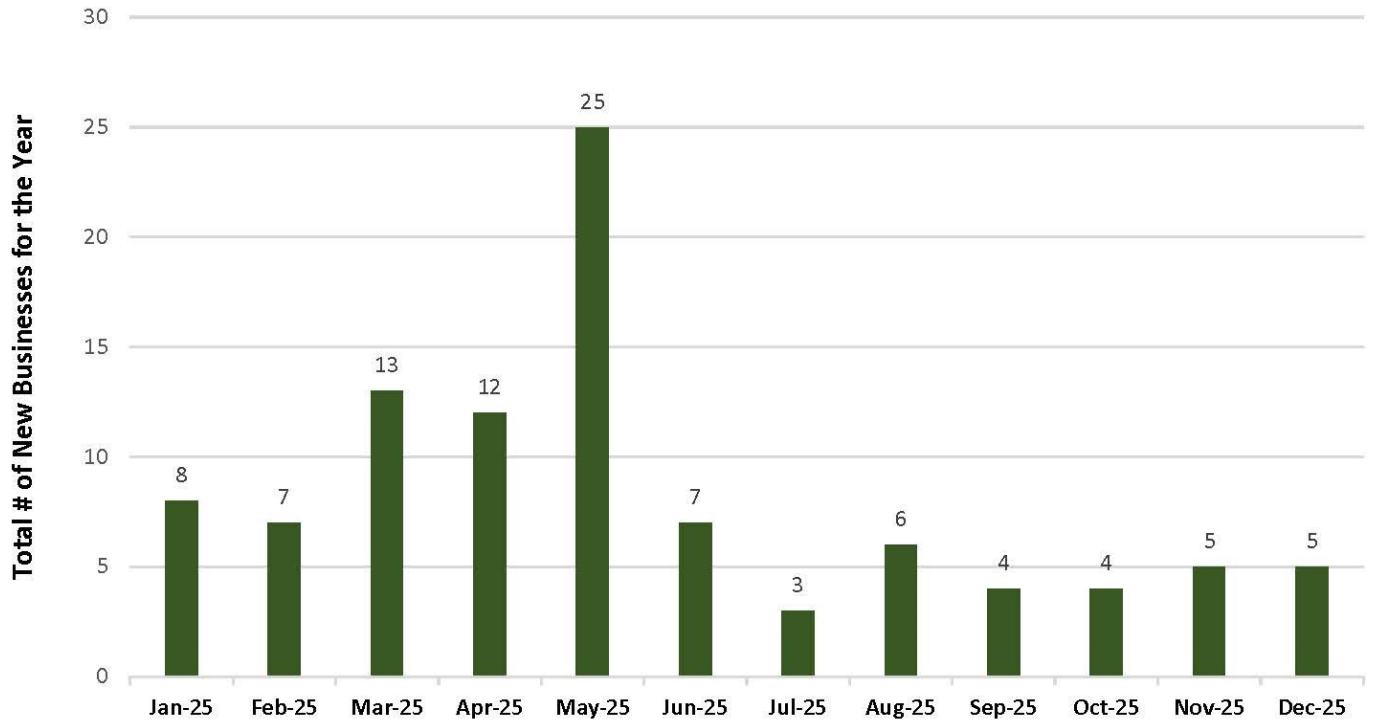


BUSINESS SERVICES ANALYTICS





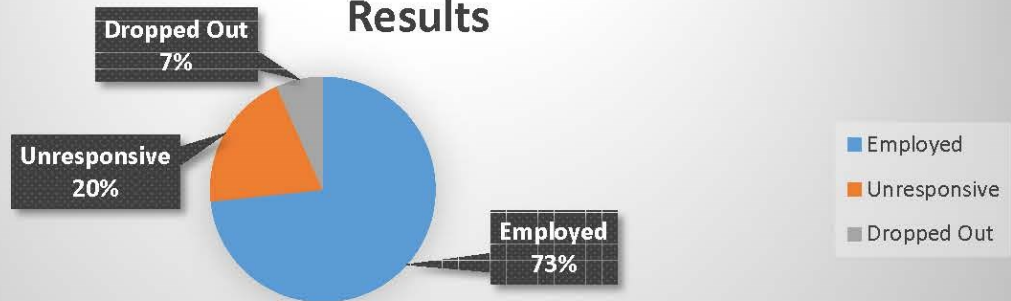
Business Services Outreach to Sullivan County Businesses in 2025



SULLIVAN COUNTY TRADES PROGRAMS

Electrical Trades Class Attendees Employment

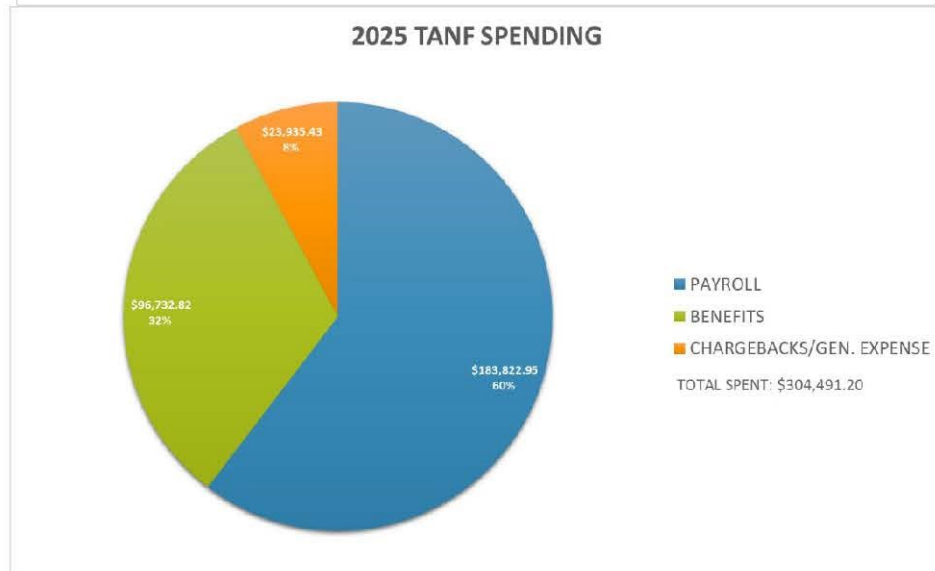
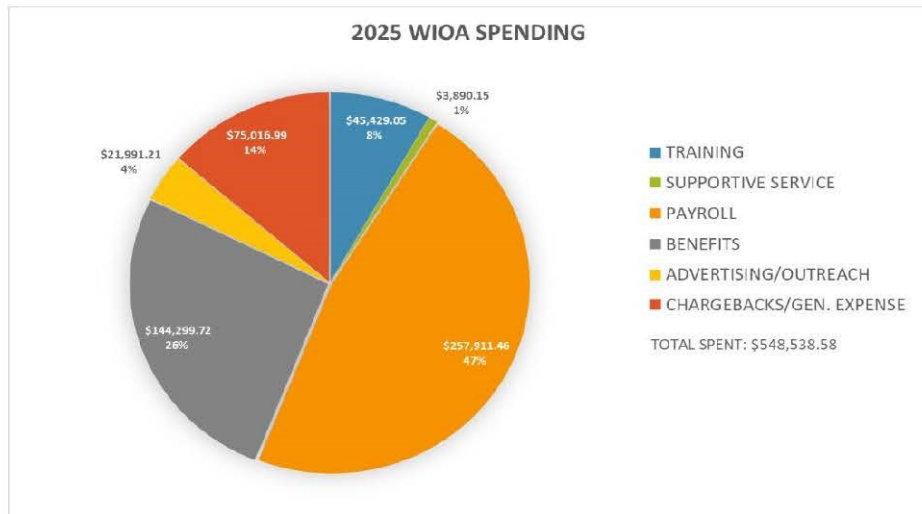
Results



Location of Employment for Electrical Trades Class Attendees



FINANCIAL SPENDING





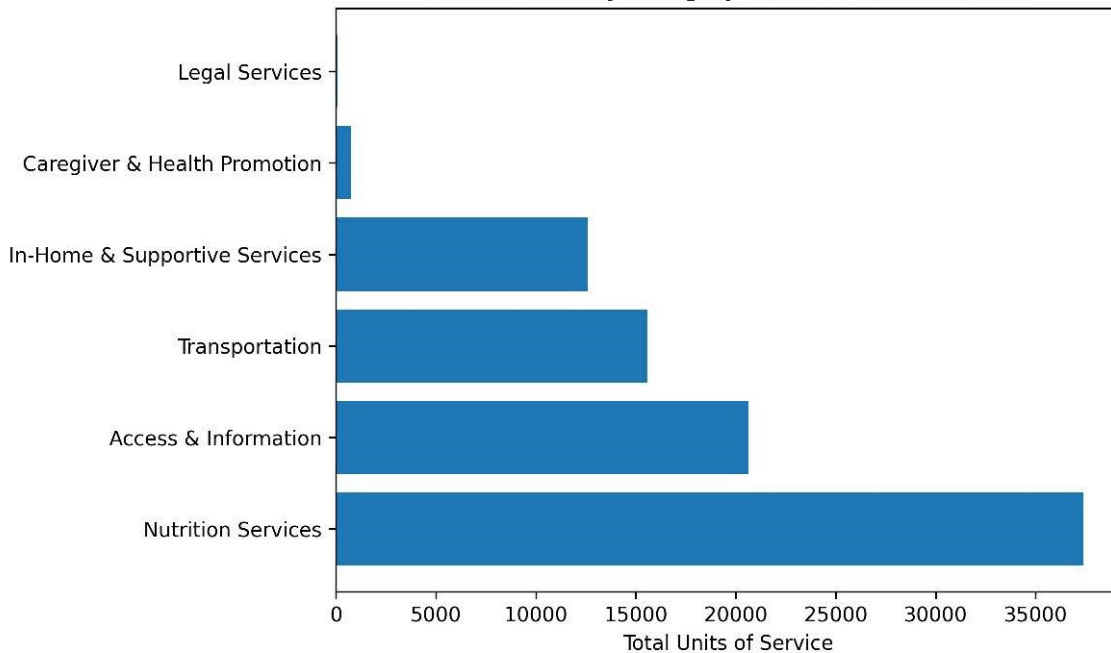
Mission-Through providing community-based supportive services for older people and their caregivers, empowering informed decisions and effective access to existing health and long-term options, and advocating for the dignity and rights of older people. We work to ensure that older people in Sullivan County receive the care and support they need to live long and well in their community.

Vision- Wellness and independence in aging through adequate and accessible community-based supports.

Sullivan County Office for the Aging provides a comprehensive range of community-based services to support older adults, caregivers, and families. In 2025, services focused on nutrition, transportation, access to information, in-home supports, and caregiver assistance, with an emphasis on helping residents remain safely and independently in their homes.

Note: Units of service represent standardized measurements used by the New York State Office for the Aging. A unit may reflect a meal, trip, contact, counseling session, or other defined service activity, depending on service type. Units do not represent unduplicated individuals served.

OFA Services by Category (Units of Service, 2025)

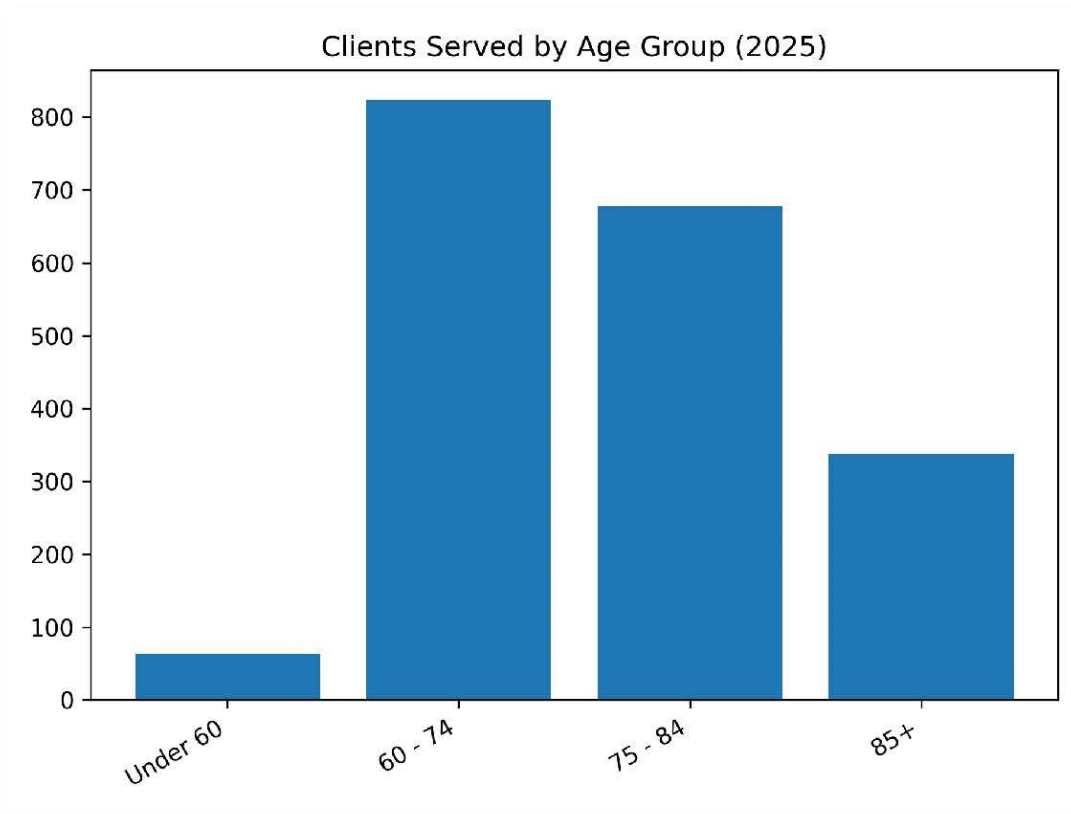


Service Highlights

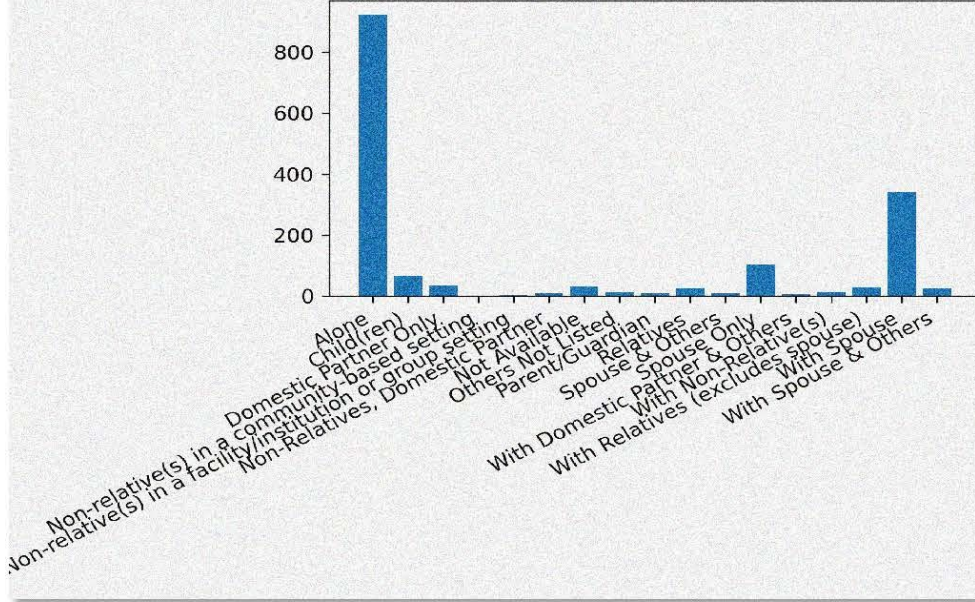
- Nutrition services, including home-delivered and congregate meals, represented the largest volume of services provided.
- Transportation services supported access to medical care, nutrition sites, and essential community resources.
- Access and information services, including NY Connects and Health Insurance and Information Counseling Assistance Program and the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (HIICAP/MIPPA), assisted residents in navigating benefits and long-term supports.
- In-home and supportive services helped individuals remain safely in their homes and delayed or prevented institutional care.
- Caregiver supports and health promotion programs strengthened informal caregiving and promoted wellness.

Demographic Profile of Clients Served – 2025

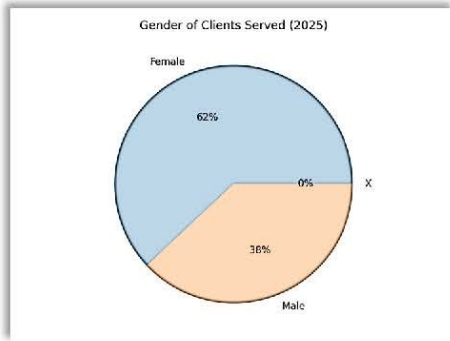
Clients Served by Age Group (2025)

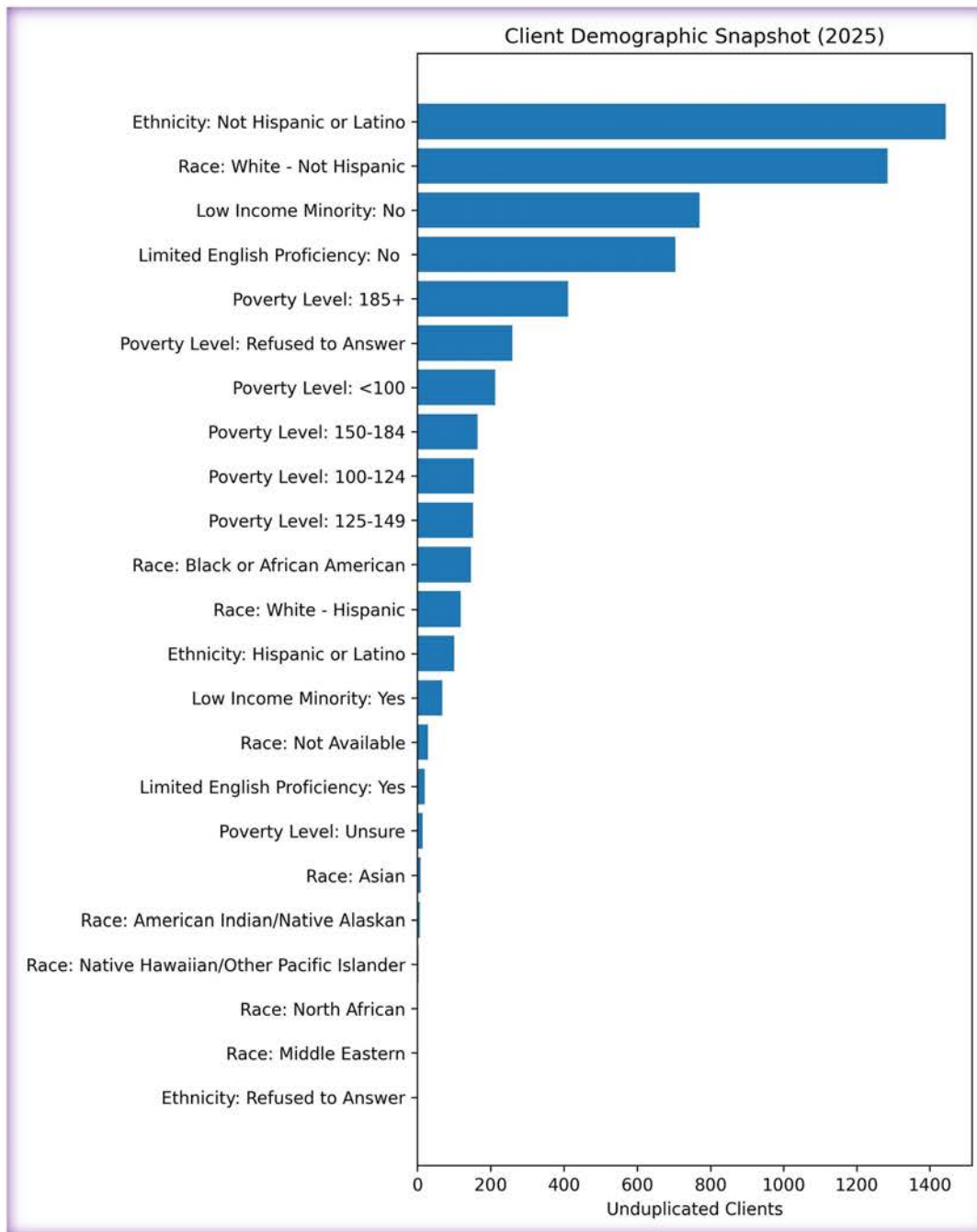


Living Arrangement of Clients Served (2025)



Gender of Clients Served (2025)





During 2025, the Sullivan County Office for the Aging served a diverse population of older adults across the county through nutrition, transportation, in-home supports, benefits counseling, and other community-based services. The majority of individuals served were age 60 and older, with a significant concentration among those age 75 and above, reflecting increasing service needs associated with advancing age.

Most clients resided in private homes, either living alone or with others, reinforcing the Office for the Aging's focus on community-based services and aging in place. A substantial portion of individuals served resided in rural areas, underscoring the importance of transportation access, service coordination, and outreach strategies tailored to the geographic and demographic characteristics of Sullivan County.

Key 2025 Statistics

- Personal Emergency Alert Systems (PERS) provided to 32 individuals. This is a low-cost way to ensure vulnerable and frail individuals have 24/7 access to emergency assistance.
- Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) 33 clients received 11,676 hours of Personal Care services in 2025. The annual cost for services through our contracted agencies was \$418,152.00. For comparison, if these 33 clients had been placed in skilled nursing facilities, the cost annually could exceed \$6 million dollars.
- Approximately 646 hours of case management provided to clients across EISEP, PERS and Home Delivered Meal programs.
- HIICAP assisted approximately 326 individuals in obtaining affordable health insurance and prescription plans throughout the year and during Annual Election Period.
- Farmer's Market coupon distribution, 1,284 booklets worth \$25 each were given to eligible older adults. Continued partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension to help distribute at farmer's markets and throughout the community. This program enables our county's aging adults' access to healthy local produce and supports local farmers.
- Sullivan Volunteer drivers provided 711 round trips to medical appointments both in and outside of Sullivan County.
- Annual Public Hearing/Senior Resource Day had over 100 attendees at the newly constructed Sullivan County Airport.

OFA Core Programs and Services

Caring for a loved one?
We're here for you.

Caregiver Resource Center (CRC)

Local CRC's provide caregivers with information, assistance and counseling, support groups, and training, as well as initiatives including specialized training curricula for caregivers of developmentally disabled adults, minority populations, and caregivers of grandchildren.



Main Program Objectives

- To provide a single focal point of assistance to family members and other informal caregivers
 - To provide training, support groups, counseling and technical assistance to caregivers so they may continue in their caregiving roles
 - To link caregivers with OFA, and other community-based services
- The OFA has a contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide caregiver resources in Sullivan County.

The Sullivan County Caregiver Resource Center (CRC) serves as a central hub providing information & assistance, healthcare and human service referrals, and support groups for general caregiving, early stage dementia, and Parkinson's Disease. Funded by the Office for the Aging, NYS Department of Health, and the Alzheimer's Association, the center offers evidence-based workshops on Tai Chi and Bone Builders, as well as on financial and legal planning, home and personal safety, falls prevention, and dementia care management. In 2025, the CRC launched the Wellness Initiative for Senior Education, known as the WISE program in collaboration with Sullivan Allies Leading Together (SALT), six-week series empowering seniors to manage lifestyle choices, medication safety, health care system navigation, and improve mental health.

2025 Summary Statistics:

- Information & Assistance Calls: 388
- Caregiver Support Groups:
 - # of different caregiver support groups offered: 3
 - 28 meetings held
 - # of Unduplicated participants: 32
- Educational Workshops held: 9
 - Unduplicated # of participants: 52
- Outreach events: 10
- Tai Chi
 - # of 8-10-week series held: 3
 - # of classes held: 26
 - Unduplicated # of participants: 42
- Bone Builders
 - # of 10-week series held: 2
 - # of classes held: 19
 - # of unduplicated participants: 31
- WISE Program
 - # of 6-week sessions: 3
 - # of classes held: 18
 - # of unduplicated participants: 27



The flyer is for the 'Caregiver Cafe' series, running from July to December 2025. It features the logos for the Caregiver Resource Center and the Alzheimer's Association. The text indicates that the cafe is held on the 1st Monday of each month from 10 am to 11 am. A QR code is provided for registration, with a link to <https://tinyurl.com/5n6mtpya>. The flyer also lists the benefits of attending: learning self-care tips, sharing strategies, connecting with others, and enjoying a light snack. The event is sponsored by the Office for the Aging of Sullivan County and the NYS Office for the Aging's Caregiver Program, with support from the Alzheimer's Association.

Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP)

The New York State funded Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) enables many frail older adults to remain in their homes. The program provides a well-planned, coordinated package of in-home and other supportive services designed to supplement informal care. Core services provided by EISEP are case management, in-home services, non-institutional respite, and ancillary services.

Main Program Objectives

- Improve access to and availability of appropriate and cost-effective non-medical support services for functionally-impaired, non-Medicaid older adults.
- Enhance the ability of family members or other informal caregivers to care for an older person in a home environment.
- Improve the planning, accessibility and management of home care services at the community and client levels.

- Expand the availability of non-medical home care services as a cost-effective alternative to more intensive and costly forms of care.

The OFA contracts with home care agencies to provide in-home personal care services. Although the contract rate for Aides was increased to a minimum of \$24 per hour, a shortage of Aides remains an issue. In 2025, there were 33 EISEP clients who received 11,676 hours of homemaker/personal care services.

Legal Assistance

The OFA contracts with Rural Law Center of NY to provide legal services to senior residents of Sullivan County.

Scope of legal services:

Simple Wills, Power of Attorney, Living Will Health Care Proxy

Deed Transfers/Life Estates

Advice on: Estates, Evictions/Landlord and Tenant Problems, Selling property, mortgages Debts, Medicaid, Divorce

Referrals for: Bankruptcy attorneys, Legal Services of Hudson Valley for Court representations, Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team (E-MDT) when appropriate for cases where financial exploitation/abuse is suspected. 34 clients received Legal Services through OFA in 2025.



Personal Emergency Alert System (PERS)

PERS is a service which utilizes an electronic device to alert appropriate people of the need for immediate assistance in the event of an emergency situation in an older person's home. The OFA has a contract with Connect America to provide PERS to eligible residents of Sullivan County. 32 individuals received PERS in 2025.

Nutrition Program

	CONGREGATE SITES	
BETHEL	Bethel Senior Center Route 55, Kauneonga Lake	MONDAYS
MAMAKATING	Wurtsboro Town Hall Route 209, Wurtsboro	MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
LIVINGSTON MANOR/ ROCKLAND	Livingston Manor Presbyterian Church Old Route 17, Livingston Manor	WEDNESDAYS
LIBERTY	Lapolt Park North Main St, Liberty	WEDNESDAYS
JEFFERSONVILLE	American Legion Hall Legion Ave, Jeffersonville	FRIDAYS

Congregate Meals

Congregate Meals are available for any adult aged 60 years or older and their spouse. Participants can share a well-balanced meal with friends and new acquaintances. Participating in the congregate meals program has helped improve the quality of life for many aging individuals in our communities. Each site also provides social activities, informal nutritional

education, and information on other Office for the Aging services. Currently all 5 of senior dining centers serve as congregate meal sites, and in 2025 provided approximately 6,978 meals to 159 unduplicated clients.

Home Delivered Meals

Home delivered meals are hot nutritious meals that are delivered to qualified homebound individuals 60 years or older, who are residents of Sullivan County, have limited support and difficulty preparing their own meals. Our program is currently providing 5 Hot meals, Monday through Friday. Frozen meals are provided for qualifying individuals to fill in gaps such as during holidays, bad weather, and long weekends. Approximately 26,273 meals were provided to 190 unduplicated clients for 2025.

A Registered Dietician is available upon referral for phone consultations to provide nutritional information to all seniors registered with the Office for the Aging.

2025 Program Highlights

- The Nutrition Program continued to work with the Community Assistance Center (CAC) loading and unloading food and supplies for local pantries and distributing care packages for older adults struggling with food insecurity.
- Liberty Rotary Club through their Community Friend project, received a grant and partnered with us to offer homebound client's small gifts for the holidays. Holiday from Catherine Scott, District 5 Legislator were also distributed.
- The Nutrition Program participated in the NYS Farmers Market Coupon program. We distributed 1,284 (\$25 booklet value) Farmers Market coupons to eligible older for a total of \$32,100 worth of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Participated in the Mamakating Lions Club, Health and Wellness Fair. Our Registered Dietician prepared a Heart Healthy breakfast and lunch for all participants using fresh produce donated by A Single Bite. Recipes were shared along with tips on shopping and preparing meals.
- Nutrition staff completed the NYSOFA 2025 Food safety course and received their certification.



our
cards

adults

Sullivan Volunteers



Program Overview

In 2025, Sullivan County transitioned the former AmeriCorps RSVP program to **Sullivan Volunteers**, a county-funded volunteer initiative aligned with local aging and community priorities. This transition ensured continuity of volunteer services following the conclusion of federal AmeriCorps funding and allowed the County to modernize program structure and expand eligibility to adults aged 18 and older. The program continues to support aging in place, strengthen community organizations, and promote intergenerational volunteer engagement.

Despite the mid-year structural transition, Sullivan Volunteers demonstrated measurable growth across all major performance indicators. Expanded recruitment efforts and increased

partner site participation strengthened the County’s volunteer service network and enhanced access to essential supports for older residents.

2025 Program Outcomes



- **131 active volunteers** (31% increase from 2024)
- **31 new volunteers recruited**
- **43 partner organizations** providing volunteer placements
- **17,608 volunteer service hours** delivered
- **\$677,556 estimated economic value** of volunteer service
- **711 medical rides provided** to support access to care

Volunteer service hours increased by 23.7% compared to 2024, reflecting strong engagement and retention during a period of program restructuring. Using nationally recognized volunteer valuation standards, volunteer contributions returned an estimated \$677,556 in economic value to the Sullivan County community. Volunteers continued to play a critical role in supporting transportation access, social connection, and essential services for older adults.

Program Development and Recognition

The transition to a locally funded model greater flexibility in responding to needs while preserving the program’s longstanding commitment to volunteer. Volunteer recognition remained a program annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and presentation of the inaugural Nellie Culligan recognizing exceptional volunteer service.

Additional recognition efforts included participation in the Sullivan County Historical Museum holiday exhibit, where volunteers and partner sites were honored through the “Shining Stars” display. These initiatives reinforce the County’s commitment to acknowledging the contributions of volunteers and sustaining long-term engagement.



enabled community service. priority. The was held at included the Award



Sullivan NY Connects

NY Connects is a Point of Entry, No Wrong Door approach, into the long-term care system providing services, supports and resources for people of all ages, any disability, and caregivers. Based out of the Office for the Aging, NY Connects assists individuals, concerned family members or friends or helping professionals find the information, services and supports that they need.

NY Connects staff provide Options Counseling/Person Centered Counseling, as appropriate, to assist consumers and their families/caregivers, to make informed choices based on their wants and needs. To make certain the NY Connects staff remain aware of the latest resources and services, they continue trainings throughout the year.

Long term services and supports can be provided in the home or in other community based or residential settings to assist individuals in maintaining their health and independence.

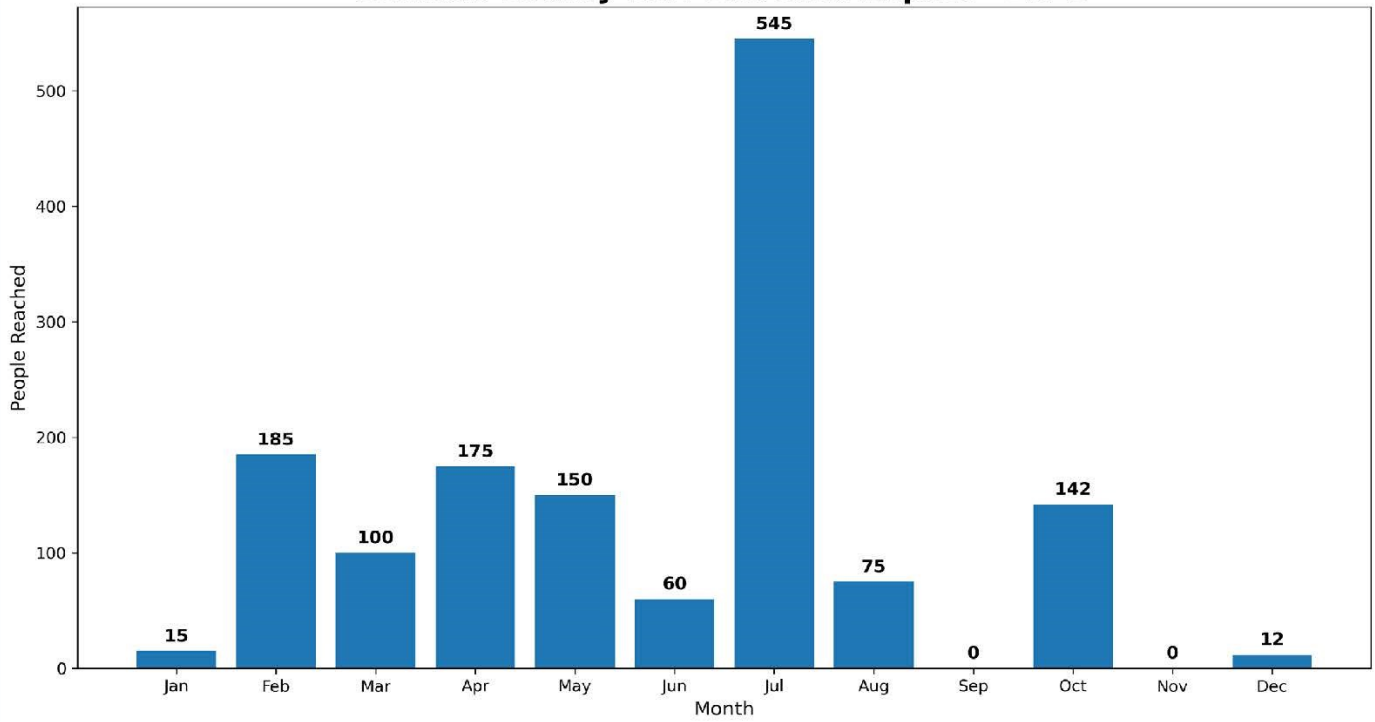
In 2025, NY Connects provided 2,300 units (hours/contacts) of information and assistance to approximately 609 individuals. This represents Information and assistance, follow ups, and other services.

NY Connects is responsible for conducting meetings of the Long-Term Care Council, which brings together many Community Based Organizations to share information and supports for Sullivan County.

NY Connects continues to utilize its grant funding to support marketing campaigns that bring awareness to services. In 2025, campaigns via social media, newspapers, radio, and internet were used.

NY Connects staff continue to be critical to the operations of the Community Assistance Center.

Sullivan County OFA Outreach Impact - 2025



Transportation



The OFA offers medical and non-medical transportation for qualifying seniors in the County. The OFA has contracts with **Sullivan County Transportation Department** to provide a senior shopping bus, medical appointment transportation, and nutrition program transportation. **Sullivan Volunteers** provides volunteers to assist with medical transportation to appointments outside of Sullivan County, as far as Goshen and Honesdale, and to pick up appointments Sullivan County

Transportation Department cannot accommodate.

Sullivan County Transportation Department provided 1,367 medical round trips to 146 unduplicated clients in 2025.

The Shopping Bus provided 2,008 round trips to 124 unduplicated clients in 2025.

Sullivan Volunteers provided 711 round trips for medical appointments to 134 unduplicated clients to appointments inside and outside of Sullivan County in 2025.

Sullivan County Transportation Department helps distribute The Monthly Hoot to over 100 locations around the county.

17 clients received 483 round trips pick up/drop offs to our Congregate meals' sites through Sullivan County Transportation.

The Monthly Hoot



The OFA's Newsletter, celebrated three years of publication in August. It has 5,000 paper copies distributed in many community locations, to homebound clients, is available online and via mailing list and e-blast. Our current mailing is over 1000 subscribers. It is supported by local sponsors and at

no cost to the County. Each 12-page issue includes timely information about caregiving, local events, news, games and valuable resources of particular interest to our aging population.



Youth Bureau Program Funding and Impact – 2025

In 2025, the Sullivan County Youth Bureau expanded its reach significantly, increasing the number of approved County and the NYS Office of Children and Family Services funded youth programs from 66 to 80 programs.

Through a combination of State and County investment, the Youth Bureau approved \$467,786 in funding to support youth development initiatives across Sullivan County. Due to an unprecedented number of funding requests in Fall 2025, Sullivan County allocated an additional \$130,000 to ensure that both new and existing youth programs could continue to serve young people throughout the community. These investments strengthened access to recreation, education, arts, wellness, and leadership opportunities for youth countywide.

Goals and Responsibilities

- Advance the moral, physical, mental, and social development of youth through positive youth engagement activities
- Encourage towns, villages, and nonprofit agencies to provide youth development programming by offering funding and technical assistance
- Support professional development opportunities for youth program providers
- Conduct site visits and provide program feedback to ensure quality services

State Funded Programs (Oct 1, 2024 – Sept 30, 2025)

<u>Organization / Municipality</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Town of Cohecton	Youth Recreation	\$5,000
Town of Fallsburg	Holiday Mountain Program	\$2,000
Town of Mamakating	Youth Recreation	\$5,000
Town of Thompson	Recreation & Cultural Excursions	\$4,000
Nesin Cultural Arts	Multiple Youth Arts Programs	\$7,125
Hudson Valley Athletic Club	Youth Soccer	\$35,540

State & County Funded Programs (Oct 1, 2025 – Sept 30, 2026)

<u>Organization / Municipality</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Bethel Woods Center for the Arts	PLAY Program	\$10,000
Fearless! Livingston Manor Roscoe Library	4-H Youth Development	\$10,000
	Youth Education	\$10,000
Hudson Valley Athletic Club	Manor Ink	\$11,225
	Youth Soccer	\$36,937
Administrative Costs	Program Administration	\$20,035

County Funded Programs (July 1, 2025 – Dec 31, 2025)

<u>Organization / Municipality</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Bethel Woods Center for the Arts	PLAY Program	\$6,500
Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum	Stream Education	\$6,000
Cornell Cooperative Extension	4-H Programming	\$7,500
Hudson Valley Athletic Club	Youth Soccer	\$10,000
Town of Thompson	Swim Program	\$7,000



The Youth Bureau was able to donate \$3,000 worth of shelf stable food to Monticello Central School District's Backpack program to ensure that youth get the food and nourishment they need.

Join the Sullivan County Youth Bureau on their Fall & Winter Adventures!
#SCYouthBureauFWAdventures



The SC Youth Bureau visited the wonderful Catskill Fly Fishing Museum and got to see the students learn how to make and tie flies!



Join the Sullivan County Youth Bureau on their Fall & Winter Adventures!
#SCYouthBureauFWAdventures



The SC Youth Bureau visited the amazing Sullivan Public art program and watched the students make some awesome artwork!




Join the Sullivan County Youth Bureau on their Fall & Winter Adventures!
#SCYouthBureauFWAdventures





The SC Youth Bureau recently visited Jeff Stone Arch and got to watch the kids participate in some fun games and learn to communicate with each other in Spanish!




Join the Sullivan County Youth Bureau on their Fall & Winter Adventures!
#SCYouthBureauFWAdventures





The SC Youth Bureau had such an amazing time over at Tusten Social. They were able to watch the kids participate in some fun activities and learn how to sew and stitch!





On August 7th, the SC Youth Bureau visited Camp Koinonia! This camp features tons of activities including: fishing, swimming, kayaking, and a mud kitchen! Another great positive impact on the youth in Sullivan County.

#SCyouthbureausummeradventures

#SCYOUTHBUREAUSUMMERADVENTURES

The Sullivan County Youth Bureau visited the Grahamsville Little World's Fair on August 16th! SC Youth Bureau is proud to partner with CCE and their 4-H program! Great job everyone!!!

Sullivan County Transportation (SCT)

The SCT provides direct, regular transit services to Veterans and Seniors. There is a shopping bus run that supports the public as well.

Sullivan County Transportation provided support to Division initiatives including delivering food and test kits for the Community Assistance Center and delivering the Office for the Aging Hoots newsletters.

- A. Veterans who are registered with the County Veterans Services Agency
 - Albany VA Medical Center - 31 round trips for 32 Veterans
 - Castle Point VA Medical Center – 213 round trips for 462 Veterans
 - Local Veterans Medical – 183 round trips for 311 Veterans

- B. Seniors who are registered with the Office for the Aging:
 - Senior medical transports – 1,367 trips
 - Seniors & public who accessed the shopping buses – 468 trips for 2,008 riders (not unique)
 - Meals delivered to Homebound Seniors – 7,051
 - Seniors transported to Congregate Sites – 483

Move Sullivan Public Transit Service

Provided through a contracted partnership with Rolling V Bus Corp.

There were four 2-hour routes (A, B, C, & D)

- Route A provided 24,064 route rides
- Route B provided 30,368 route rides
- Route C provided 31,024 route rides
- Route D provided 41,602 route rides

New Routes in 2025:

- Route E – 882 (started March 4, 2025)
- Liberty Loop - 6,191 (started January 21, 2025)
- Monticello Loop - 6,915 (started January 21, 2025)

Total Rides Provided on Fixed Routes – 141,046

Total Paratransit rides - 4,021

Total rides provided – 145,067

Community Assistance Center

The Community Assistance Center continued to deliver meals throughout the year.

The Center opened as an Emergency center in March of 2020 in response to the pandemic. A partnership with the Hudson Valley Food Bank was quickly established and regular food distributions to local pantries have continued. In 2025 there were three distributions per month.

2025 - 305,505 pounds of food were distributed equating to 253,569 meals

2020 through 202:

- 1,470,585 pounds of food was distributed equating to 1,220,586 meals

Beginning in November 2023, the Center began supporting a monthly food distribution by the Hudson Valley Food Bank to the Freemont area. This distribution serves an average of 50 families per month.

The Division is a core member of the Sullivan Catskill Food Security Coalition along with Cornell Cooperative Extension and A Single Bite. This group works to better coordinate food distribution working with all partners and pantries.



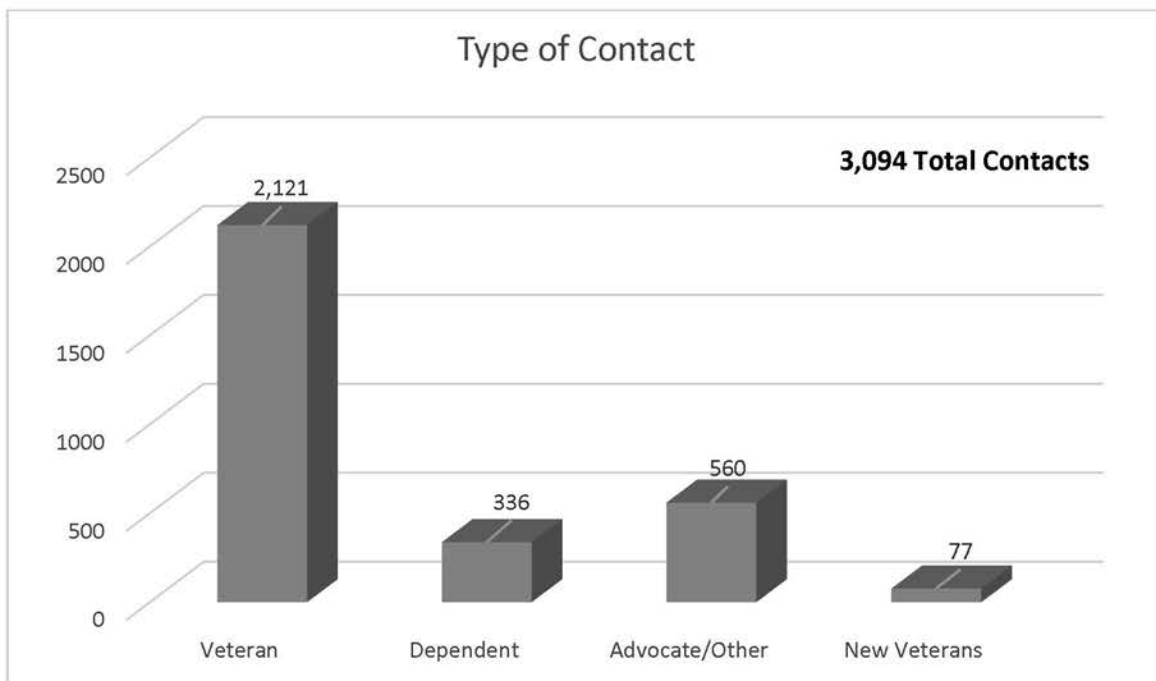
Veterans Service Agency Annual Report 2025

Mission

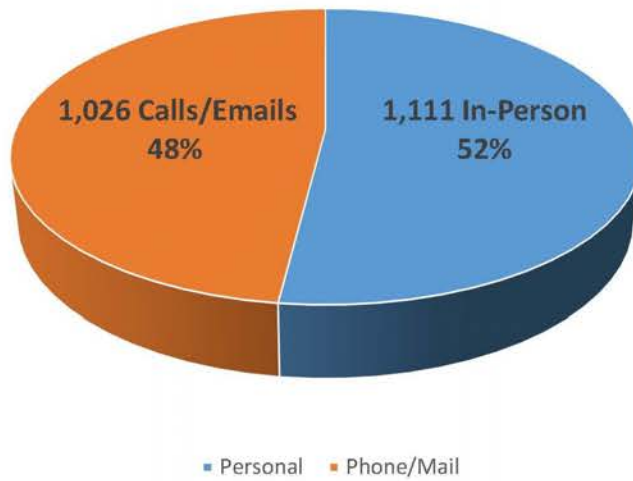
The Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency is here to provide entitlement information and advocacy assistance to military personnel, to military veterans, and their dependents in matters related to federal, state and local benefits. We are not part of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); we are a County agency dedicated to serving veterans and their families. We are knowledgeable on the wide array of programs, benefits and services that are available to our veterans.

2025 Statistics

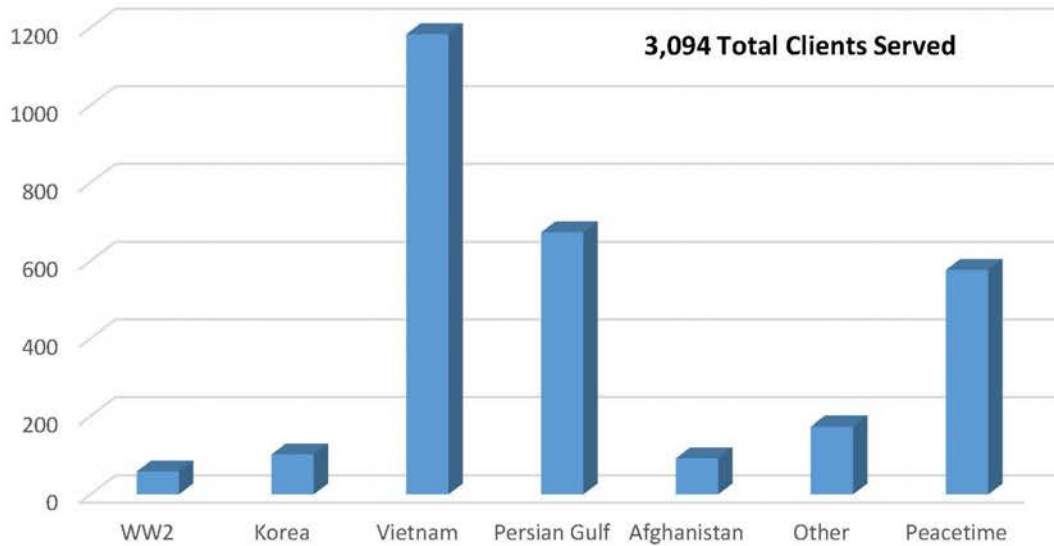
The Veterans Service Agency served close to 3,100 Veterans, family members and advocates in 2025. This represents a 69% increase in the number of people served in 2024. On average, we served 258 clients each month.



Method of Communication

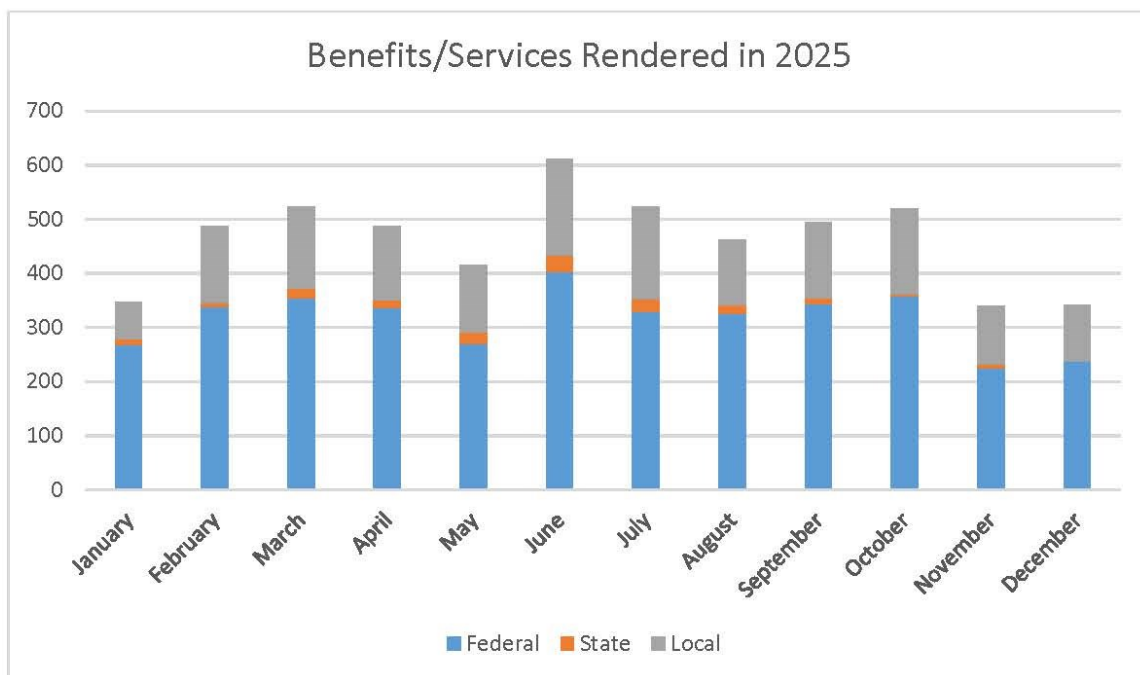


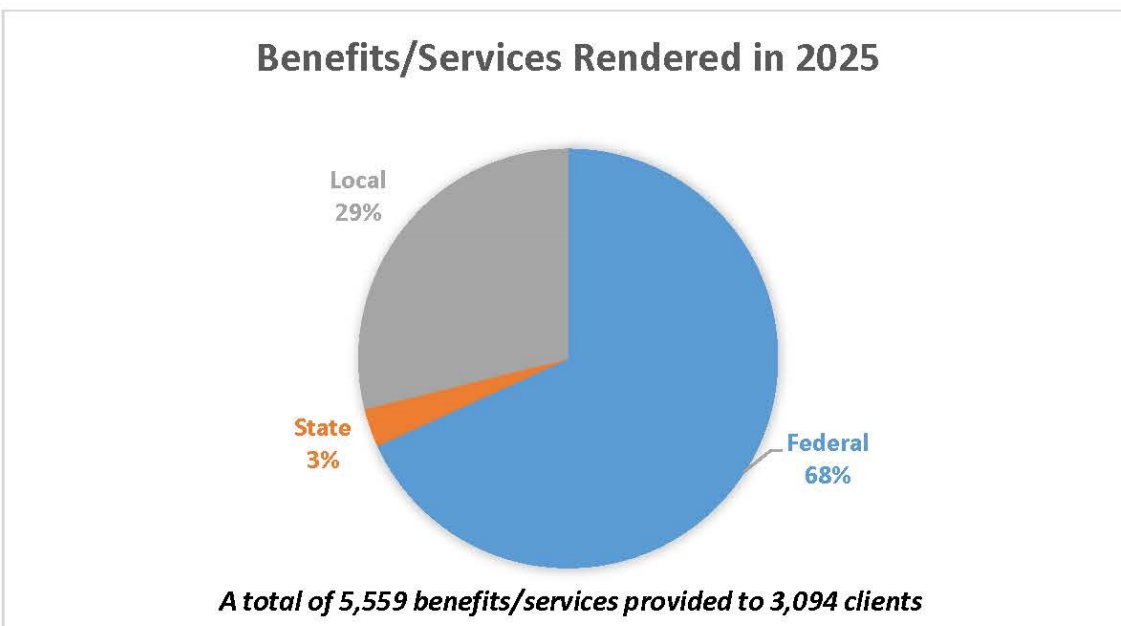
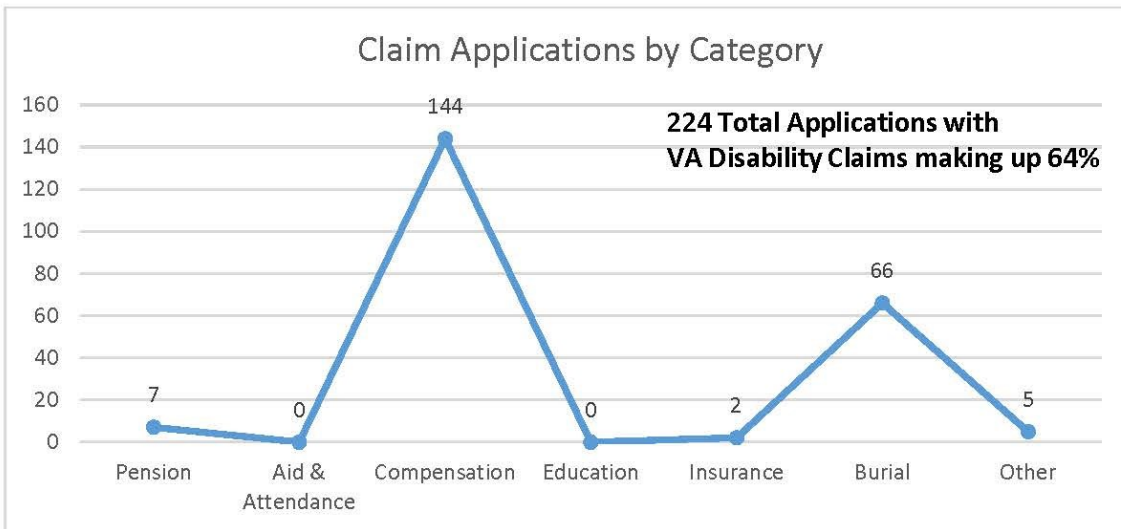
Veterans Served by Era - 2025

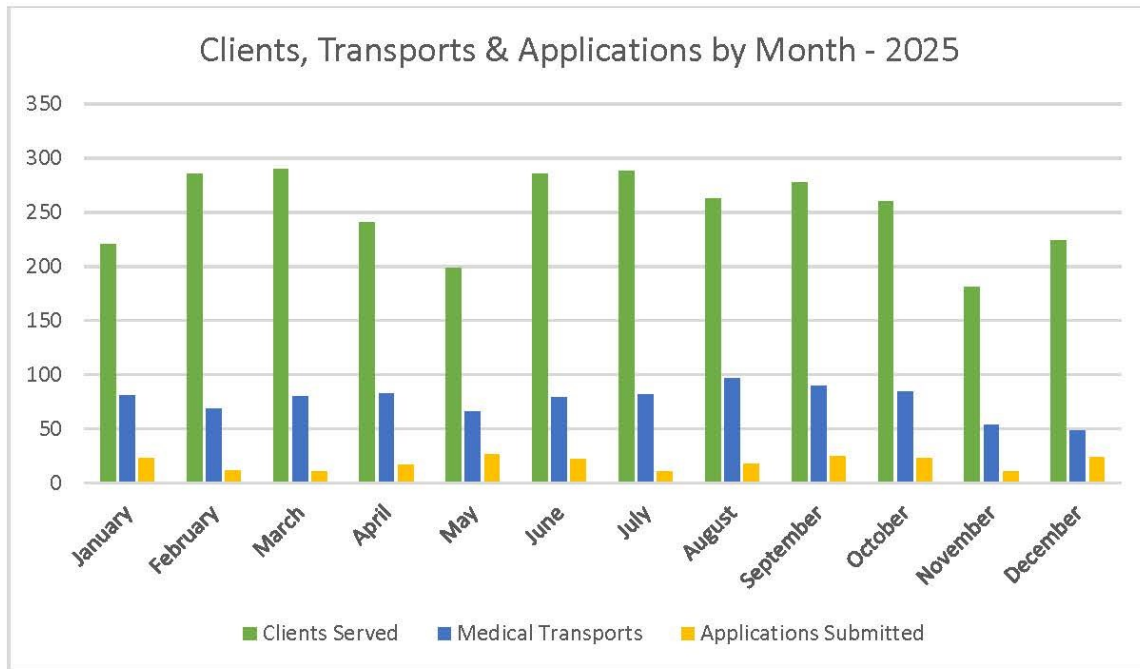


Benefits

- Assisted Veterans with new Blue Water eligibility and presumptive disabilities to include, asbestos exposure.
- Assisted Veterans with PACT Act related claims. The PACT Act is a recent law that expands VA healthcare and benefits to veterans with conditions caused by exposure to burn pits and other toxic exposures. In 2025, additional “presumptive” conditions for toxic exposure (like hypertension and Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS)) continue to be phased in, simplifying the claims process for many.
- Assisted Veterans with the new TERA Act. TERA (Toxic Exposure Risk Activity) is a type of military activity that may expose the service member to occupational or environmental hazards, and has opened the door for more toxin-related VA claims.
- Assisted Veterans with Camp Lejeune service connected disabilities and advised on current laws, rules, and regulations regarding litigation.
- The VA updated the criteria for mental health to now focus on symptom severity rather than simply social and occupational impairment to better reflect daily struggles.
- Administered the Sullivan County Veterans Cemetery, and provided dignified burial for our veterans, including indigent burial services.
- Assisted Veteran’s families with VA Burial Benefits, VA Grave Markers, and Presidential Memorial Certificates.
- Maintained a network of local medical professionals to assist Sullivan County Veterans in obtaining required NEXUS opinion letters, which are needed for successful adjudication of their claims.
- Aggressively pursued service-connected death claims (DIC) for the surviving spouses of Sullivan County veterans.
- Achieved a high success rate on claims and appeals, awarding the highest possible ratings and retroactive payments for our veterans and surviving spouses.







Training

- All office staff is compliant with County of Sullivan training requirements.
- All Veterans Service Officers (VSOs) completed all Federal, State and County training programs required to maintain their accreditations.
- All VSOs attended the 2025 National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) *Annual Conference* virtually, satisfying the required 16 hours of CEU's annually.
- All VSOs completed the 2025 Advanced Appeals training course provided by NACVSO.
- Two staff members completed the County's Leadership Development Training, which was a continuation of the classes they took in 2024.
- All VSO's attended the New York State Division of Veterans' Services monthly virtual trainings.
- Our Administrative Assistant became dually accredited through NACVSO and Disabled American Veterans (DAV).
- Director attended the American Legion's *Department Service Officer* training which was presented by a VA accredited law firm.
- Director attended NACVSO's *Certified Veterans Advocate (CVA)* training, which is the highest level of training available to VSOs. The CVA training takes a minimum of three years before being eligible to take the exam, and become a Certified Veterans Advocate.

Community

- Worked closely with Sullivan County Department of Transportation coordinating Veteran medical transportation.
- Staff assisted the Community Assistance Center with food distribution to local food pantries and local veterans in need.

- Worked with local organizations, Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County, Action Towards Independence (ATI), Elks, and the Sullivan County Veterans Coalition to distribute holiday meal boxes.
- Attended and participated in the National Welcome Home Vietnam War Veterans Day hosted by Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties.
- Participated in the Sullivan County Veterans Festival and Stand Down, which was held at the Paul Gerry Fieldhouse at SUNY Sullivan and coordinated by the Sullivan County Veterans Coalition.
- Worked with local law enforcement and medical facilities to continue to streamline the inpatient intake process for treatment of substance abuse and suicide prevention in the veterans' community.
- Actively participated with veterans' groups throughout the Hudson Valley to provide seamless services.
- Participated in the Wurtsboro Street Fair event with Office for the Aging along with other multi-divisional events.
- Actively participated in several Vet 2 Vet of Sullivan County events throughout the year such as 'Caffeine and Camaraderie' held at ATI and the 'Reel Bonds' fishing event.
- Attended the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor unveiling of their new Veterans Welcome Kiosk, in New Windsor.
- Staff actively coordinated and took part in multiple ceremonies including, Memorial Day, POW/MIA Remembrance Day, and Veterans Day.
- Collected over 1,500 Valentine's Day cards for our annual Valentine's for Vets program. These cards are created by local schools and residents, and distributed to Veterans in our local senior facilities, VA Medical Centers, and homebound veterans.
- Attended the New York State Elks Association Annual Convention where we discussed programs for veterans as well as, a workshop on covered programs offered at the Stony Brook NY State Veterans Home. There are currently five (5) State veterans homes operating in New York.
- Received various holiday cards, created by our local schools and community members, and distributed to Veterans in our local senior facilities, VA Medical Centers, and homebound veterans.
- Received donations of a variety of personal care items and household essentials from the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello & Woodridge, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. The items are available in our office to those that come in seeking assistance and were also delivered to veterans in need.
- Staff attended several veterans' events held at the Liberty, Monticello, and Tri-Valley Central School Districts throughout the year.
- Worked with Hospice of Orange & Sullivan Counties to assist with veterans' end of life needs, and participated in several "Honor Salutes". The Honor Salute Program recognizes all hospice patients who have served in the military with a special ceremony of their choosing. Each honoree is presented with a pin, framed certificate of service, a patriotic lap quilt/blanket, and a card from a child thanking them for their service. This program has given Veterans the opportunity to give back to others the only way a Veteran can, by honoring, recognizing, and thanking each other.
- Participated in the annual Marine Corps Reserve *Toys for Tots*, toy drive, which was extremely successful.



9/19/2025 – POW/MIA Remembrance Day Ceremony in the Lobby of the Government Center



11/7/2025 – Veterans Day Ceremony at Monticello High School



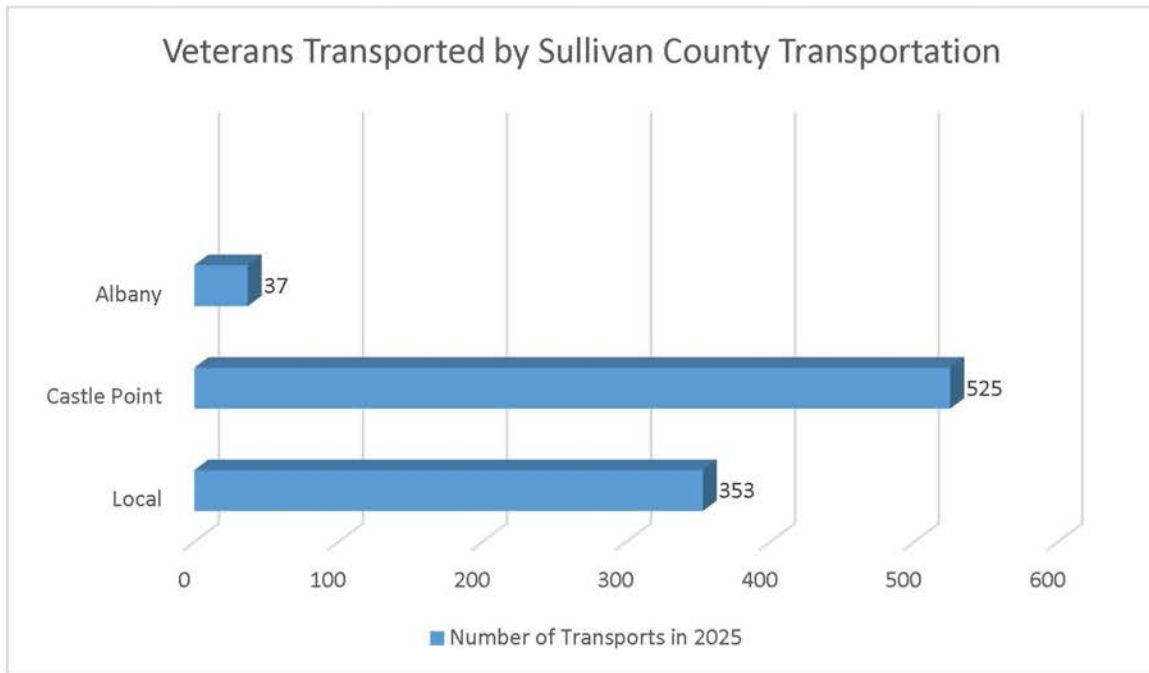
**10/30/2025 – Donations received from the Kiwanis Clubs of
Monticello & Woodridge**

General

- We are working on scanning all of our deceased veterans' files, which will improve office processes.
- Established a resource guide to assist veteran students at SCCC in obtaining benefits and services within the VA and the local community.
- Vastly increased inter-divisional office networking.
- Staff conducted home visits to 60 veteran families in 2025.

Transportation

- Sullivan County Department of Transportation provided 32 Veterans a total of 31 rides to Albany VA Medical Center for medical appointments.
- Sullivan County Department of Transportation provided 462 Veterans a total of 213 rides to Castle Point VA Medical Center for medical appointments.
- Sullivan County Department of Transportation provided 311 Veterans a total of 183 rides to local in-county medical appointments.



Burials

- The total number of Indigent Burials was 16, which is a 14% increase in indigent burials from 2024.
- Total burials in the SC Veterans' Cemetery during 2025 – 53
This is a 14.5% decrease from 2024.
- Total burials in the SC Veterans' Cemetery – 2,029



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Deanna Senyk and Pamela Murran, Elections Commissioners

The Board of Elections conducted two (2) countywide elections (State/Local Primary and the General Election).

- The 2025 General Election was the first election in which the term lengths for certain offices were impacted, as a result of the enactment of the State's Even Year Law.
- Our office handled an unprecedented number of write-in votes (5,727) for the General Election, however, we still certified the election in advance of the November 28th deadline.
- ♣ # of New Registrations Processed between January – December 2025: 2,854
- ♣ Enrollment Statistics as of 11/04/2025: 51,649
- ♣ Administered Primary Election
 - Number of days of Early Voting = 9 (including two weekends)
 - Number of hours of Early Voting = 72
 - Total Number of Voters = 5,245
 - Breakdown by Voting Method:
 - ▶ Number of Election Day Voters = 3,071
 - ▶ Number of Early Voters = 683
 - ▶ Number of Absentee Voters = 250
 - ▶ Number of Early Mail Voters = 1,241
 - Number of Candidates = 16
 - Number of Contests = 5
- ♣ Administered General Election
 - Days of Early Voting = 9 (including two weekends)
 - Number of Hours of Early Voting = 72
 - Total Number of Voters = 16,965
 - Breakdown by Voting Method:
 - ▶ Number of Election Day Voters = 11,804
 - ▶ Number of Early Voters = 2,463
 - ▶ Number of Absentee Voters = 844
 - ▶ Number of Early Mail Voters = 1,854
 - Number of Write-ins = 5,727
 - Number of Candidates = 128
 - Number of Contests = 81
 - Statewide Propositions = 1
 - Town Propositions = 1
- ♣ Additional Election Statistics
 - Number of polling places on Election Day = 34
 - Miles travelled for the Primary Election by the BOE staff = 659
 - Miles travelled for the General Election by the BOE staff = 413

DIVISION OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

John Liddle, Health & Human Services Commissioner



From the Commissioner...

With the honor of leading a tremendously resilient staff of professional caregivers, I am proud to submit the 2025 Sullivan County Division of Health and Human Services Annual Report.

2025 was a tumultuous year for many Americans, and it was no different for our team. We are fearful of troubled times ahead for our most vulnerable citizens when it comes to budget pressures and changing federal policy on public health, healthcare, and services for the poor. At the same time, we are proud to report continued progress on our population health measures and continued growth of our United Sullivan concept that is enhancing access to physical, mental and social health care across our partner agencies. I am also very proud of our entire community for coming together – from our Food Stamps (SNAP) team, to the Federation for the Homeless, Hudson Valley Food Bank, SALT/Cornell Cooperative Extension, A Single Bite, and our constellation of food pantries – all of whom made sure that the October-November federal government shutdown did not force local families to go hungry during the 2025 Thanksgiving season.

In general, while Sullivan County's key community health indicators remain below state averages, data is starting to consistently show that Sullivan County is no longer at bottom of the various datasets we monitor. This shows that we have finally reversed a trend that dominated the first two decades of this century in the county. We also see in available datasets that our health indicators are generally better than most rural counties across the country. Unfortunately, rural counties across America tend to have poorer health outcomes than urban and suburban areas primarily because of higher poverty levels and lack of access to healthcare services, challenges the Division of Health and Human Services attempts to treat every day. You can find more detailed information on our assessment of the data throughout our report.

Our most challenging issues in 2025 continued to be protecting our community from the scourge of drug abuse and addressing homelessness. Both issues saw forward and backward steps last year – while actions we have collectively taken appear to having desired effects, the significant reductions we saw in opioid overdose deaths in 2024 and in our emergency shelter census in the first half of 2025 have leveled off. On the issue of substance use disorders, the most concerning element of current data is a diversification of the drugs of choice encountered in overdose patients. While we are pleased to see continuing progress on reducing opioid deaths, there was a slight uptick in overdoses responses from EMS in 2025 (15.9 per month vs. 14.3 per month in 2024), which was driven by increases in unsafe alcohol and THC consumption, as well as apparent increases in cocaine use and prescription drug misuse.

On the issue of homelessness, the Department of Social Services (DSS) and community partners focused on transitioning families to permanent housing and getting the highest-risk “street homeless” persons into shelter with mental health case management services. At the end of 2025, progress on these issues has been solid. We started the year with 60 families receiving emergency housing, and through concerted efforts to transition families to permanent housing, we were able to achieve a net decrease of 14 families in emergency housing (23%). Overall, because we have seen a significant increase in single adults presenting as homeless, our total emergency shelter census was only down 13% year-over-year (353 to 313); the single adult census increased from 148 to 165 over the course of the year (+11%).

The Division is also facing steep challenges to control the financial burden of our services on county taxpayers. In DSS, using hotels as shelter continues to be a difficult and growing expense, and we are also struggling to operate a childcare subsidy program that is in the midst of massive policy changes at the state level. Community Services (DCS) and Public Health (DPH) saw significant improvements in staff productivity over the past two years, but continue to struggle with financial sustainability due in large part to our reliance on outdated Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and billing systems. Transitioning to new EMRs is a top 2026 priority for both departments. Most of all, in spite of massive improvements in quality of care at the Care Center at Sunset Lake over the past six months, structural challenges with the health insurance industry and healthcare in general mean there is simply no way for the Care Center (ACC) to meaningfully reduce the \$7-\$8million annual burden the ACC places on local taxpayers. While no one wants to see the ACC's services reduced in any way, this burden will put many other county services at risk in 2027 if not addressed in the year ahead.

Annual Report Contents

County Health Rankings and Roadmap Data
Sullivan County Substance Use Task Force
United Sullivan Care Network
Care Center at Sunset Lake
Department of Community Services
Department of Public Health
Department of Social Services

DIVISION OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES MANAGEMENT TEAM

John Liddle

Commissioner of Health & Human Services
 Commissioner of Social Services

Melissa Stickle

Deputy Commissioner of Health & Human Services
 Drug Task Force Coordinator

Giselle Stekete

Deputy Commissioner of Social Services

*Kayshawn
Macharie, LNHA*
 Licensed
 Nursing Home
 Administrator

*Salif Banse,
DSW*
 Department of
 Community
 Services

*Jessie Moore,
DPH*
 Public Health
 Director

Amanda Dole
 Coordinator of
 Child Support
 Enforcement

*Leelani
Voigtland*
 Director of
 Services

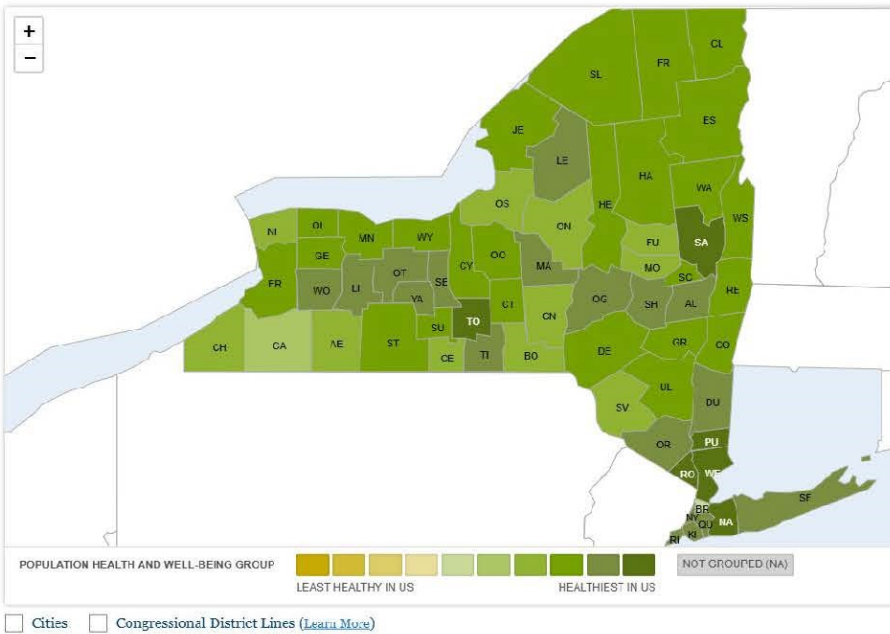
*Michelle
Bridges*
 Director of
 Temporary
 Assistance

*T. Landom
Poole*
 Senior Fiscal
 Administrative
 Officer

County Health Rankings and Roadmap Data

After fears were raised in 2024 that County Health Ranking and Roadmap data would no longer be provided by the nationally respected Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and University of Wisconsin Sullivan County HHS alongside many other local health and human service agencies advocated for continued support for the program. While RWJF no longer provides explicit 1st-62nd place rankings, available datasets have also become much more user-friendly and informative for planning future health and human service needs.

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps 2025 Population Health and Well-being - New York

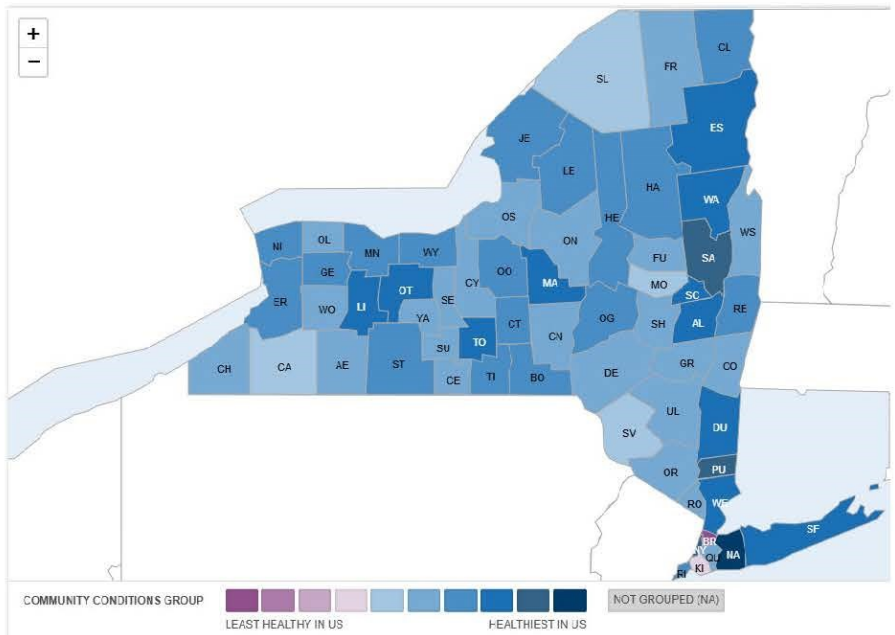


Although Sullivan County continues to lag behind New York State averages for life expectancy, Sullivan County was above the national average in life expectancy and related factors that make up RWJF's Health Outcome ratings. In the chart at left, favorable ratings are in darker greens, less favorable ratings are in darker shades of yellow.

Through new data presentations made available by RWJF this year, we are also able to see that Sullivan County fares significantly better than similar rural counties across the nation. We have a current life expectancy of 76.8 years versus 74.1 for similar counties around the country.

Community Conditions data provide insights on factors we can improve to live longer and healthier lives and are indicators of the future health of the county. Sullivan County's RWJF Health Factor ratings are not as strong as our outcome ratings. We are below national averages for community conditions, though we fare somewhat better than similar counties across the country. **Unsurprisingly, the areas of greatest concern in the most recent datasets are our relatively high number of overdose deaths, shortage of primary care providers, and housing cost burden.** In the chart at right, darker blues are more favorable, darker purples are less favorable.

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps 2025 Community Conditions - New York





Hudson Valley

833-428-HOPE

Substance Use Task Force

The activities of the **Sullivan County Substance Use Task Force** are supported by organizations across the public and private sector. This group of public and private staff alongside community volunteers, commonly known as the “Drug Task Force” was reorganized in 2020. The Task Force operates in “pillars”, each focusing on key strategies such as prevention, treatment, law enforcement, and community support and has dramatically improved collaboration across both law enforcement and health and human service disciplines. This comprehensive approach ensures that the Task Force addresses substance abuse and mental health challenges across multiple disciplines simultaneously.

Substance Use Task Force Pillars and Leaders	
Medical Provider Pillar	Heather Guinan, FNP Dr. Nicholas Batson
Hope and Prevention Pillar	Dawn Wilkin Martin Colavito
United Sullivan Pillar	John Liddle
Financial Pillar	Michael D’Auria
Policy Reform Pillar	Lina Ledvin Judy Balaban
Data Pillar	Meg Guinnee
Law Enforcement Pillar	Sheriff Mike Schiff Chief Steve D’Agata
Treatment Program Pillar	Josh Meunier Jeff Spitz
Veterans Pillar	Deborah Worden Carl LoFaro

H.O.P.E. & Prevention	Distributes Narcan and harm reduction kits via community outreach efforts. Active in the development of policies regarding the sale of alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis products to youth. Partners with school districts on SEL programs and work with communities on strategies to educate, empower, and provide hope.	United Sullivan	Encompasses mental health, social services, and a vast array of other human services that improve health outcomes by making it easier for members of the community to access all forms of social, behavioral, and physical healthcare.	Policy Reform	Identifies policies at all levels – including state and county – that will improve the lives of those impacted by substance use by reducing stigma, protecting the vulnerable, coordinating resources, implementing prevention and treatment strategies, and supporting those who protect our county.	Law Enforcement	Includes partnerships with community organizations to connect people with substance use disorders to help and support, in addition to traditional law enforcement activities (drug arrests, seizures, etc.).		
Treatment Programs	Brings together substance use disorder providers for networking, community education, to identify gaps and obstacles to providing services and develop solutions, and to understand regulations and how they impact care.	Medical Provider Services	Provides the Task Force access to experts in the medical field, as well as engagement of on-the-ground medical providers.	Veterans	Coordinate efforts aimed at combatting substance use disorders among veterans, providing support and resources for veterans with substance use disorders, and implementing strategies to remove barriers within the Veteran community.	Data	Compiles and analyzes data and information to ensure all activities of the task force are data informed, to identify gaps and needs, and to communicate progress to funders and the community.	Financial Management/Grants	Monitors and tracks spending of Opioid Abatement Funds.

2025 Overview

The Sullivan County Drug Task Force (DTF) continued to strengthen countywide coordination across prevention, treatment, law enforcement, veteran services, public policy, financial oversight, and community engagement. The Task Force prioritized system integration, equitable access to services, evidence-based prevention, and sustainable use of OASAS and local direct share opioid abatement funding.

DTF activities emphasized collaboration between county departments, healthcare providers, law enforcement, peer recovery leaders, and community organizations to reduce overdose deaths, improve service navigation, and expand long-term recovery supports.

- Strengthen the treatment and recovery continuum, including transitions between detox, inpatient, outpatient, and community recovery supports.
- Expand post-overdose engagement and follow-up through QRT and peer navigation.
- Increase evidence-based prevention targeting youth and high-risk populations.
- Drafted state and local legislation and called for community action to drive more utilization of treatment resources post-overdose and to promote greater awareness of the risks of kratom use.
- Support long-term recovery through housing stability, employment pathways, and reintegration services

2025 KEY STAT:

Quick Reaction Teams conducted 353 post-overdose visits to encourage persons to enter treatment. Many were repeat visits to support people when ready. 29 persons were placed into treatment Jan. through Nov. 2025

2025 Activities and Accomplishments

Lived Experience Advisory Group (NEW)

- Established a peer-led Recovery Advisory Group to provide feedback across all pillars and participate in quarterly Pillar Lead meetings.
- Strengthened formal pathways for lived experience (both for survivors’ and family members’) input into funding, policy, and program development.

Prevention Pillar

- Expansion of evidence-based programs, including *Too Good for Drugs*, *Catch My Breath*, *PreVenture*, *Teen Intervene* and vaping prevention initiatives in partnership with Sullivan County BOCES and school districts.
- Implementation of *Let’s Stop Stigma* radio, billboard, and podcast campaigns in partnership with Bold Gold.
- Developed bilingual public service announcements on drug use, enabling behaviors, and harm reduction.
- Updated United Sullivan website to centralize public-facing information and service access.



Law Enforcement Pillar

- DA’s Office and Liberty PD teamed up on a county-wide Quick Reaction Team (QRT) to help more people access treatment post-overdose.
- Implemented a Crime Victim Specialist Program and Cyber Investigations Lab at the District Attorney’s Office to accelerate narcotics enforcement actions.

Veterans Pillar

- Expanded outreach through Vet2Vet and workforce partnerships to support veterans transitioning into employment and treatment.

Financial Pillar

- Reviewed OASAS and county direct-share funding streams to maximize sustainability of key programs, including housing supports, QRT operations, and prevention services.

- Development of formal policies and procedures for transparent, outcome-based funding decisions, including scoring matrices and public accessibility.



District Attorney Brian Conaty and Fallsburg Police Chief Brendan Pavese promote the availability of drug drop boxes for unwanted prescriptions.

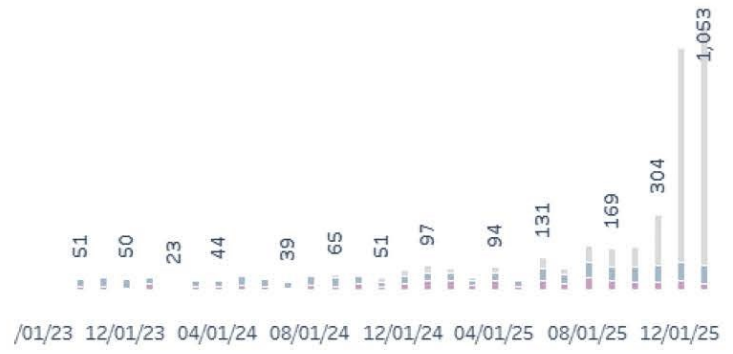


United Sullivan Care Network

Expanding from its origins as a mental health system of care initiative and from similar models such as its neighboring system of care project, “Welcome Orange,” the *United Sullivan* project now encompasses mental health, social services, and a vast array of other human services that are intended to improve health outcomes across Sullivan County by making it easier for residents and their families to access care. *United Sullivan* maintains a very active schedule with weekly information sharing and planning sessions for local human service agencies and members of the community. Written updates are provided to a growing partner network of more than 167 members and interested community members are always welcome to join at any time.

Utilization of the Unite Us Network is increasing rapidly.

The chart at right depicts the number of cases opened in the Unite Us system on a monthly basis since our network started operations in September 2023. Network utilization has spiked in recent months as network partners work to enroll more Medicaid recipients in enhanced health-related social needs services. We expect this trend to continue through 2026 as Medicaid social care services (nutrition, housing, transportation) become more accessible.



Hudson Valley Social Care Network Taking Shape: The regional Social Care Networks that will handle billing and payment for certain housing, nutrition, transportation, and case management services under Medicaid are now active. Our regional network is operated by Hudson Valley Care Coalition (HVCC). The first wave of community organizations started operations on January 17, 2025 and the second wave February 3, 2025. County government agencies from across the region have increased participation throughout 2025.

2025 Unite Us Network Statistics:

- 1750 Cases, serving 926 clients.
- As part of the Hudson Valley’s broader social care network, *United Sullivan* clients were able to access 293 different providers.
- 31 local partner agencies sent referrals via Unite Us
- 61 agencies received referrals via Unite Us
- Sullivan County DSS was the top performer in Sullivan County’s network and one of the leading referral agencies across the entire region. During 2025, Sullivan DSS made 402 referrals for 250 different clients. DSS also managed 47 self-referrals from clients who submitted their information via the county’s website.

Rank	Organization	Cases	Percentage
1	Action Toward Independence Inc.	539	(24.1%)
2	Independent Living Inc. - Independent Living Skills Sullivan County	275	(12.3%)
3	Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster - Social and Human Services	201	(9.0%)
4	Sullivan Allies Leading Together INC.	97	(4.3%)
5	Community Action of Sullivan/Ulster Counties	90	(4.0%)
6	Sullivan County Department of Social Services	83	(3.7%)
7	Independent Living Inc. - Peer Transition Diversion Program Sullivan	72	(3.2%)
8	Rehabilitation Support Services -	62	(2.8%)



Care Center at Sunset Lake

Overview

The Care Center at Sunset Lake (CCASL) provides long-term care services to County residents who can no longer thrive in the community. The Care Center at Sunset Lake provides residential services for up to 146 individuals who require either long-term care or short-term rehabilitative services. The CCASL strives to assure that residents are able to maintain the highest quality of life and the greatest degree of independence through individualized care plans.

2025 Key Activities and Accomplishments

- Quality performance improved significantly in 2025, with Quality Measures rating increasing from 2 stars to 4 stars, and continued improvement positioning the Care Center close to a 5-star rating entering 2026.
- Clinical leadership was strengthened through the hiring of a new Administrator, a Director of Nursing, and an Assistant Director of Nursing, helping stabilize operations and support staff across all departments.
- Staffing consistency improved, with the facility operating with four RN Unit Managers consistently over the past several months, strengthening day-to-day oversight, care coordination, and staff support.
- The facility did not undergo its annual NYS DOH survey during 2025, but remained within the annual survey window and maintained a high level of readiness. The facility continued to focus on being survey-ready at all times, including ensuring staff compliance, documentation readiness, and environmental safety standards.

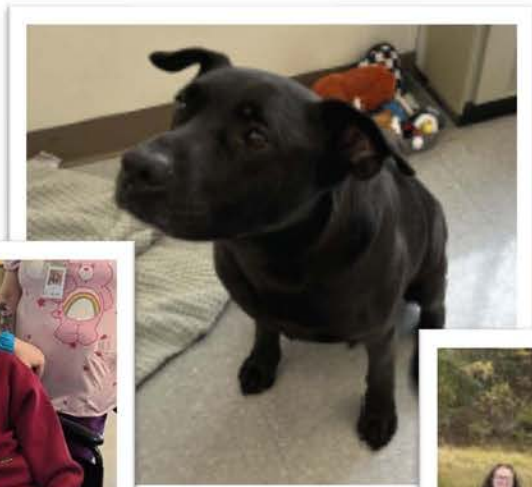
2025 KEY STAT:

Quality Measures reached a 4-star rating at the end of 2025 for the first time since before the COVID pandemic and are on track to reach five stars in the first quarter of 2026.

- Rehospitalizations decreased as staff worked to treat residents in-house whenever clinically appropriate, reducing unnecessary transfers to local hospitals and helping residents remain comfortable in their home environment.
- Food services leadership was enhanced through the promotion of a chef to Food Service Director, strengthening the department’s continuity and supporting ongoing improvements in resident dining services.
- Dementia care capacity was expanded as several staff members earned certification as Certified Dementia Practitioners, supporting the facility’s Memory Care Unit and strengthening staff expertise in dementia-specific care approaches.
- Resident and staff engagement remained a major strength of the facility in 2025, including:
 - A large annual summer BBQ open to staff, residents, and families
 - A highly successful Trunk or Treat event, supported by strong community participation
 - A Thanksgiving celebration bringing together staff, residents, and families
- The Care Center continued to prioritize quality of life and emotional wellbeing, including the ongoing presence of the facility’s mascot, Grizzly, who remained a favorite among residents and a positive part of the facility’s daily culture.
- The facility maintained a strong service level to the community with an average daily census of 126 residents.
- We now have a full-time Certified Dietician in the facility in addition to our full-time Food Services Director.

“Our residents are not defined by their care needs — they are our community. We focus on dignity, listening, and creating a place that truly feels like home.”

— Kayshawn Macharie, Administrator



From Left: Activities Aide Josh Baggatta entertains residents dressed as a piñata for Cinco de Mayo; Facility Mascot Grizzly presents himself for one of many pets he will receive during the day; staff gather for a picture in the parking lot on Trunk or Treat Day celebrating Halloween 2025.

Community Services



Above: NAMI Sullivan County Executive Director Lori Schneider entertains and trains Division staff on coping with mental illness; Left: Legislators and Community Services Coordinator Lina Ledvin take a tour of The Center for Discovery's new children's specialty hospital in Rock Hill.

Overview

In 2025, the Sullivan County Department of Community Services (DCS), serving as the Local Governmental Unit (LGU) under Article 41 of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law, continued its mission to plan, coordinate, and strengthen the county's behavioral health system. Working in close partnership with our Community Services Board, state agencies, and local providers, the LGU worked to reduce service capacity gaps, monitored system performance, and advanced initiatives to improve access, equity, and quality of care across mental health, substance use, and developmental disability services. Throughout 2025, the LGU focused on system integration, crisis response expansion, housing development, community awareness, workforce stabilization, and enhanced collaboration amongst law enforcement, healthcare, and community partners.

The DCS Behavioral Health Clinic is committed to providing an integrated care model to treat the "whole" individual by blending compassion, innovation, and evidence-based practice to address the behavioral and physical health needs of our clients. We are dedicated to transforming the lives of both adults and youth, their families, and loved ones struggling with mental illness. Our goal is to improve mental health outcomes for Sullivan County residents of by providing patient-centered, evidenced-based, and cost-effective behavioral health interventions.

Community Services Clinic Activities and Accomplishments

In 2025 we continued to face challenges regarding staffing, sustainability and an ever-growing demand for services. Our staff are dedicated, compassionate and committed to providing behavioral health treatment, and addressing intergenerational trauma for those in need.

- Open Access resumed in January 2025 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, providing the community with opportunities to receive mental health assessments and treatment on first-come, first-served basis.
- DCS finished the year fully staffed with six Social Workers, a Nurse Practitioner, one Dual Diagnosis Specialist, and a Behavioral Health and Wellness Specialist.

- We are right-sizing administrative staff by finding ways to perform back-office functions with enhanced technology tools. Continued work to this end has allowed us to reduce staff gradually through retirements, while still finding ways to deliver quality customer service.
- We entered into a contract with Beacon Billing Services to develop a more efficient revenue cycle and minimize losses from unpaid accounts receivable and insurance company payment denials.
- Our Care Managers continued to be a life line to our very serious and persistently mentally ill clients by assisting with getting to appointments for health and mental health services and getting their medications on time. They continue to assist the youth to maintain consistency with therapy and medical appointments and to ensure stable housing.
- We continued to educate and distribute Naloxone to local businesses, individuals and their families to reduce opioid overdose deaths.
- We continued to provide court-ordered treatment services.



Local Government Unit Activities and Accomplishments:

- **Cross-System Coordination:** Strengthened collaboration across behavioral health, social services, criminal justice, and healthcare disciplines via the Community Systems Board and as a core component of the United Sullivan partner network.
- **Housing Development & Stability:** Supported the development of Oxford House peer-supported recovery housing and worked with Rehabilitation Support Services (RSS) to manage waitlists and expedite access to RSS community residences and apartment programs for persons coping with serious mental illness.
- **Community Awareness & Engagement:** Expanded stigma reduction and public education through a marketing and public information campaign contracted with Bold Gold Media
- **Systems Coordination & Strategic Planning:** Submitted the 2025 Local Services Plan, reviewed legislative initiatives, and managed opioid settlement fund reporting and compliance.
- **Monitoring of Providers Receiving State Pass-Through Funds:** Strengthened oversight with eight provider audits, offering technical assistance for service improvement and compliance.
- **Mental Health, Substance Use & Crisis Services:** Expanding mobile crisis services via our Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), formalized the CIT Coordinator role, and developed our Community Trauma Response Team (CTRT). The CTRT has sharpened its skills and capacity to respond to a major crisis event by deploying to hotels in Liberty and Monticello which provide emergency shelter to homeless persons and families. This has already proven to be a very successful initiative which will be further matured in 2026.

SULLIVAN COUNTY						
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES						
STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR: January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025						
Prepared by : Sara A. Cole				CLIENTS		
PROGRAM	ON ROLLS: 1/1/2025	ADMISSIONS	DISCHARGES	ON ROLL: 12/31/2025	CLIENTS SERVED	UNITS OF SERVICE
SC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC ADULT	448	309	303	454	5721	8710
SC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC CHILD	7	49	26	30	262	297
SC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC FORENSIC	66	88	84	70	945	1345
SC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC MICA	27	20	28	19	270	Included In Clinic Adult
SC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CLINIC MAT	13	15	13	15	209	Included In Clinic Adult
TOTAL MENTAL HEALTH	561	481	454	588	7,407	10,352
SC CARE MANAGEMENT	29	12	4	36	41	9545
SC HEALTH HOME- ADULT	46	6	17	36	52	4003
SC HEALTH HOME - KENDRA, AOT and HH+	18	3	9	12	21	1873
SC HEALTH HOME - CHILD	11	10	6	15	21	2067
SC HEALTH HOME - OUTREACH					127	2159
SC CM CCSI					18	82
TOTAL HEALTH HOME CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS	104	31	36	99	280	19,729
SC SPOA - Adult					675	4164
SC SPOA - Child					223	1688
TOTAL SPOA	0	0	0	0	898	5852
	# of calls	#of ph interv	Outreaches	Hosp Divers %	Hosp Admit %	
MOBILE MENTAL HEALTH	2671	936	282	70.91666667	68.33333333	

Public Health



Community Wellness Day 2025!

Above: In partnership with Action Toward Independence (ATI) at DeHoyos Park in Monticello, this event included a Teddy Bear Clinic to alleviate anxiety that children might feel at the doctor's office, a magic show, and a mural painting.
At Left: Legislator Cat Scott with Director of Public Health Dr. Jessie Moore

The mission of the Sullivan County Department of Public Health (DPH) is to prevent illness and disease, and to protect and promote public health. In 2025, we focused on implementation of department-wide restructuring to improve workflow efficiency and program alignment.

Department Restructuring & Systems Improvement: DPH entered 2025 with a new leadership team and a mandate from the Commissioner, County Manager, and Legislature to enhance both quality and capacity across the various disciplines within DPH. Under the guidance of Sullivan County's first Doctor of Public Health, Jessie Moore, the DPH had the following key structural accomplishments in 2025:

- Strengthened supervisory oversight and accountability with monthly leadership meetings to improve cross departmental communication, program data sharing, regulatory compliance enhancement and reporting capacity.
- Implemented Monthly Program Review (MPR) meetings between the fiscal team and department leaders review budget performance, monitor expenditures, and align program deliverables with financial oversight.
- Enhanced documentation oversight and supervision protocols for everything from rabies vaccine distribution, to lead contamination and monitoring, to employee training and travel.
- Launched department-wide wellness programming including Sullivan Walks employee challenge and a Public Health Book Club to promote connection, stress reduction, and professional growth.
- Strengthened audit readiness and internal quality assurance processes.
- Evaluated technology and software resources to support growing staff needs and evolving job duties.



**Sullivan Walks Challenge Winner,
Tana Price!**
Award presented by Patricia Pelletier,
Wellness Committee Coordinator

- Evaluated and realigned all coalitions and advisory boards to improve operational efficiency, enhance coordinated impact, and ensure adherence to applicable governance and compliance requirements.
- Finalized and adopted the 2026–2027 Strategic Plan aligned with NYS Prevention Agenda priorities
- Integrated health equity and social determinants of health into department-wide planning.
- Expanded leadership development, supervisory training capacity, and workforce resilience planning to support long-term sustainability.
- Equipped county vehicles with emergency preparedness kits to support staff safety during field work and emergency response.
- Hosted staff appreciation activities during National Public Health Week to acknowledge workforce contributions and boost morale.
- Public Health Leadership Development: Engaged John Mancuso to deliver structured leadership training to strengthen supervisory capacity, strategic alignment, and organizational culture across the department.
- Increased use of language interpretation services.
- Advanced planning for Integrated Community Hub / Social Care Clinic model.
- Strengthened community health data collection processes



Staff Emergency Preparedness Kits:
glowstick, whistle, hand warmers, band-aids, poncho, gloves, antibiotic ointment

2025 DPH Statistical Highlights

Community Education & Outreach	
Total Community Outreach Events:	320
Education Kits Distributed: <i>(through outreach; not including vending machines)</i>	2,388
Social Media Posts:	650
Rabies Prevention Video:	1.3k views
Community Engagement & Collaborations	
Professional Development Training: <i>T1 Diabetes & Asthma Management for School Nurses</i>	15 participants
Provider Appreciation Night: <i>Local Healthcare Providers & Community Organization Networking Event</i>	55 participants
NYSDOH Commissioner Meeting: <i>Discussion of Vaccination Among Healthcare Providers, Public Health, and Religious Communities</i>	52 participants
Community Wellness Day	80 participants
Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN): <i>Inclusive & Sensory Friendly Events</i>	5 events 44 participants
Toys for Tots: <i>Collaboration with Healthy Families</i>	64 families
CHHA	
Total Visits:	17,660
Total Patients:	1,027
Specialty Programs	
Rabies Clinics:	9
Total Animals Vaccinated:	476
Free Car Seat Program – car seats distributed: <i>(eligibility based on financial need)</i>	186



Public Health Education – The Public Health Education team continued to expand outreach efforts through social media and community engagement events, addressing a wide range of public health and social care issues. One of our most popular and effective efforts was our health education kit distribution. Combining resources provided to us by the State Department of Health, community volunteer support, and our partners in DCS, thousands of kits were provided to members of the community to both help with basic health and hygiene and educate the public on the importance of taking care of yourself. These kits were distributed at community events (see numbers and examples below) and at free vending machines at DCS and in Government Center. Other key 2025 activities for Public Health Education included:

- Expanded partnerships with community venues to grow access to physical activity.
- Strengthened referral pathways with healthcare partners.
- Initiated CHW/Promotores/Orthodox Liaison pilot planning.
- Expanded mobile and pop-up outreach in rural communities.
- Laid groundwork for NYS Quitline awareness campaign.
- Expanded community preparedness education (CPR, naloxone, emergency kits).
- Initiated expansion of tobacco cessation education and youth prevention efforts.
- Increased preventive screening opportunities at community events and non-traditional venues.

Education Kits	#
Dental Hygiene ADULT	194
Dental Hygiene KIDS	278
Emergency Preparedness	253
Men's Health	68
Women's Health	79
Mental Health	160
Hygiene Kit	266
Sexual Health Kit	125
Tick Removal Kit	368
Overdose Rescue Kit	410
Wound Care Kit	187
Total (April-Dec)	2388



Dental Hygiene Kit (KIDS): 278
Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, timer



Tick Kit: 368
magnifying glass, tick tweezers, bandaids, alcohol wipes

Disease Surveillance and Investigation (DSI)/Emergency Preparedness: The DSI focuses on reducing the spread and impact of disease. Specifically, DSI provides vaccine clinics for measles, polio, flu and more, sexually transmitted infection prevention, rabies control and vaccine clinics for pets, tuberculosis control, health emergency preparedness and the Medical Reserve Corps. Our key 2025 activities included

- Conducted a record nine rabies clinics during the year, vaccinating 476 animals
- Conducted emergency preparedness drills and updated protocols
- Began Medical Reserve Corps expansion planning

Maternal, Child and Family Health

- Restructured maternal and child health programming under unified leadership.
- Began redefining MCH nurse roles to align with regulatory requirements.
- Strengthened CHHA postpartum linkage coordination.

- Advanced planning for Family Navigation Program
- Initiated development of Maternal & Child Health dashboard.

Certified Home Health Agency: The Certified Home Health Agency (CHHA) at the Sullivan County Department of Public Health offers a variety of skilled medical services to homebound adults and children with a medical need.

Our clinicians work with you under the direction of a physician’s order, your homebound status, and level of care required. Patients receiving home care may include those who are recovering from an illness or injury, persons who are disabled and/or chronically ill, newborns and mothers eligible for maternal infant care services, etc. We accept commercial insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare. If your insurance does not cover the service or you are uninsured, we provide sliding scale fees.

2025 CHHA Visits by Type

RN/LPN Visits	6330
PT/PTA Visits	6698
OT Visits	2567
ST Visits	786
MSW Visits	573
HHA Visits	795
Total Visits	17660

RN = Registered Nurse
 LPN = Licensed Practical Nurse
 PT/PTA = Physical Therapist/Assistant
 OT = Occupational Therapy
 ST = Speech Therapy
 MSW = Social Work
 HHA = Home Health Aide

Public Health
 People. Promote. Protect.
 Sullivan County
 Department of Public Health

CERTIFIED HOME HEALTH Agency

Skilled Medical Services to Homebound Adults & Children

Skilled Nursing:

- Wound Care
- Disease Management
- Medication Management & Education

Rehabilitation:

- Physical & Occupational Therapy
- Speech Language Pathology

Home Health Aide:

- Short term help with personal care & prescribed exercises

A REFERRAL FROM YOUR DOCTOR MUST BE RECEIVED TO BEGIN OUR INTAKE PROCESS.

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE, MEDICARE & MEDICAID ACCEPTED. SLIDING SCALE FEE FOR THOSE WITHOUT INSURANCE.

Contact Us
845-292-5910 x 0

More Information
<https://www.sullivanvny.gov/Departments/PublicHealth>



**Welcome to the
Department of Social Services**

Our mission is to help residents of Sullivan County achieve wellbeing and independence through opportunities that protect, empower, respect choice and preserve dignity.

Social Services

Overview

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is the largest and most dynamic of the four departments under the Division of Health and Human Services. The department consists of two large teams (Child & Adult Services and Temporary Assistance) and four smaller teams (Administration, Finance, Special Investigations, and Child Support). With a staff of 166 at year's end, DSS managed to improve child and adult protective casework practice, retain new young talent, and deliver more responsive welfare services over the course of 2024.

Child and Adult Services

Child Protective Services (CPS) is mandated to investigate all reports of alleged child abuse and maltreatment of children under the age of 18. They will make referrals for the appropriate community services and, if necessary, provide for legal intervention. Last year, CPS team members responded to 1330 reports.

In 2025, CPS implemented the "Better for Families" approach in conjunction with the Court Improvement Project. This new approach focuses on early identification of family challenges, trauma-informed responses, timely access to treatment, enhanced judicial practices, and improved communication with community partners.

CPS Reports 2025



This collaborative effort met multiple times throughout the year and has been working on improving how we handle child welfare cases involving substance use. In 2025, communication and partnerships have increased with our judges, attorneys, community partners, and organizations that provide substance and mental health treatment, as well as preventive services.

The goal is to reduce the number of children entering care and to ensure that, when children do

need to enter foster care, they can reunify with their families more quickly while receiving the support they need. We look forward to the continued growth of this initiative.

Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) provide a child-friendly and safe environment for victims of abuse and neglect. Children and their non-offending caregivers have access to victim advocacy, mental health services, and specialized medical examinations conducted by a team of professionals.

The CAC continued its community outreach events and training and partnered with local law enforcement to conduct numerous forensic interviews with the police department. This past year, the CAC responded to 284 reports of alleged child abuse, leading to 94 indicated cases. Law enforcement has taken the lead on a total of 218 cases in collaboration with our CAC, resulting in 10 arrests, 16 felony charges, and 33 misdemeanor charges.

In 2025, we continued to work through the recommendations from the comprehensive review of child welfare that was conducted in 2024. The Department of Social Services (DSS) continued to make improvements in practices related to legal matters and is very pleased with the enhanced working relationship with the County Attorney's Office, which has led to significant improvements in the quality of representation and cross-communication.

At the end of 2025, we nearly had no vacancies, with only two caseworker openings remaining. Additional case aides and efforts to fill vacancies in Child Protective Services (CPS) have resulted in significant improvements and a reduction in caseload. All caseworkers were operating at the state-recommended caseload sizes, and the number of overdue cases dropped from 40% to just 7% by December 2025.

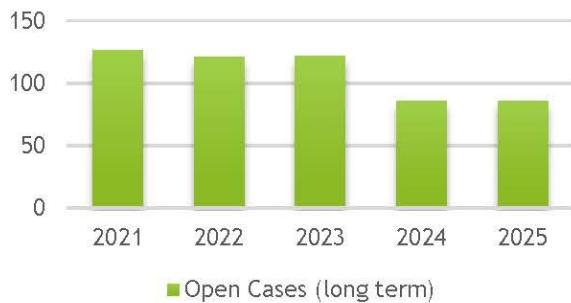
The new transportation policy implemented this year proved effective in helping the department reduce overtime expenses and stay closer to our budget.

Through the Better for Families collaborative, we conducted a county-wide Roles and Responsibilities training session on May 9, 2025.

In collaboration with the school district, we implemented resource caseworkers in the Fallsburg and BOCES school districts one day a week to increase communication and support.

Preventive Services is committed to providing support to children and families to improve behavior and strengthen familial relationships. Our goal is to preserve family units and ensure that children can safely remain at home. Preventive services strengthen families by helping parents and caregivers create an environment where children can thrive. Similar to preventive health care, these services address early signs of family problems that, if left untreated, could result in disruptions to the family unit.

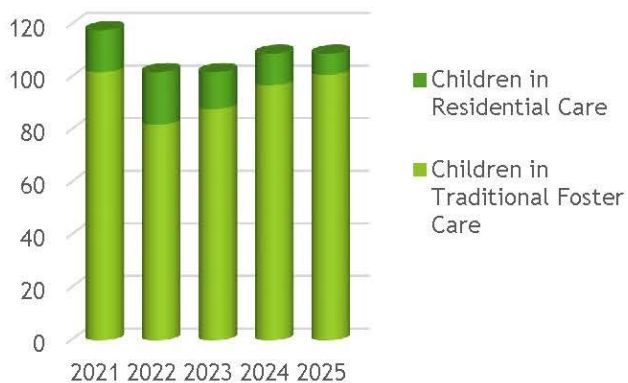
Preventive Services Average Open Cases



In 2025, we continued to utilize community-based services to reduce reliance on long-term DSS involvement and decreased the use of general-purpose case management by DSS staff. We had 96 preventive cases open this year and referred 268 families to community-based services through Unite Us. Our objective remains to assist children and families while minimizing their long-term involvement with the Department of Social Services. Our aim is to help families achieve stability by educating them about available community resources for ongoing support and independence.

In 2025, we maintained increased communication with local school districts to more effectively connect families with services through the Unite Us platform. This initiative aims to raise awareness of available resources for families without the need for an open social services case. We also partnered with our housing unit to help more families transition to stable housing using preventive housing funds as well as, focusing on families experiencing housing instability who have children in foster care to expedite discharge from foster care.

Children in Care at End of Year



Foster Care & Adoption Services focuses on developing permanency plans for children in placement, diligently working to reunite them with their families. When reunification isn't possible, the focus shifts to adoption or independent living. This unit also recruits and certifies foster and adoptive families. Accomplishments in 2025 included:

- Four children achieved permanency through adoption, while many others achieved permanency through reunification, as the goal of foster care is for children to return home, we expect this trend to continue.
- The number of children placed in kinship homes increased by 50% in 2025. Kinship homes keep children closely connected to family, schools, and community,

reducing the potential trauma associated with traditional foster care placements.

- 23 new foster, adoptive, and kinship homes achieved certification.
- All four Quarterly Reviews on our Candidacy and Title IV-E cases with our regional office were evaluated at 100% compliance, allowing us to secure maximum federal and state aid for these eligible cases, thereby reducing the burden on taxpayers.

Adult Protective Services (APS) assists persons 18 years of age or older who, because of mental or physical impairments and no one to assist, cannot provide for their own basic needs for food, clothing, shelter or medical care, or protect themselves from neglect or hazardous situations. Achievements in 2025 include:

- Reviewed, assessed and investigated 263 and closed 260 cases. Over the course of the year, APS managed an average of 121 representative payee cases (management of a client's financial resources) and 46 guardianship cases.
- Worked closely with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley to prevent evictions and worked closely with individuals and helped them to understand when they needed a higher level of care.
- Workers stabilized homeless and difficult to place individuals and got them into apartments. Workers assisted individuals to find appropriate housing to prevent them from losing section 8 housing.

- Investigated financial exploitation of vulnerable individuals and assisted others to apply or recertify for Medicaid and SNAP, preventing loss of benefits. Other investigations included referrals for self-neglect, untreated medical conditions, environmental hazards, and abuse/neglect by caregivers
- Guardianship work included not only insuring safety and finding the best level of care, but included marshalling assets, selling homes, making medical decisions, prearranging burial plans, and obtaining Medicaid and OPWDD services.
- Met with foster care to transition young adults who sign out of foster care to prepare for independent living. This included teaching young adults how to apply for and assist them to get services, apply to get identification, to find apartments and apply for jobs.

DSS Report on Legal Representation of Child Protective Services: In accordance with the recommendations of the 2023 special grand jury which investigated the death of Akasha Luvert, the following report is provided on the status of legal representation for Child Protective Services within Sullivan County DSS:

- Cooperation across the County Attorney's Office and DSS has been exceptional throughout 2025.
- Staffing for both the County Attorney's Office and DSS stabilized in 2025.
- The Managing Attorney attended the New York Public Welfare Association's conference with the rest of the DSS leadership team in July; the first time an attorney joined the DSS team since before the pandemic.
- Coordination between the Managing Attorney for Child Welfare and the Director of Services led to significant improvements in the foster care unit's preparation for court, which enabled even better representation from the assistant county attorneys.

Consultant Review of Child Welfare Programs (Final Report): Undertaken by the Bonadio Group, the review was ordered by the Legislature, at the request of County Manager Joshua Potosek, at the beginning of 2024 as a follow-up to investigations conducted by the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and the aforementioned Sullivan County Grand Jury report. The 60-page report was completed in October 2024 and detailed areas of strength and needs for improvement across the County's child welfare program, including Child Protective Services, Preventive Services, Foster Care, and the programs' legal support.

In all, the consultant review provided five areas of focus to improve the county's child welfare practice – Provide More Efficient Transportation Services, institute Lifecycle Management for Child Welfare Cases, Enhance Information Management and Cross-Department Communications, and Improve Staffing for DSS and County Attorney's Offices. All action items and recommended changes from the review were fully implemented in 2025.



Members of the Legislature, County Manager's Office, Commissioner Liddle and the Foster Care Unit present a proclamation to Foster Care Supervisor, Wendy Mason, on the occasion of her retirement after 34 years of honorable service to the children of Sullivan County.

Temporary Assistance

Unfortunately, major budgetary challenges emerged in 2025 that are negatively impacting our ability to serve persons and families in need. Specifically, the passage of the Big Beautiful Bill (H.R. 1) is already having the effect of reducing access to social service supports, the federal government shutdown in October-November 2025 further eroded access to social services, and programmatic changes in H.R. 1 will cause many Sullivan County residents to lose access to health insurance (via Medicaid) and lose access to SNAP benefits because of expanded work requirements and added recertification paperwork.

Separate from the federal budgetary impacts, Sullivan County's childcare assistance program (CCAP) was forced to deny new and recertifying applicants for childcare subsidies starting on July 1 due to lack of available State and Federal funding for the program. Although initial signs in the 2026-27 executive budget from Governor Hochul indicate significant help is on the way for CCAP, as of this report, it is too early to tell when the CCAP program will be able to reopen. The central challenge for CCAP in Sullivan County is that the massively expanded eligibility criteria are likely still too large to be fully covered by the amount of funding added to the program.

Temporary Assistance Programs DSS provides programs for adults and children who are disabled, unable to work, or because they hold a job that does not pay enough for food, affordable health insurance, or a place to live. There are several different programs, each of which have specific program requirements and eligibility standards. With staffing improvements and redesigning of each unit under the Temporary Assistance umbrella in 2024, we started 2025 on a path to deliver significantly higher quality and more responsive service moving forward. Retention of staff was solid in 2025, though we are struggling a bit with retirements of senior staff and training requirements and programmatic changes for new staff. Unfortunately, the aforementioned budget changes forced frequent additional changes to the organization of our Temporary Assistance program staff to adapt to changing conditions while still delivering the services the public needs. Core programs delivered by the Temporary Assistance Unit include:

- *Emergency Assistance*: Cash assistance to eligible persons for immediate unforeseen emergency needs.
- *Temporary Cash Assistance* is provided to eligible clients through two major entitlement programs. The cash grant for each program includes a basic allowance, a rental allowance and an emergency allowance. The amount of the grant is based on family size and total household income and expenses.
- *Family Assistance* provides financial assistance to families with children deprived of support due to death, absence, or incapacity of a parent. This program is governed by federal and state regulations and is funded 100% by a federal block grant (TANF).
- *Temporary Safety Net Assistance* for single/childless adults (SN) - This state (29%) and County (71%) funded program provides financial assistance to eligible needy individuals and some families who are not eligible for Family Assistance.
- *Fair Hearings*: 206 fair hearings were called with 139 positive agency results (won via hearing, withdrawal or default), 15 were lost, and 52 cases have not been heard yet or we are waiting on a decision from OTDA. The delay in Fair Hearings has been a significant challenge at the state level since the pandemic, but policy changes and new hiring at OTDA are improving the delays – the backlog of cases is slowly shrinking.

The Housing Unit operates under Temporary Assistance. The unit manages and monitors the placement of our local homeless population in emergency housing, conducts weekly inspections of hotel rooms, collaborates with a

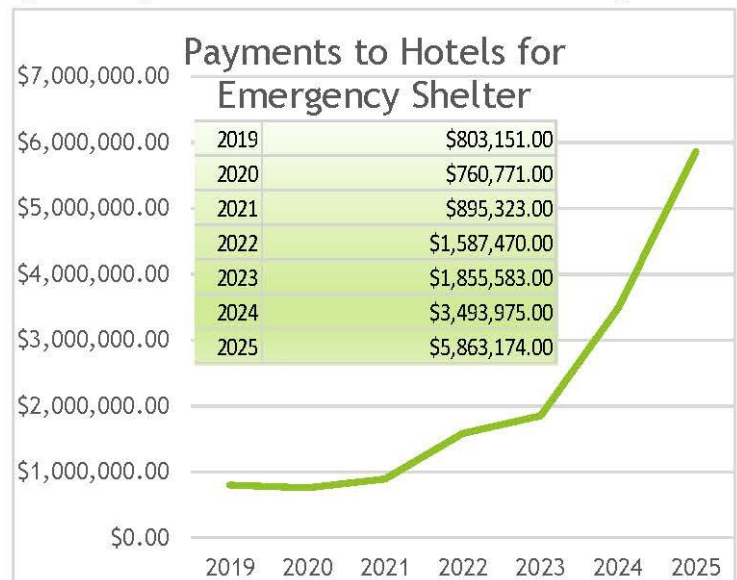
2025 KEY STAT:

Progress was made against 2024's record emergency shelter census. There was a 23% reduction in the number of families placed and a 13% reduction of placements overall at the end of 2025.

variety of local partners, monitors Code Blue and Warming Center placements, and assists clients with obtaining permanent housing.

Temporary Housing costs have skyrocketed over the past four years due to a lack of available housing across the entire socioeconomic spectrum and hotel rates increasing with inflation. There are a variety of factors for the housing shortage including a glut of short-term rentals catering to weekend and summer tourists, aging housing stock, and a 142% increase in median home price over the last six years. For the first time in history, the median home price in Sullivan County reached \$350,000 at the end of 2025.

Were it not for the hard work of DSS Housing staff and local partners, shelter costs would have been significantly higher. DSS established many more relationships with landlord eager for the long-term stability of renting to clients through DSS, and new funding streams have kicked in to help families obtain permanent housing after there was a lull in such programs when pandemic funding supports subsided.

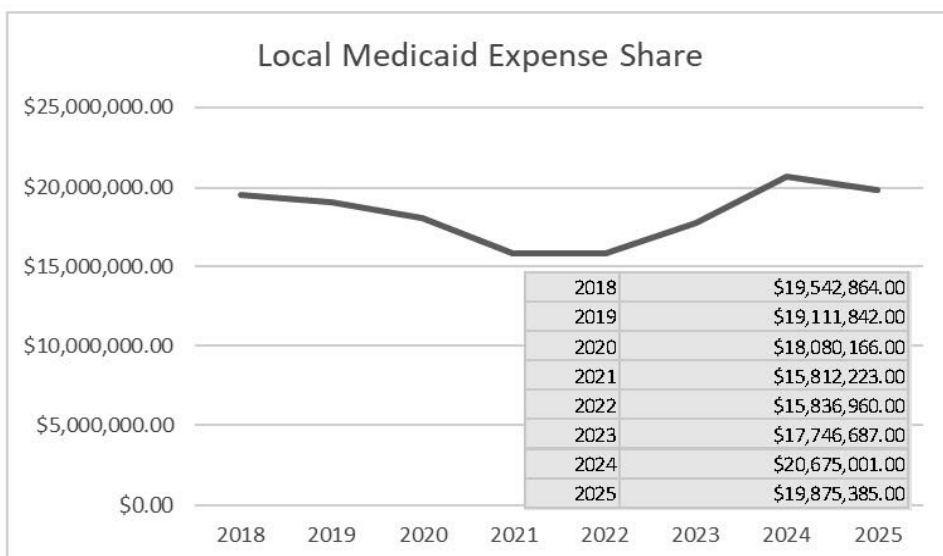


Staff across all units of DSS and community partners spent 2025 focused on transitioning families to permanent housing and getting the highest-risk “street homeless” persons into shelter with mental health case management services. At the end of 2025, progress on these issues has been solid. We started the year with 60 families receiving emergency housing, and through concerted efforts to transition families to permanent housing, we were able to achieve a net decrease of 14 families in emergency housing (23%). Overall, because we have seen a significant increase in single adults presenting as homeless, our total emergency shelter census as of December 31 was only down 13% year-over-year (353 to 313); the single adult census increased from 148 to 165 over the course of the year (+11%). Programs managed by the Housing Unit include the following:

- Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment (SAEF)- This is a state funded program; the funds are issued by Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). The purpose of this is to assist the client that are not income or categorical eligible for Temporary Assistance to assist with back rent forestalling their eviction. DSS received \$95,067 from Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) for SAEF for 2025, we utilized the entire benefit, and in doing so, qualified for a matching level of funds in 2026. This puts Sullivan DSS ahead of many other counties who did not fully utilize the resource in 2025.
- Thanks to support from the Sullivan County Legislature, DSS was able to provide \$250,000 in Rental Supplement Program funding on top of the \$250,000 provided to DSS by OTDA for the same purpose.

The Medical Assistance Unit is responsible for determining eligibility for several Medicaid programs. New York State made significant changes to the income guidelines allowing for more elderly and disabled individuals to be eligible by decreasing or eliminated entirely spend downs for those individuals previously over the income limit.

These programs allow families and single individuals to obtain medical, dental, and optical care services they may not otherwise be able to afford. There are various eligibility requirements for specialized groups such as pregnant women, children under the age of 19, aged individuals, disabled individuals as well as someone seeking to place a loved one in a Nursing Home. All of them are income-based eligibility. Within this unit there are several programs:



- Nursing Home (Chronic Care):**
 This unit guides applicants and potential applicants seeking medical eligibility for placement at a long-term care facility.
 - Managed Long-Term Care: (MLTC):** Provides Medicare recipients with the option of having a Managed Care Plan (HMO) to receive services that help with activities of daily living. This program provides home care attendants and day-care services.
 - Disabled Client Assistance Program:** This program is designed to facilitate the Social Security SSI/SSD application process for disabled Temporary Assistance recipients and applicants who would have difficulty pursuing benefits on their own.
 - Medicare Savings Programs:** The Medicare Buy In assist the aged or disabled individual with their full Medicare premiums
 - Medicare Insurance Premium Payment (MIPP):** Allows Medicaid to make partial Medicare reimbursement payments, if otherwise eligible for full Medicaid.
 - Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIP):** Allows Medicaid to pay private or employer-based cost-effective health insurance premiums for otherwise Medicaid eligible individuals.
 - Managed Care Medicaid Program:** Medicaid Managed Care offers access to HMO plans paid for by Medicaid, allowing an individual improved access to quality medical services more cost-effectively.
 - Medical Evidence Gathering Program:** This program provides for the collection and evaluation of medical and vocational reports by a state medical review team, this is to document the applicant's disability and the expected duration of the impairment as they did not meet the requirements of the social security administration for such disability preventing them from being otherwise Medicaid eligible.
 - Working Disabled:** This program offers the opportunity for a working, disabled individual to buy their Medicaid health coverage.
 - SSI Medicaid:** If an individual is approved for SSI benefits, they are automatically enrolled in Medicaid.
 - Medical Audit:** Provides verification of Third-Party Health insurance, Medicare coverage, Subrogation for Accident and Workers Compensation Insurances, enters information for the Medicare Savings Programs
- The Medicaid unwind from COVID-19 eligibility waivers was completed as required by December 31st.
 - The implementation of The Medicaid Eligibility and Client Management system (MECM). This system will allow New York State of Health (NYSOH) to process and absorb the Non-MAGI (Modified Adjusted Gross Income) population that are seeking Medicare Saving Programs only, or Medicaid with non-waiver services or not receiving Managed Long-Term Care. The local districts will have read only rights.

2025 KEY STAT:

The childcare assistance subsidy caseload more than doubled last year. 5,733 benefits were paid versus 2,714 in 2024

The Childcare Subsidy Program experienced another extremely dynamic year. This team examines eligibility and assists income-eligible parents with childcare costs. After recent changes to laws, regulations and increases in state funding for the program, we now cover up to 80 absences per child per household a year, as well as each provider is now allowed 20 program closure days per year. Under greatly expanded eligibility rules, a household of four making up to \$113,567.65 per year is eligible for child care assistance, as of June 1st, 2025.

- The greatest accomplishment of the childcare unit this year

was bringing timecard reviews and payment processes completely in-house after more than a decade of relying on an outside contractor's support. This effort is making payment processing faster and more accurate, enhancing quality of service and reliability for childcare vendors.

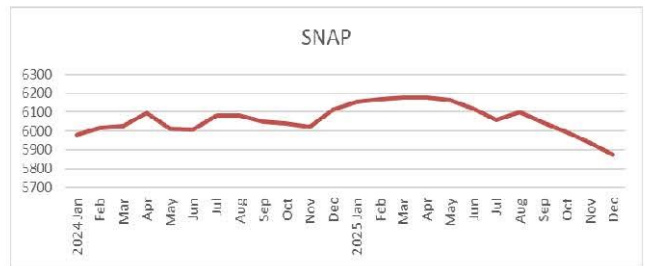
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) is a food supplement program that helps stretch a household's food budget. It operates under regulations set by the US Department of Agriculture and benefits are currently 100% federally funded, though this may change in 2027 because of changes to

program rules made by the "Big, Beautiful Bill," H.R.1. Only non-taxable food items are allowed for purchase by this program. Aside from the near-future changes expected for SNAP, 2025 was also a difficult year for the program because of the federal government

shutdown. Of greatest concern, anecdotal reporting suggests that food pantry usage around the county is higher than ever, yet SNAP caseloads have trended downward since March 2025. As of this report, we do not know of a cause for this decline in caseloads, but with more stringent work requirements on the horizon and immigrant families less likely to engage in programs, the decline in caseloads, in spite of actual need present in the community, is to be expected.

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) offsets fuel and utility costs for households in need. HEAP funds are usually available from mid-November until mid-April, but may end sooner if funds are depleted. The size of HEAP benefits is based on the type of household, income, and the type of fuel or utility. It is supported by a 100% state-supported, federally-funded block grant. In 2025, the federal government shutdown delayed the opening of HEAP by a month. Staff had a two-day notice of the opening date, and despite the hurry-up-and-wait nature of this year's HEAP season, our team was able to process over three thousand automatic payments.

- 3,237 automatic benefits through SNAP cases were processed
- As of 12/31 3,220 HEAP benefits were processed and \$3,398,778 in benefits were issued
- There were 282 new cases that had never had HEAP before this year
- Due to reduced funding at the State and Federal level, Heating Equipment Repair or Replacement (HERR) now can only assist those sixty years of age and older. All others must apply through Temporary Assistance for this benefit, which has a more restrictive income test.
- HEAP approved 3 cases under new HERR rules and the Temporary Assistance approved 4 cases.
- Clean and Tune program was discontinued due to lack of available funds at the State level



2024-2025 enrollment trend for SNAP

2025 KEY STAT:

Direct support to the Housing Unit to enhance safety and best use of taxpayer funds resulted in 150 emergency shelter room closures for reasons including: non-compliance with program rules, unauthorized guests, and misuse/damages.

The Special Investigations and Resource Recovery Unit (SIU) is responsible for fraud referral intake and reporting. We conduct fieldwork, maintain collateral contacts and complete interviews. The unit also receives information through the Criminal Justice, Prison, Lottery, and Public Assistance Recipient Information System Matches.

SIU provides the essential “back-office” portion of the Sullivan County Welfare Fraud Task Force. The

Task Force includes the Sullivan County District Attorney’s Office and Sheriff’s Offices. Our joint efforts result in arrests and restitution from fraudulently obtained welfare benefits. This can include the arrests of individuals who violate parole or probation, breach sex offender requirements, or have other outstanding warrants or crimes.

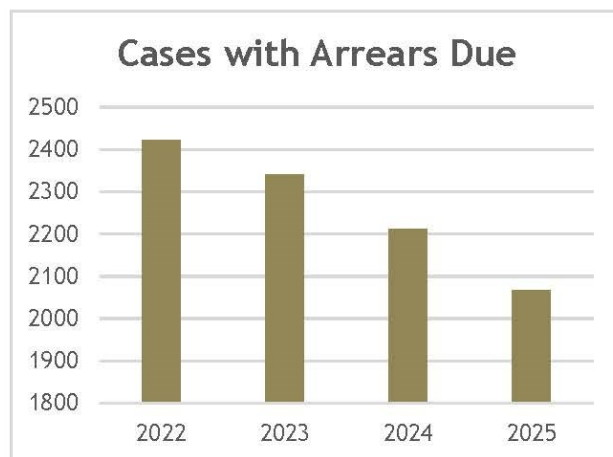
SIU recovers money through establishment of accident liens and estate claims. Money is also recovered from bank accounts of deceased recipients and unclaimed funds. In addition, collection of over issued assistance, fraud and misuse claims are established. Authorization of indigent burial/cremation funds are the responsibility of SIU. Requests are reviewed to determine the applicant’s locality, resources and how they should be applied.

The Sheriff’s Detective assigned to the Welfare Fraud Task Force, based out of the DSS offices in Liberty, has also been a critical support to DSS emergency shelter operations – helping Housing Unit staff provide emergency shelter to those in need, while also helping the Housing Unit enforce program rules, leading to enhanced safety in emergency shelter hotels and better stewardship of taxpayer funds.

- Estate claim and resource recoveries totaled \$209,289.91
- 103 overpayment calculations totaling \$201,234.83
- Review of 2,437 State Report Matches resulted in 339 case closings, preventing over issuance of funds
- Review of law enforcement investigations led to 22 arrests, 49 investigations active/pending at year’s end, and 19 Intentional Program Violation sanctions resulting in \$36,259.00 in savings
- Assisted Veterans Administration with 18 burial/cremation eligibility reviews
- Denied 44 of 182 indigent burial/cremation requests after eligibility reviews.

The Child Support Enforcement Unit enhances the lives of children and families by helping parents meet the financial, medical, and emotional needs of children by establishing and enforcing child support orders.

- Total collections for 2025: \$7,516,973.99
- The Total Number of Cases with Arrears Due 2025: 2068 (6.5% decreased from 2024)
- The Child Support Unit continues to exceed the federally mandated guidelines for Paternity Establishment Percentage (PEP) at 95.05 % and the Support Establishment Percentage (SEP) at 92.15%.
- Sullivan County is 1 of 12 pilot districts for the SAVES (Safe Access for Victims’ Economic Security) grant. The goal of this program is to strengthen safe access to child support. We are in our 4th year of this 5-year pilot.



- The Child Support Unit has been utilizing Laserfiche to digitize our closed paper files. By the end of 2025, 2935 files were scanned.

Administration, Finance and Training - The DSS accounting team once again met all state and federal claiming deadlines. Our staff development coordinator also took significant steps forward in the training and professionalization of our workforce.

- Continued to refine DSS new employee orientation & onboarding program and the DSS Annual Training Plan, which incorporates County & State training requirements and the Commissioner's Goals for the year.
- Enhancing coordination with local non-profit agencies and other county departments with bi-monthly presentations to raise staff awareness of available services and programming.
- Ensured full compliance with state and federal regulations by maintaining accurate financial records, adhering to grant-specific cost allocations, and completed mandating reporting and audits.
- Implemented strong internal controls, such as, segregation of duties, documented procedures and manuals, and compliance reviews. This is to safeguard public funds and verify that the DSS is verifying and being great stewards of county dollars.

Front cover pictures (clockwise from top): 1. Deputy DPH Director Jill Hubert-Simon and Community Services Coordinator Camille O'Brien participate in a Stress First Aid training event provided by the Division of Public Safety; Physical Therapy staff from the DPH's Home Health Agency pose for a team photo; 2. Local EMT/Paramedic Lee Karasik speaks to Legislators on the occasion of Disability Awareness Month; 3. Public Health Educator Patricia Pelletier represents Public Health at the annual Bagelfest in Monticello; 4. Legislator Cat Scott presents a proclamation to Bethel resident and retired lead DSS Attorney Colleen Cunningham marking September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Colleen's granddaughter, Madelyn, is a cancer survivor; 5. Members of Liberty Police Department and Hope Not Handcuffs gather in late October to celebrate the establishment of the county-wide Quick Reaction Team for overdose response; 6. Legislature Chair Nadia Rajsz presents a proclamation marking September as Hunger Action Month. She is joined by Kathy Kreiter, Executive Director of the Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless, Susan Lintner and Barry Lewis of the Hudson Valley Food Bank; 7. County Manager Joshua Potosek joins Senator Chuck Schumer, Dr. Terri Hamlin (CEO, Center for Discovery) and local Legislative Leaders to raise awareness of the challenges presented to local hospitals and Medicaid recipients by the passage of H.R.1 in July; 8. Legislator Scott, Commissioner Liddle and DPH Director, Dr. Jessie Moore join together with local students and school resource officers to promote "World No Tobacco Day" on the Hurleyville Rail Trail on May 30, 2025.

HISTORIAN

John Conway, Sullivan County Historian

There follows a brief summary of the activities of the Sullivan County Historian during the 2025 calendar year. February 11, 2025 marked the 32nd anniversary of the Historian in his position.

As compiled by this Historian several years ago, the previous County Historians and their terms in office have been: Adelbert M. Scriber (1933-1948); James W. Burbank (1948-1954); Charles S. Hick (1954-1959); Nathan Weiss (1959-1960); Manville B. Wakefield (1961-1973); and William G. Smith (1974-1992).

As has been the case for most of his years in the position, in addition to fairly regular collaborations with local broadcast and print media, the Historian was consulted by numerous other media outlets, national and international, to provide information and perspective on a wide range of stories. One highlight was an interview with a reporter working on an article about the songwriter Irving Berlin-- who for many years had a home in Lew Beach, which is still owned by his family—for *Baabel*, a Romanian magazine. The article appeared in the December issue of the magazine, with quotes from the Historian.

Another of the highlights of the Historian's year was viewing the six-part documentary, *The American Revolution*, which Florentine Films, Ken Burns' team, put together for PBS. Accompanied by the Historian, the Florentine Films team made three separate trips to the County-owned Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg in 2024 to film background material for their production, and it was great fun to view the series in November of 2025 and identify footage shot at the Fort.

In May, the Historian was honored to be asked to deliver the keynote address at the annual dinner of the New York State Bar Association at the Kartrite Resort in Monticello. His presentation was extremely well received and resulted in a prolonged Q&A afterward.

The Historian continued to work with the Historical Society of the New York State Courts on the legal history of Sullivan County, including profiles of noted personalities such as Lawrence H. Cooke and Judith Smith Kaye, William B. Wright, Hamilton Odell, Arthur C. Butts, and Sydney F. Foster.

The Historian also viewed the final product from Brooklyn filmmaker Evan Haimann about boxing in the Catskills, in which the Historian was prominently featured, providing on-camera details about the boxers who trained at the local hotels, some of whom the Historian met personally. During a Q&A following the November debut of the documentary at the Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Cinema, the filmmaker credited the Historian for the initial idea for the documentary, a point he also made in various newspaper articles about the film.

In addition, the Historian was interviewed on the telephone by a reporter from the New York Times about the gangster Dutch Schultz's lost Catskills treasure, a topic the Historian wrote a book about back in 2000 and has spoken about throughout the country and in several documentaries over the years. As this report is being written, no article has resulted from the interview.

The Historian continued his collaboration with the Borscht Belt Historical Marker Project, editing all of the marker texts for historical accuracy and speaking at some of the marker reveals, including one in Parksville. Additional markers are scheduled to be unveiled in 2026, including one in Lake Huntington, arguably the westernmost point of the Borscht Belt in the county. There are more than 20 markers scheduled to be included in the project, which is being mostly funded by The Jewish American Society

for Historic Preservation, and is being spearheaded locally by photographer and author Marisa Scheinfeld, formerly of Monticello.

The Historian completed 57 speaking engagements and interviews in 2025, a full listing of which is provided at the end of this report. The programs listed were conducted both in-person and via ZOOM, and interviews were conducted live and on the telephone. Coincidentally, that is the exact number of presentations and interviews the Historian completed in 2024.

The Historian once again worked closely with Sullivan County's O&W Railway Alliance to promote the rail trail, and conducted narrated hikes during the year along sections of the trail. The Historian also narrated hikes along the D&H Canal towpath, and at the Minisink Battleground, including one for nearly 100 students, parents, and teachers from the Minisink Valley High School in Orange County.

The Historian continued to work with The Delaware Company to provide historical programming at Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History in Narrowsburg and at the Minisink Battleground.

The Historian and the committee organized specifically for the purpose continued planning events to commemorate the Semiquincentennial of the American Revolution, which was officially kicked off in 2025. The Historian and his wife, Debra, the Executive Director of The Delaware Company, were appointed co-chairs of Sullivan County's Rev War 250 Commission by the Sullivan County Legislature in 2022, and a committee of 10 local residents has come together to carry out the project. The commemoration is expected to be ongoing through 2033. The commemoration got underway locally with an April 26, 2025 event at Seminary Hill Cidery in Callicoon. The event featured food, an amazing cake sculpture by talented local artist Kim Simons, a dramatic reading by local performance artist Oliver King, and a one-woman play by Judith Kalaora of the Boston-based History at Play. About 75 persons attended the event, which was underwritten by The Delaware Company and several sponsors.

The Historian and the Semiquincentennial Commission have been hard at work putting together a full slate of activities to mark the 250th anniversary of American Independence in 2026. These events will include collaboration with numerous other organizations from the Bar Association and the Community Chorus to the National Park Service and Time & The Valleys Museum, and will take place from one end of the County to the other.

In December of 2025, the Historian was honored to receive the Ambassador Award from the Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association in recognition of his many years of work promoting the County throughout the world.

The Historian also continued his work on the Board of Directors of the Association of Public Historians of New York State in 2025. His term runs thru the end of 2026.

In 2025, the Historian spent 548 hours on the job, not including the many hours spent at Fort Delaware in his capacity as president of The Delaware Company and as Director of the Fort. He travelled 2,481 miles in performance of his duties, a number that has been steadily declining in recent years as ZOOM presentations have replaced in-person programs in many instances. It might be noted here that the Historian has NEVER received reimbursement for mileage (or any other expense) during his 32 years on the job. A table showing his yearly totals follows:

Year	Speaking Engagements	Hours	Mileage
2025	57	548	2481
2024	57	575	3449
2023	50	804	4301
2022	48	907	3685
2021	50	760	1845
2020	17	620	1305
2019	58	663	3298
2018	50	724	4336
2017	50	649	3682
2016	51	721	4177
2015	39	719	5313
2014	28	610	4601
2013	28	566	4294
2012	22	423	3764
2011	22	479	3675

2025 SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (57)

1. Sunday, February 2, 2025

Time & the Valleys Museum (via ZOOM)

A Settlement Divided

2. Monday February 10, 2025

Skirball Project

Los Angeles, CA

ZOOM Interview

Borscht Belt Hotels

3. Thursday, February 20, 2025

Sullivan County Legislature

Monticello, NY

Black History Month: Sullivan County's Link to The Harlem Renaissance

4. Thursday, March 6, 2025

Skirball Project

Los Angeles, CA

Follow up Interview on Borscht Belt Hotels

5. Thursday, April 3, 2025

SAGE Sessions

Narrowsburg, NY

The Lenape: Their Language, Their Culture, Their Legacy

6. Monday, April 14, 2025

Judge Albert Rosenblatt and Julia Kraut, PhD.
Historical Society of the New York State Courts Project
Phone Interview
Sullivan County Legal History

7. Friday, April 25, 2025

Author A.J. Schenkman
Phone Interview
Sullivan County Properties of John Lennon and Yoko Ono

8. Saturday, April 26, 2025

Sullivan County Semiquincentennial Commemoration
Seminary Hill Cidery
Callicoon, NY
The British Are Coming

9. Sunday, April 27, 2025

National Celebrate Trails Day
Kate Project Trail, Barryville - 2 p.m.
D&H Canal/Delaware River History Hike

10. Tuesday, April 29, 2025

The River Reporter newspaper
Phone Interview w/ Annemarie Schuetz
Grand Opening of Fort Delaware 2025

11. Tuesday, April 29, 2025

Crawford Public Library
Monticello, NY – 6:30 p.m..
Brushland to Broadway: The Evolution of Monticello's Main Street

12. Friday, May 2, 2025

New York State Bar Association
Annual Meeting – Kartrite Water Park, Monticello
Crime and Punishment: Organized Crime in Sullivan County in the 1930s

13. Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Forage & Gather
Hurleyville, NY – 6 p.m.
Sullivan County Gangster Trivia

14. Saturday, May 10, 2025

Seminary Hill Cidery
Callicoon, NY – 2 p.m.
The Apple Industry in Sullivan County

15. Saturday, May 17, 2025

Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History (Grand Opening)
Narrowsburg, NY – 4 p.m. (Bold Gold Media Speaker Series))
The Benedict Arnold Connection

16. Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Town of Bethel Seniors
Kauneonga Lake, NY – 1 p.m.
Rev War 250 and Sullivan County

17. Friday, June 6, 2025

O&W Railway Historical Society
Middletown, NY – 7 p.m. (via ZOOM)
Sullivan County's Silver Age: Railroads, Grand Hotels, and Sanatoriums

18. Wednesday, June 18, 2025

World Sauntering Day
Milk Train Trail
Hurleyville, NY – 6 p.m.
History Hike

19. Sunday, June 22, 2025

Sullivan County D&H Canal Linear Park
Summitville, NY - 3 p.m.
The Economic Impact of the D&H Canal

20. Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Hurleyville Podcast
Videotaped Interview – 6 p.m.
The Role of the County Historian

21. Wednesday, July 9, 2025

Micah Blaichman, PhD
New York University (Telephone Interview) – 1 p.m.
Henry George and Merriewold Park

22. Wednesday, July 9, 2025

WCVB-TV Channel 5
Boston, MA (Live Interview in Hurleyville w/ Ted Reinstein) – 2:30 p.m.
The Borscht Belt and Mel Brooks

23. Saturday, July 12, 2025

Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History
Narrowsburg, NY – 1 p.m.
Patriots & Loyalists Day (Declaration of Independence)

24. Saturday, July 19, 2025

Minisink Battleground Park

Minisink Ford, NY – 4 p.m.

Annual Commemoration of the Battle of Minisink (Master of Ceremonies)

25. Wednesday, July 23, 2025

A Single Bite

Livingston Manor, NY (Telephone Interview)

History of Farms and Farming in Sullivan County

26. Wednesday, July 30, 2025

WJFF Radio News

Liberty, NY – 11 a.m. (Telephone Interview)

Historic Sullivan County Floods

27. Wednesday, July 30, 2025

A Single Bite

Livingston Manor, NY – 2 p.m. (Telephone Interview w/ Liz Stretch)

Famous Sullivan County Residents

28. Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Catskills News Talk Radio

Paul Ciliberto – 7:30 a.m. (live via telephone)

Upcoming Programming at Fort Delaware

29. Wednesday, August 13, 2025

Municipal Historians of Sullivan County

Hurleyville, NY – 2 p.m.

Sullivan County's Semiquincentennial Commemoration

30. Thursday, August 21, 2025

Sullivan County Legislature

Monticello, NY - 10:30 a.m.

Sullivan County Semiquincentennial Commission

31. Saturday, August 23, 2025

Smallwood Club

Smallwood, NY – 7 p.m.

Murder in Paradise: Organized Crime in Sullivan County in the 1930s

32. Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Florentine Films

Walpole, RI – (phone interview w. Megan Ruffe)

Ken Burns Presents the American Revolution on PBS

33. Wednesday, September 17, 2025

New York Times

New York, NY – 3 p.m. (phone interview w/ Corey Kilgannon)

Dutch Schultz's Buried Treasure

34. Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Monticello High School Academy of Finance

Monticello, NY – 12:45 p.m.

Business and Industry in Sullivan County History

35. Friday, October 3, 2025

Monticello High School Hall of Distinction

Monticello, NY – 5 p.m.

Introduction of Inductee Daniel Briggs

36. Sunday, October 5, 2025

Borscht Belt Historical Marker Project

Parksville, NY – 2 p.m.

The Youngs Gap and Other Parksville Hotels

37. Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association

Liberty, NY – 3 p.m. (Interview w/ Michael Martleon)

Sullivan County's Semiquincentennial

38. Thursday, October 9, 2025

Minisink Valley Middle School

Slate Hill, NY – 9:45 a.m. (Meet at Minisink Battleground))

Cushetunk and the Battle of Minisink

39. Thursday, October 23, 2025

WVOS Radio

Monticello, NY – 8:30 a.m. (Phone Interview w/Eddie Wilson)

HO&WL Haunted History Hike promo

40. Friday, October 24, 2025

Sullivan O&W Rail Trail Alliance

Hurleyville, NY – 5:30 p.m. (Milk Train Trail East)

Narrate Halloween Haunted History Hike

41. Saturday, October 25, 2025

Barryville Farmers Market

Barryville, NY – 11 a.m. (Halloween Parade)

Introduce and March with Fort Delaware Fife & Drum Corps

42. Saturday, October 25, 2025

Minisink Battleground Park
Minisink Ford, NY – 2 p.m.
Highland Halloween Haunted History Hike

43. Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Town of Highland
Barryville, NY – (Ribbon Cutting for Sullivan 180 Grant Project)
The D&H Canal in Sullivan County and The Kate Project

44. Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Borscht Belt Historical Marker Project
Callicoon, NY (Telephone Interview w/ Marisa Scheinfeld)
Why Callicoon Wasn't Part of the Borscht Belt

45. Saturday, November 1, 2025

SUNY Sullivan Fall Festival
Loch Sheldrake, NY – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Fort Delaware and The Delaware Company

46. Thursday, November 6, 2025

SAGE Sessions
Narrowsburg, NY – 1:30 p.m.
The History of Sullivan County as a Healing Environment

47. Sunday, November 9, 2025

Baabel Magazine
Romania – 1 p.m. (Telephone Interview w/ Christina Toma)
Irving Berlin in Sullivan County

48. Tuesday, November 11, 2025

WVOS Radio
Monticello, NY – 8:30 a.m. (live telephone interview w/ Eddie Wilson)
Veterans Day in Sullivan County History

49. Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Monticello Rotary Club
Monticello, NY – 6 p.m.
Historic Sullivan County Veterans

50. Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association
Hurleyville, NY – 3 p.m. (driving tour w/ Michael Martelon)
Major and Minor Hotels In and Around Monticello and Fallsburg

51. Monday, November 17, 2025

WJFF Radio

Liberty, NY – 2 p.m. (Recorded telephone interview)

Echoes Along the Delaware Project

52. Monday, November 17, 2025

Leadership Sullivan

Holiday Mountain Ski Area – 3:15 p.m.

History of Sullivan County: An Overview

53. Saturday, November 22, 2025

DVAA

Narrowsburg, NY – 3 p.m.

Echoes Along the Delaware: Music in Sullivan County History

54. Saturday, November 29, 2025

Hurleyville Performing Arts Centre Cinema

Hurleyville, NY – 8 p.m.

Ringside in the Mountains (Documentary Premier)

55. Tuesday, December 9, 2025

NY Times

(Telephone Interview w/ Jane Gottlieb) – 3 p.m.

Skiing and Ski Hills in Sullivan County History

56. Thursday, December 18, 2025

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association

Annual Meeting

Bethel Woods, NY – 6 p.m.

Recipient, 2025 Ambassador Award

57. Tuesday, December 30, 2025

Catskills News Talk Radio

Monticello, NY – 7 a.m. (Interview w/ Paul Ciliberto)

Sullivan County and the Semiquincentennial Events

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Julie Diescher, Human Resources Commissioner

The Sullivan County Department of Human Resources administers civil service for 41 local jurisdictions, including towns, villages, school districts and libraries. Sullivan County Personnel department hosted 291 CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS and processed 1229 applicants for these exams

In an effort to recruit and retain a diverse workforce the HR Team attended 27 recruitment events, posted over 115 job openings on various Social Media outlets and assisted in the professional development of 16 Student Interns. Through a variety of social media and other marketing measures we received, reviewed and processed 3294 applications and resumes, a slight decrease from last year, attributed to stabilization of the workforce. The office hosted 34 orientations, including (student/summer programs), processed 194 new hires, (reclassified 133 positions and added 102 titles to the HELP Program. Sullivan County jurisdictions kept our office busy which is evidenced by the 5628 payroll/position related changes processed through our office – in addition to the 5596 position related changes processed for the County.

Human Resources and Risk Management assisted 32 employees transition into retirement, processed 107 resignations and 15 unemployment claims for 2025, of which 5 were successfully controverted. The department processed 31 tuition assistance requests for 2025.

In line with our digitized office goal, we continued to streamline and gain efficiencies in our processes through scanning pertinent Risk Management and Personnel related documents. The digitized leave accrual donation form resulted in 129 submissions of donated accruals in 2025, a 26% increase from 2024.

County employees successfully completed 34,121 state and other County mandated classes. In addition to Leadership Development Classes for employees, the office continues to provide Civil Service related trainings for jurisdictions/departments and in 2025 hosted 22 such trainings.

Sullivan County recognizes our greatest asset is our workforce. We strive to create and maintain a work environment that is professional and respectful. When an employee takes the time to provide feedback or express concerns about their environment or a potential violation of law or County Policy, we take that seriously. In 2025, the office investigated 40 personnel related complaints resulting in recommendations for trainings through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or counseling/progressive discipline where applicable. This resulted in 442 units of service through the EAP referral/coaching benefit. The year-end report for this benefit also reflects 305 self-help units utilized in addition to 129 employees served through 203 self-initiated professional development classes taken. Utilization total decreased from last year.

The office noted a significant decrease in the utilization of Family Medical Leaves, ending 2025 with 104 approved, a significant decrease compared to the previous year. We strive to ensure that our workforce is a reflection of the diversity of our surrounding community, adding additional staff to our language translation list for a total of 49 employees that receive a stipend for language interpretation.

The Department of Risk Management and Insurance is responsible for the comprehensive risk management and various insurance programs that are in place to protect and insure the assets of Sullivan County.

Risk Management oversees various employee benefit programs such as: health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, short term disability, the administration of COBRA benefits and various voluntary benefits. Benefits are provided to approximately 1300 employees and retirees.

In 2025, the department provided benefit overviews in 24 orientations for 194 new hires, of which 84 enrolled in benefits. The office coordinated and offered five (5) separate open enrollment informational sessions for the 2026 plan year. Additionally, the department processed and researched 48 retiree benefit eligibility requests, 387 Medicare Part B reimbursements, and 120 COBRA notices, 41 of which were to dependents that aged out of coverage.

The Department continues to reduce the County's total cost of risk. Through partnership with PERMA, we have extended our safety committee to County jurisdictions and held 10 safety committee meetings in 2025. The office reviewed and processed 821 LENS (driving) reports and notified respective appointing authorities of any applicable driving restrictions. The County began offering defensive driving to employees in 2025. This effort was coordinated through the Risk office, by processing 185 class requests.

Various types of insurance coverage is provided for the County through the Risk Management office which include; cybersecurity, Property and Liability, automobile insurance for 353 County vehicles and additional coverages for the Sullivan County Airport, the Sheriff's office and the Adult Care Center. Additionally, the Risk Management and Insurance Department administers the Self-Funded Worker's Compensation Program. This coverage includes the County, Sullivan County Community College, Sullivan County Soil & Water, 15 Towns, 5 Villages and 47 Volunteer Fire and Ambulance companies.

The office processed 115 Workman's Compensation Claims which included; 27 incident only, 82 medical and 9 207C claims. 23 Short Term Disability Claims in 2025. Additionally, the office processed 91 Health Insurance Buyouts to employees that opted out of the health insurance coverage for the entire 2025 plan year.

Our goals continue as they have been; to provide the best customer service to our clients; the County, County employees and Retirees; Participants in our self-funded WC Plan and the Taxpayers of the County.

We continue the process of reviewing targeted loss control for our County staff and our WC Plan Participants. We continue to strive to create a safer workplace environments and remain a valuable contributor to the County Safety Plan.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Ramone Wilson, Human Rights Commission Executive Director

Executive Summary

In 2025, the Sullivan County Human Rights Commission strengthened its role as a proactive direct advocacy office, ensuring residents have accessible pathways to justice. The Office served 45 individuals, formally categorized 32 matters, and successfully mediated high impact disputes locally. The implementation of a new Online Complaint Portal enhanced accessibility, transparency, and structured case tracking.

My vision this year was defined by Direct Advocacy—ensuring that the protections of the law are not just words on a page, but accessible tools for every resident. From supporting individuals in employment hearings to ensuring our students in temporary housing have basic dignities, the HRC has been on the front lines, bridging the gap between systemic challenges and individual justice.

2025 Accomplishments and Initiatives

- Transitioned to a proactive Direct Advocacy model emphasizing early intervention.
- Processed and reviewed 32 formally categorized matters, with additional cases pending review.
- Served a total of 45 individuals across housing, employment, and discrimination matters.
- Successfully mediated 5 disputes locally: 3 Housing related and 2 Employment related.
- Escalated 9 confirmed complaints to the NYS Division of Human Rights.
- Dismissed 14 matters following jurisdictional review.
- Identified Housing Stability as the leading complaint category with 7 cases.
- Addressed 5 racial discrimination matters and 5 harassment related matters.
- Implemented a new Online Complaint Portal accessible via the County website.
- Led the Care Closet Initiative benefiting approximately 80–100 students.
- Hosted a Legal Roundtable event with approximately 50 attendees.
- Maintained monthly public Human Rights Commission meetings.

2025 Strategic Goals

Goals Realized

- Established proactive Direct Advocacy framework.
- Implemented structured intake and case tracking process.
- Launched Online Complaint Portal.
- Conducted Legal Roundtable public education event.
- Maintained consistent monthly Commission meetings.

Goals in Progress

- Expand Legal Roundtable into recurring educational series.
- Formalize strategic partnerships with community organizations and law enforcement.
- Host NYS Human Rights officials locally for resident education.
- Develop formal school district collaboration framework.
- Expand longitudinal data tracking and analytics.

2025 Statistical Overview

Case Outcomes

Confirmed and Escalated to NYS Division of Human Rights	9
Successful Local Mediations	5
Dismissed After Review	14
Total Formally Categorized Matters	32
Total Individuals Served	45

Mediation Breakdown

Housing Related Mediations	3
Employment Related Mediations	2

Primary Areas of Complaint

Housing Stability	7
Racial Discrimination	5
Harassment	5

Community Impact Metrics

Legal Roundtable Attendance	50
Students Supported through Care Closet Initiative	80–100
Commission Meetings Held	Monthly

DIV. OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Lorne Green, Information Technology Services Commissioner

Executive Overview

In 2025, Sullivan County ITS delivered a transformative year of progress, advancing a unified, secure, and modern technology environment across all County operations. Key achievements included the establishment of a comprehensive IT governance framework, measurable cybersecurity maturity improvements, critical infrastructure modernization, and continued expansion of broadband access to underserved areas under the \$30M Municipal Infrastructure Program grant.

Governance & Policy Modernization

- ▶ Developed and consolidated a comprehensive County-wide IT policy framework, aligning governance, cybersecurity, and operational standards into a single structured document.
- ▶ Standardized policy numbering and lifecycle management to improve auditability, compliance, and legislative clarity.
- ▶ Introduced formal authority structures and accountability models across departments, including integration with Public Safety and Sheriff operations.
- ▶ Enabled legislative adoption readiness, including resolution language, executive summaries, and certification structures.

Cybersecurity & Risk Management

- ▶ **Formalized and operationalized the County's Incident Response (IR) framework**, improving coordination between ITS, Finance, and leadership.
- ▶ Addressed key control gaps identified in real-world scenarios (e.g., financial fraud risk), including:
 - ▶ Out-of-band verification for financial transactions
 - ▶ Dual authorization processes
 - ▶ Expanded security awareness training to reduce human-factor risk.
- ▶ Advanced alignment with CJIS, HIPAA, and NYS regulatory requirements, reinforcing County compliance posture.

Infrastructure & Core Systems

- ▶ Continued modernization of County data center and tower infrastructure in support of broadband needs, balancing operational transparency with critical infrastructure security protections.
- ▶ Standardized deployment models for electrical upgrades at all broadband communications sites.
- ▶ Strengthened network reliability and resiliency across County facilities and emergency services.
- ▶ Advanced centralized IT oversight for departments operating on the County unified network, ensuring consistent standards and compliance.

Broadband Expansion & Connectivity

Under the Municipal Infrastructure grant, progressed County broadband initiatives to expand high-speed internet access to underserved and rural areas.

- ▶ Supported infrastructure planning and coordination for last-mile connectivity improvements.
- ▶ Strengthened partnerships and planning efforts to position the County for state and federal broadband funding opportunities.
- ▶ Reinforced broadband as critical infrastructure, aligned with economic development and public safety priorities.

Operational Excellence & Service Delivery

- ▶ Improved internal service coordination and communication between ITS and departments, including Public Safety and external partners.
- ▶ Streamlined vendor engagement and procurement processes (including international coordination where required).
- ▶ Enhanced documentation, reporting, and executive communication to support decision-making and transparency.
- ▶ Maintained high service reliability while supporting ongoing modernization initiatives.

Strategic Impact

- ▶ Positioned Sullivan County ITS as a centralized authority for technology governance and cybersecurity.
- ▶ Reduced organizational risk through structured controls, policies, and training.
- ▶ Enabled future scalability through standardized infrastructure and governance models.
- ▶ Advanced digital equity and economic opportunity through broadband expansion efforts.

Looking Ahead to 2026

- ▶ Final legislative adoption and enforcement of the unified IT policy framework
- ▶ Continued cybersecurity maturity growth (monitoring, response, and automation)
- ▶ Expansion of broadband deployment projects
- ▶ Further integration of County departments under centralized IT governance
- ▶ Ongoing infrastructure modernization and resiliency improvements

Bottom Line

2025 marked a foundational year in which Sullivan County transitioned from fragmented technology practices to a cohesive, secure, and strategically governed IT environment, positioning the County for long-term operational excellence and community impact.

DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

Anna-Marie Novello, Management & Budget Commissioner

- Developed and crafted the 2026 Operating Budget and 2026-2031 Capital Plan in conjunction with the County Manager, including input from departments. This budget stayed within the Tax Cap as defined by the NYS Office of the State Comptroller. This budget consists of two separate books. The detail book includes fiscal summaries; each individual line item for each of the County's organization codes; detailed position listing by department including position number, title and budget dollar amount; and the 2026-2031 Capital Plan. The Executive Summary is designed to provide the average taxpayer a more transparent and easy to understand version of the budget. Included in the Executive Summary is a budget overview, revenue and expense discussions, various fiscal summaries and department summaries. An interactive, digital budget book was developed for the 2026 Operating Budget, complete with drop down menus and filterable graphing so that interested parties can dive into budget information in a new and innovative manner.
- Sullivan County received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the National Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the 2025 budget. This is the tenth consecutive year the county received this award. This award is based upon certain criteria outlined by the GFOA with the goal of providing the citizens of Sullivan County a document that is easy to read and understand where their tax dollars are being spent. Each year the Budget Office strives to make improvements to the document by following GFOA guidelines.
- The Division of Management and Budget continues to maintain the finances of the Adult Care Center. Effective October 1, 2021, Infinite Care began consulting on the operations of the Adult Care Center. The County still maintains the accounting records; entire procurement process; manages the bank accounts; manages the resident savings accounts; and manages the payroll for County employees working at the facility. Communication with the consulting company regarding the financial standing of the Adult Care Center is also a large part of our ongoing participation.
- Staff from the Division of Management and Budget manage and operate the fiscal portion of the Public Health and Community Services departments. These employees all work closely with the program managers to ensure accurate budgets, maximize grant funding, maintain all payables and receivables, and submit precise required cost reporting. This reporting is necessary to maintain our streams of State and Federal funding and various grants and allocation. The fiscal team works hand in hand with management to help guide the departments through the fiscal landscape. This year our staff along with Public Health management were able to create program reviews to not only make sure we were serving the public to our full capacity but also to ensure we were properly using grant funds to fund these services saving our local taxpayers money.

- The Division of Management and Budget also took active rolls in our various Corporate Compliance committees. We were able to assist with ensuring that the fiscal and contract processes in many departments were being followed to reflect the County's policies.
- We continued to assist with some of the fiscal aspects of the Grants and Planning departments. We have actively taken a roll in the Opioid Settlement funds that the County received. We, along with the Treasurer's department assisted in the budget, expenses, and reporting of these funds and will continue to do so.
- Quarterly reporting for the American Rescue Plan Act as required by the US Treasury was filed timely. While all funds have been obligated and expended, quarterly reporting will continue until the US Treasury close out procedures are made available and are completed.
- In conjunction with the Purchasing Department, this office continues to review and modify our County's Purchasing Card (P-Card) Policy. The Purchasing office has taken on the overall management of the P-Card countywide.
- Worked actively on the maintenance, security and functionality of New World ERP, the countywide financial and human resources system, and the countywide Kronos timekeeping system.
- The payroll department processed 26 regular pay cycles, 38 special pay events, and compiled all state and federal reporting in relation to the County's payroll. The department successfully completed the transition to enhanced reporting requirements for the New York State Retirement System and achieved NYS Enhanced Reporting Gold Certification. This is a mandatory New York State Retirement initiative directed at streamlining retirement processing.
- The Division of Management and Budget continues to serve as a resource to all departments in the County. This year we have provided various New World, budget, and year-end trainings. As new staff have joined the County, we provide resources and training on multiple processes and assist any new staff in all fiscal functions. As we move forward, we plan on offering more detailed training tailored to employees that touch the fiscal pieces of their departments.

DIVISION OF PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Heather Brown, Planning Commissioner

Department of Planning

The mission of the Department of Planning is to facilitate the design and implementation of effective projects and programs created to improve the economy, environment, and physical infrastructure of the County. This mission is addressed by providing quality technical assistance to local municipalities in land use, economic development, housing, farm land protection, and environmental protection.

County-wide Planning Efforts

- O&W Feasibility Study – Planning continued to assist the Open Space Institute in their work for a rail trail from Port Jervis to Kingston, traveling largely through Mamakating along the Sullivan O&W Rail Trail.
- Hazard Mitigation Plan – Planning commenced work with a consultant, Tetra Tech, on the 2026 update of the Sullivan County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Anticipated for adoption during the third quarter of 2026, this plan is a federal requirement for all municipalities to
- Municipal Water Infrastructure – Planning hired Delaware Engineering to do an assessment of existing municipal systems for potable and wastewater facilities. Work is nearing completion and is on track to be completed in April 2026. The assessment will include analysis and recommendations for each municipality as well as recommendations for Countywide initiatives and support.

Our nation's water infrastructure is at risk.

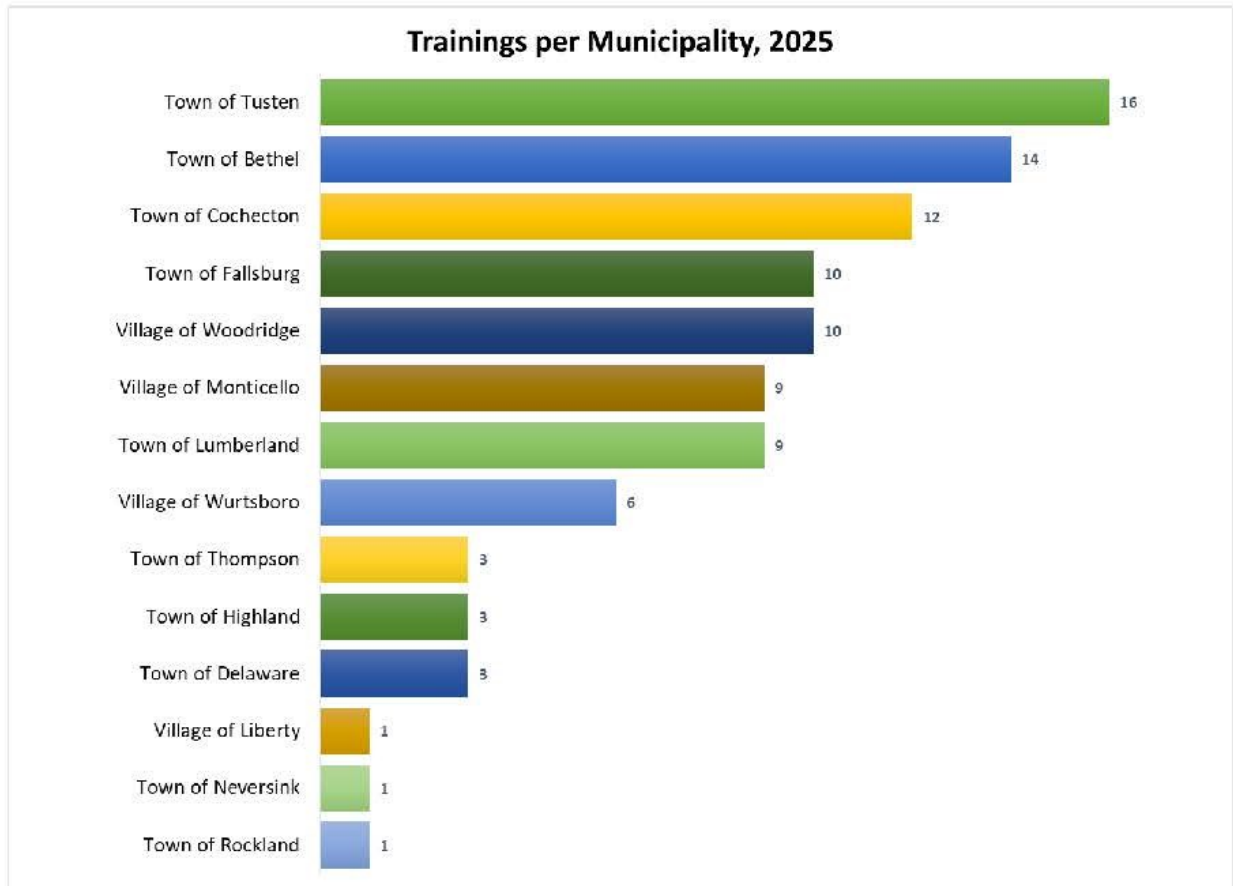


- County-wide Hydrology Study – Planning issued a Request For Proposals to hire a consultant to complete a hydrology study for the County. A consultant will be brought on in early 2026, and the project should be completed in early 2027.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – This plan is nearing completion. A significant amount of time was committed to community outreach and participation to ensure the plan incorporates the needs of the community. Planning staff attended more than 40 events throughout 2025 to connect with as many residents as possible in order to gather feedback from as many people as possible. Additionally, focus groups with law enforcement, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, economic development agencies, and more were conducted.

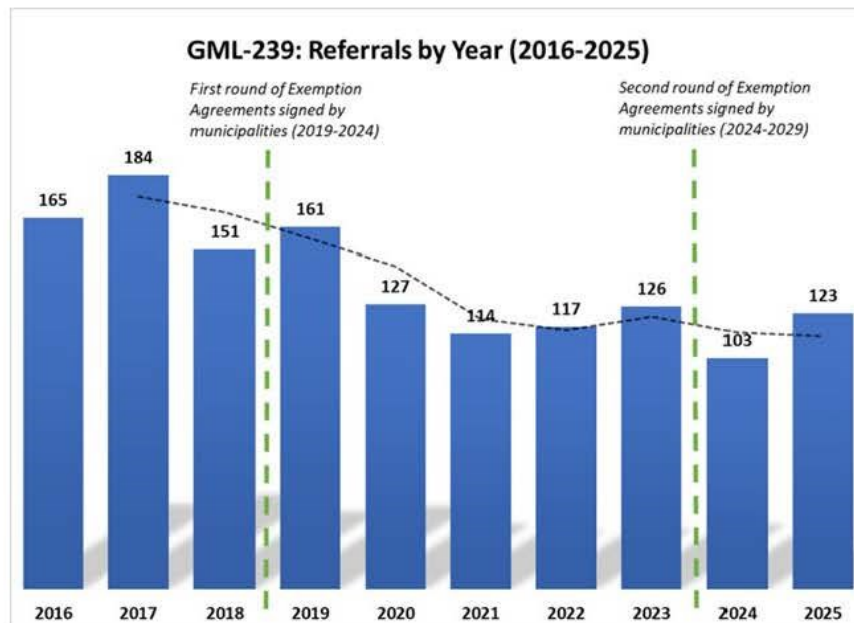
Municipal Assistance

Providing assistance to Sullivan County's 22 municipalities is a critical part of the mission of the Department of Planning. Whether providing technical assistance, training, or conducting state mandated reviews our dedicated staff make every effort to support our towns and villages toward a sustainable future.

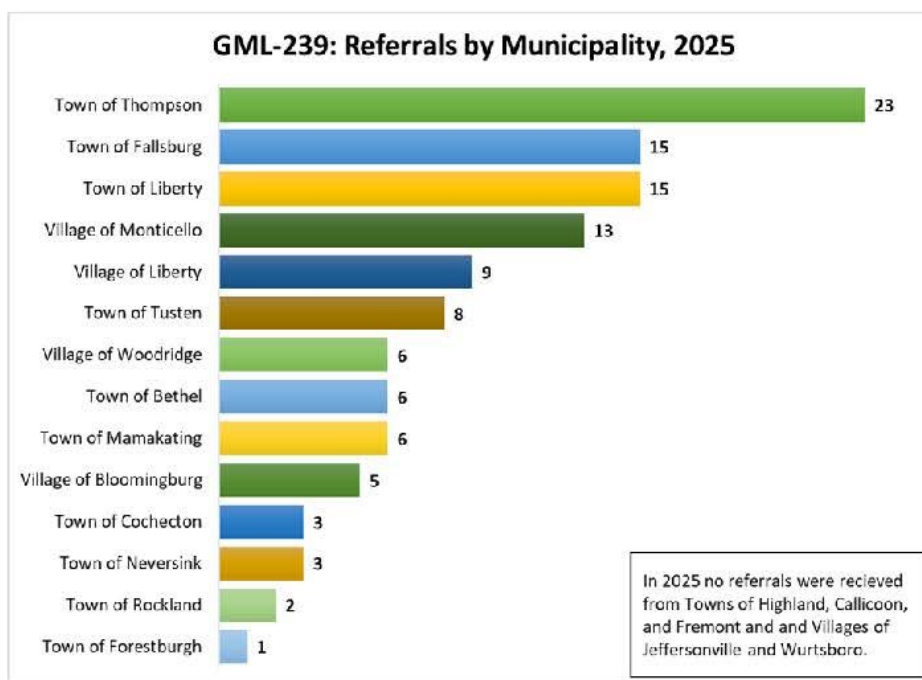
- **Municipal Trainings:** In 2025 Planning provided a variety of trainings geared toward important issues in our communities. These trainings provide required credits toward local planning and zoning board members.

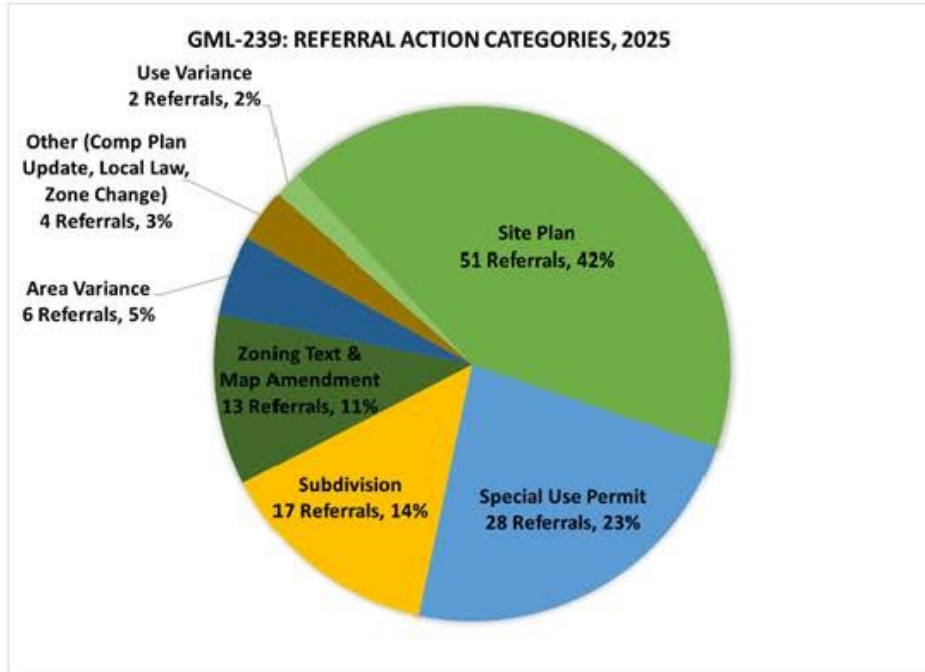


- General Municipal Law 239 requires that certain projects be referred to the Planning Department for review. This occurs when an application with a town/village board, planning board or zoning board triggers a review due to the nature of the application or its proximity to County, State or municipal infrastructure and/or boundaries.
- In 2025 Planning renewed exemption agreements with the municipalities, allowing small projects with no countywide impacts to proceed without a county review.

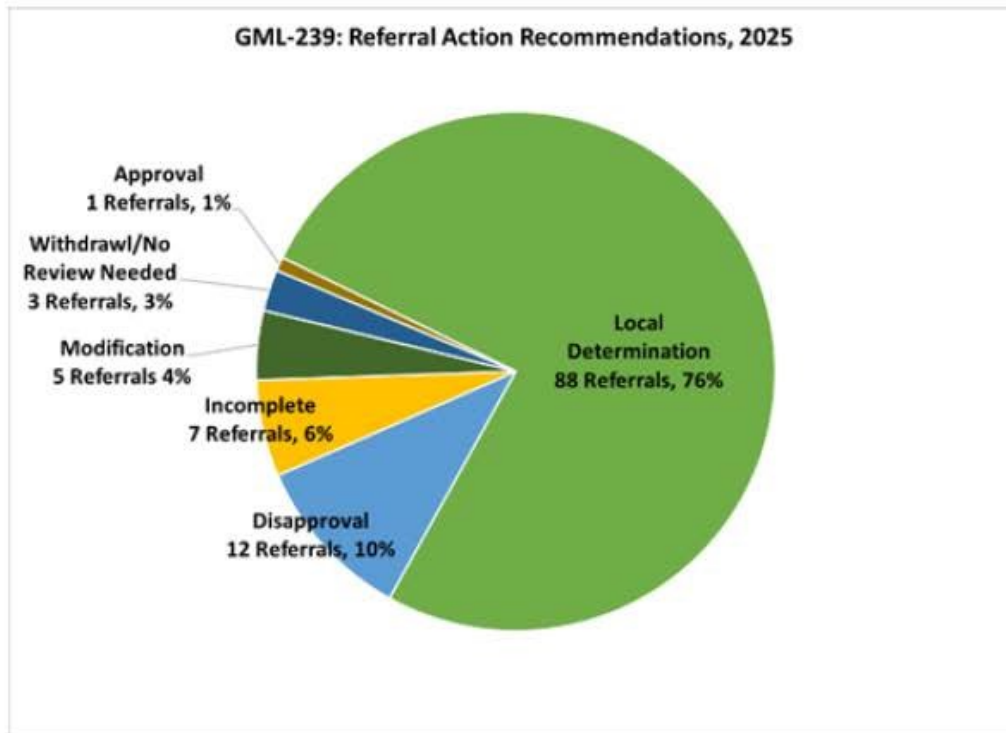


As expected, the majority of these reviews were conducted by three of the County’s most populated towns. These towns include the Towns of Fallsburg, Liberty and Thompson.





The most common recommendation for a review is a local determination. This is recommended when it is determined that the action will have no significant county-wide impacts and the action is consistent with locally adopted zoning and comprehensive plans. The Department of Planning will still provide technical comments with these recommendations which could improve a project and/or provide useful insight for the referring body. Approvals, modifications, and disapprovals are recommended when it is determined that the action is likely to impact a jurisdiction other than the referring municipality.



Recreation and Quality of Life

- O&W Rail Trail
 - Construction began on the Neversink Crossing with completion expected by summer 2026. The pedestrian and bicycle bridge will connect approximately 14 miles of trail.
 - Wrote a successful grant application to Friends of the Upper Delaware River for Fallsburg for additional construction funding for the Neversink Crossing
 - Engineering on the Parkville segment of the trail underway and ROW acquisition from NYS DOT in progress. Construction anticipated for 2027.
 - Engineering for the Livingston Manor section has started and preliminary plans completed.
 - O&W Rail Trail Events were held throughout the year, including the SnO&W (February), National Trails Day (June), BoWO&W (August), and HO&WL (October). These events are annual and will be held again in 2026.
 - An additional event, ROAM, was organized as a multi-day hike on the trail on June 7th and 8th, 2025.
 - An ad campaign and website upgrades were completed for the trail
 - Etiquette signs were fabricated and etiquette brochures were translated into Hebrew, printed and distributed.



Community & Economic Development and Revitalization

- Housing
 - Planning worked with Pattern for Progress to develop a local funding program to assist with implementation of the 2022 Housing Strategy report. The program was adopted by the Sullivan County Legislature with two distinct programs: one for renovations of existing housing units, and the other for construction of new units. Funding for this program was ultimately not included in the 2026 Operating Budget.

- A much-needed update to the County’s Fair Housing Plan was completed and adopted by the Sullivan County Legislature in April 2025.
- A training module encouraging the establishment of housing friendly zoning and practices was provided for local Town, Village, Planning and Zoning boards provided to municipal leaders in June 2025.
- The Sullivan County Land Bank completed construction of four single family homes, two in the Village of Liberty and two in the Village of Monticello. The success of this project has encouraged the SCLB to move forward with similar projects in the future. The homes will be marketed to families at or below 120% of median household income that live and/or work in Sullivan County.
- Emerald Corporate Center
 - We continue to work with the Town of Thompson to transfer Emerald Springs Water Company (ESWC) and all assets to the Town of Thompson, based on discussions with counsel having experience with the process.
- The County worked with RUPCO and the Sullivan County Land Bank to navigate a significant increase in the cost of construction based on the latest cost estimates for the Broadway Redevelopment Project. Updates were continually provided to New York State Empire State Development and funding secured for the project via RESTORE NY Round 7 continues to be available. Construction is currently targeted for 2027.
- Planning staff worked with the new Executive Director for the Sullivan County Visitors Association to develop and issue a grant program for local tourism-based businesses to enhance the visitor experience and increase overnight stays.
- Planning and Grant staff have provided hundreds of hours of staff time for the administration of a nearly \$30 million grant to deploy broadband infrastructure throughout the County. The project includes fiber to home as well as fixed wireless technologies that will expand broadband coverage and improve access to this critical infrastructure.

Administration

- Participation in multiple boards (State, regional, and local) continued including but not limited to:
 - Hudson Valley Regional Council
 - NYSAC Standing Committee on Climate Action
 - Sullivan County Workforce Development Board
 - Sullivan County Airport Commission
 - Upper Delaware Scenic Byway
 - O&W Rail Trail Alliance
 - Sullivan County Land Bank
 - Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council
 - Ag and Farmland Protection Board.
 - Steering committee for the update of the County’s Coordinated Transportation Plan
- Participated in the New York State Association of Counties Steering Committee on Renewable Energy Siting, which has a strong focus on protection of agricultural lands and prime soils.

Office of Sustainable Energy

Renewable Energy

- Gravity Renewables was been acquired by the company Relevate. The Lake Goodyear small hydro facility had been offline which impacted the County's access to renewable generation credits. As of December 2025, the plant was back online at full generation capacity and has started to generate credits for the County. We anticipate a full year of credits in 2026.

Energy Efficiency and Infrastructure

- Clean Path, NY: The approval process for CleanPath NY, a 1500kV high voltage transmission line to be constructed underground along the Marcy South line, was been paused and was ultimately unsuccessful in receiving designation as a Priority Transmission Project. It is unclear at this time if the project will continue to seek approval.
- OSE staff were made aware of a potential utility scale solar and battery storage development in the Towns of Thompson and Forestburgh, referred to as Town Line Solar. The Department of Public Service has established a master matter number which allows staff to track the project through the state review process. To date a formal application has not been submitted, however, one is anticipated in 2026.
- OSE staff have continued to review monthly utility statements, and to work with NYSEG and DPW staff to resolve ongoing issues with meter readings and monthly billings. NYSEG has provided significant credits to several electric metered accounts as it rectifies billing errors.
- Benchmarking: Benchmarking helps the County measure our progress in improving energy efficiency, deploying renewable energy resources, reducing GHG emissions, and reducing energy costs in County facilities. For 2024, Sullivan County benchmarked 19 County owned or leased buildings. The full 2024 Benchmarking Report may be found on the OSE's website: <https://sullivanny.us/Departments/SustainableEnergy/BenchmarkingData>
- OSE has actively participated in the NYSEG/RG&E Climate Change Vulnerability Working Group, and has established close contact with NYSEG representatives to discuss current grid constraints and needed improvements.

Community Outreach

- OSE met with HVRC staff to discuss recertification efforts for Climate Smart Communities Program. Documentation has been compiled towards achieving recertification.
- Actively participated in efforts of Sustainable Hudson Valley which created a Regional Climate Action Road Map and Tool Kit. This user-friendly website outlines pathways to achieving state-mandated climate action in locally flexible ways using the Climate Smart Communities program and many other resources.

Parks, Recreation, and Beautification



Sullivan County through its Parks & Recreation Department operates and maintains Lake Superior State Park, The Delaware & Hudson Canal Linear Park and Interpretive Center, Minisink Battleground Park, Livingston Manor Covered Bridge Park, Stone Arch Bridge Historical Park, and the Sullivan County Cultural Center (Museum) for its residents and visitors. Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History is owned by the County but operated by The Delaware Company, who also handles programming at the Minisink Battleground Park.

2025 Goals and Accomplishments

Sullivan County Parks, Recreation and Beautification Departments key initiatives included recreational and historic programming throughout the County parks, design and development of the Callicoon Park property, hiking trail development/rehabilitation and the development of a Park and Recreation Master Plan. These initiatives were recognized through the following accomplishments.:

- A Sullivan County Park and Recreation Master Plan was developed by consulting firm Weston and Sampson.
- Developed park/trail maps for all of the County Parks through the County GIS Department.
- Applied for and received funding through the NYS Parks Department Snowmobile Unit, for 14 of the 39 miles of public snowmobile trail, that is maintained by the Sullivan County Snowmobile Trail Association, located in northern portion of Sullivan County.
- Received a \$25,000 NY SWIMS (Statewide Investment in More Swimming) Grant. The funding was divided up between the County and five local municipalities that have public swimming facilities. The funding was used to help offset operating costs.
- Held Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers, First Aid, and Bloodborne Pathogens Certifications and Recertifications at the Fallsburg Central School District indoor pool. Twenty students were certified in these various classes.
- Hosted a photo exhibition of Landscapes & Wildlife found in the County Parks and Facilities. Over 20 photographs were submitted by the public and were displayed at the Sullivan County Museum. Selected photos of this exhibition have also been on display in the atrium area of the Sullivan County Government Center.
- Sponsored the Annual Countywide Litter Pluck Event April 1– October 31, 2025. Along with roadsides and public trails, waterbodies were included as areas that the County would accept plucked litter from.



- To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the D&H Canal groundbreaking, which happened on July 13, 1825, the department held a series of presentations and walks discussing the history of the canal throughout the spring, summer, and fall at the D&H Canal Interpretive Center and Linear Park.
- Contracted with Fisher Associates to develop a trail rehabilitation plan for the D&H Canal Trail.
- Cleared brush and replaced deteriorated split rail along the D&H Canal.
- Sponsored two history walks at the D&H Canal Interpretive Center that went along the D&H Canal & O&W Rail Trail.



- The Delaware Company hosted the Commemoration of the Battle of Minisink and a fall history walk at the Minisink Battleground Park.
- Installed a new interpretive sign detailing the history of the Stone Arch Bridge, which is located within the Stone Arch Bridge Park.
- Callicoon Park Property: Fisher Associates have developed site plans for the development of an entryway, parking area, and walking path to the

Delaware River. State and Federal environmental reviews are being completed prior to development.

- Introduced canoe rentals at Lake Superior State Park. In their first season, canoes made up 237 of our 1,448 total boat rentals.
- Introduced the acceptance of credit card payments for admissions, season pass sales, and boat rentals at Lake Superior State Park, which allowed for an increase in revenue. Approximately 27% of the Lake's 2025 income was collected by credit card.
- Lake Superior Trails: Seasonal staff cleared 1.75 of a 2.87-mile trail being built on the Westside of Lake Superior State Park property. The trail will begin at the Dam Area of the lake and follow along the lake to Pucky Huddle Road.
- The Frederick Cook Society and the Sullivan County Historical Society offered programming throughout the year at the Sullivan County Museum in Hurleyville.
- Installed a historical marker for the former Hurleyville School, which is home of the Sullivan County Museum.
- Operations of Fort Delaware were provided by The Delaware Company through an operational agreement with the County of Sullivan.

2025 Highlights

Annual Litter Pluck Event (Countywide)

Material removed from Roadside & Trails	2025	2024	2023
Litter Filled Garbage Bags	429	720	300 +
Tires	71	149	200
Loose Material - Per Ton	2.3	2	1

2024 Lake Superior Beach Totals:

	2025	2024	2023
Admissions During Beach Operating Hours	15,623 ppl	14,272 ppl	12,891 ppl
Number of Boat Rentals	1,448	1,201	830
Season Passes Sold	346	271	229

Sullivan County Parks 2024 Group Picnic Permits:

	2025	2024	2023
Number of Permits Issued	57	57	56

Grants Administration

Ongoing assessment of County grant activity and participation in grant-related professional development have oriented the Department of Grants Administration's attention to the following priority areas:

- How can Sullivan County obtain and retain grant funding?
 - Efforts to engage in meticulous project planning and grant management must be prioritized.
- How many hours does it take per week to manage a grant well?
 - A survey by the Grant Professionals Association members conveyed that approximately 10.5 hours per week are devoted to grant management. Other sources indicate that depending on the funding source and project size, personnel will spend between 4-8 hours for simple grants, 10-20 hours for moderate ones, and potentially more than 20 hours for complex federal/large-scale projects.
- How do grants impact County staff?
 - When done properly, grant project planning and post-award reporting, compliance, and monitoring are time and labor intensive for County staff across Divisions/Departments engaged in grant projects. This Annual Report reflects this department's commitment to continued collaboration with management and County staff.
- 100% of DGA's 2025 Strategic Goals were attained:
 - Developed and implement grant-readiness strategies.
 - Developed systems to enhance County Government's capacity for acquisition and management of discretionary funding.
 - Implemented comprehensive and replicable County-wide grants training modalities.

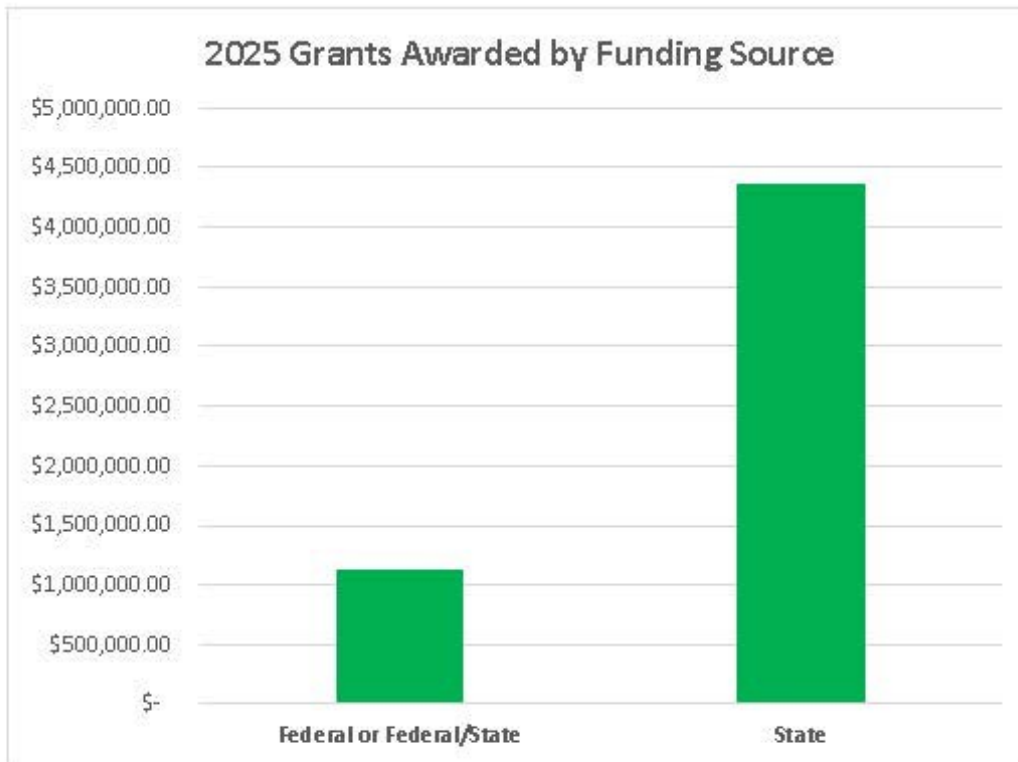
2025 Grant Programs

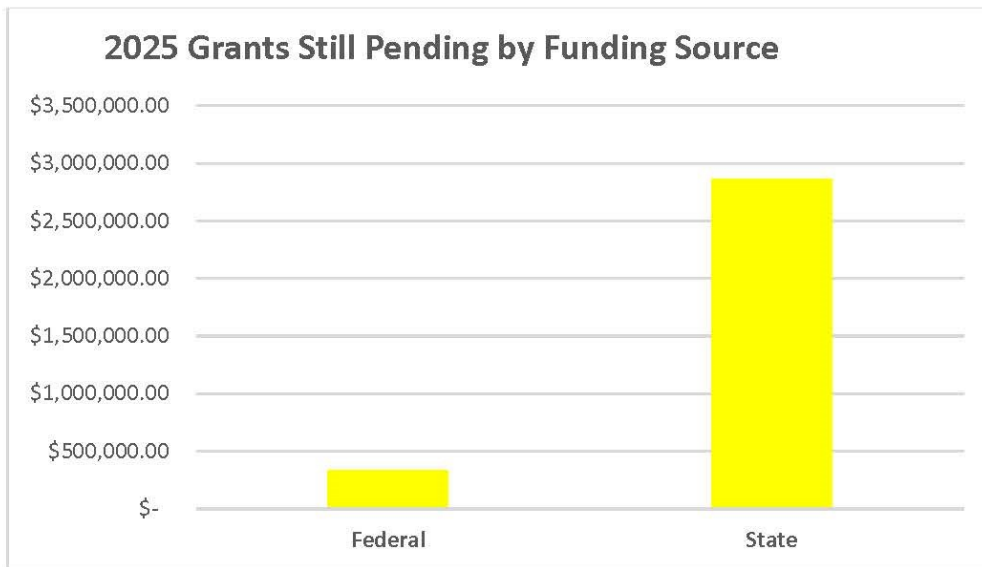
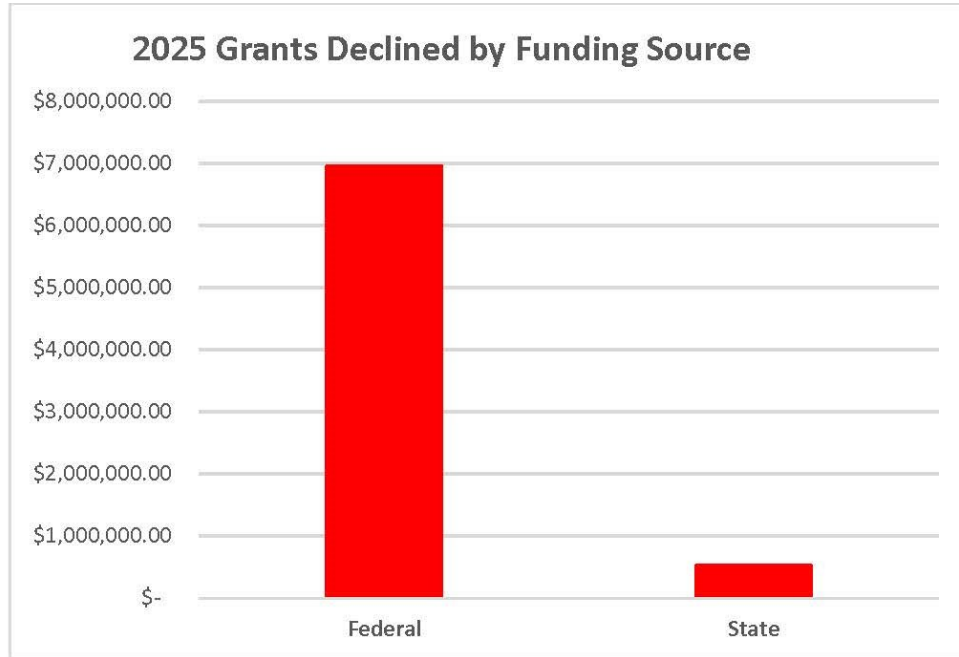
- DGA staff currently monitor more than 100 grant programs.
- The Grant Summary contained in this Annual Report includes 2025's initiatives, totaling \$5,473,126.72 in awarded funding as of January 22, 2026. It does not include active grants initiated in prior years, nor does it include a complete listing of current allocations.

2025 Grant Status as of January 22, 2026



2025 Grants Awarded by Funding Source





Divisions, Departments, and Elected Officials Served in 2024:

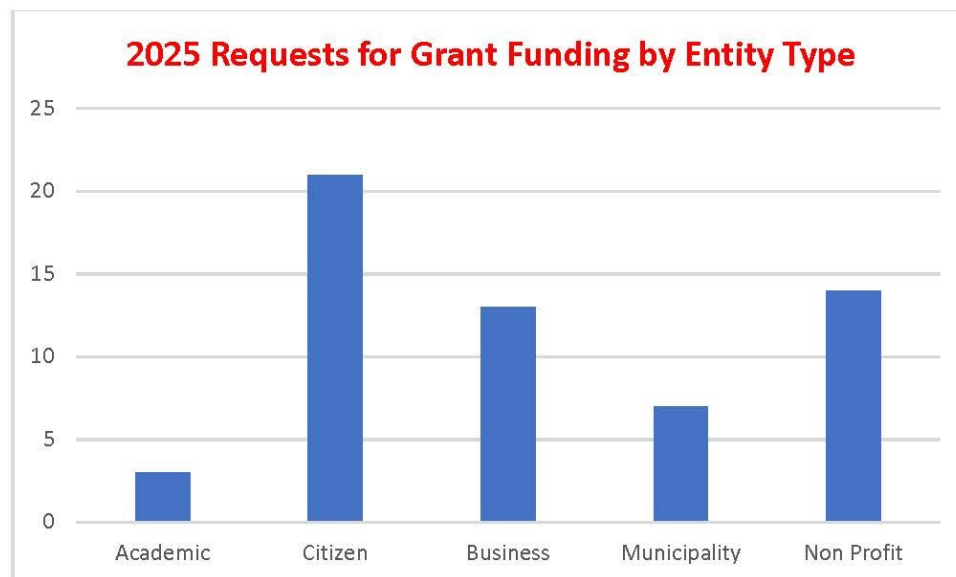
- Board of Elections
- Community Resources
- Coroners' Office
- County Clerk's Office
- District Attorney's Office
- Health & Family Services
- Information Technology Services
- Management & Budget
- Planning
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Real Property
- Sheriff's Office

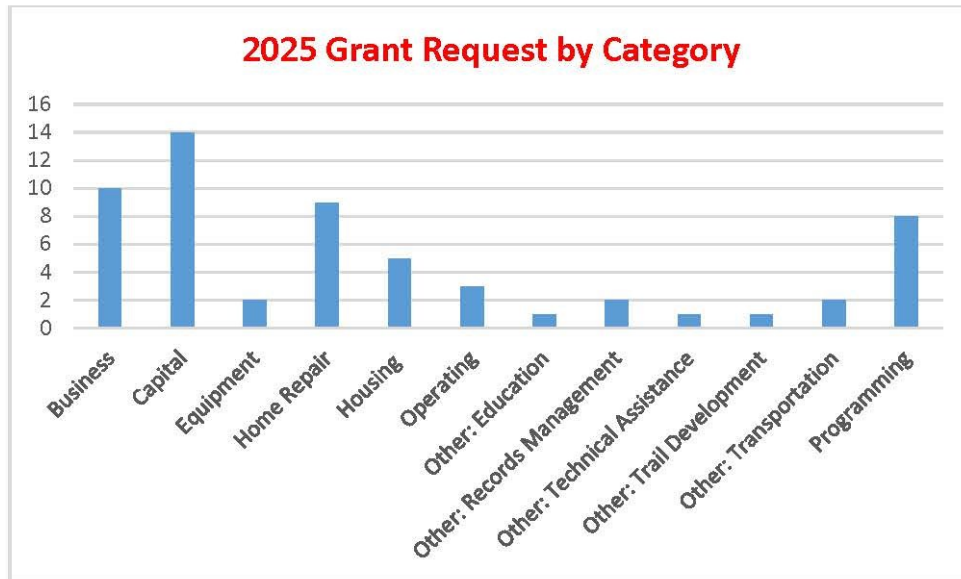
2025 Grant Initiatives

- Enhancing Grant Capacity and Improving Internal Controls:
 - Filled Grants Program Facilitator and Grant Writer positions
 - Facilitated *Grants Best Practices* Trainings and annual refresher trainings for County staff
 - Implemented *Grants Project Planning 101* Training for County staff
 - Implemented *Grant Management 101* Training for County staff
 - Published *Consolidated Funding Application Supplement* for County staff/elected officials
 - Collaborated with County Compliance Officer related to internal control best practices.
 - Developed funding resource summary tool to provide comprehensive information about funding opportunities to County Staff
 - Initiated dialogue with Divisions/Departments in need of targeted grant-related support.
 - Maintained grant language boilerplate documents and developed system to maintain accurate data on an annual basis.
 - Took actionable steps to increase engagement amongst County stakeholders via enhanced research and outreach.
- Providing Community Resources:
 - Maintained grant-related community interface through web resource development
 - Provided community *Grant Workshop & Consolidated Funding Application Info Session*
 - Published free community-facing *Grants Best Practices Training Webinar* (available on County website)
 - Developed community-facing *Grant Project Planning Workshop* (for facilitation in 2026)
 - Published community-facing *Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Supplement*

Community Engagement

- In 2025, DGA received 58 requests from outside entities.



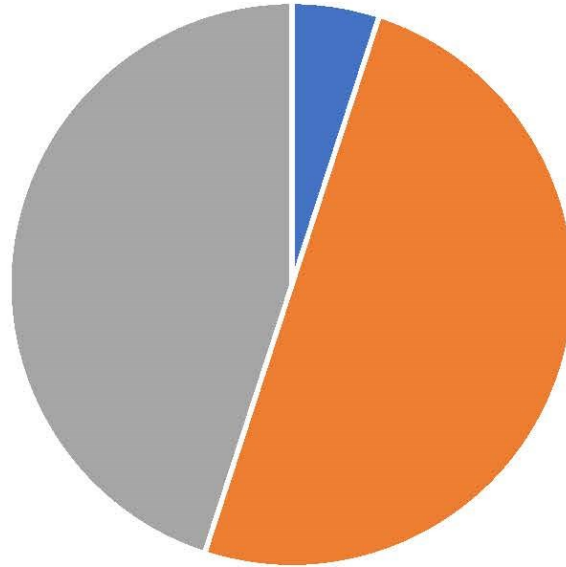


2025 Grant Trainings

- In 2025, DGA hosted several trainings.
 - Community-facing Grant Workshop & CFA Info Session: 47 participants
 - Staff introductory Grants Best Practices Training: 17 participants
 - Staff Project Planning 101 Training: 19 participants
 - Staff Grant Management 101 Training: 19 participants
- Feedback surveys were provided to all County staff participating in *Introductory Training – Grants Best Practices; Project Planning 101; and Grant Management 101*. The results are as follows:

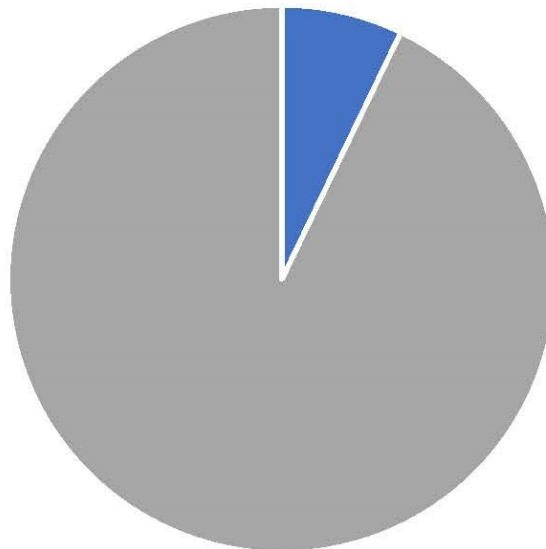
Introductory Training – Grants Best Practices

Overall, how effective was the introductory training in providing general information about grants?



■ 3 moderately effective ■ 4 very effective ■ 5 extremely effective

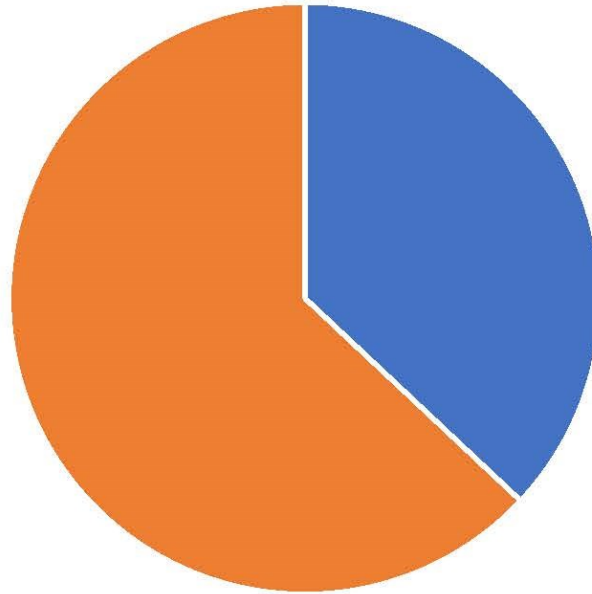
How effective was the introductory training in providing information about Sullivan County's protocols related to grant processes?



■ 3 moderately effective ■ 4 very effective ■ 5 extremely effective

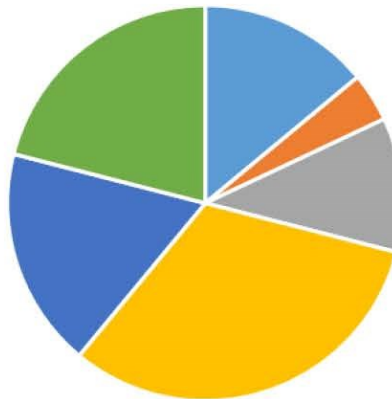
Project Planning 101

How effective was Project Planning training in providing general information about planning your project?



■ 4 very effective ■ 5 extremely effective

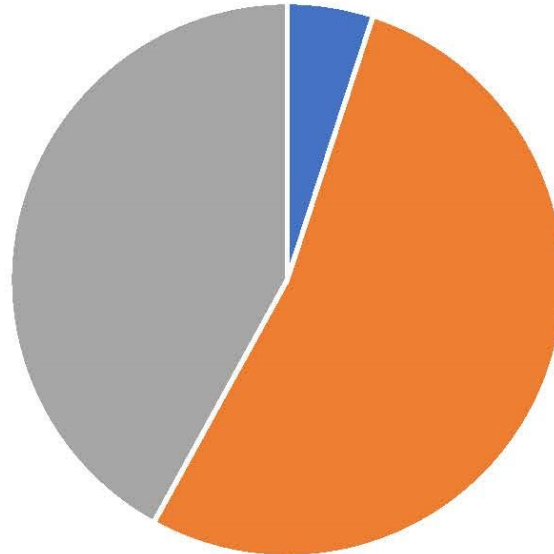
Based on your department's needs what topics covered today could be expanded in more detail?



■ Assing Grant Readiness ■ Completing a Needs Assessment
■ How to Use Data Effectively ■ Develeoping a Detailed Workplan
■ Building a Grant Budget ■ NA these topics were covered appropriately

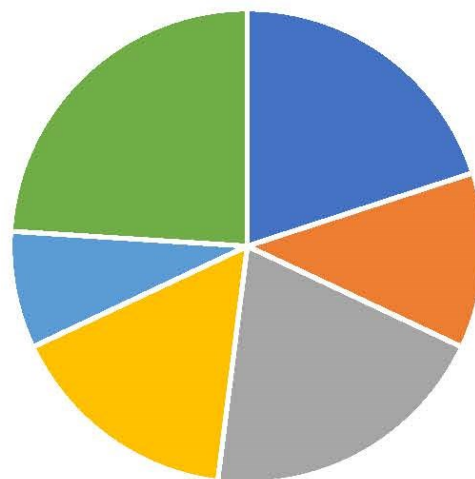
Grants Management 101

How effective was Grant Management Training in providing general information about grant management?



■ 3 moderately effective ■ 4 very effective ■ 5 extremely effective

Based on your department needs, what topics covered today could have been expanded in more detail?



■ Reivewing Financial Controls ■ Evaluating Readiness
■ Assessing Compliance Frameworks ■ Monitoring Subrecipient/Contract Risks
■ Documentation and Communication ■ NA these topics were covered appropriately

Year	Div./Dept.	Program	Type	Amount	Status
2024	BOE	CTCL Election Infrastructure	Discretionary	\$50,000.00	Awarded
2024	BOE	2024 NYS BOE Aid to Localities General Election Grant Program	Allocation	\$28,078.88	Awarded
2024	BOE	2024 NYS BOE Aid to Localities Ballot by Mail Program	Allocation	\$39,223.40	Awarded
2024	BOE	NYS BOE Capital Projects Budget Electronic Poll Book Grant	Allocation	\$68,116.59	Awarded
FY2024	Center for Workforce Dev.	NYSQON	Allocation	\$100,000.00	Awarded
2024	Co. Clerk	LGRMIF	Discretionary	\$66,820.00	Awarded
2024-2025	Community Resources	FTA Section 5311	Allocation	\$497,528.00	Awarded
2025	CR /OFA	NYSOFA/MIPPA	Allocation	\$23,774.00	Awarded
2023	CR/CWD	New York QON WIOA	Allocation	\$100,000.00	Awarded
2024	CR/CWD	PY 24 Rapid Response (RR) Fiscal Incentive Grant	Allocation	\$50,000.00	Awarded
2024	CR/CWD	PY 24 Rapid Response (RR) Program Incentive Grant	Allocation	\$53,333.00	Awarded
2024	CR/OFA	NY Connects	Allocation	\$307,611.00	Awarded
2025	CR/OFA	NY Connects	Allocation	\$307,611.00	Awarded
2023	DPW	Bridge NY	Discretionary	\$3,581,000.00	Awarded
2023	DPW	Bridge NY	Discretionary	\$2,990,000.00	Awarded
2024	DPW	NBRC Timber for Transit	Discretionary	\$524,800.00	Awarded
2025	DPW SQA	QGP	Discretionary	\$288,426.37	Awarded
2025-2026	DPW/Solid Waste	MWRC	Discretionary	\$55,142.76	Awarded
2023	DPW/SW	MWRR	Discretionary	\$51,367.11	Awarded
2024	DPW/SW	MWRC	Discretionary	\$55,165.51	Awarded
2022 - 2023	DWP /SW	HHW	Discretionary	\$11,088.00	Awarded
2023-2024	DWP /SW	HHW	Discretionary	\$20,190.42	Awarded
2024	HHS/DSS	MDT-CAC	Allocation	\$49,999.00	Awarded
2025	HHS/DSS	MDT-CAC	Allocation	\$66,666.00	Awarded
2024	HHS/DSS/ Family Services	DASNY/CREST	Discretionary	\$125,000.00	Awarded
2025	HHS/DSS/Family Services	2025 MDT-CAC Multidisciplinary Teams	Allocation	\$949,605.00	Awarded
2024	HHS/PH	GTSC Child Pass. Seat	Discretionary	\$15,000.00	Awarded
2023-2024	HHS/PH	NYS RHN Food Is Med.	Allocation	\$9,869.00	Awarded
2024	HHS/PH	NACCHO MRC OR	Discretionary	\$5,000.00	Awarded
2023-2024	HHS/PH	HRI MRC	Allocation	\$12,100.00	Awarded
2023-2024	HHS/PH	PHEPP	Allocation	\$77,711.00	Awarded
2025	HHS/PH	NACCHO MRC OR	Allocation	\$5,000.00	Awarded
2024-2025	HHS/PH	PHEPP	Allocation	\$77,711.00	Awarded
2026	HHS/PH	GTSC	Discretionary	\$13,400.00	Awarded
FY2025-FY2030	HHS/PH	Healthy Families for NY	Allocation	\$1,670,250.00	Awarded
2024	ITS	MIP	Discretionary	\$29,900,000.00	Awarded
2024	Parks	Snowmobile	Discretionary	\$4,858.00	Awarded
2024	Parks	NY SWIMS	Discretionary	\$25,000.00	Awarded
2025-2026	Parks	OPRHP Snowmobile Grant In Aid Program	Discretionary	\$5,824.00	Awarded
2024	Planning	FLDR	Discretionary	\$100,000.00	Awarded
2024	Planning	FEMA/NYS DHSES HMG	Discretionary	\$112,500.00	Awarded
2025-2026	Probation	Alternatives to Incarceration 13 A Classification	Allocation	\$28,510.00	Awarded
2024	PS / E911	PSAP	Allocation	\$155,955.00	Awarded
2024	PS / E911 EMS	CEMSSG	Discretionary	\$500,000.00	Awarded
2024	PS / OEM	EMPG	Allocation	\$32,678.00	Awarded
2023	PS / OEM	DTPGP	Allocation	\$172,413.00	Awarded
2024	PS / OEM E911 Interop.	SICFBGP	Allocation	\$637,453.00	Awarded
2024	PS / Sheriff	HSGP - SHSP/SLETPP	Allocation	\$179,249.00	Awarded
SFY2025	PS/E911	Next Gen 911	Allocation	\$1,515,198.00	Awarded
FY2024-2025	PS/E911	SICG Targeted	Discretionary	\$2,000,000.00	Awarded
	PS/Fire Bureau	DASNY	Discretionary	\$250,000.00	Awarded
2024-2025	PS/Prob.	NYS DCJS ATI	Allocation	\$28,510.00	Awarded
2023-2024	PS/Prob.	NYS DCJS ATI	Allocation	\$25,510.00	Awarded
2025-2026	Public Safety - Fire Bureau	Recruitment and Retention Grant	Discretionary	\$25,000.00	Awarded
2025	Sheriff	GTSC PTS	Discretionary	\$4,960.00	Awarded
2024	Sheriff	BPV	Discretionary	\$5,199.00	Awarded
2025	Sheriff's Office	GTSC	Discretionary	\$4,960.00	Awarded
2026	Sheriff's Office	GTSC	Discretionary	\$4,712.00	Awarded
2025-2026	County Clerk	Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF)	Discretionary	\$65,000.00	Dedined
2024	CR /CWD	WORCS	Discretionary	\$1,500,000.00	Dedined
2024-2028	CR/OFA	Americorps RSVP	Allocation	\$409,200.00	Dedined
2024	DPW/SQA	FAA AIP EA Safety Area	Discretionary	\$115,867.00	Dedined
2024	DPW/SQA	FAA AIP EA Ob. Removal	Discretionary	\$148,485.00	Dedined
2023	Planning	CFA/LWRP	Discretionary	\$150,000.00	Dedined
2024	Planning	ATIIP	Discretionary	\$1,680,000	Dedined
2025	Planning	RAISE/BUILD	Discretionary	\$3,435,000.00	Dedined
2025	Planning	National Fish and Wildlife Federation Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund Grant	Discretionary	\$497,612.02	Dedined
2025	Planning	CFA/EPF Smart Growth Community Plan	Discretionary	\$200,000.00	Dedined
2026	PS/E911	NY CARES UP	Discretionary	\$60,000.00	Dedined
FY2024	PS/Fire Bureau	SAFER	Discretionary	\$848,945.00	Dedined
2022	Public Safety	NYS DHSES Critical Infrastructure Grant Program	Discretionary	\$50,000.00	Dedined
2025	BOE	Election Grant Program	Allocation	\$7,855.46	Pending
2025	BOE	Vote by Mail Grant Program	Allocation	\$20,691.75	Pending
2025	Community Services	Promoting Wellness and Healing	Discretionary	\$750,000.00	Pending
2025-2030	HHS/PH	NYS DOH RHNDP	Discretionary	\$750,000.00	Pending
2025-2030	HHS/PH	Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)	Allocation	\$336,471.00	Pending
	Parks	DASNY - Calicoon Park	Discretionary	\$125,000.00	Pending
2025-2026	PS/E911	ESInet	Allocation	\$689,655.00	Pending
2023	PS/E911	Critical Infrastructure Grant Program	Discretionary	\$50,000.00	Pending
	PS/EMS	DASNY - Jeff Tower	Discretionary	\$425,000.00	Pending
2023	Public Safety	Technical Rescue and Urban Search and Rescue Grant	Discretionary	\$50,000.00	Pending

OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE

Lynda Levine, Administrator of Assigned Counsel

OVERVIEW

Pursuant to State and Federal Constitutions and laws, county government is tasked with providing high quality, free legal services to indigent individuals accused of a crime and/or to indigent adults in specified family court proceedings. The County of Sullivan fulfills this obligation by contracting with two providers, the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. and the Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid, Inc. and an Assigned Counsel Program that coordinates an 18B panel of private attorneys, who are willing to take on court assignments in the event that both providers are unable to represent an individual as a result of a conflict of interest.

Furthermore, the US Supreme Court found that the right to counsel attaches at the first appearance before a judge at which a defendant is told of the formal accusations against him/her and restrictions could be imposed on his/her liberty, otherwise known as arraignment. As a result, the County Assigned Counsel Program Administrator developed and monitors a Counsel at First Appearance Program (hereafter "CAFA") which consists of a number of private attorneys who are contracted with the County to be scheduled "on-call" for arraignments that could be held at any one of the 15 town/village courts at any time of day or night.

Assigned Counsel Program

Sullivan County Assigned Counsel Program (hereafter "ACP") maintains a list of private attorneys who are willing to accept court assignments for pursuant to article 18B of the New York State Court Law.

The 18B Panel Attorneys handled numerous felony cases in county court; numerous felonies; misdemeanors and violations in justice court; and provided parental representation in Family Court Proceedings.

In addition to the above, the 18B Panel Attorneys handled many post-conviction cases, including, but not limited to: Parole violations; Parole appeals; 440 motions to vacate convictions; probation violations; and criminal and family court appeals.

Effective April 1, 2023, the compensation for 18B attorneys was increased to \$158.00/hour for all criminal and family court matters. The State continues to authorize reimbursement of half the increase (i.e. \$41.50/hour for felony level criminal cases and family court matters; \$49.00/hour for all misdemeanor level criminal matters) in all matters. In order to seek reimbursement, an excel spread sheet has been developed and copies of vouchers are kept to submit to the State on a quarterly basis. In 2025, the County 18B cost the County approximately \$510,275.39 Criminal Cases and \$184,530.46 for Family Court cases, for a total of \$694,805.85. The County submitted a total of \$181,787.74 to the State of New York for reimbursement in 2025.

Daily activities of Administrator include but are not limited to:

- Monitor and report on 18B Attorney activities
- Review all 18B vouchers submitted to the County
- Update lists of 18b attorneys, as needed
- Provided 18b attorney information to courts upon request

Communicate regularly with 18b attorneys
Recruit new attorneys and 18B attorneys outside of Sullivan County for specified cases (at Court's request)
Input attorney activities and expenditure into case management software
Keep track of all vouchers with new 18B rates; add to excel spreadsheet; to be submitted quarterly for reimbursement
Drafted formal Assigned Counsel Plan – established a committee to work on finalizing Assigned Counsel Plan
Implemented; approved; and tracked new programs created under funding from the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services (NYSOILS) pursuant to the Statewide Expansion of the Hurrell-Harring Settlement Reforms
Negotiated Contracts and Contract amendments with State of New York Office of Indigent Legal Services
Regular contact with executive directors of institutional providers; Sullivan Legal Aid Panel and Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid
Regular contact with other Administrators of Assigned Counsel in Region B (Mid-Hudson region)

Counsel at First Appearance (CAFA)

The CAFA Panel Currently consists of 7 panel attorneys. The Administrator assists with CAFA, as an additional attorney, when necessary.

CAFA handled 820 arraignments in 2025 – Panel attorneys are periodically scheduled for on-call coverage 24hours/7 or 8 days per “week”. Attorneys can be called out any time of day or night to any of the 15 justice courts throughout Sullivan County. These attorneys provide much needed representation at a critical stage in a criminal proceeding.

This program is fully funded by the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services (hereafter “NYSOILS”) under the Statewide Expansion of Hurrell-Harring Settlement Reform funding.

Daily activities include but are not limited to:

- Prepared Memorandum of Agreements for CAFA Panel Attorneys
- Continuous recruitment for new CAFA Panel Attorneys is on-going.
- Work on strategies to aid in recruitment efforts and alleviate attorney burnout on CAFA panel
- Prepared, monitored and distributed schedules of Attorneys on-call to attorneys and all courts
- Communicated regularly with court personnel and panel attorneys to ensure 24 hours, 7 days/week coverage
- Entered all CAFA information into Case Management Software for reporting
- Participated in meetings to create a Centralized Arraignment Part in Sullivan County

Grants

This office submitted claims totaling \$2,212,779.38 to the State of New York for reimbursement for services provided in calendar year 2025 under several grants the County receives from NYSOILS as follows:

Contract No. CSTWIDE245 -	\$1,669,708.01
Contract No. C130048 -	\$80,998.98
Contract No. C140048 -	\$242,996.73
Contract No. C4th648 -	\$100,000.00
Contract No. C3RDFD48 -	\$119,075.66

Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. received a total of \$1,429,744.46 for services provided pursuant to the NYSOILS funding

Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid, Inc. received a total of \$451,977.49 for services provided pursuant to NYSOILS funding

The County ACP program received \$331,057.43, this includes, but is not limited to, the Administrator's salary and benefits and the CAFA Program.

The County also received the following from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice (hereafter "DCJS")

Aid to Defense Program -	\$12,198
Aid to Defense Discovery Reform -	\$180,985.00
Aid to Defense Supplemental	\$179,129.00

A portion of the DCJS funding was shared with Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. (\$218,050.94) and Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid, Inc. (\$89,063.06) who provide the bulk of the indigent legal representation in the County.

Activities include but are not limited to:

- Regular contact with executive directors of institutional providers; Sullivan Legal Aid Panel and Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid
- Prepared and submitted proposals in connection with additional funding provided by NYSOILS for years 2 and 3 under Contract No. CSTWIDE245. Negotiated with the State on how to utilize additional funding. Prepared Resolutions in connection with this Amended Contract and to authorize the programs contemplated under **this additional funding; prepared MOA's with providers; implemented new programs** such as the use of specialized services; authorizing use of continuing legal education funding; etc.
- Negotiated with NYSOILS regarding additional funding for Contract No. C3RDFD48 for year 3 of the agreement. Prepared Resolutions to authorize additional funding for Contract No. C3RDFD48.
- Prepared Memorandum of Agreements for providers in connection with sharing proceeds of DCJS funding to authorize payments
- Monitored all services provided under State grant funding
- Review and approve vouchers in connection with services provided under relevant grant contracts
- Worked with Audit to ensure timely payment to all providers of indigent legal services
- Continue to work with the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services to improve mandated legal services in Sullivan County and reduce the cost, by increased funding for ancillary mandated services such as expert witness costs.

Indigent Parolee Program (from DCJS) for State fiscal years 2022/2023; 2023/2024; and 2024/2025 – submission due 12/31/2025

Activities include but are not limited to:

- Compiling all parole violation cases and parole appeal cases that were completed in each of the aforementioned State fiscal years.
- Created detailed itemization of expenditure
- Prepared claim forms for County Manager's signature**
- Submitted claims and supporting documentation electronically to DCJS

The County submitted a total of \$100,310.66 as follows:

SFY 22-23	\$12,992.17
SFY 23-24	\$24,889.65
SFY 24-25	\$62,418.84

The award letter indicated that the County would receive a portion of the allowable claims.

Liaison to providers of mandated services

Maintain weekly contact with principals of both Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. and Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid, Inc.

Reports

Tracked all activities performed under 18B and grant funding as required in order to prepare reports for the State

Prepared and timely submitted Annual Expenditure Report to the State

Prepared and timely submitted ILS 195 Report to the State

Prepared and timely submitted twice-yearly Performance Measures Report to the

State

Vouchers

Review and approve vouchers for providers of mandated representation

Review and approve vouchers for 18b attorneys; compile information for increase in 18B rate reimbursement

Review and approve vouchers for CAFA Panel Attorneys

Review and approve vouchers for 18B attorney travel stipend

Review and approve applications from 18B attorneys for specialized services and track all expenses for reimbursement under grant funding

Claims

Timely submission of all claims and supporting documentation for reimbursement for all grants

Timely submission of all claims and supporting documentation for reimbursement for partial increase of 18B rates

Goals for 2026

Finalize and adopt formal Assigned Counsel Plan

Once ACP plan adopted – draft Attorney Handbook

Continue recruitment efforts for new 18B attorneys and new CAFA panel members

Work on establishing a centralized arraignment program

Negotiate successor contracts:

Contract No. C4th648 (expires 6/30/2026);

Contract No. C140048 (expires 12/31/2026)

Contract No. C3RDFD48 (expires 12/31/2026)

Conflict Legal Aid

Joel Proyect, President of Sullivan County Conflict Legal Aid

Salient Accomplishments and Initiatives:

- Providing extraordinary legal services to indigent defendants and parties while confronting increased caseload and dramatically more difficult cases.
- Providing unprecedented communication, coordination, collaboration and co-operation between our attorneys and specialized services professionals thereby improving the quality of the representation we were able to deliver.
- Expanded the number of attorneys representing defendants accused of committing felonies and parties in Family Court proceedings.
- We have expanded the types of services we are providing by including extra-contractual representation to defendants accused of violating conditions of probation and acting as legal advisers to defendants choosing to defend themselves pro se.
- Substantially improving the use of technology and technological training to provide required statistical reports to liberate our attorneys to do legal work, rather than clerical work.
- Complied with difficult and complicated New York State grant requirements thereby enabling our agency to provide these expanded services consistent with the funds we receive under the County of Sullivan budget.
- Purchased upgraded technological resources and trained personnel in the use thereof, thereby enabling our agency to promptly report required statistics to the State of New York and the County of Sullivan.
- Worked with the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office to provide copies of evidence in digital form to our clients who are incarcerated at the Sullivan County Jail to a greater scale than ever done before.

Data Relevant to 2025:

- Increase in quantity of representation to defendants and Family Court clients
- Includes no less than six A-1 felonies.

Legal Aid Panel

Tim Havas, Sullivan County Legal Aid Panel Executive Director

1. Mission Statement

Pursuant to federal and state law, county municipalities are mandated to provide free legal assistance for indigent people who are accused of crimes and for indigent people in specified family court cases including, but not limited to, neglect and custody proceedings. The Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation that has existed since 2003 and has served as the primary indigent defense provider on behalf of Sullivan County in conformity with federal and state mandate.

2. Day-to-Day Operation

On a daily and nightly basis, our attorneys appear in front of four Superior Court judges in criminal matters, three Superior Court judges in Family Court, and one support magistrate. Additionally, we appear regularly in approximately 25 town courts which meet at different times during business hours and, in many instances, during the evening. Many of these courts meet at the same time and on the same evening requiring ample staff to ensure coverage is available pursuant to federal and state mandate. Many of the town courts exist on the outskirts of Sullivan County and some do not convene until 7:30 p.m. and oftentimes recess after 9:00 p.m.

In order to provide competent representation, we have a dedicated staff of attorneys all of whom have substantial experience handling complicated litigation in criminal and family court. Tim Havas, the present Executive Director of the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc., has 37 years of indigent criminal defense experience. Almost all attorneys on staff have at least 15 years of criminal defense experience.

Additionally, our agency exists with highly experienced support staff handling secretarial work, state data collection, reception work, intake work, and investigation.

3. Responsibilities

This agency zealously defends those accused of serious violent felonies, non-violent felony offenses, misdemeanors, and in some instances, violations.

Our entity has handled in the range of 3,000 cases annually since its inception.

We are presently handling a substantial caseload of alleged violent felony and felony offenses, including one homicide case.

We are presently handling six Class A-I felonies.

We handle administrative proceedings in front of parole magistrates regularly.

We handle parole recognizance hearings under the "less is more law."

Our agency provides legal representation for the indigent in family court cases including but not limited to custody, visitation, neglect, paternity, and violations of support.

Our agency participates as a member of the Sullivan County Drug Court Team, which meets for several hours once a week.

On a daily basis, we provide pre-arrest legal advice to those potentially accused of crimes.

We handle counsel at first appearance assignments (CAFA) during regular court appearances. Additionally, the Executive Director routinely consults with attorneys from the County CAFA Panel with respect to off-hour legal issues at arraignments on a 24/7 basis. Our agency participates as a member of the Sullivan County Vettrack Team.

Our agency participates in the newly formulated DWI Court.

Our agency participates in the newly formulated Opioid Court . There has been discussion that Sullivan County will implement a mental health court some time in the future.

4. Caseloads

In 2025, the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. opened approximately 3100 files. Of that number 2675 were criminal cases.

This office 492 handled felonies.

This office handled 1628 misdemeanor cases.

This office handled 204 non-criminal offenses.

Our agency also handled approximately 351 administrative proceedings relating to probation matters, parole matters, proceedings under the Corrections Law, and general advice.

Our agency handled 425 family court related and other civil matters.

5. Budget/Indigent Legal Services/State Grants

The Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. has operated under the same county budgetary disbursement without increase for the last 14 years.

In 2023, this agency renewed its contract for a period of four years without an increase in the County budgetary disbursement.

Indigent Legal Services (ILS) is an entity dedicated to the improvement of legal representation for the indigent. ILS is funded by the state and has provided this agency with grant opportunities for purposes of supplementing and enhancing the level of service that is already provided.

In a collaborative effort between Assigned Counsel Administrator, Lynda Levine, the

County Manager's office, and the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc., we have been able to obtain state grants from ILS which allow us to continue, supplement, and enhance the level of legal service in conformity with federal and state guidelines without increased costs to the local taxpaying constituency.

In a collaborative effort between Assigned Counsel Administrator, Lynda Levine, the County Manager's office, and the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc., our agency earned funding through a request for proposal through Indigent Legal Services for money earmarked for parental representation in Family Court. It was established that this year that this funding will be continuing.

ILS and the Sullivan Legal Aid Panel, Inc. are united in lobbying for legislation which, if passed, will result in the state taking over the responsibility for the entire expense associated with free legal assistance. If that legislation is passed, the taxpayer responsibility in Sullivan County would be drastically reduced, if not eliminated.

This past year, the Executive Director participated in Family Court training in Albany, Drug Court training, reporting seminars sponsored by Indigent Legal Services, and the Chief Defenders meeting held in July.

Our agency through funding by Indigent Legal Services has continued an internship program.

6. Future Goals

This agency will continue to strive to provide zealous representation pursuant to state and federal mandate.

We will continue to work diligently to obtain state grants in order to minimize the County's responsibility for funding as much as possible.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Edward McAndrew, Public Works Commissioner

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It seems that supply chain issues and delays have continued to be a challenge for the Division of Public Works (DPW), in everything from vehicle acquisitions (multi-years to receive plow trucks) to precast concrete bridge beams. On a positive note the financial situation of the County allowed for continued investment in the extensive infrastructure maintained by the Division. Some positions within the DPW still have not been filled due to difficulties in finding qualified candidates. Working through these various challenges the Division of Public Works has continued to keep the County's widely varied infrastructure functional. As I have often stated, and reaffirm once again here, this is a testament to the outstanding staff that make up the Division of Public Works and all should be commended for the works that have been able to accomplish while dealing with the outfall of the most difficult years in recent history.

DPW's administrative staff performed, with two from previous four, all of the record keeping and accounting functions for the entire Division covering Roads & Bridges, Engineering, Buildings, Weights & Measures, Transportation, Solid Waste, the Airport, Repair Shops, and Traffic through 2024. This work includes but is not limited to requisition entry, voucher processing, contract and project tracking, the maintenance of personnel records and the timekeeping/payroll system, rental fleet coordination and billing, and fuel and repair invoicing. The budget is continually monitored and adjusted for changes in estimated expenditures and the capital and operating budgets were submitted for anticipated outlays. For a Division as varied as Public Works this is a very involved process that significant effort on the part of this staff.

The Department of the Sullivan County International Airport (SCIA) had a successful year in 2025 remaining fully operational while the Terminal replacement project was essentially completed. The County continues to work with the NYSDEC and NYSDOH to address the PFOA condition uncovered in 2017 at the airport. Fuel sales which are now performed in-house have continued to be a source of significant revenue. Business aviation which had been affected by the pandemic continues to rebound based on fuel sales and flight numbers over the course of this year. The County is looking to install a water storage tank at the airport to encourage development. At this time a grant for the repaving of the General Aviation (GA) Apron is underway with anticipated work this spring.

The DPW Buildings Unit continues to be involved in a variety of activities associated with County facilities relating to planning, budgeting and the design required for the maintenance, renovation and construction of existing and new buildings. These activities include inspection and recertification of County facilities for conformance with federal and state regulations, technical support for DPW Maintenance and Operations personnel, preparation of plans and specifications for private sector contracts and DPW work on County facilities, coordination of consultant services and participation in long term planning for future County facilities, and preparation of submissions to outside regulatory agencies. In addition to all of the work performed by the Buildings Engineering Unit, which is currently being performed by one person due to a retirement, one of the major projects being managed is the new Terminal at the SCIA. The new terminal building

was essentially completed in June of 2025. With punch-list items and closeout paperwork ongoing, this building will act as an impressive gateway to Sullivan County for air travelers

The Division of Public Works Bridge and Highway units continue the mission of improving the condition of County bridge inventory and Highway infrastructure. The recent increases in the contribution of County funding has allowed for an increase in the maintenance and bridge replacement and road resurfacing / reconstruction efforts. Due to the funding increase DPW has been able to effectively repair and replace several structures and pave roadways resulting in the improvement to the overall transportation network. The operations staff in both bridges and buildings also provide the bulk of the snow removal forces which keep our roads safe for the travelling public throughout the winter months.

The Engineering Bridge Unit and Bridge Operations Unit work as a team to accomplish their joint mission to cost-effectively replace, repair and maintain the County's 400 bridges and large culverts and various other County infrastructure to provide safe travel for the public. The combined team provides engineering expertise and quality construction for County infrastructure. The Engineering Bridge Unit leverages State and Federal funding along with County funds and the Bridge Operations Unit to efficiently reach their goal. Some of the responsibilities the Bridge Engineering unit include bridge program management, engineering design and plan creation, contract management, material procurement, construction support services and quality control inspections for project constructed by the Bridge Operations Unit or outside contractors. The Bridge Operations staff are responsible for replacing, rehabilitating and repairing various County infrastructure safely and efficiently. The Engineering and Operations units routinely assist other municipalities with infrastructure projects for which they lack qualified and experienced staff. Utilizing County Engineering staff and Bridge Operations staff to design and construct bridges saves 80% of the cost to replace/repair bridges compared to using outside contractors. In ongoing efforts to save the tax payers money the Bridge Engineering Unit managed to relocate a town highway and thereby eliminating an existing bridge that was in a poor condition eliminating the need for a costly replacement.

The Engineering Bridge Unit administered \$17.4MM of Federal funding for one (1) bridge replacement project, the design for three (3) future bridge replacements, and one (1) scour repair project. The Engineering Unit obtained \$500,000 of Federal funding for a bridge replacement which was designed in-house and will be built by the Bridge Operations Unit in 2026. The Engineering Bridge Unit also managed a design contract to re-align a section of County Road 75 and replace County Bridge 171 to improve roadway safety. The Bridge Operations Unit completely replaced one (1) bridge and constructed 600 ft. of new road to allow removal of the unnecessary bridge. They also performed two (2) major bridge rehabilitations and multiple smaller bridge repairs.

In 2025 the Highway Engineering Unit continued to work closely and cooperatively with the other DPW Engineering Units and field operations by providing surveying and engineering design work, construction support services, inspection work and related project management. The Highway Unit also oversees the County's annual highway rehabilitation and preservation, paving programs (County Road jurisdiction is currently 385 centerline miles). Furthermore, the unit is tasked with reviewing Traffic Safety concerns, including sign installation compliance to the MUTCD, speed

zone requests, roadside development (239 reviews), safe highway access (permitting unit) and the re-striping of our higher volume County Roads (75 miles). In addition, the unit continues to provide right-of-way and historical mapping research assistance to the public, surveyors, engineers, developers and other departments as needed.

As with most infrastructure improvement, consistent funding of capital programs like road paving, embankment repairs and guide rail upgrades are critical to the health and safety of the overall network. For the last six (6) years and this coming year (2026) the County, with the addition of recently increased State CHIPs allocations, has funded our paving and preservation programs at consistently acceptable levels (+/- \$8-10M) in order to continue to sustain the networks current overall condition.

The DPW shop employees have continued to keep the Division's vehicles and extensive equipment fleet in operating condition in 2025. Additionally, various other County agencies continue to put repair demands on the maintenance staff as well. DPW continued to acquire vehicles through the Enterprise lease agreements for new vehicles this year and now have the majority of the fleet cars in this program. There have been ongoing supply issues with the vehicles obtained through Enterprise and it takes a lot of effort to make sure that the vehicle replacements are made as timely as possible. The County auctioned vehicles through the Enterprise lease program and once again received favorable outcomes. Some of the DPW's older pieces of equipment have been refurbished to extend their useful life while it was determined that it made better fiscal sense to sell other in the DPW annual on-line auction. The Paint shop, Body shop and Sign shop and heavy equipment maintenance still remain at the Barryville facility which also acts as a storm station. A new structure has been utilized at the Callicoon Storm Station order to house additional plow trucks since the County has been contracted by the NYSDOT to perform snow and ice removal on additional sections of NYS Route 97.

The Division of Solid Waste continues to operate the County's registered transfer stations located in Mamakating, Highland, Ferndale, Cohecton and Livingston Manor. The closed capped landfill in Monticello still acts as the hub of operations for solid waste collection in the County. This facility is where the shipping of both of Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclables occurs. The County has begun hauling of recycling material in an effort to reduce the County carbon footprint and the costs of trucking via an outside contractor. A pilot composting program is underway and improving as residents become more aware of this option. There is a leachate pre-treatment plant, stormwater treatment plant and gas collection and flare system maintained and operated on site by DPW staff.

The DPW also oversees the County's Weights and Measures Department. The County Director is tasked with conducting testing of all the Trade Scales and Fuel Pumps within the County to assure fair trade is being conducted. The County is now caught up with many annual inspections that were lacking when the post was vacant for a time.

BUILDINGS & ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

The Buildings and Environmental Compliance Unit has an extremely broad scope of work, varying from day to day administrative tasks such as writing resolutions and reports and approving payment applications to performing code enforcement and building and environmental inspection programs. Some highlighted projects of 2025 were the construction completion of the New Terminal Building at the Sullivan County International Airport, the start of the Redundant Potable Water Tank Construction at the Liberty Campus, the replacement of the flooring within the Travis Building, and the completion of the Government Center Annex Roof Replacement in Monticello. A goal in 2026 is to better manage the inspection, testing, and maintenance programs of various systems as required by the Building Code (Sprinklers, Fire Alarms, Portable Fire Extinguishers, Emergency Lighting, Elevators, etc.)

Environmental Compliance is challenging as always, with staff constantly researching and seeking education to keep current with the always changing regulations to keep the County in compliance. A goal in 2026 is to conduct more training for the DPW field operations staff on various environmental compliance topics including spill prevention/clean up and proper rinse rack use.

Fiscal/Budgeting

- Worked with DPW FAO on year end close outs and new annual Purchase Orders
- Prepared Facilities Capital Plan and aided development of Airport Capital Plan
- Provided DPW FAO MILOR reports for 2024 and prepared updated Chargeback plans in CAD reflecting office moves
- Provided information to DPW FAO for development of 2026 Buildings / Environmental Compliance Budget
- Participated in annual meeting with County Auditor concerning County Facilities, updating information pertaining to recent projects
- Reviewed and approved various invoices and vouchers for payment as needed
- Participated in meeting concerning SCCC 2026 Budget Request for proposed buildings projects

Administration

- Prepared resolutions as needed for items such as Elevator Service & Maintenance contract, County Facility Cleaning Services contract, etc.

- Participated in meeting with various County offices as required
- Provided updated Schedule of Values for Facilities for Risk Management
- Coordinated and participated in FM Global risk assessment tour of Jail
- Met with outside agencies as needed/required, such as NYS Unified Court System representatives, Potential tenants at Airport Terminal, Village of Monticello Wastewater representatives, HVAC Contractor leadership,
- Prepared monthly and annual reports
- Participated in mandatory annual Safety training and County Leadership Training
- Coordinated Sullivan 180's Annual Opioid Outreach Event on Courthouse Lawn
- Coordinated with Office of Sustainable Energy and Grants Administration on various initiatives and funding opportunities
- Prepared bid B-25-38 Elevator Renovations at Various Sullivan County Buildings, reviewed bids, recommended award, wrote resolution, and assisted in contracts with awarded vendor
- Oversaw continuing HVAC Rooftop Unit Installation project at Adult Care Center
- Coordinated public daffodil bulb planting effort at Government Center and Maplewood Entrance signs in conjunction with Hope's Compass organization
- Assisted with preparations and planning of the New York State ribbon cutting ceremony, as well as Office for the Aging Annual Public Hearing events, at the Terminal Building
- Coordinated Travis Building flooring project utilizing NYSOGS Contract vendor

Code Enforcement / Building Inspection Programs

- Calculated Occupancy Loads for GC lobby and provided feedback on permissible public activities
- Conducted mandatory annual/triennial inspections of County Facilities, in accordance with Building Classifications and code requirements
- Conducted annual Commission of Corrections Fire Inspection at the Jail
- Provided, Inspections, and Certificate of Occupancy for Airport Terminal
- Provided Building Permit, Inspections, and Certificate of Compliance for Government Center Annex Roof Replacement
- Provided facility access for Building Code required Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Systems at various buildings, reviewed subsequent reports, and coordinated required work
- Provided facility access for Boiler Inspections and sought-after reports
- Participated in meetings concerning Government Center building security
- Participated in and completed mandated NYSDOS Building Code training hours
- Prepared and submitted mandatory NYSDOS Annual Building Inspection Report

Housing Gateway Project

- Coordinated work by Design Consultant on various potential facility sites as requested by Asst. County Manager

Government Center Annex Roof Replacement

- Worked with Office of General Services and County Attorney Office on resolution to award contract and contract documents for roofing vendor, off of OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchasing Contract
- Issued Building Permit, provided inspections during work, and issued Certificate of Compliance upon completion

Airport Terminal Project

- Developed solicitations, reviewed proposals, wrote resolutions, as required for various smaller tasks within the overall building project, such as the gauging of the reclaimed bluestone for use as interior veneer, the restaurant vendor tenant, and the cleaning contract
- Continued to coordinate and participated in monthly virtual meetings with NYSDOT, and weekly Owner/Architect/Contractor meetings through project completion
- Reviewed and approved applications for payment from various vendors related to the building project (design consultant, general contractor, construction manager, etc.)
- Coordinated and participated in training on various systems within the facility, such as the fire alarm, sprinkler system, and hvac
- Partnered with Design Consultant to prepare presentation on project for New York State County Highway Superintendent's Association Winter Conference

Public Water Supply Operation – Human Service Complex & Airport

- Coordinated NYSDOH Required Sampling program with contracted laboratory vendor and prepared and submitted all sampling results to NYSDOH
- Provided administrative support for water operations, including preparing and submitting required Daily Operation Reports and Annual Water Quality Report to NYSDOH, distribution of Annual Water Quality Report and completion and submittal of related Certification Form, submission of updated Lead & Copper Rule Monitoring Plan, and PFOS, PFOA & 1,4 Dioxane reports
- Provided support to DPW operations during boil water notices by grabbing the required samples and communicating with the NYSDOH

Redundant Potable Water Storage Tank at Human Service Complex Water Supply

- Continued to support design engineer with site info, existing conditions plans, etc.
- Prepared and worked with Office of General Services to let Construction bid
- Reviewed bid proposals, recommended award, wrote resolution for award, and worked with County Attorney on contract documents
- Reviewed and approved invoices from Engineer Consultant and General Contractor
- Provided communication channel with local NYSDOH staff at various points during construction of tank for milestones and feedback

Environmental Compliance

- Coordinated sampling contractor, reviewed, and reported laboratory results to NYSDEC for required monthly rinse rack outfall sampling at Maplewood
- Continued work with Engineering Consultant on environmental issue at SCIA
- Coordinated with operations and NYSDEC for upcoming PBS tank installs & updates/changes at various County facilities
- Accompanied NYSDEC on inspection/review of Maplewood rinse rack system and associated SPDES permit
- Coordinated and documented responses to minor petroleum spills Countywide
- Prepared NYSDEC 2-year CBS registration renewal for Landfill facility
- Prepared NYSDEC 5-year PBS registration renewal for Landfill facility
- Participated in Annual CBS Tank Inspection at Landfill facility
- Prepared Request for Quote for removal of underground fuel oil storage tank from District Attorney's Office (non-PBS tank/facility), oversaw contracted work, reviewed close out documentation
- Prepared Bid (B-25-54) for purchase and delivery of new aboveground PBS tank for heating oil at Government Center facility
- Prepared Bid (B-25-55) for closure and removal of aboveground PBS tanks at numerous County facilities
- Participated in Erosion and Sediment Control Training by SC SWCD
- Coordinated and documented responses to minor petroleum spills
- Prepared NYSDEC 5-year PBS registration renewal for Maplewood facility
- Performed 5-year review of SPCC Plans for various County facilities
- Prepared & Submitted MS4 Interim Progress Report to NYSDEC
- Coordinated public notice & review of Annual MS4 Report
- Performed MS4 Inspection along regulated areas of County Roads 64 & 65

- Performed inspections of Micropool Extended Detention Basins at Maplewood and Transportation Facilities and coordinated necessary maintenance activities with operations
- Updated spill documents/forms with new Emergency Spill Response and General Environmental Services Contractor
- Communicated with NYSDEC on new NYSDEC MS4 general permit changes/requirements



Government Center Annex Roof Replacement



Redundant Potable Water Storage Tank at Human Service Complex



Airport Terminal from Apron



Airport Terminal from CR 183A

ENGINEERING BRIDGE UNIT and BRIDGE OPERATIONS UNIT

The Engineering Bridge Unit and Bridge Operations Unit work as a team to accomplish their joint mission to cost effectively maintain, repair and replace the County's 400 bridges and large culverts and various other County infrastructure to provide safe travel for the public. The combined team provides engineering expertise and quality construction for County infrastructure. The Engineering Bridge Unit strategically utilizes State and Federal funding to sustain its extensive bridge inventory while substantially reducing the burden on taxpayers. Some of the responsibilities the Engineering Bridge Unit include engineering design, calculations, plan creation, bridge program management, contract and consultant management, material procurement, environmental permitting, construction support and inspection services. The Engineering Bridge Unit is currently managing 7 Federal Aid NYSDOT contracts worth a total of \$23MM which are 95% Federally funded and 5% County funded and provide consultant and contractor oversight and regular quality control inspections.

The Bridge Operations staff are responsible for repairing, rehabilitating and replacing various County infrastructure safely and efficiently. The Engineering and Operations units routinely assist other municipalities with infrastructure projects for which they lack qualified and experienced staff. Utilizing County Engineering Bridge staff and Bridge Operations staff to design and construct bridges saves 80% of the cost to replace/repair bridges compared to using outside contractors. Bridge Operations staff are also responsible for any general construction projects such office renovations, building repairs, and paving bridges and parking lots.

In 2025, the Engineering unit administered the replacement of County Bridge 82 on County Road 49 utilizing \$4.5MM of Federal funding, provided contract management for over \$12.4MM of Federal funding awarded to Sullivan County for 3 other large bridge replacements. The design of a scour repair project for two bridges was started and is being funded by 95% Federal funds. The Bridge Operations Unit completely replaced 1 bridge and built 600 ft. of new road to eliminate County Bridge 277 and any future bridge maintenance and replacement costs associated if a new bridge were to be built. They also slip-lined a 110 ft. long 10 ft. dia. culvert which allowed the road to remain open during construction. They also replaced the concrete curbs and installed new bridge rail on a large bridge, as well as performing several other bridge repair projects.



New County Bridge 82 on County Road 49/Oakland Valley Road in the town of Forestburgh. Typical example of successful procurement of 95% funding and contract administration.



New County Bridge 270 on Flugertown Road, in the town of Neversink. Typical example of a bridge designed by the Division of Public Work's Engineering Bridge Unit and built by DPW's Bridge Operations Unit.

- Continued the project administration and quality assurance inspections for the construction of a new bridge to replace the structurally deficient County Bridge 82 on County Road 49 (Forestburgh).
- Engineering design work continued for the NYSDOT 95% funded \$5.5MM project to replace County Bridge 301 on County Road 105B below the Neversink Dam (Neversink).
- Continued engineering design work was initiated for the NYSDOT 95% funded Bridge NY funding for the \$3.15MM project to replace County Bridge 51 on County Road 142 over the outlet of Swan Lake (Liberty).
- Engineering design work was initiated for the NYSDOT 95% funded Bridge NY funding for the \$3.77MM project to replace County Bridge 283 on County Road 149 over Cattail Brook (Rockland).
- Engineering design work was initiated for the NYSDOT 95% funded \$520,000 of funding for a maintenance project to repair scour damages to two bridges, County Bridge 297 (Liberty) and County Bridge 450 (Callicoon).
- Engineering design work was completed the \$750,000 project to replace County Bridge 270 on Flugertown Road (Neversink) designed by Engineering Bridge Unit and constructed by Bridge Operations Unit.
- Completed the administration of engineering work for the elimination of County Bridge 277 on Benton Hollow Road (Liberty) that saved the cost of \$800,000 for the replacement of the bridge each time it would require replacement in the future. The project was constructed by Bridge Operations staff for significant cost savings versus using outside contractors.
- Completed the slip-lining and pressure grouting of County Bridge 400 (Thompson) constructed by DPW Bridge Operations.
- Continued project management for design and R.O.W. acquisition for the \$6.7MM project for the re-alignment of County Road 75 and replacement of County Bridge 171 (Thompson) to increase driver safety and reduce crashes.
- Successfully obtained a grant for \$524,800 of Federal funding from the Northern Border Regional Commission. to replace County Bridge 368 on Flugertown Rd (Neversink). The Engineering Unit prepared design calculations, construction documents and material procurement for the bridge to be replaced by Bridge Operations staff in 2026.
- Completed the construction of the \$4.9MM project to replace County Bridge 77 on County Road 22 (Highland) which was completed in the Spring of 2025.
- Inspection work for the Sunset Lake Dam was completed to meet the dam safety requirements of its NYSDEC permit.
- Inspection work and condition report were completed for the County's waste materials receiving facility in accord with NYSDEC permit requirements.
- Continued the procurement of materials and coordinated utility relocations for the replacement of County Bridge 296 on Benton Hollow Rd. (Liberty).
- Completed the design, construction plans, ordered materials for the replacement of County Bridge 121 (Liberty) to be constructed by DPW Bridge Operations in 2026 at considerable savings versus outside forces.
- Completed the design, construction plans, ordered materials for the replacement of County Bridge 475 on County Road 52 (Fallsburg) to be constructed by DPW Bridge Operations in 2026 at considerable savings versus outside forces.
- Completed the design, construction plans, ordered materials for the scour repair of County Bridge 26 on County Road 122 (Callicoon).
- Completed the design, construction plans and environmental permitting for the scour repair of County Bridge 15 on County Road 22 (Tusten).
- Inspection work, updating of the emergency action plan and Dam Safety Certification for the Toaspern Dam was completed in compliance with dam safety permit requirements of its NYSDEC permit.
- Work to update the engineering assessment, maintenance and inspection plan and emergency action plan was completed for the Toaspern Dam 2025 requirements (Highland).
- Reviewed 134 notifications from NYSDOT with respect to issues at bridges inspected by NYSDOT's consultant inspectors and coordinated maintenance scheduling and planning with DPW operations.

- Reviewed and responded to 5 Red Flags and 14 Yellow Flags issued by NYSDOT for structural deficiencies concerning 19 bridges and provided action and maintenance scheduling where needed.
- Completed the annual bridge inspection of 188 bridges.
- Completed professional engineering guidance and quality control inspections of various DPW and contract projects.
- Completed the preparation of a Level 1 load rating for improvements made to County Bridge 237 on Covered Bridge Rd. (Rockland).
- Continued the implementation of Cartegraph software to improve the asset management for roads, bridges and facilities.
- Continued project close-out and contract management for the replacement of the joints for County Bridge 5 on County Road 32 (Lumberland) which that eliminated joint leakage to extend the bridge life.
- Completed the design of a repair to County Bridge 2 on Church Rd. for the Town of Fallsburg water and sewer mains and coordinated an IMA with the town for reimbursement. Bridge Operations staff to construct the repair in 2026.

ROAD MACHINERY

Road Machinery provides support for twenty-six (26) County Departments which includes fleet purchasing and maintenance. They oversee bid purchases on heavy equipment and manage the approximate one hundred and eighty-five (185) vehicle Enterprise fleet. The nineteen (19) employees in the department make sure that all equipment and vehicles are well maintained and all of the work is performed in house in a full repair shop located at the Maplewood facility. Body damages are sent to an autobody paint shop that is located at the Barryville facility. The Autobody Shop has sand blasting equipment and a paint booth which allows for the removing of rust and repainting in one stop. Fueling stations located throughout the County are managed by the Facility Superintendent to make sure that there is always a supply of fuel for the Departments it supports. The management of the fuel includes following strict PBS guidelines in compliance with the DEC.

The Traffic Control Department is responsible for the approximate eleven thousand (11,000) County Road signs along with various parking lots signs and they additionally assist the Towns and Villages with their road signs. In 2025 they striped two hundred and forty-five (245) miles of County Roads, striped eighteen (18) miles for Town and Village roads and painted one hundred (195) stops & bars at various intersections. This department contains five (5) employees that are located at our Barryville facility.

Autobody

- Repaired accident damages on county vehicles (H&F, CS, SH, PH & DPW)
- Wrote estimates on damaged county vehicles
- Prepped new vehicles for all county agencies
- Continued installing AVL's in county vehicles
- Prepped new DPW trucks for service
- Routine maintenance on DPW vehicles and equipment
- Replaced windshields in DPW trucks
- Sandblasting, repairing, painting, cleaning and storage of plow equipment
- Sandblasting and painting parts for bridges, new trucks, transfer station railings, bathroom partitions for the Government Center, Doors for Courthouse and Callicoon shop, and stair brackets for Airport terminal
- Prepped and painted Welcome to Sullivan Sign
- Cleaned, Refinished and applied new seals to Spray Booth and Floor

Vehicle Repair

- New York State Inspections on all light, medium and heavy-duty vehicles
- Preparation and repair on snow removal equipment
- Make necessary repairs to DPW and outside agency equipment
- Perform repairs on solid waste roll-off trucks and containers
- Field repairs to support road mowing operations
- Prepared new DPW and Sheriff vehicles for service
- annual check and service of all standby generators and 911 tower site units.
- Winterize and shrink wrap Sheriff boats.
- Mount and balance snow tires for all Sheriff vehicles, check/replace tires, as needed for outside agencies
- Continuously Hire and train Auto Mechanics
- Prepare and Manage vehicles and items for surplus equipment auction
- Return Enterprise Lease vehicles and replace with new ones
- Remove/ install AVL units from lease return vehicle to new.
- Received 2 Walking Floor trailers for Solid Waste to reduce hauling by half.
- Receive and put in service new tandem plow trucks, evaluate and select plow trucks to remove from service.
- Receive, prep, and train on new Knuckle Boom truck
- A new Kenworth road Tractor was delivered from Kenworth Northeast.
- Warranty repair work in complete on the new Paver
- Contact vendors to source a new compressor for road stripe truck.
- Order parts and schedule major repairs to Gradall #122.
- Fabricate four modular salt brine tank skids with pump and sprayer bar
- Requisition floor repair and replacement crane winch to restore Solid Waste Maintenance build to former service.
- Remove inground hydraulic lift and prepare bay to install new drive-on, Maplewood

Traffic Control

- Completed yearly inventory
- Continued brushing signs
- Sign Complaints

- Completed Fabrication of the Welcome Sign fabrication for Roscoe



- Completed O&W Rail trail Signage
- Completed Printing and Laminating 113 Right to Farm Signs



- Completed Speed zone install for town of Highland
- Facility sign upgrades to Training Center, Government Center, and Liberty Complex Parking Signs
- Installation and removal of work zone and detour signs on all DPW projects
- Safety upgrades to CR 103 by use of LED flashing lights and radar signs along with Speed zone changes on CR 171 & 143



- Completed Speed zone changes to CR 143 & 171
- Upgrade of signs on CR 33-58-11A-32-47
- Striping of County, Town and Villages
- Completed Pavement Marking at Liberty Complex and Town of Tusten
- Completed Striping project for Wurtsboro July Celebration
- Decaled new Vehicles

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Road Maintenance is staffed by thirty-eight (38) highly talented employees that maintain nearly three hundred and eighty-five (385) miles of County Roads for both Summer and Winter operations. While we don't do as much paving as in years past, this crew is busy prepping and finalizing work zones for the contract pavers who upgrade approx. forty (40) miles of roads annually. This includes ditching, tree clearing, drainage improvements, final grading, installing shoulders, installing guiderail, upgrading catch basins, and repairs to driveways. In conjunction with main line paving, this team supports the bridge crew in the completion of the bridge approaches and guiderail installation. Summer work also includes sweeping roads, mowing each highway twice annually and responding to public maintenance requests. Winter work consists of maintaining all of the plow equipment and making sure that the roads are safe. Some of the County roads are contracted to the Towns to maintain while the County provides service to the State where it makes sense. County forces are responsible for maintaining two hundred and sixty-eight (268) centerline miles of roads in the winter on a 24/7 basis. There are twenty (20) plow routes maintained along with the parking lots for the Sullivan County Community College. In 2024/2025 snow season there were seventy (70) after hour callouts.

- Installed 42.6 Miles of shoulders using 7,373 tons of millings. The roads that had shoulder improvements in 2025 are CR# 11A-15-52-56-71-84-85-174-175



- Installed pipe, shoulders and took down trees so that 13,000 feet of guiderail could be installed by contractors. Guiderail improvements were completed on CR# 103-104-107-171-172



- Preparations prior to paving subcontractor's mobilization of 18 miles of roads on CR# 11A -32-58-26-175 by replacing crossover pipes, driveway pipes, ditching and brushing



- Raise and patch in driveway aprons, fill behind shoulders and tip ups on CR# 11A - 32-58-26-175 after the paving subcontractors completed the paving work on 18 miles of road.



- Diverted 800 feet of the stream by excavating and stacking a rock wall on CR# 121 that eliminated a bank failure





- In house installation of 3,820 feet of new box beam guiderail on CR# 72-121-174-53
- Guiderail repairs on 2,994 feet of damaged guiderail on numerous County Roads.
- Installed 1,323 feet of Guiderail on four County Bridges, CB# 207-201-270-277.
- Brooming of 772 lane miles of all County roads
- Roadside mowing of 1,544 lane miles of roads by doing two cuts on both sides every County Road
- Hand Patched various County Roads and driveway aprons by using 256 tons of blacktop
- Responded to 422 Citizens requests in which each task averaged 4 manhours.

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING



The Department of Solid Waste runs five (5) remote residential transfer stations and one (1) Commercial / Residential transfer station area at Monticello location along with a Cardboard recycling facility and a tip floor for Garbage, C&D and Single Stream Recycling. This is a seven (7) day a week operation that operates with sixteen (16) employees and had a revenue of \$11,264,752 in 2025 with an annual tonnage of MSW and C&D of seventy-seven eight hundred thirty-one (77,831) tons. Price increases in 2025 pushed the volume lower but significantly increased the margin that helped the bottom line. There were two thousand thirty-seven (2,037) tons Single Stream Recycling collected in 2025. There has brought many improvements to the operation. The 2024 Western Transfer station facelift has added the addition of power and internet in 2025 allowing for computerized data collection and the ability to take credit cards. Because of an unapproved DEC permit for the landfill that Sullivan County has always used, a bid was put out that will allow the County to use three of the Casella Landfills in 2026 that should provide an outlet for the next 10 years. Mr. Bults won the bid to manage the loading and hauling, however since they are now a direct vendor of the County there is a better working relationship so that improvements can be made to the operation. 2025 brought expanded hours at the Monticello tip floor and a no charge paint collection program to all of the stations. A Local Solid Waste Management Plan was also approved by the NYSDEC and adopted by the Sullivan County Legislature. A draft RFP was put out in accordance to General Municipal Law 120-w for a possible Waste to Energy Facility as a long-term plan for the Counties waste.

Education & Outreach

- The Recycling Coordinator continues with outreach programs and speaks with County residents daily.
- In January the Recycling Coordinator met with Mid-Hudson News and Spectrum News to discuss the Christmas Tree Collection Program
- On April 2 the Recycling Coordinator attended “Coalition for a Vape-Free Sullivan” (Sullivan 180) to discuss the life cycle of vapes/lithium ion batteries
- On April 24 the Recycling Coordinator attended SUNY Sullivan’s Earth Day event
- On May 17 the Boy Scouts from Rock Hill toured the Monticello Transfer Station
- On June 3 the Boy Scouts from Livingston toured the Rockland Transfer Station
- On May 29 WJFF came to the Monticello Transfer Station to learn how solid waste moves through the County
- On May 29 Sustainable Sullivan toured the Monticello Transfer Station
- On May 30 the Recycling Coordinator interviewed with Bold Gold Media and Mid-Hudson News to promote the HHW happening June 8
- On May 30 the Recycling Coordinator had an interview with Spectrum News to discuss the updated operating hours at the Monticello Transfer Station
- On June 15 the Recycling Coordinator attended Sustainable Bethel’s open house
- On July 29 the Recycling Coordinator presented Recycling/Composting Education at the Crawford Library in Monticello
- On September 17 the Recycling Coordinator hosted a Composting Education class with Cornell Cooperative Extension at Cornell Cooperative Extension

Food Scrap Recycling



- Food scraps collected year-round at 5 transfer stations

- 17.88 tons were collected in 2025, our second full year of collection
- Weekly trips continued to deliver compost to Community Compost Company in Kerhonkson
- In November we worked with the Sullivan County Soil & Water Conservation District to collect pumpkins. At the end of the month we brought the collected pumpkins to Community Compost Company for composting.

Paintcare

- PaintCare collection added at all 6 transfer stations.
- In January, Registration Modification Request Forms were sent to the DEC to accept paint through the PaintCare program for the Ferndale, Highland, Rockland, Mamakating, and Western Sullivan Transfer Stations.
- In February, we were notified by the DEC that registrations modifications were not needed for the other 5 stations
- In February, paint collections bins were delivered to the Ferndale, Highland, Rockland, Mamakating, and Western Sullivan Transfer Stations.
- By March, PaintCare collection was in Full swing at all stations.
-

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Paint Bins collected in 2025</u>
Monticello	23
Ferndale	10
Highland	16
Mamakating	11
Rockland	14
Western Sullivan	17
TOTAL	91





Household Hazardous Waste

- In May the Department of Solid Waste & Recycling participated in NYSDEC's CleanSweep program.
- Chemicals from the DPW were collected and brought to a drop off location in Middletown for free disposal.
- Northward Environmental Services was selected as vendor for Household Hazardous Waste Events in 2025
- First event held on June 8 with 239 cars participating collecting 10.29 tons of hazardous waste
- Second event held September 28 with 133 cars participating collecting 8.27 tons of hazardous waste



Accounts

- Continuous communication maintained with account holders.
- Addressed any delinquent accounts so they remain current with payment.
- 2026 Commercial Hauler applications sent in October 27 and placed on website.

DEC Related

Annual Reports and Grants

- Report data tracked throughout the year.
- 2024 Annual Reports submitted to DEC before deadline of March 1, 2025.
- 2023 HHW grant application submitted before deadline of February 28, 2025.
- 2025 MWRC grant application submitted before deadline of October 31, 2025.
- In February we received notice that our 2024 HHW application was approved.

NYSDEC MWR&R: Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Program Grant

- Met with the Department of Grants Administrations in August to determine this is the grant we will pursue to build the compost facility at the Monticello Landfill
- Began budget research
- Began grant in SFS grant reporting online system

Solid Waste Management Plan

- Cornerstone Engineering reviewed public comment, revised the Draft SWMP, and resubmitted it to the DEC on October 28, 2024.
- In April 2025, comments from the DEC were received and Cornerstone Engineering began work to address the comments
- The draft was sent back to the DEC on May 21, 2025
- In August 2025 the Local Solid Waste Management Plan was accepted by DEC.
- Resolution to accept the Local Solid waste Management Plan was submitted for the August Legislative meetings.
- In October 2025 the Resolution and Local Solid Waste Management Plan were accepted by DEC.

Permit Modification Request sent to the DEC on October 30, 2024

- DEC denied modification request in July 2025
- We requested a meeting to discuss modification request in October 2025

Permit Condition 4— Tonnage Limits			
Existing Permit		Modification Request	
800 tons of waste per day		1,000 tons of waste per day	
3,685 tons of waste per week		4,600 tons of waste per week	
Permit Condition 6— Operating hours			
Existing Permit		Modification Request	
Receive	Process	Receive	Process
Monday— Friday 7:00am— 3:30pm	Monday— Friday 7:00am— 7:00pm	Monday— Friday 7:00am— 3:30pm	Monday— Friday 6:00am— 6:00pm
Saturday 7:00am— 1:00pm	Saturday 7:00am— 3:30pm	Saturday 7:00am— 3:30pm	Saturday 6:00am— 3:30pm

Miscellaneous

- DEC performed site inspection at the landfill on 12/30/24 after significant snow melt and received a violation notice received via email 1/7/25 for litter at the load out tunnel
- Worked with the DEC and vendor to properly handle a radiation load that was brought into the landfill on November 17. Radiation set aside and can be disposed of on 1/23/26.
- We attended DEC training for Radiation Monitoring at Solid waste Management Facilities on July 21 at the Region 3 office in New Paltz

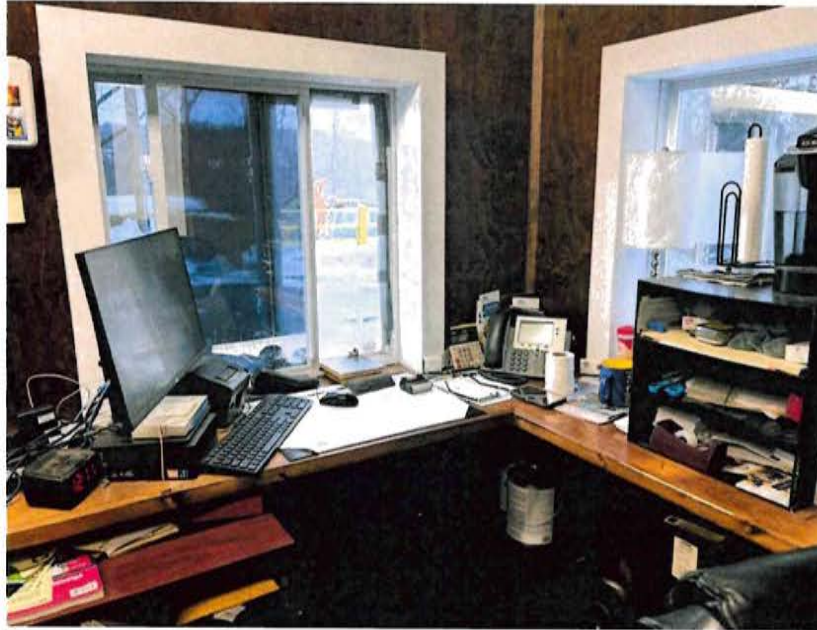
Operational Accomplishments

	2023 MSW/C&D Tonnages	2024 MSW/C&D Tonnages	2025 MSW/C&D Tonnages
January	5592	5096	4030
February	5147	4856	3361
March	6287	6452	5035
April	6220	7031	5402
May	8631	8506	7006
June	9778	9045	7537
July	13395	14618	13335
August	14406	13605	12066
September	7293	7747	6423
October	7043	6166	5297
November	6194	5423	4344
December	5485	4418	3995
TOTAL	95,471	92,963	77,831

- Municipal Cleanups took place in April/May and October/November.
- Roadside & Trail Litter pluck took place from April 1-October 31.



- Pest Tech performed pest maintenance at transfer stations throughout the year
- In October 2024 Carolina Software began working to automate reports to be sent to account holders automatically to assist County Treasure
- In June 2025 ITS installed a computer, credit card machine, and phone at the Western Sullivan Transfer station.



- In July, leachate line cleaning was completed at the landfill
- From the end of June through the beginning of September a traffic control person was implemented at the transfer building to direct hand unloaders to specific bays and to keep commercial traffic flowing
- The department purchased two walking floor trailers in 2025
- Tipping floor yearly inspection completed in October
- In September 2024 the Solid Waste Committee began working with Cornerstone Engineering on an RFI for a Waste to Energy Facility.
- Request for draft proposals for a Waste to Energy facility were due August 22
- New tire recycling vendor started May 1. Tire Waste Management is providing same service at a lower cost.
- New SSR compact received for the Rockland Transfer station, to be installed in 2026
- Scrap Metal Recycling went back out to bid in July. Weitsman Shredding remains vendor.
- Improvements to Ferndale Transfer Station are underway
- Railing improvements are in process

Rate Changes

- Solid Waste Rules were updated January 1, 2025 as per Resolution 505-24 and 638.24. (Resolution to authorize amendments to Section 620.1, 624 and 632).
- MSW tipping rate was \$136.50 from January 1, 2025—June 30, 2025 and increased to \$137.00 from July 1, 2025 forward.

- C&D tipping rate was increased to \$150.00 starting January 1, 2025 forward.

Hour Changes

- Starting June 2, 2025, the Monticello Transfer Station will be open from 7am-3:30pm Monday-Friday and on Saturdays from 7am-11am for the scale and 7am-1pm for the residential drop off area.

Changes in hours Effective

Monday June 2nd

Inbound Scale Hours

Monday thru Friday: 7 am - 3:30 pm

(Hand unloaders must be weighed out by 3pm)

Saturday Scale: 7 am – 11 am

Saturday Residential Drop Off: 7 am—1 pm

Scale closes at 11am, bags only from 11am-1pm

***** SATURDAY RESIDENTIAL DROP OFF WILL CLOSE AT 1PM *****

Bid for MSW and C&D disposal for 2026

- Began working on Bid in March
- Request for proposal for MSW and C&D disposal for 2026 went out in June
- Proposals due by July 25
- In November we worked with potential vendors to finalize the contract for 2026
- As of January 1, 2026, MSW and C&D
 - Will be transported by MBI
 - Will be disposed of at Casella landfills via Panichi Holding Corp

HIGHWAY ENGINEERING UNIT

Unit Goals:

- Effectively utilize funding currently available to perform design and oversight of repairs and improvements to the existing highway system (385 miles), for the benefit and safety of the travelling public
- Provide information and technical assistance to other County departments as well as the general public

PROGRAM	KEY STATISTICS	OUTCOME
<p>Pavement Reconstruction / Rehabilitation (Rehab.) (Capital Project): a combination of partial depth repairs, T & L (1.25") and asphalt overlays (3.5") along with replacement of all pavement markings (striping) – rotating rehab. and repair of all CR's.</p>	<p>County Roads (CR's): 18.4 Mi. (\$ 5.419 M)</p> <p>County Roads (CR's): 7.60 Mi. (\$ 2.539 M) (Repair Sections Only)</p> <p>Sub-Total (Rehab.): 26.0 Miles Contractor: Sullivan County Paving Inc.</p>	<p><u>Extended</u> the pavement life of portions of; CR's 11A, 26, 32, 58, 103, 174 and 174A by 10 to 12 years.</p> <p><u>Extended</u> the pavement life of portions of; CR's 52, 56, 84 and 85 by 8 years. (Partial Depth Repairs only). Actual Repair Sections Length: 7.6 Mi. Overall Length Repair Roads: 16.5 Mi.</p>
<p>Pavement Preservation (Preserv.) (Maint. Project): a combination of crack sealing, asphalt shimming and double chip sealing (oil & stone and fog seal) along with replacement of all pavement markings (striping) – rotating preserv. of CR's in applicable condition.</p>	<p>County Roads (CR's): 36.3 Mi. (\$ 1.712 M) (Chip Seal & Fog Seal)</p> <p>County Roads (CR's): 60.0 Mi. (\$ 0.342 M) (Crack Seal Only) Contractor: Peckham Road Corp.</p> <p>County Roads (CR's): 1.7 Mi. (\$ 0.274 M) (Paver Placed Surf. Treat.) Contractor: Sullivan County Paving Inc.</p>	<p><u>Extended</u> the pavement life of portions of; CR's 43, 111, 112, 114, 143, 151, 152, 162, 163, 166, 168, 183, 183B and 183C by 3 to 5 years (Double Chip Seal).</p> <p><u>Extended</u> the pavement life of; (60) miles by 1 year (Crack Seal Only).</p> <p><u>Extended</u> the pavement life of portions of; CR's 14 & 15 by 5 years</p>
<p>Pavement Program Management & Oversight (Rehab. & Preserv.): preparation of detailed bid specifications (specs.), provide daily contractor inspection, quantity tracking, materials testing, billing review and CHiP's reimbursements. Annual pavement program of all 385 miles of CR's based on a rotating, life cycle, condition.</p>	<p>Rehab.: 73,969 Tons of Asphalt Placed 9,475 Tons Shldr. Bkup. Placed 32,170 Gals. of Tack Coat Used</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (96) days of Contractor Inspection <p>Preserv.: 200,052 Gals. of CRS2P Oil Placed 38,331 Gals. of Fog Seal Used 456,449 S.Y. of Aggregate Placed 120 Lane Miles of Crack Filling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (39) days of Contractor Inspection <p>Bid Specs.: (6-8 wks.) - RSMS (2-4 wks.)</p>	<p>Contractor compliance to County and NYSDOT specifications.</p> <p>Ensure proper construction practices to gain maximum life expectancy of finished product.</p> <p>Effective funding utilization.</p> <p>RSMS: Road Surface Management System – Annual survey of all CR's – Vehicle Mounted Laser Scanning Survey using International Roughness Index (IRI).</p>
<p>Total 2025 Resurfacing Programs</p>	<p>96.6 Mi. of Co. Rds. Improved (\$ 10.286 M)</p>	<p>(Both Rehabilitation & Preservation)</p>
<p>Pavement Marking & Striping (Maint. Project): Annual re-striping of long lines (yellow centerline and white edge lines) in addition to re-marking of stop bars, symbols and words.</p>	<p>Various County Roads: 131 Mi. (\$ 0.431 M)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (4) days of Contractor Inspection <p>36 miles of the 131 above was re-striping of chip seal roads – chip seal typically requires a 2nd coat after the initial one to last through a winter plowing season.</p> <p>Contractor: Seneca Pavement Marking</p>	<p>Re-installed centerline and edge lines along with pavement markings on approximately 95 miles of our higher volume roads – work is completed annually before July 4th holiday in advance of summer traffic volume increases.</p>
<p>Guide Rail (G/R) (Capital Project): preparation of detailed bid specifications (specs.), provide daily contractor inspection, quantity tracking, materials certification, billing review and CHiP's reimburse.</p>	<p>Misc. County Roads: 19,984 LF (\$ 1.491 M) (LF) Linear Feet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (37) days of Contractor Inspection <p>Contractor: Elderlee, Inc.</p>	<p>Installed new box beam guide rail systems on appropriate sections of; CR's 19, 103, 104, 107, 166A and 172.</p> <p>Actual G/R Section Lengths; 19,984 LF Length of CR's Improved; 23.4 Mi.</p>

PROGRAM	KEY STATISTICS	OUTCOME
<p>Crushing of Asphalt Millings (Maint. Project): preparation of bid documents for the mechanical crushing of asphalt millings from County Road partial depth repair projects (Rehab.)</p>	<p>Misc. Co. Roads: 10,500 Tons (\$ 0.098 M)</p> <p>Contractor: Villager Construction, Inc.</p>	<p>Crushed millings (aka Recycled Asphalt Pavement or RAP) from the paving season are processed in the fall for use the following year to backup shoulders on CR's to be paved next</p>
<p>Embankment Repair (Capital Project): repair failed or failing roadside embankments with an appropriate treatment including Soil Nailing, Geo-Cells with Geo-Grid reinforcement, Direct-Bury Geo-Cells in pavement. Scheduled repairs needed prior to upcoming paving or Emergency repairs due to imminent/partial failure</p>	<p>County Road 19 (NEV): 550 LF (\$ 0.455 M) (LF) Linear Feet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (12) days of Contractor Inspection <p>County Road 72 (LIB): 700 LF (\$ 0.819 M)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (22) days of Contractor Inspection <p>County Road 94 (FRE): 600 LF (\$ 0.847 M)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (27) days of Contractor Inspection <p>Completed through our competitively bid Job Order Contract (JOC) with Contractor: Sullivan County Paving and Construction</p>	<p>Created a solid base and sub-base (Geo-Cells with Geo-Grid) and provided for a safer riding surface on sections of road/embankment that were repeatedly slipping – widened shoulder to allow for new box beam guide rail installations – improved roadside drainage.</p> <p>(JOC) – provides a mechanism to deal with repairs and improvements that SCDPW is not equipped to handle.</p>
<p>Traffic Safety: (TS) review and processing of speed zone (S/Z) requests to and from DOT – review and coordination of TS installations with sign shop (separate from regular sign maintenance activities).</p>	<p>S/Z Requests: 9 (4 on Town Highways & 4 on County Roads & 1 on State Roads) Assist sign shop with layout of speed zone sign locations.</p> <p>Sign Requests: 3 specific traffic safety related locations requiring advanced warning sign installations and upgrades.</p>	<p>S/Z requests on multiple Town and County Roads – NYSDOT (by rule) performs all speed studies for S/Z determinations</p> <p>Sign requests on various Co. Rds. – Ensured compliance to the MUTCD.</p>
<p>Survey Support & Design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detailed topographic (topo.) field surveys and as-built surveys for bridge replacement and repair/improvement projects - Base Cadd mapping of bridge & road projects - Design for drainage improvement projects - Construction layout (L/O) services in support of bridge and highway reconstruction projects - Design, Requisition and layout of Guide Rail sections - Survey, design and layout at County facilities 	<p>County Bridges (CB's): CB 270 (NEV); Finite survey layout of piling, forms, abutments, beams & final road grading as needed;</p> <p>CB 277 (LIB); Survey layout and grade staking for new road realignment of Benton Hollow Rd. (Decommission CB 277)</p> <p>County Roads (CR's): CR's 19 (NEV) & 52 (FAL); Topo., ROW survey & cadd mapping for embankment repair and drainage design</p> <p>CR 103 (THO); Survey layout and grade staking required to raise the north leg of (4) way intersection by 1.5 ft. of pavement thereby improving sight distance from intersecting Town Road (Fraser Rd.)</p> <p>CR's 19, 72 & 94 Embankments; Geo-cell Retaining Systems (GRS) – Design, quantities and survey L/O as needed</p> <p>CR 14 (BET); ROW mark-out for adjoining owner encroachment</p> <p>CR's 11A (HIG), 14 (LIB), & 174 (THO); assisted operations with layout of guide rail sections for installation by in-house forces</p> <p>Facilities: SCIA; Hangar building cor. locs. in Grid, New Terminal Bldg. As-Blt. location, P/L flagging at middle marker</p> <p>911 Tower; Tower Layout and FAA 1A Cert. for new 911 tower adjacent to Jeff. School</p> <p>Vet Cem; Plot Marker Layout</p>	<p>Provided cost-effective, professional, in-house survey and construction layout and design services.</p> <p>Responsive and timely data collection, design, survey support & field layout.</p> <p>SCIA: Sullivan. County International Airport (BET)</p> <p>Vet Cem: Veteran's Cemetery (LIB)</p>

PROGRAM	KEY STATISTICS	OUTCOME
<p>Regulatory Permitting: Preparation and detailed submission of NYSDEC and ACOE joint application permit requests for in-house work adjacent to waterbodies – DEC onsite meetings, ongoing coordination throughout and final close-out</p>	<p>CR 121 Embankment (DEL); failing roadside embankment damaged by repeated flooding of the north branch of the Callicoon creek adjacent to a NYSDEC fisheries access – 150 feet of repair - stream channel re-routed – construction of a stacked rip-rap wall at the embankment base and backfilling of medium stone fill on the slope – installed new guiderail</p>	<p>Repaired by County road maintenance crews – restored embankment and widened road shoulder for guide rail installation – remediated DEC fisheries access that was used as a staging area</p>
<p>Project Oversight: Archtop Fiber; installation of primarily underground fiber optic cable along Co. Rds. within Co. ROW</p>	<p>\$30 Million Dollar grant from NYS Review and issuance of permits by phase Weekly coordination with Archtop Field inspection of routes and remediation</p>	<p>High speed broadband internet access to unserved and underserved areas of the Co. along approx. 250 miles of roads (75 miles of Co. Rds.)</p>
<p>Provide record ROW & mapping research services and respond to FOIL requests: deed and right-of-way mapping along with historical Co. Hwy. construction plans and Town Hwy. record data - highway boundary determinations.</p>	<p>County & State Road Requests: 82 (2024;83) Town Road Requests: 6 (2024;8) Total No. of Requests: 88 * ('24;91)</p> <p>FOIL Requests: 6 (2024; 5) <i>* (mainly by surveyors, engineers, lawyers in addition to Co. Real Property, other scdpw personnel and local town officials)</i></p>	<p>SCDPW maintains an extensive record ROW mapping and construction plan set for our Co. Rd. system & old state highways.</p> <p>SCDPW also is the “caretaker” of historical town highway records and inventories.</p>
<p>Review of Roadside Development & Highway Work Permitting: site plan and subdivision review, highway access, sight distance (S/D) measurements, drainage inspections and utility work Limit impacts to infrastructure from proposed development.</p>	<p>239 Reviews; 65 (2024;48)</p> <p>Permits Issued; 60 (2024;64) (D-Dig, M-Misc./Access, O-Oversize & U-Utility)</p> <p>Field Inspections related to Permitting & 239 Reviews; 123 (2024;160)</p> <p>S/D Measurements; 39 (2024;53)</p>	<p>Provided for safe ingress and egress to and from the county highway system for the benefit of the travelling public.</p> <p>Ensured burden is borne by the developer or mitigated during the review process.</p>
<p>Annual Local Highway Inventory: NYSDOT requires annual reporting of all municipalities local roads mileage for certification as part of the Consolidated Local Street and H'way. Improvement Program.</p>	<p>Review and assist towns with additions and subtractions to their highway inventories as needed – Review County Highway mileage inventory and submit 2025 certification to NYSDOT;</p> <p>384.59 Centerline Miles</p>	<p>Accurate and up-to-date mileages are used by NYSDOT annually to calculate and determine CHIP's funding amounts for each municipality the following year.</p>
<p>Annual Reporting:</p>	<p>Road Network Repair Summaries Network Health / Roughness Indices Lane Mile Year Indices & Graphs GASB Capital Improvements (Highways) County Highway Mileage Certification Snow and Ice Contract Miles & Cadd Maps (6) Yr. Capital Plan</p>	<p>Annual internal county auditing and reporting of capital expenditures are required for good fiscal responsibility.</p> <p>Historical tracking and evaluation of overall road network health.</p>

DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Scott Schulte, Public Safety Commissioner

2025 Accomplishments

Received Fly-Cart drone (procurement initiated in 2024); unit has been placed into service; also procured additional drones and drone-related equipment, including an underwater ROV for search and recovery missions which has also been placed into service;

Procured Starlink communications devices and subscription service;

Purchased Dive Team underwater communications equipment; equipment has been deployed;

Hired County's first-ever Health and Wellness Coordinator to support the entire Div.;

New Positions of EMS and Fire Instructor were created in 2025; (3) County Fire Instructors have been hired and we are currently in the process of hiring County EMS Instructors;

County's Emergency Services Training Center was renamed the Richard A. Martinkovic Public Safety Training Center, posthumously honoring former Commissioner of Public Safety/Fire Coordinator, Richard "Dick" Martinkovic, who dedicated a significant portion of his life to fire and the emergency services;

Completed security camera upgrades at the training center;

Hosted the second annual Emergency Services Youth Academy in July; (18) youth, aged 14-16 participated in the week-long program which included lessons on fire suppression, search and rescue, CPR/First Aid training, and police investigations; this successful program expanded tremendously since its pilot program in 2024, which hosted only (7) participants;

County's TAM Team handled (15) referrals;

Activated the Emergency Operations Center a total of 2 times for winter storms;

Procured and deployed Evolv Security screening equipment for the Gov't Center;

Hired Building Safety Monitor;

Procured new uniforms for the Sheriff's Office ESU (Emergency Services Unit) Team;

Courtesy of New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES), we received an allocation of flood mitigation equipment which will help support our County, enhancing preparedness and response capabilities.

Sullivan County E911 Communications Center

Sullivan County International Airport

76 County Route 183A

Swan Lake, NY 12783

2025 Annual Report



Prepared by: Alex Rau, E911 Coordinator

Submitted: February 11, 2026



SULLIVAN COUNTY E-911 COMMUNICATIONS

SULLIVAN COUNTY AIRPORT

Address: 76 COUNTY ROUTE 183A, SWAN LAKE, NY 12783

Mailing: PO BOX 5012, MONTICELLO, NY 12701

ALEX RAU
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
OF PUBLIC SAFETY 911 & EMS
TEL: (845) 807-0134
FAX: (845)807-0130

CHARLES RAMPE
911 CHIEF DISPATCHER
TEL: (845) 807-0508
FAX: (845) 807-0130

February 11, 2026

To the Reader,

Welcome to the Sullivan County 911 annual report for 2025. This document was created to give you a brief overview of the various activities the 911 staff participated in and accomplishments throughout the year. You will also find attached our 911 call and dispatch statistics for your review.

As you will notice in our accomplishments we were fortunate to achieve positive results in several grant applications which yielded over \$2M in grant funding to enhance current public safety communications but also prepare for next-generation 911 implementation which will be implemented statewide in the next 3-5 years. This will be a significant undertaking and a major technology upgrade for 911 Centers across the state. I am fortunate to be a member of the NYS next-generation 911 workgroup and have a preview of what's ahead. We are hopeful that NYS will continue to earmark funding to counties to aid with these upgrades.

Our greatest strength remains our staff who saw an 11% increase in dispatches, in large part due to the addition and need for the County EMS fly-car responses. The dispatch statistics are enclosed herein. We were fortunate to maintain staffing levels, with only 1 dispatcher dropping to per-diem status however we quickly filled the gap.

In closing I'd like to thank our Public Safety Commissioner, our County Legislators, and County Manager for their support and commitment to 911 projects. Our dedicated staff of men and woman remains focused and committed to the efficient and professional delivery of 911 service to anyone who may call for emergency assistance.

Sincerely,

Alex Rau
Public Safety
Deputy Commissioner 911 & EMS

2025 – The Year In Review

Participated in the following meetings and Public Events:

- Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board
- Sullivan County EMS Council
- Legislative Public Safety & Law Enforcement Committee Meetings
- Public Health SNS planning sessions
- NYS DHSES grants workshop(s)
- Hudson Valley Interoperable Communications Consortium
- NYS Next-Generation 911 sub-committee/workgroup
- Sullivan Amateur Radio Emergency Services meetings
- County CEPA assessment/workshop
- High school career events at SCCC, Sullivan West, Monticello, Fallsburg, Rockland school districts
- Participated in planning meetings with Community Services relative to the community response team
- Regular ongoing meetings and site visits pertaining to the Broadband project
- Chempack activation exercise and dispatch of necessary resources
- 911 tour and involvement in the Public Safety Youth Academy
- Sullivan County threat assessment team, and team workshop
- Monthly substance use taskforce meetings
- National Park Service emergency exercise planning
- Provided communications support for The Center for Discovery elopement exercise
- Attended the NYS DHSES symposium
- Attended the NYS 911 Coordinators Association conference, including board meetings
- Sullivan County LEPC meeting

Department Accomplishments 2025:

- Began environmental assessment and design for new communications tower/facility in Jeffersonville
- Completed grant applications related to Emergency Communications and Next-Generation 911 enhancements and were awarded over \$2M in grants in 2025.
- Worked with Motorola to completed critical infrastructure upgrades to the communications network at all 11 tower facilities in our network.
- Increased 911 presence in the community through various career day opportunities at local schools, Office for the aging event at the airport, Bagel festival and other public engagements.
- We maintained staffing levels with no front-line dispatch vacancies and increased 1-per diem position.
- 911 staff completed over 500 hours of continuing dispatch education, a standard required by NYS.
- Completed a technology upgrade of new workstations at all 911 dispatch positions with help of ITS
- Worked with Verizon Wireless on tower sharing to improve wireless service in the Town of Bethel
- Our 911 team handled a 11% increase in dispatches over the previous year data
- Provided radio programming/maintenance for division communication assists and assisted other County department such as probation and the district attorney's office with technical needs.
- In coordination with ITS/GIS staff began planning for a mutual aid box alarm system which will assist fire departments in coordinating response.

AGENCIES DISPATCHED BY SULLIVAN 911

The following departments are dispatched by the Sullivan County 911 Center.

Fire Service:

- Sullivan County Bureau of Fire
- Sullivan County Dive Taskforce
- Sullivan County Search & Rescue
- Sullivan County Fire Investigation
- Sullivan County REHAB Team
- Beaverkill Valley Fire Dept
- Bloomingburg Fire Dept
- Callicoon Fire Dept
- Callicoon Center Fire Dept
- Claryville Fire Dept
- Fallsburg Fire Dept
- Forestburgh Fire Dept
- Grahamsville Fire Dept
- Hankins – Fremont Fire Dept
- Highland Lake Fire Dept
- Hortonville Fire Dept
- Hurleyville Fire Dept
- Jeffersonville Fire Dept
- Kauneonga Lake Fire Dept
- Kenoza Lake Fire Dept
- Lake Huntington Fire Dept
- Lava Fire Dept
- Liberty Fire Dept
- Livingston Manor Fire Dept
- Loch Sheldrake Fire Dept
- Long Eddy Fire Dept
- Lumberland Fire Dept
- Monticello Fire Dept
- Mountaindale Fire Dept
- Narrowsburg Fire Dept
- Neversink Fire Dept
- North Branch Fire Dept
- Rock Hill Fire Dept
- Roscoe Fire Dept
- Smallwood Fire Dept
- Summitville Fire Dept
- Swan Lake Fire Dept
- Westbrookville Fire Dept
- White Lake Fire Dept
- White Sulphur Spring Fire Dept
- Woodbourne Fire Dept
- Woodridge Fire Dept
- Wurtsboro Fire Dept
- Youngsville Fire Dept
- Yulan Fire Dept

Ambulance Service:

- Highland Ambulance
- Bethel Ambulance
- Cochection Ambulance
- Grahamsville Ambulance
- Hatzalah Ambulance
- Jeffersonville Ambulance
- Livingston Manor Ambulance
- Lumberland Ambulance
- Mamakating Ambulance
- Empress EMS
- Mountaindale Ambulance
- Neversink Ambulance
- Rock Hill Ambulance
- Roscoe Ambulance
- Tusten Ambulance
- Upper Delaware Ambulance
- Woodbourne Ambulance
- Sullivan County Bureau of EMS
- Sullivan County EMS/Seniorcare

Police Agencies:

- New York State Police
- Sullivan County Sheriff's Office
- Liberty Police
- Monticello Police
- Fallsburg Police
- Woodridge Police
- DEP Police
- Bethel Constable
- Lumberland Constable

Adjunct Agencies we dispatch as requested:

- Sullivan County Coroners
- Sullivan County DPW
- NYS DOT
- Town Code Enforcement
- Town Animal Control
- Town DPW's (Trees and Snow)
- Medevac Services
- NYS DEC – Forest Ranger
- Utility Companies
- After hour watch center for DPW

Translation Service Usage: Through the use of our Interpretation service, our 911 dispatchers can interface with callers in over 250 different languages. Whether it be our increased tourism or our influx for local attractions such as the Casino or Bethel Woods, we have seen our need for translation services continue to increase year-after-year.

Language	2024 (Time in minutes)	2025 (Time in minutes)
Spanish	2,936	3,466
Russian	44	90
Mandarin	77	54
Portuguese	-	8
Uzbek	-	18
Korean	3	11
Bengali	14	10
Haitian Creole	-	5
Hebrew	-	2
Polish	13	-
French	20	-
Albanian	9	-
Italian	5	-
Arabic	7	-
Nepali	6	-
Total:	3,134	3,664

Coroner Dispatch: A total of 217 dispatches occurred for coroners in 2025

Year	Total
2024	220
2025	217

2025 – 911 CENTER STATISTICS

Telephone Statistics: Represents breakdown of phone calls processed by 9-1-1.

Year	Total phone calls processed by 911 staff
2024	117,340
2025	115,928

Year	Text-to-911 calls received
2024	10
2025	17

Incidents Created: Represents total number of calls for service (CFS) received:

Year	Total CFS created
2024	43,084
2025	42,189

Agency Dispatch Statistics: Represents the number of dispatches per discipline

Year	Law Enforcement	Fire	EMS
2024	19,738	7,252	17,024
2025	20,220	6,699	21,972

2025 Photo Album



Dispatcher
Tim Morey
dispatching
during a
seasonal
storm

911 Center at
career day
Rockland School





SULLIVAN COUNTY BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Address: 76 COUNTY ROUTE 183A, SWAN LAKE, NY 12783
Mailing: PO BOX 5012, MONTICELLO, NY 12701

2025 YEAR END SUMMARY

The Sullivan County Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) has continued in its mission to promote EMS educational opportunities, ensure a mutual aid plan is in place and collaborate with EMS leaders to support their efforts to provide EMS services to their communities.

Our County's EMS system, much like EMS statewide and nationwide, has been struggling for many years largely due to the rate of EMS providers entering the field of EMS not keeping pace with the number of providers leaving or retiring, both volunteer and career. Coupled with the increasing public need/demand for EMS services, rising mental health emergencies, reliance on emergency rooms for primary healthcare – all causing a strain on EMS services to keep up.

However, the landscape of EMS in Sullivan County is changing, for the better, in large part due to the County's investment in our EMS system. Our (4) four fly car system has significantly improved the availability of Advanced Life Support units in the County, improved response times to the patient's bedside, and has provided much needed support to our non-profit/volunteer agencies by way of crew sharing to get the call done promptly. At the same time, we are seeing several of our volunteer/non-profit agencies in our county continuing to flourish, with some seeking to expand their services. To note proudly, Sullivan County was the first county in our region to implement a county-wide EMS solution in 2024, and since that time several other counties have followed our lead.



EMS education is gaining momentum with many new EMT's becoming certified through the SUNY Sullivan EMT program, and our department continues to offer continuing education programs for EMS providers. Thanks to a donation from Sullivan BOCES, the County now has functional "training lab" ambulance allowing EMT's to train in a real-life environment.

The 2025 Bureau of EMS accomplishments include:

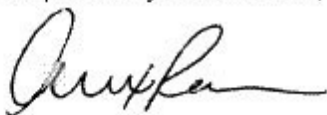
- Completed the NYS regulatory controlled substance requirements to launch full ALS paramedic services as Sullivan County EMS, significantly improving the availability of ALS in Sullivan County.
- Applied for and were awarded a \$500,000 DOH EMS sustainability grant to improve EMS
- Completed planning for the first ever Advanced Emergency Medical Technician course in Sullivan County which is set to begin in March 2026 – with the help of our EMS grant.
- Established an EMT scholarship program along with SUNY Sullivan to remove funding barriers for individuals who are seeking to become EMT's. This too was with the help of

the NYS DOH grant and provided 13 scholarships in 2025, with more anticipated in 2026.

- Worked closely with SUNY Sullivan to train 37 EMT students in 2025, and aided in the delivery of the first ever hybrid EMT program in Sullivan County. This course began in Fall of 2025 and is scheduled to end in early 2026.
- Assisted the Woodbourne Fire Department/EMS squad as they hosted the 3rd annual EMS BBQ in Summer 2025
- Deputy EMS Coordinators have visited each ambulance squad meeting at least 1 time, and met with captains on a regular basis to maintain communication.
- Continued to organize the annual EMS award program to recognize our providers and agencies of excellence. The 2025 Sullivan County winner of the Harriet Weber EMS Leadership award also won that same prestigious award through the Hudson Valley Regional EMS Council.
- Provided Narcan training to (5) EMS agencies and (2) Fire Departments in the County along with several community organizations.
- Completed a surge capacity exercise with Garnet Health Catskills in support of their ability handle large scale incidents.
- Continued to support the functions of the Sullivan County REHAB team in both training and deployments
- Hosted ongoing EMS captains' meetings as well as attended all EMS Council meetings on behalf of the Bureau of EMS
- Bureau staff responded to several MCI incidents including (9) vehicle crashes with more than 8 patients including (3) school buses, smoke condition at a local nursing home, a hazardous materials incident at a local nursing home and several large structure fires.
- Participated in a functional exercise at the Care Center at Sunset Lake involving a power outage and disaster planning.
- Co-Sponsored a weekend long multiple casualty incident training along with Garnet Health Catskills preparing our EMS agencies for large scale incidents.
- Participated in the DHSES county CEPA workshop
- Hosting ongoing training including: Injury prevention for first responders, Stroke & Trauma Management, Air medical transport considerations and landing zone establishment, MCI management course.

Bureau Staff Incident Responses 2025	
EMS – 1	19
EMS – 2	19
EMS – 3	2

Respectfully Submitted,



Alex Rau
Deputy Commissioner of
Public Safety 911 & EMS



**SULLIVAN COUNTY BUREAU OF
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**
Address: 76 COUNTY ROUTE 183A, SWAN LAKE, NY 12783
Mailing: PO BOX 5012, MONTICELLO, NY 12701

2025 YEAR END SUMMARY

Sullivan County EMS/Seniorcare 2025 Year-End Call Statistics:	
Response for ALS assist	2211
Response for BLS crew assist	354
Response as first response	1688
Responded and obtained RMA	229
Total Responses 2025:	4872

Sullivan County EMS/Seniorcare 2025 Call Distribution by township	
Bethel	274
Callicoon	24
Cochecton	59
Delaware	62
Fallsburg	556
Forestburgh	39
Fremont	36
Highland	109
Liberty	247
Lumberland	108
Mamakating	604
Neversink	149
Rockland	174
Thompson	811
Tusten	77
V/ Bloomingburg	19
V/Jeffersonville	3
V/Liberty	572
V/Monticello	778
V/Woodridge	62
V/Wurtsboro	109



Students from the SUNY Sullivan EMT program learning about spinal immobilization techniques and more



LifeNet flight medics Cara Davies and Nick Garnier demonstrating advanced airway techniques for EMT providers



Students participate in multi-casualty workshop sponsored by Garnet Health Catskills



Sullivan County Bureau of Fire
100 North Street, PO Box 5012
Monticello, NY 12701-5012

Fire Coordinator John Hauschild
Phone: 845-807-0508
Fax: 845-807-0810
E-Mail: john.hauschild@sullivanyny.gov

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2025 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025

Fire Departments were dispatched to 6699

1665 Activated Alarms
 0 Aircraft Emergency
109 Brush Fires
 23 Cellar pump outs
230 Carbon Monoxide Alarms
 18 Drownings/ Water Rescue
 10 Dumpster/ Trash
 0 Explosion
 5 Haz-Mat
199 Investigations
 63 Landing Zones
958 Medical Calls
 96 Miscellaneous
773 Motor Vehicle Accidents
1110 Mutual Aid Calls
 161 Odor of gas
239 Public Service Calls
 29 Rescue
 10 Search for Lost Person
 3 Structural/Trench Collapse
288 Structure Fires
 22 Traffic/Fire Police
587 Tree/ Wires Down
101 Vehicle Fires

Fire Coordinator and Deputy Fire Coordinator Response Dispatched 989 times

Fire Investigator Response Dispatched 72 times for Investigations

62 – Structure Fires
 8– Vehicle Fires
 2 - Others
 6 – Incendiary Fires
52 - Accidental (43 Structures, 7 vehicles, 2 other)
14 – Undetermined (13 Structures, 1 Vehicles)
 1 – Fatal Fires
 2 – Serious Injury
 3 – Police Department Arrest
1– Juvenile Fire

2025 BUREAU OF FIRE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The Recruitment and Retention Task Force “Join Sullivan Fire” participated in several community events in 2025 including: The 2025 Bagel Festival in Monticello (pictured below), The 145th Annual Grahamsville Little World’s Fair, Cornell Cooperative Extension Career Fair, Sullivan West School Career Day, Rockland Central School Career Day, the Wurtsboro Street Fair, Sullivan County National Night Out in Fallsburg, and the Sullivan County Community College Career Day.

Figure 1&2: Recruitment and Retention Task Force “Join Sullivan Fire” at the 2025 Bagel Festival:



- The Rehabilitation Team was activated a total of (4) times in 2025 in response to (2) fires and (2) drills.

Figure 3: Rehabilitation Drill held at the Sullivan County Emergency Services Training Center:



• The Bureau of Fire participated in the second annual Emergency Services Youth Academy held in July of 2025; 18 participants, aged 14-16, attended a week-long program where they learned many real-life skills.

Figure 4&5: 2025 Emergency Services Youth Academy “Cadets” learning about incident command and situation briefing:



Figure 6&7: 2025 Emergency Services Youth Academy “Cadets” participating in Law Enforcement activities:



•The Sullivan County Bureau of Fire successfully established a County-wide Search and Rescue Team in 2025; this team is composed of (31) members from various Fire Departments across the County.

Figure 8, 9, 10 & 11: Search and Rescue Team members participating in training classes:



2025 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Bureau of Fire

Rehabilitation Team and Response Unit Support

Start – 1/2019

In Service – 2022

Completion – On Going

Recruitment and Retention Task Force

Start – 1/2019

Completion – On Going

County Search and Rescue Team

Start – 3/2025

In Service – 11/2025

Completion – On Going

County Fire Instructors

Start – 1/2023

Hired – 2025

Completion – On Going

Emergency Services Training Center

Working with ITS on A/V System Upgrade in EOC/Classroom A & B

Start – 1/2024

Completion – On Going

Review and Update Emergency Services Training Center Handbook

Start – 12/2025

Completion – On Going

Working with DPW & Planning on Revitalization of the Training Center Pond

Start – 10/2024

Completion – On Going



Richard A. Martinkovic Public Safety Training Center

615 Old White Lake Turnpike, Swan Lake, NY 12783
Joseph Mall – Training Center Coordinator
845-807-0509
Joseph.mall@sullivanny.gov

2025 TRAINING REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2025 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025

TOTAL COURSES OFFERED	50
COMPLETED COURSES	48
FIREFIGHTERS COMPLETING COURSES	730
FIREFIGHTER TRAINING HOURS	8,322
FIRE TRAINING COURSE CANCELLED	2
FIRE TRAINING COURSE POSTPONED	1
FIRE DEPARTMENTS TRAINING	38
AVERAGE FIREFIGHTERS PER COURSE	15
AVERAGE FIREFIGHTERS HOURS PER COURSE	11

TRAINING CENTER ACTIVITY

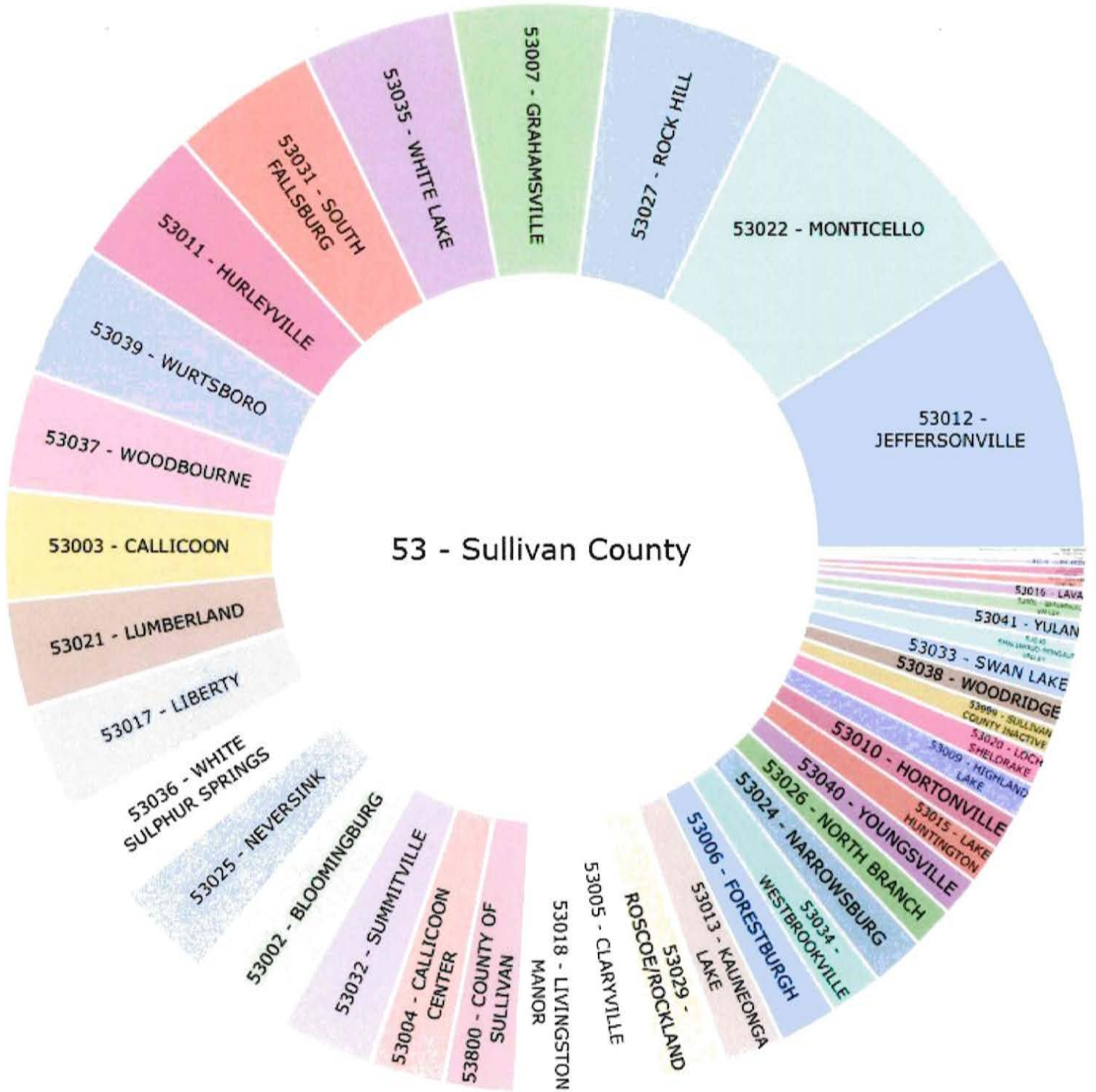
CLASSROOM (258): FIRE 191, EMS 17, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 28, LAW ENFORCEMENT 9, PUBLIC HEALTH 3, DPW 4, NAT'L PARK SRVC. 2, NYS DOT 2, DIVISION OF PLANNING 2

TOWER & GROUNDS (8): FIRE 4 LAW ENFORCEMENT 4

OUTREACH: 29

CLASSROOM BY MONTH (258): JANUARY 19, FEBRUARY 12, MARCH 25, APRIL 22, MAY 21, JUNE 26, JULY 26, AUGUST 22, SEPTEMBER 20, OCTOBER 34, NOVEMBER 10, DECEMBER 21

Sullivan County Training by Dept.



2025 Annual Report for Sullivan County – Probation Department

Prepared by Pennie Huber, Director of Probation B

Accomplishments

- Completion of the annual State Aid Plan
- Validation of Peace Officer Registry and Certification
- 100% compliance with annual training requirements
 - Minimum 21 hours of continuing education hours annually
- 100% compliance of quarterly sex offender residence checks
- Exceeded state established milestones for Alternative to Incarceration / Pre-Trial Release programs
- Participation in multiple committees
 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement Committee
 - Sullivan County Drug Treatment Court
 - Sullivan County Youth Board
 - Sullivan County Substance Use Task Force
 - Participation in STOP DWI-Victim Impact Panel
 - Mid-Hudson Regional Youth Justice Team
 - Wellness Committee
 - STAC Committee
 - Alternatives to Incarceration Board
- Polygraph examination of sex offenders completed in 2025: 10
- Continuation of home contacts during non-traditional work hours
- DWI enforcement during non-traditional work hours
- Attended law enforcement career fair at local high school
- Created/updated policies per state directive
- Provide cell phones for communication with defendants
- Equipment enhancements
- Hired a Probation Assistant
- Provided care bags for individuals serviced by this department as needed (blankets, gloves, hats, socks, snacks, water, toiletries, etc.)
- Supply all Officers with a work cell phone for better communications

Goals

- Completion of the annual State Aid Plan
- Annual validation of Peace Officer Registry and Certification
- 100% compliance with annual training requirements
- 100% compliance of quarterly sex offender residence checks
- 100% compliance with DNA collection
- Create and update policies within the department as necessary
- Exceed state established milestones for the Alternatives to Incarceration and Pre-Trial Release programs
- Attend Community Events as we have done in past years to enhance community relations
- Supply all Officers with body cameras

Statistical Information

Investigations

The Sullivan County Probation Department services 20 Courts, including the Sullivan County Court, the Sullivan County Family Court and various Justice Courts. Pre-Sentence and Pre-Dispositional Reports are comprehensive documents which include demographic information on a face sheet, a defendant's legal history with an analysis of that legal history, the defendant's statements of the present offense, the police version and victim information and statements, the defendant's family life from birth to the present, education, employment, financial information, military service, physical and mental health issues, addictions and treatment, etc. The information is evaluated and recommendations consistent with state laws are made to the court. Each report is from 10 to 15 pages with as much information as possible being verified.

Presentence Investigations:

- Felony Investigations ordered by the courts: 128
- Misdemeanor Investigations: 23 Total: 151
- Other: 0

Pre-Dispositional Investigations:

- Juvenile Delinquency: 4
- Person in Need of Supervision: 0 Total: 6
- Other: 2

Telephone Interviews

Defendants were released to Pre-Trial Release supervision directly from the Court and the interviews were conducted by telephone, or they were interviewed via telephone at the SCJ to determine PTR eligibility.

- Total number interviews conducted
 - Pre-Sentence Investigations: 73 telephone interviews, 51 in-person interviews
 - ATI/Pre-Trial Release: 59 telephone interviews
 - Supervision related: 0

Alternatives to Incarceration

Pre-Trial Release

The Pre-Trial Release program allows detained persons who have been accused of a crime but not convicted to be released back into the community under supervision. This represents a savings to the county in that it costs approximately \$200 per day to house one person in jail per day. It allows the offender the opportunity to remain employed, support his/her family, seek treatment, etc. There are offenders who are ordered to perform community service, (work for the public good) as a condition of their sentence.

- Total number of persons released under Pre-Trial Release supervision during 2025– 130
- There were 128 active Pre-Trial Release cases at the end of 2025.

Community Service

Number of community service hours ordered in 2025- 2,990 hours ordered

Number of community service hours completed in 2025- 3,212 completed

Number of persons ordered to perform community service during 2025 – 51 people ordered to perform

There were 23 active community service cases at the end of 2025.

Note: Offenders may have several years to complete their community service obligation.

Supervision of Offenders

Number of Adult Offenders on Probation at the end of each month:

Month	Felony	Misd.	Totals		Interim Felony	Interim Misd	Total
January	138	132	270		23	3	26
February	132	124	256		27	4	31
March	133	120	253		28	3	31
April	129	121	250		28	3	31
May	131	117	248		31	5	36
June	128	119	247		31	4	35
July	128	123	251		37	2	39
August	124	127	251		43	3	46
September	126	123	249		49	5	54
October	129	126	255		54	5	59
November	127	122	249		58	5	63
December	133	122	255		64	4	68

Month	Discharges			Return for Sentencing		TOTALS
	Early	Max	Revoked	Interim	Death	
January	2	3	8	0	0	13
February	7	9	1	3	0	20
March	3	1	2	4	0	10
April	1	1	5	3	0	10
May	1	3	6	2	0	12
June	1	2	3	8	0	14
July	4	3	1	1	0	9
August	2	4	3	1	0	10
September	0	3	2	2	0	7
October	0	2	1	4	0	7
November	3	3	1	1	0	8
December	0	3	1	4	0	8
Totals	24	37	34	33	0	128

Specialized caseloads

Sex Offenders:

Each quarter the Sullivan County Probation Department is required to report to the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, a Sex Offender Registry confirmation summary form. The Sullivan County Probation Department has had and maintains a 100% compliance rate for confirming addresses. We do not release these offenders from supervision early.

Number of sex offenders/SORA level (Average caseload is 25-35 offenders – includes those who are not required to register). Level 3 are considered the highest risk population.

Quarter	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Pending	Total
1 st Jan-Mar	5	7	11	0	23
2 nd Apr-Jun	5	5	10	0	20
3 rd Jul- Sep	5	6	10	0	21
4 th Oct-Dec	4	6	10	0	20

DWI:

Each quarter the Sullivan County Probation Department is required to report to the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, the number of offenders sentenced to Probation that require an ignition interlock device. Staff are required to enter these offenders into a DMV system known as LENS. A PO is then notified by DMV of any changes to that offender's license. Probation Officer must also run registration checks every 3 months to ensure the offender does not have any vehicles registered/titled to them that are not equipped with an Ignition Interlock Device. (Average – 90 offenders under supervision)

Probation also monitors DWI offenders who receive a Conditional Discharge with an ignition interlock requirement. The Probation Officer must perform the same functions to monitor the IID as they would a probation supervision case. Any positive readings for alcohol or failure to comply with testing, is reported to the Court which may result in a new sentence. We have an average of 75 offenders.

DWI stats for 2025:

Interlock Quarter	Number ordered	LENS Registration	Vehicle Registration checks
1 st Jan-Mar	14	9	73
2 nd Apr-Jun	30	23	82
3 rd Jul- Sep	30	28	91
4 th Oct-Dec	26	28	93

Domestic Violence:

The department supervises offenders convicted of domestic violence related offenses where there is generally an active Order of Protection. These offenders are not released from supervision early. We supervised approximately 35 individuals in 2025.

DWI Court / Drug Treatment Court / Vettrak Court:

We have one Probation Officer who is a member of the treatment team that covers all of the above Courts. This officer attends a team meeting with the other members once per week. One officer supervises Drug Court cases and another officer(s) supervises the DWI Court/ Vettrak cases. We supervise on average 5 Drug Court cases and 15 DWI Court/Vettrak cases at any given time. These participants are in outpatient treatment and under interim supervision. Treatment Court is also utilized for individuals under supervision who have a pending probation violation and would benefit from the added oversight.

Restitution, Fines, Fees 2025

992 payment(s) received in 2025: Total \$94,746.25

By Obligation Type:

Administrative Supervision Fee - (151) - \$11,732.00

DWI Supervision Fee - (240) - \$13,765.00

Fines/Court Fees - (19) - \$1,900.00

Restitution - 10% - (358) - \$24,506.16

Restitution - 5% - (198) - \$27,328.82

Restitution - Family Court - (9) - \$10,390.06

Restitution - Non-Probation - (1) - \$334.65

Restitution - (14) - \$505.00

Surcharge - (552) - \$3,814.31

Unallocated - (3) - \$470.25

Misc Fee - (0) - \$0

Family Court Supervision 2025

- Supervised 6 Juvenile Delinquents on Probation
- Supervised 0 Persons in Need of Supervision on Probation
- Supervised 8 Adults for Non-payment of Child Support
- Supervised 4 juveniles on Pre-Dispositional Supervision
- Conducted Youth Assessment and Screening instruments on all juveniles
- Processed 259 Family Offenses / requests for Orders of Protection
- Processed 50 Juvenile Delinquency Appearance tickets

Miscellaneous Information

- The department executes many of our own warrants for probation offenders
- Average 3 times a month evening home contacts
- Provided Voluntary Assessment and Case Planning Services for 1 individual(s) involved in the Youth Part of Sullivan County Court

Training / Continuing Education:

- New Probation Officer Trainees are required to complete 160 hours of Fundamentals of Probation Practice (Fundamentals of Probation Practice, Officer Safety and Survival, Peace Officer qualification) in their first year of employment. In addition, they must also attend the Basic Course for Peace Officers in addition to Fundamentals They must then undergo 47 hours of firearms/Aerosol Subject Restraint training plus an additional 11 hours of Peace Officer/Use of Force training.
- Thereafter, all Probation Officers, Senior Probation Officers, Probation Supervisors, Deputy Director and Director, are required to complete 21 hours of continuing education annually, which may include 8 hours of mandatory firearm recertification, 2 hours of ASR, 1-hour Use of Force, 2 hours of Taser Recertification.
- During 2025, 19 different staff members attended a total of 295 trainings for a grand total of 1,290 hours of training attended.



Sullivan County Division of Public Safety

615 Old White Lake Turnpike, Swan Lake, NY 12783

Jill Holland – Health & Wellness Coordinator

845-807-0143

Jill.Holland@sullivanny.gov

2025 Health and Wellness Annual Report

Reporting Period: January 1 to December 31, 2025

Trainings Delivered

9

Training Days

15

Total Attendees

194

Program Overview

In 2025, the Sullivan County Division of Public Safety delivered a coordinated series of health and wellness trainings to support the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of first responders and partner agencies. Trainings emphasized practical skills, prevention, peer support, and strengthening cross agency connections.

Sullivan County Representation

- Division of Public Safety
- Bureau of Fire
- Bureau of EMS
- 911
- 12 of 39 fire departments
- 3 EMS agencies
- 5 school districts including BOCES
- Sheriff's Office Road Division
- Division of Public Health
- Sullivan County Critical Incident Stress Management Team
- Liberty Police Department
- Fallsburg Police Department

External and Partner Participation

- NYS DHSES
- NYS OFPC
- NYS Office of Mental Health
- Institute for Disaster Mental Health
- Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services
- Ulster County Sheriffs
- Mental Health Association of the State of New York
- New Windsor Police Department
- Beacon Ambulance
- North Syracuse Fire Department
- Ellenville Ambulance

Year End Snapshot

Across 9 trainings over 15 days, the 2025 Health and Wellness program reached 194 attendees representing a broad cross section of county public safety disciplines, education partners, and state and regional agencies. This participation reflects a growing commitment to workforce readiness, resilience, and coordinated support for those who serve Sullivan County communities.

Figure 1: County Critical Incident Stress Management Team receiving advanced training:



Figure 2&3: Fire Investigators, Fire Coordinator and Deputy Fire Coordinators receiving decontamination kits:



Figure 4, 5 & 6: First Responder Center for Excellence Stress First Aid Train the Trainer Course:



OFFICE OF PURCHASING AND CENTRAL SERVICES

Allyson Smith, Purchasing and Central Services Director

OVERVIEW

The Sullivan County Purchasing Department has the responsibility of purchasing all goods and services for all Sullivan County departments. This includes all bids, requests for proposals, quotes and purchase orders.

This office executes all contracts for bids and services procured through this office.

Purchasing has the responsibility of obtaining the best quality products and services for the best price, in a fair, open, and competitive manner.

2025 Accomplishments and Goals

Purchasing Department:

For the 2025 year, the Purchasing Department accomplished the following:

- Processed 3143 Purchase Orders
- Processed 2,367 P-Card Purchases
- Issued 23 Formal Quotes
- Issued 38 Request for Proposals
- Issued 59 Bids
- Executed 125 Contracts for Services
- Processed 302 Request to Attend (RTA's)
- Completed approximately 717 Change Orders
- Provides New World Training for all new employees assigned to requisition entry and provides training updates & refresher training for employees that request it
- Administers the P-Card Program
- Provides P-Card training for all users
- Utilized municipal piggybacking contracts and expanded pool of regional and national contracts
- Utilized NYS OGS Contracts and Vehicle Marketplace Purchasing options

- Oversight of Resolutions for departments for procurement
- Trouble shooting all vendor issues pertaining to bids, orders and deliveries
- Resolve vendor collections of past due invoices
- Assisting all departments with BID/RFP research, preparation and planning
- Processing Accounts Payable batches for both Purchasing & Central Services
- Process P-Card invoice payments for all departments not assigned a P-Card
- Assists vendors with payments issues and discrepancies
- Processes monthly Central Services chargebacks
- Answers all incoming telephone calls for the Government Center main line
- P-Card usage with 1501 transactions for 2025
- Provided assistance to departments for grants, verifying procurement requirements for all department projects, commodities and services
- Provided assistance and guidance to Sullivan County municipalities in NYS OGS contract opportunities (fuels, road salt, services, etc.)

In addition to the above listed accomplishments, the P-Card Program continues to be a large success with providing flexibility for departments for travel expenses when conducting County business, as a payment mechanism for prompt payments to vendors as well as increasing our vendor base.

Sullivan County received a P-Card rebate payment for the 2024-2025 program year. County officials were presented with a rebate check in the amount of \$60,467.36.

This office is very proud of the success of the P-Card program. We work very closely with the Treasurers Office, Audit Department and Management & Budget to ensure efficiency and productivity and we work with all users to ensure effectiveness through the purchasing process.

The Purchasing Department continues to provide customer service to all departments and the public and assists local political subdivisions (towns, villages, fire departments, libraries, etc.) in procurement options, bid specifications, piggybacking opportunities and guidance on how to utilize the NYS OGS website contracts for commodities.

The Purchasing Department provides the foundation for all departments to realize their goals. Whether it be that they need this office to issue a bid for food, medical supplies, construction, paving, parts or commodities, or they may need a study

completed for one of their programs or to procure specialized services for their clientele, this office is involved in helping them achieve their goals.

Central Services Department (Mailroom):

The Central Services Department provides mail services for all departments and outside agencies. This includes processing incoming and outgoing mail daily, delivering to all departments at the Government Center and delivering to outside agencies. This office also provides incoming and outgoing service for UPS, Fed Ex, overnight service and certified mailing for all departments.

For the 2025 year, the Central Services Department accomplished the following:

- Processed 157,289 pieces of outgoing mail for all County departments
- Processed all incoming mail for all agencies
- Provided mail courier services twice a day for the Jail, Courthouse, Legal Aid and all State Agencies
- Provided Saturday mail services when required during the election season
- Assisted multiple departments on large bulk mailings