



LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

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Penny L. Moser, Director

Honor and Recognition of Youth Bureau Student Representatives

Lewis County Youth Bureau Recognizes Senior Representatives



**Heather
Puddington**

Beaver River



**Alyssa
Brower**

Lowville



**Chloe
Benson**

Harrisville



**Kristin
Moshier**

Lowville



**Justine
Schmidt**

Harrisville

The Lewis County Youth Bureau was created by the Lewis County Board of Legislators in 1997. The Youth Bureau currently has 20 members who reflect a diverse balance between government, non-government, and up to 2 students from each, public school district in the county. All members are compassionate to the well-being of youth. The student representative appointments end when they graduate from high school.

The Youth Bureau receives approximately \$23,000 from the Office of Children and Family Services. These funds are intended to be used to support programs for youth most likely to become involved in the criminal justice system; including preventative education or drug prevention awareness. The Youth Bureau also receives approximately \$5,000 from the County of Lewis. These funds are to support existing youth programs that had a decrease of funding, were eliminated, or for new youth programs.

The Youth Bureau advertises available funding, reviews application proposals, and ultimately makes difficult decisions on which youth programs to support with limited funds. Without the input offered by our student representatives, we would lose the voice of youth in the decision making process. The students also conduct program monitoring of the funded programs. Additionally, the Youth Bureau hosts other projects such as “Lewis County Night Out” (a prevention awareness event), and the “Homeless Christmas Tree” initiative (a community effort to collect hygiene items, kitchen and bath supplies, and other items for local families in need).

This year we would like to recognize five student representatives as their terms are ending June 30, 2020. Congratulations on your High School Graduations and thank you for being great ambassadors for youth:

- Kirstin Moshier-Co-Chairperson of the Youth Bureau and Student Representative-Lowville Academy.
 - o Served on the board from June 6, 2017 – June 30, 2020
- Alyssa Brower-Student Representative-Lowville Academy.
 - o Served on the board from June 30, 2019 – June 30, 2020
- Justine Schmidt-Student Representative-Harrisville Central.
 - o Served on the board from June 30, 2018 – June 30, 2020
- Chloe Benson-Student Representative-Harrisville Central.
 - o Served on the board from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2020.
- Heather Puddington-Student Representative-Beaver River Central.
 - o Served on the board from June 30, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

It has been an honor to work with each and everyone one of our seniors. These senior students have learned how important community involvement is, that compassion for others rises above self, and that we can foster a positive impact on the community when we all collaborate and work together. They are more than just students, they are mentors and community change agents with a powerful voice.

Penny L. Moser, Director
Lewis County Youth Bureau

Scott Mathys, Co-Chairperson
Lewis County Youth Bureau