

THE PUTNAM COUNTY LEGISLATURE

40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, New York 10512
(845) 808-1020 Fax (845) 808-1933

Amy E. Sayegh *Chairwoman*
Greg E. Ellner *Deputy Chair*
Diane Schonfeld *Clerk*



Nancy Montgomery	Dist. 1
William Gouldman	Dist. 2
Toni E. Addonizio	Dist. 3
Laura E. Russo	Dist. 4
Greg E. Ellner	Dist. 5
Paul E. Jonke	Dist. 6
Daniel G. Birmingham	Dist. 7
Amy E. Sayegh	Dist. 8
Erin L. Crowley	Dist. 9

AGENDA HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD IN ROOM 318 PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512

Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Ellner & Russo

Thursday

5:30PM

July 17, 2025

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Acceptance of Minutes – March 18, 2025 Meeting
4. Discussion – Update – JUUL Settlement – Health Department
5. Discussion – Update – Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors Team & Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Team – Department of Social Services
6. Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A062 – Department of Social Services – State Aid Pass Through to Provider Agencies
7. Approval – Budgetary Transfer 25T190 – Health Department – Early Learning Center Revenue
8. Approval – Fund Transfer 25T191 – Health Department – Purchase Necessary Items to Initiate Startup of Early Learning Center
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

#3

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Chairwoman Addonizio, Legislators Ellner & Russo

Tuesday

6:00PM

March 18, 2025

This meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Chairwoman Addonizio who requested Legislator Ellner to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislator Ellner, Legislator Russo, and Chairwoman Addonizio were present.

Item #3 - Discussion – Update – Putnam Hospital – Hospital President Dr. Mark Hirko

Chairwoman Addonizio stated Dr. Hirko was not present at this time.

Item #4 - Approval – Budgetary Amendment 25A025 – Department of Social Services – Opioid Settlement Funds

Department of Social Services (DSS) Fiscal Manager Kristen Wunner stated their request for 2025 is to fund the appropriate agencies that submitted a proposal through an RFP (Request for Proposals) for both the continuation and startup of new programs. She stated this is a use of their Opioid Settlement Funds which is awarded to different agencies as deemed fit.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested clarification on the contracts.

DSS Commissioner Sara Servadio stated they received 6 proposals with 5 being awarded funds. She stated all agencies are essentially continuing what they were doing in 2024 which was the first year the program was in place. She stated they expect to have more funds available over the next several months. She stated they were unable to fulfill all the funds requested for 2025 due to the amount requested exceeding the available funds.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned if this is the reason why one of the 6 proposals was denied funds.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the request was not able to be done by a local agency.

Legislator Birmingham questioned what type of programs these agencies are producing and how they are utilizing the funds.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the agencies are using the funds for staff salary increases, education and prevention programs, and continuation of services.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if this is going to be an ongoing grant.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated that this is a concern. She stated it is uncertain if they will go through an RFP process in 2026 since they are unsure of the funds they may receive as well as when they will receive it.

Chairwoman Addonizio raised a question about the total amount of funds they were promised.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated she will obtain the amount.

Legislator Crowley questioned if the staff for these programs are aware of what they are permitted to utilize the funds for.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated yes, the staff is aware of how they are able to utilize the funds. She stated the purpose for hiring the Dual Recovery Coordinator was to grant her oversight of the allocation of funds. She stated that they hold monthly meetings with the providers, perform data collections, and track what is being reported compared to what was promised in the RFP.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated that they issue the funds in quarterly payments. She stated that before they advance the next quarterly payment, they are requesting for substantiation of the first quarterly payment to ensure it is within the line of the budget.

Legislator Crowley thanked DSS Commissioner Servadio and Fiscal Manager Wunner for their efforts with this program.

Legislator Gouldman questioned how many years they expect to continue to receive the funds.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated they expect the funds to come in for about 13-15 more years.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated that the payments come in as the lawsuits are settled.

Legislator Montgomery requested clarification on the amount of funds requested compared to the amount of funds granted. She questioned since the funds are currently at \$908,000 and the amount awarded was \$613,175, how was the remaining balance going to be utilized.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated the total amount of funds requested was slightly over \$1 million.

DSS Commissioner Servadio not every agency received the funds they requested at this time. She stated they are going to look at the funds they can get back from 2024 and work out the issues that occurred in the first year. She clarified that they are not going to withhold the remaining funds, and these funds will go out to the agencies.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the agencies that did not meet their deliverables last year are being funded his year.

Fiscal Manager Wunner clarified that these were new programs for these agencies.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated not all agencies that received funds in 2024 are receiving funds this year because they did not request funds again.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if the one agency that did not receive the funds they requested for this year was an existing agency.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated this agency that did not receive the funds they requested for is not an existing agency and is not a local agency.

Legislator Montgomery questioned why a new agency they have not funded in the past is receiving greater funds than an agency that has been serving them for a substantial period of time.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the Mental Health Association is expanding their services in Putnam County therefore having more of a presence locally. She stated due to the fact this agency is in their beginning phases they received 100% of the funds they requested for.

Legislator Montgomery requested clarification on the criteria that determine the allocation of the funding.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated they follow the procurement process the Department of General Services provides them.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated there is a grading scale based on the agency's past performances, scope, the funds requested, and the County's need.

Legislator Montgomery questioned who is on the committee that approves the applications.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the original RFP committee was composed of representatives from various departments. She stated this year it was an internal committee within the Department of Mental Health.

Legislator Montgomery questioned if there was legislative oversight for the committee this year.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated there was no legislative oversight this year.

Legislator Birmingham stated the state law requires the Board of Health to have a Legislative Representative. He clarified he does not believe this law exists for the Department of Mental Health and most of the Departments do not have a Legislative Liaison.

Legislator Montgomery stated in the past there has been legislative involvement with provider meetings.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated the network meetings have been altered to be provider meetings. She stated the meeting is more streamlined to the delivery of services in Putnam County. She stated it is a smaller scaled meeting compared to the original provider meeting.

Legislator Montgomery expressed her disappointment that some of the agencies did not receive more funds. She suggested a cap on the amount of funds agencies can request for the next application cycle.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated she is unable to take action on this suggestion since it is outside of their scope.

Legislator Montgomery questioned who is responsible for placing a cap on the grant.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated she is not in charge of the entire grant process. She explained her involvement in the grant process consists of reading through the grants that are submitted.

Legislator Montgomery stated her concern for the agencies that are expecting funds but have not yet received them. She questioned if these agencies may expect to receive more funding in the future.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated they have to see what funds they are able to recover. She stated they do not expect to recover all the funds immediately.

Legislator Montgomery questioned where the remainder of the funds are being allocated.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated it is going to 2026 initiatives.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated she was under the impression the Opioid Settlement was going to be a significant amount of money being received in faster manner than they are currently being acquired.

Legislator Sayegh discussed the process of when the grant first began. She thanked DSS Commissioner Servadio and Fiscal Manager Wunner for the work they have done.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 25A025; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Item #5 - Approval – Budgetary Transfer 25T063 – Department of Social Services – Contract with Resource Center for Accessible Living

DSS Deputy Commissioner Nicolle McGuire stated currently, an adult protective services case worker takes in the Social Security funds and then appropriately distributes the allowances for food, clothing, bills, etc. She stated they have looked into a contract agency called RCAL (Resource Center for Accessible Living). She stated DSS is requesting to have a budgetary transfer for the grant they currently have to outsource to the agency. They currently have approximately 22 clients which totals \$46 per month per client. She stated there will be no fiscal impact for 2025 due to the existing grant.

DSS Commissioner Servadio stated if the grant funds are not available, they will discuss this during the budget process for the following year.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if the 22 clients were all in Putnam County.

DSS Deputy Commissioner McGuire stated all 22 clients are within Putnam County.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve Budgetary Transfer 25T063; Seconded by Legislator Russo. All in Favor.

Item #6 - Approval – Appointment – Board of Health – Burdick

Legislator Sayegh stated the State of New York changed the law dealing pertaining to membership on Boards of Health. She stated the law now permits the Board of Health to have members from surrounding counties. She clarified that although Teresa Burdick lives in a bordering county because of the alterations to the law she is eligible to apply.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to approve the appointment; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in Favor.

Chairwoman Addonizio stated she would now address Item #3 as Dr. Hirko is now present.

Item #3 - Discussion – Update – Putnam Hospital – Hospital President Dr. Mark Hirko

Dr. Hirko stated Putnam Hospital has seen an uptick in patient population. He stated their census indicated an increase of about 15% in the last quarter. He stated there has been a major change in the past year. He stated that cancer care has also seen an increase of almost 100% over the past year. He stated they are pleased with the increase in primary care. He stated in October of 2023 there was no primary care based in Mahopac. He stated as of last week they have 7 in Mahopac, 8 in Brewster, and 2 in Carmel. He stated how their GoHealth Urgent Care Clinic helped with their emergency room wait times. He stated their Leapfrog Safety rating has improved from a C to an A.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned how the safety rating is obtained.

Dr. Hirko stated it is a national standard which looks at the hospital's mortality rate, readmission rate, surgery infection rate, sepsis rate, overall cleanliness, and overall upkeep of the facility. He stated women's health is another area they are seeing growth in. He stated they are predicting close to 100 births for 2025. He stated the inpatient units have been able to accommodate the influx in patients without having to hire more staff or let go of staff.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned how the inpatient psychiatric unit is performing.

Dr. Hirko stated this unit is busy and is close to 90% utilization. He stated they are also a clearinghouse for the New York Nuvance based hospitals for inpatient care. He stated they are updating the unit with new furniture as well as the overall upkeep. He stated the area he would

like to see growth in is the partial hospitalization program. He stated this program is having difficulties due to the federal funding for telehealth ending.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested clarification on why the OBGYNs in Putnam Hospital have chosen to only deliver in Mount Kisco.

Dr. Hirko stated the OBGYNs are part of a private medical group that made this choice. He stated there are a lot of reasons why this happened. He stated they made it known to Optum that they can come back if they are willing to.

Chairwoman Addonizio questioned how many births they had last year.

Dr. Hirko stated in 2024 there were 62 births.

Legislator Ellner questioned the basis of their projection of 100 births this year.

Dr. Hirko stated they look at the current number of patients who are pregnant that are visiting the practice and utilizing this information to project the number of births in the hospital for the year.

Legislator Ellner questioned if there are other medical groups the hospital can attract so the birthing centers can be used.

Dr. Hirko stated they are constantly looking into finding other medical groups. He stated they are also looking at the demographics of Putnam County which is projected to have a leveling off of the population. He stated there is a projected increase in patients 65 and over and a decrease in patients 18 and under. He stated they would like to see more patients come to the hospital.

Legislator Crowley questioned about the possible merger.

Dr. Hirko stated they are optimistic about the merger. He stated they need the approval of three (3) agencies: New York State, the Federal Government, and the State of Connecticut - and are now in the final stages of negotiations. He stated they expect to have positive news.

Legislator Crowley questioned how this will affect the union situation they currently have.

Dr. Hirko stated Northwell Hospital is already unionized with the same union. He stated there are no changes anticipated with their current union situation.

Chairwoman Addonizio requested clarification on the hospital's 2023 employee pay increase situation.

Dr. Hirko stated the union negotiators are currently working on it.

Legislator Gouldman questioned if there are any plans on expanding to the western side of Putnam County.

Dr. Hirko stated that is a possibility they may look at in the future. He stated with the current resources available they have made the first outreach of growth to the Mahopac area. He stated in the future they are anticipating a provider shortage solely in Primary Care.

Legislator Gouldman mentioned the uptick of senior citizens in Putnam County. He stated senior citizens account for about 25% of the residents in the county.

Dr. Hirko stated this is an area they are pivoting in. He stated the services that are offered at the hospital are fitting the criteria for chronic health issues.

Legislator Montgomery encouraged looking into women's health for the aging population due to this area often being ignored. She questioned the overdose treatment in the emergency room.

Dr. Hirko stated the patients receive Suboxone in the facility and are then provided with a limited supply when discharged. He stated they are also looking into more funding in order to obtain more access to Suboxone.

Legislator Montgomery requested clarification on if the hospital receives any funding from the Opioid Settlement Fund.

Dr. Hirko stated they do not receive funds from the Opioid Settlement Fund. He explained they utilize grants and other avenues to fund this area.

Legislator Montgomery thanked Dr. Hirko for his work as well as responding to her questions.

Dr. Hirko followed up on Legislature Montgomery's question on women's health for the aging population. He stated when the labor and delivery unit reopened, they also pivoted their focus to the aging population as well. He stated over 350 patients have come through for women's health in general. He explained their intentions to integrate Cardiology and Gynecology to benefit this area.

A Member of the Public questioned if the administration is going to be involved in the current issue with the pay negotiations.

Dr. Hirko stated they are notified on the current negotiation with the union.

A Member of the Public questioned if they view this as a legal or ethical situation.

Dr. Hirko stated he cannot answer this question. He stated this is a situation that must be resolved between the union leadership and the negotiators.

A Member of the Public questioned if Dr. Hirko believes this issue should have been dealt with in a timely manner.

Dr. Hirko stated he cannot discuss this. He recognized that there have been people working on this for almost 2 years.

A Member of the Public questioned if HR or the administration has been communicating with the employees.

Dr. Hirko stated there has been communication with the employees.

A Member of the Public stated there has been poor communication from the administration

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked Dr. Hirko for attending this evening.

Item #7 - Other Business - None

Item #8 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 6:47pm Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Ellner. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Aubrey Dall, PILOT Intern.

#4

RIAN RODRIGUEZ, MPH
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR



KEVIN M. BYRNE
PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 2, 2025

To: Amy Sayegh, Chair of the Legislature

Cc: Putnam County Legislature
County Executive Kevin Byrne

From: Rian Rodriguez, Public Health Director
Shanna Siegel, Supervising Public Health Educator

Subject: Request to Present to Committee Regarding JUUL Settlement

Putnam County Department of Health program leadership would like to formally request to present to committee regarding a recent settlement between New York State and JUUL Labs Inc. Putnam County anticipates receiving just over half a million dollars from this settlement, which would be directed toward lessening the health burden of vaping nicotine-containing products. We will provide a brief overview of the settlement including the N.Y.S. Attorney General's plans for disbursement of monies.

Additionally, we will share the approved uses and review the plan for multisector engagement as we build a comprehensive plan for the allocation Putnam is set to receive. We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request, and look forward to your feedback and input regarding the JUUL settlement plans.

Helpful Resources for Reference:

- Overview of Settlement and Allocations (Multiple States v JUUL Labs Inc): <https://ag.ny.gov/juul-settlement> (NYS receiving: \$112.7 million, Putnam County allocation: \$511,067.37)
- Approved Uses: <https://ag.ny.gov/juul-settlement/approved-uses>

Edward Gordon

From: Shanna Siegel
Sent: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:17 PM
To: Putnam Co Legislature; Amy Sayegh
Cc: Rian Rodriguez; Kevin Byrne
Subject: Request to Present to Committee
Attachments: Memo_Committee Request - July 2025.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please refer to the attached memorandum regarding a request to present to committee on forthcoming JUUL settlement funds.

I am available if either the Legislative Chair or Committee Chair have any questions or would like more information.

Thank you,

Shanna



Shanna Siegel, RN, BSN

Supervising Public Health Educator, Public Information Officer • Putnam County Department of Health

PHONE | 845.808.1390 ext 43258 • FAX | 845.278.7921 • WEBSITE | [PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.GOV/HEALTH](https://www.putnamcountyny.gov/health)

PUTNAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEW YORK

Follow us on social media @PutnamHealthNY

-A PHAB-Accredited Health Department-

Pronouns: she, her, hers

[Why I list my pronouns](#)

Notice: The information contained in this transmission, including any attachments, may contain privileged, confidential and/or proprietary information, including patient information protected by federal and state privacy laws. It is intended only for the use of the person(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, or duplication of this communication is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

KEVIN BYRNE
County Executive

SARA SERVADIO
Commissioner

NICOLLE MCGUIRE
Deputy Commissioner



cc All
Health

#5

**DEPARTMENTS OF MENTAL HEALTH
SOCIAL SERVICES AND YOUTH BUREAU**

MEMORANDUM

July 10, 2025

TO: Diane Schonfeld, Legislative Clerk

FROM: Sara Servadio, Commissioner of Departments of Mental Health, Social Services, and Youth Bureau

SUBJECT: Introduction of the LOSS Team and Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Team

The Putnam County Suicide Prevention Task Force is one of three counties that were selected to receive funding to support the development of a countywide LOSS Team (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors). The purpose of this initiative is to enhance the capacity and infrastructure at the county level to support individuals who identify as suicide loss survivors.

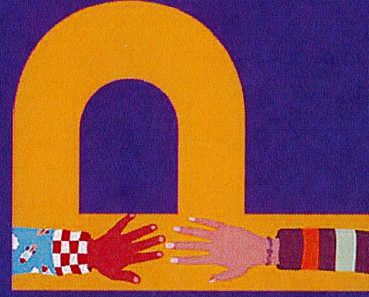
The Suicide Prevention Center of New York (SPCNY) provided \$12,480 for a two-year cycle (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2026) to support project management. We would like to introduce the process of our LOSS Team to you.

A Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Team (SOFR) is a multidisciplinary team who systematically review individual cases of suicide and overdose deaths to identify patterns, risk factors, system gaps, and opportunities for prevention. We would like the opportunity to introduce our local procedure moving forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

2025 JUL 10 PM 3:12
LEGISLATURE
PUTNAM COUNTY
CARMEL, NY

PROJECT



PUTNAM COUNTY NEW YORK

Putnam County LOSS Team

- Local Outreach to Survivors of Suicide

In partnership with the NYS Office of Mental Health, the Suicide Prevention Center of NY
and Postvention Consulting LLC

Impact of Suicide

Suicide Exposed

Everyone who has any connection to the deceased or to the death itself, including witnesses

Suicide Affected

Those for whom the exposure causes a reaction, which may be mild, moderate or severe, self-limiting or ongoing

Suicide Bereaved (Short Term)

People who have an attachment bond with the deceased and gradually adapt to the loss over time

Suicide Bereaved (LongTerm)

Those for whom grieving becomes a protracted struggle that includes diminished functioning in important aspects of their life

Abstract from research paper by Cerel, PhD:
Each suicide resulted in 135 people exposed (knew the person). Each suicide affects a large circle of people, who may be in need of clinician services or support following exposure.

Impact of Suicide

Exposed	Affected	Suicide-Bereaved Short-Term	Suicide- Bereaved Long-Term
First responders	First responders	Family members	Family members
Discoverer	Discoverer	Therapists	Therapists
Family members	Family members	Close Friends	Close friends
Therapists	Therapists	Close work colleagues	
Friends	Friends		
Health-care workers	Classmates		
Community members	Co-workers		
School communities	Team members		
Workplace acquaintances	Neighbors		
Fans of celebrities	School Communities		
Community groups			
Rural or close-knit communities			

SUICIDE POSTVENTION INITIAL FINDINGS

- ▶ SOS data from 1984 -1994 (n=214)
- ▶ 28 relationships sought help (after LOSS = 45)
- ▶ Elapsed time between death and help = 3.4 years
- ▶ Active (resources find SOS at the scene)
- ▶ Elapsed time <47 days
- ▶ GOAL is to REFER to SERVICES!

What is a LOSS Team?

- Team Coordinators
- Peers – Survivors of Suicide
- SOS Support Group (AFSP)

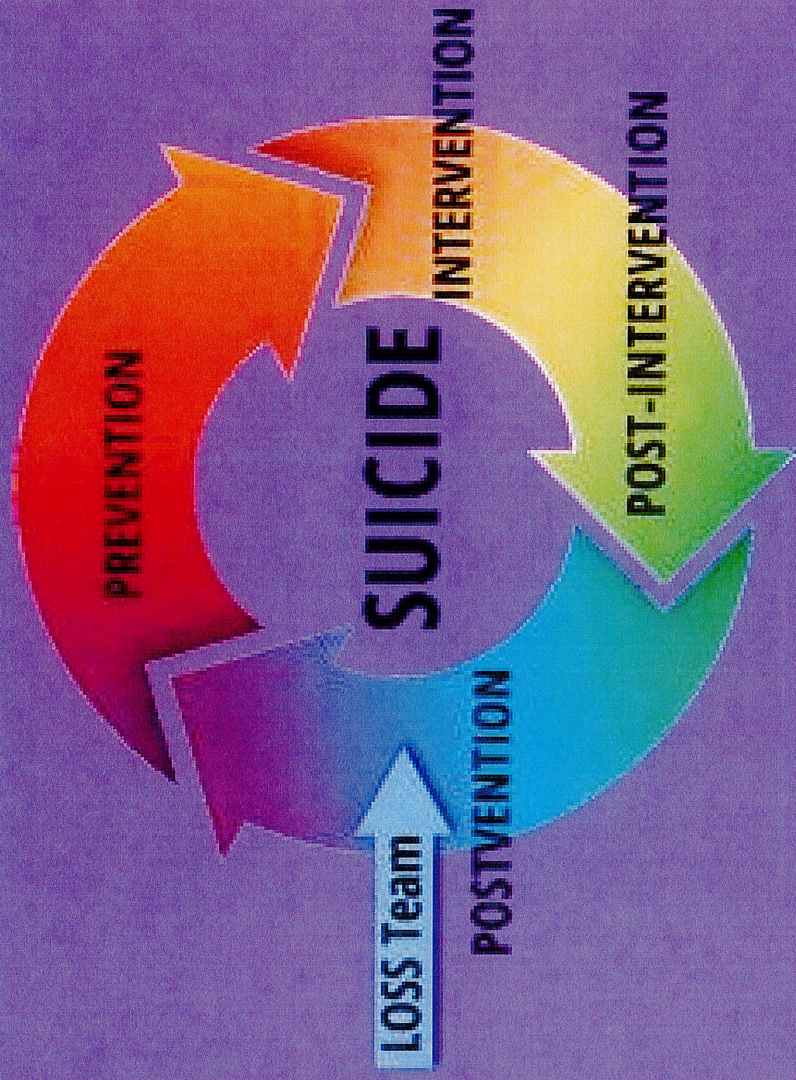
Research shows that peer support offers therapeutic benefits by fostering a sense of community, reducing isolation, and providing a safe space for individuals to share experiences and learn coping skills, ultimately improving mental health and overall well-being.



Our Mission

To offer timely and empathetic support to suicide loss survivors, helping them navigate their grief journey and connect with community resources.

Where the LOSS Team Fits- Suicide Prevention



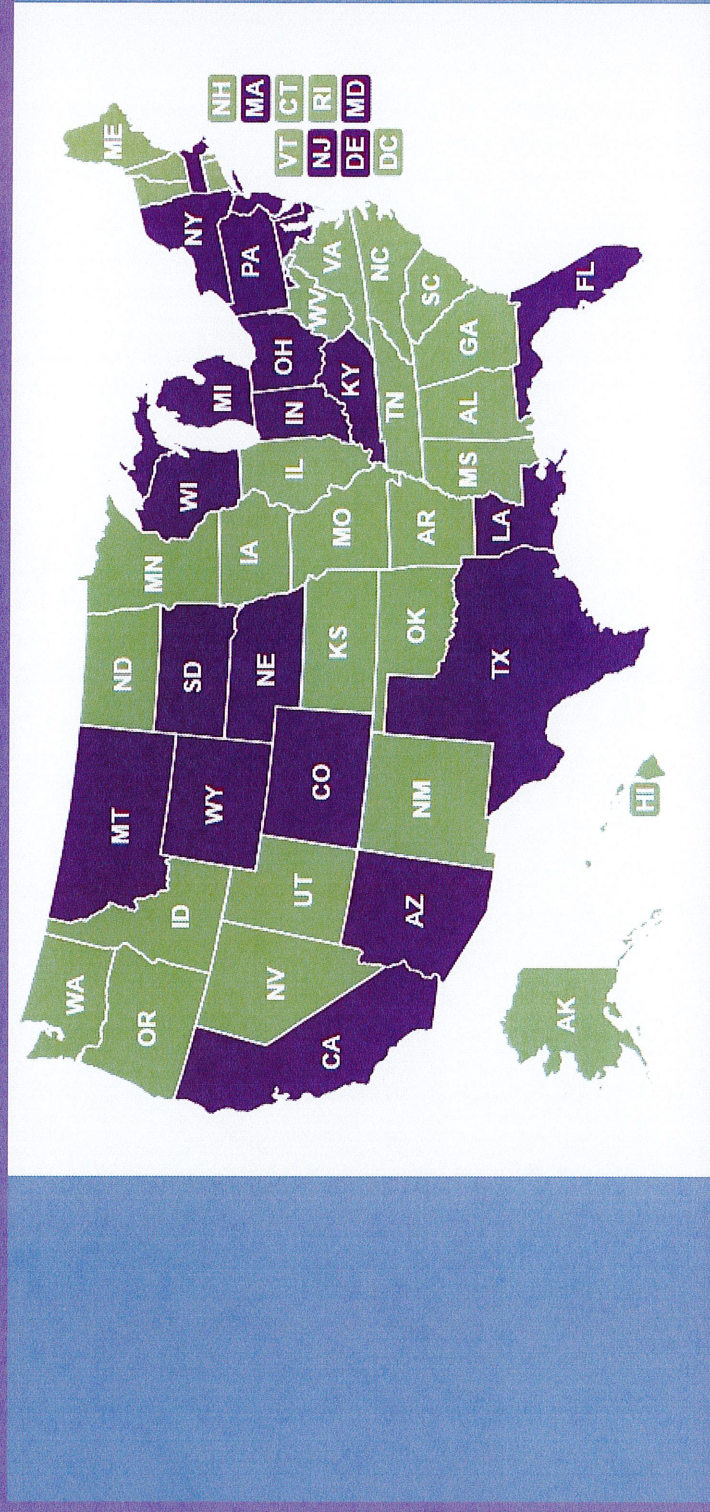
LOSS Teams in Surrounding Counties

- The original LOSS team was launched in 1998 in Baton Rouge, LA. by Dr. Campbell <https://www.losssteam.com/>
- Only four counties in NY have received funding to start LOSS Teams (Putnam, Tioga, Madison and Chautauqua)
- We continue to collaborate and learn from each other as the program expands.

What We Offer

- **Immediate on-scene support for suicide loss survivors**
Follow-up outreach through calls, texts, and anniversary check-ins
- **Connection to counseling, support groups, and local resources**
- **Providing emotional support to families, allowing first responders to focus on managing the scene and their critical duties**
- **Offering comfort kits with practical items for both adults and children**

LOSS Teams in the U.S.



Purple = existing or developing LOSS Teams

Activation and Response

• On Scene

Called by first responders at the request of those impacted to provide support **WITHOUT** compromising the scene

Here to help **NOT** hinder

• Delayed Response

Contacted by first responders, coroner's office, local commissioners, or those impacted to provide support, information, referrals, or whatever is needed or requested

How Do You Get Information About a Suicide?

- Deployment is initiated by the Coroner or first responder at the scene.
- If the fatality occurs in Putnam but the person is from another county, we may still respond.
- For fatalities outside of Putnam involving local residents, response is limited.
- We are conducting outreach to funeral homes, schools, and the community to help identify survivors in need of support.
- If made aware of a survivor in need, we will deploy as appropriate, even if we can't respond on-scene.

Providing Comfort

Tote bags with assorted comfort items for children and adults

- Mints and water – helpful for brain functioning
- Notepads/pens – in case clients need notes jotted down
- HOPE folders – resources & support
- Tissues



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND

Average Postvention Timeline

- Goal: arrive on scene within 1–2 hours of notification (maximum 24 hours).
- Coroner ensures LOSS Team is notified if not already done by law enforcement.
- Team Lead mobilizes team based on availability and location.
- Minimum of 2 team members respond.
- If support is declined, resources are provided, and follow-up occurs within 24–48 hours.

Follow-up matters!

- Ongoing calls, texts, check-ins
- Recognizing anniversaries and milestones
- Building community and connections so survivors know they are not alone



Support After Non-Fatal Suicide Attempts

- This process will not include non-fatal attempts.
- Existing county resources and systems will support individuals after non-fatal attempts.
- If contacted directly, the LOSS Team will provide support and referrals as needed.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - WE NEED YOU!

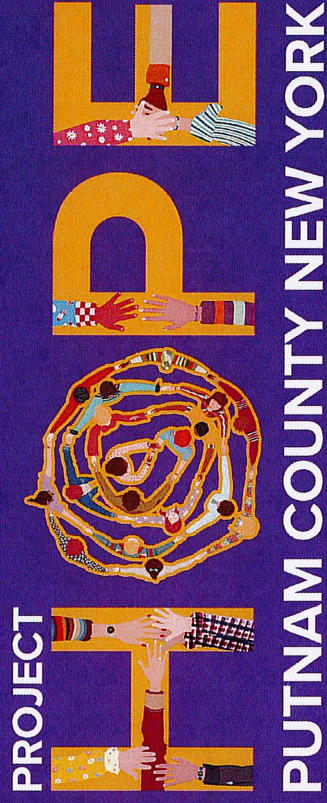
- Spread the word
- Refer
- Volunteer
- Help break the stigma
- Quarterly team meetings ensure ongoing training and wellness checks..



We all have a role in making our community suicide safer!

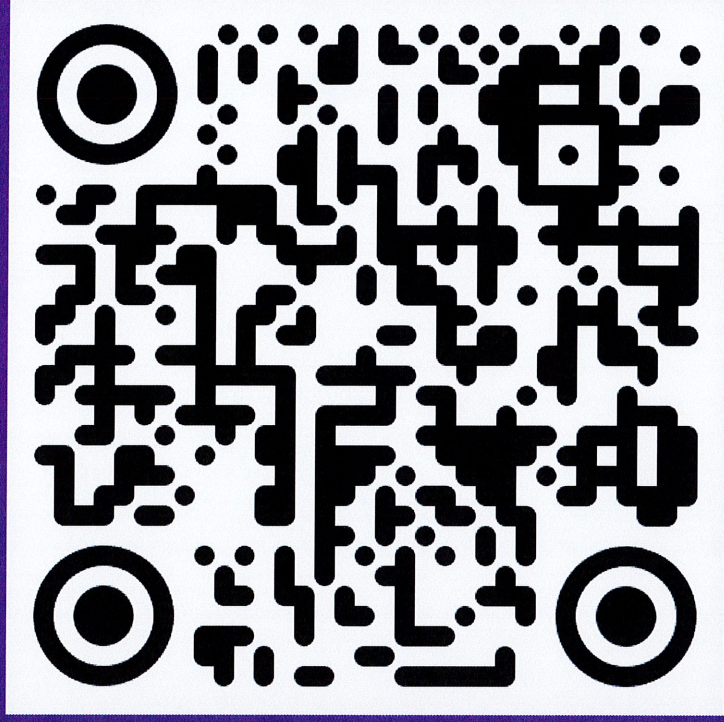
SUMMARY

- No one should navigate the pain of suicide loss alone.
- Immediate, compassionate support shortens suffering and reduces isolation.
- Survivors need a listening ear, not answers or fixes.
- Early connection to support promotes healing and reduces complicated grief.
- Many of us have walked this road ourselves — we know the power of presence.
- We work to break the silence and stigma around suicide.
- Together, we build a community where healing is possible, and no one walks alone.




Putnam County LOSS Team

845-808-1400



[Project Hope - Putnam County, New York](#)



PUTNAM COUNTY LOSS TEAM

LOCAL OUTREACH TO SUICIDE SURVIVORS

845.808.1410
TO INITIATE A RESPONSE

OUR MISSION:

To offer timely and empathetic support to suicide loss survivors, helping them navigate their grief journey and connect with community resources.

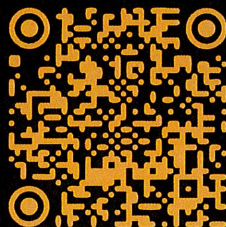
WHAT WE OFFER:

- **Immediate On-Scene Support:** Trained Volunteers respond promptly to provide comfort and information.
- **Follow-Up Outreach:** Continued support through calls, visits, or meetings.
- **Resource Connection:** Guidance to local counseling services, support groups, and other helpful resources.
- **Support for First Responders:** Offering assistance and emotional support to first responders during the crisis response to help manage the impact of traumatic events without compromising the scene

PROJECT



PUTNAM COUNTY NEW YORK



[PUTNAMCOUNTYNY.GOV/HOPE](https://putnamcountyny.gov/hope)

Putnam County Suicide & Overdose Fatality Review (SOFR)



Addressing Suicide and Overdose

Enhancing our system of care.

Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review is one important component of a multi-pronged approach to reduce preventable deaths through outreach, education, crisis intervention, collaboration and more.

Real people. Real Stories.

The voices and contributions of those with lived experiences are crucial in this endeavor.

Multidisciplinary work drives success.

The Bridge Alliance and The Suicide Prevention Task force remain essential partners in the work of the SOFR team.

What is SOFR?

Confidential Reviews

A series of confidential individual death reviews

Multidisciplinary Approach

Conducted by a multidisciplinary team

Identify Gaps

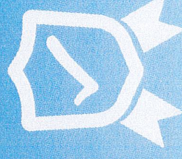
Effectively identify system gaps


Develop Strategies

Create innovative community-specific overdose prevention and intervention strategies

OFR National Standards and Resources

ofrtools.org





Tools - Profiles Resource Library Learn Take Action

Launch Your OFR

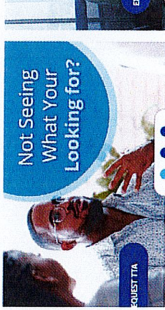
Jurisdictions interested in establishing their own OFR should use the resource below.

Checklist

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OFR 101 Webinar	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR: A Practitioner's Guide to Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> New to OFR Virtual Training	OFR 101 Webinar Presented by leading OFR experts at COSSUP and CDC, this January 2021 webinar details roles and expectations of OFR team leaders and members, describes agenda items of an OFR meeting and measures of success, and provides guidance on OFR data collection and plans for implementing OFR team recommendations. I've read this See OFR 101 Webinar
<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Practitioner's Guide Project Management Tool	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR: National Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Information Sharing Guidance	
<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Mock Reviews	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Message Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Data System	
<input type="checkbox"/> Request OFR TTA	<input type="checkbox"/> Register Your OFR	<input type="checkbox"/> OFR Mentor Program	

Dive Into TTA, Toolkits, and More

Expertise is available to support the expansion and development of OFR teams, advance national standards, and implement innovative prevention and intervention strategies through TTA, toolkits, and hosting community of practice calls.



Suicide/Overdose Fatality Review Structure: Putnam County

1

Lead Agency: Department of Mental Health
Coordinating the entire SOFR process

2

Recommendations Committee: Bridge Alliance Steering
Provides guidance, oversight, accountability and support for
implementation

3

SOFR Team

The core group responsible for conducting reviews

Leadership Roles:

Overdose FR Coordinators:

Lauren Johnson & Shanna Siegel

Suicide FR Coordinators:

Marla Behler & Megan Castellano

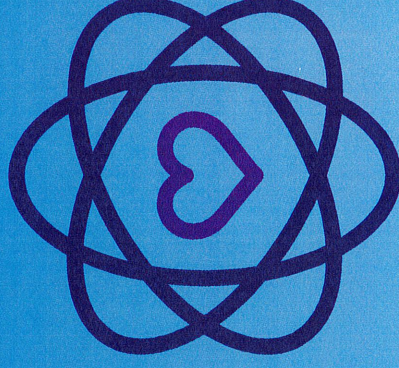
SOFR Facilitator:

Paul Tang

Putnam SOFR Team Members

Mental Health Department	Emergency Services
Public Health Department	Coroner's Office
Harm Reduction Agency	Hospital
Probation	Law Enforcement Agencies
NY/NJ HIDTA	Community-Based Organizations

Guiding Principles



Preventable Deaths

Overdose deaths and suicides are preventable

Treatable Disease

Substance use disorder and mental health conditions are chronic, treatable diseases

Data-Driven Approach

Use of multisector data to inform response strategies

Shared Goal

Shared goal of reducing overdose and suicide fatalities

Case Selection Criteria

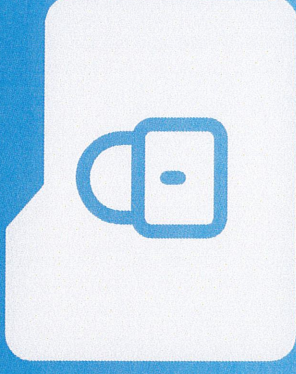
- Emerging and leading cause of death substances (i.e., stimulants, fentanyl)
- Recently Incarcerated
- Recently in treatment
- Novel incidents (e.g., minor)
- Vulnerable Population
 - Pregnant, elderly, disabled, veteran, first responder
- Unhoused
- Geographic area
- Cluster events

Goals & Standards

- Use person-first and non-stigmatizing and trauma-informed language.
 - Person who uses drugs instead of “addict” or “abuser”.
 - Respect for individuals' experiences, sense of agency, compassion and empathy.
- Avoid blaming or judging the decision of the decedent or their close contacts.
- Be open and respectful of different perspectives.
- Everyone shares and participates.
- Explain acronyms (“acro-knock”).
- Trigger warning - discussion may involve sensitive and potentially distressing topics. If at any point you need to take a break, please feel free to do so.

“By conducting a series of OFRs, jurisdictions begin to see patterns of need and opportunity, not only within specific agencies but across systems.”

Confidentiality



Protect Information

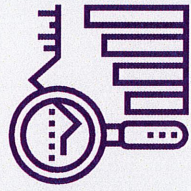
All case information discussed during SOFR meetings is strictly confidential.

Respect Privacy

Team members must maintain the privacy of individuals and families involved in cases.

Secure Data

All data and documents related to SOFR cases must be securely stored and handled.

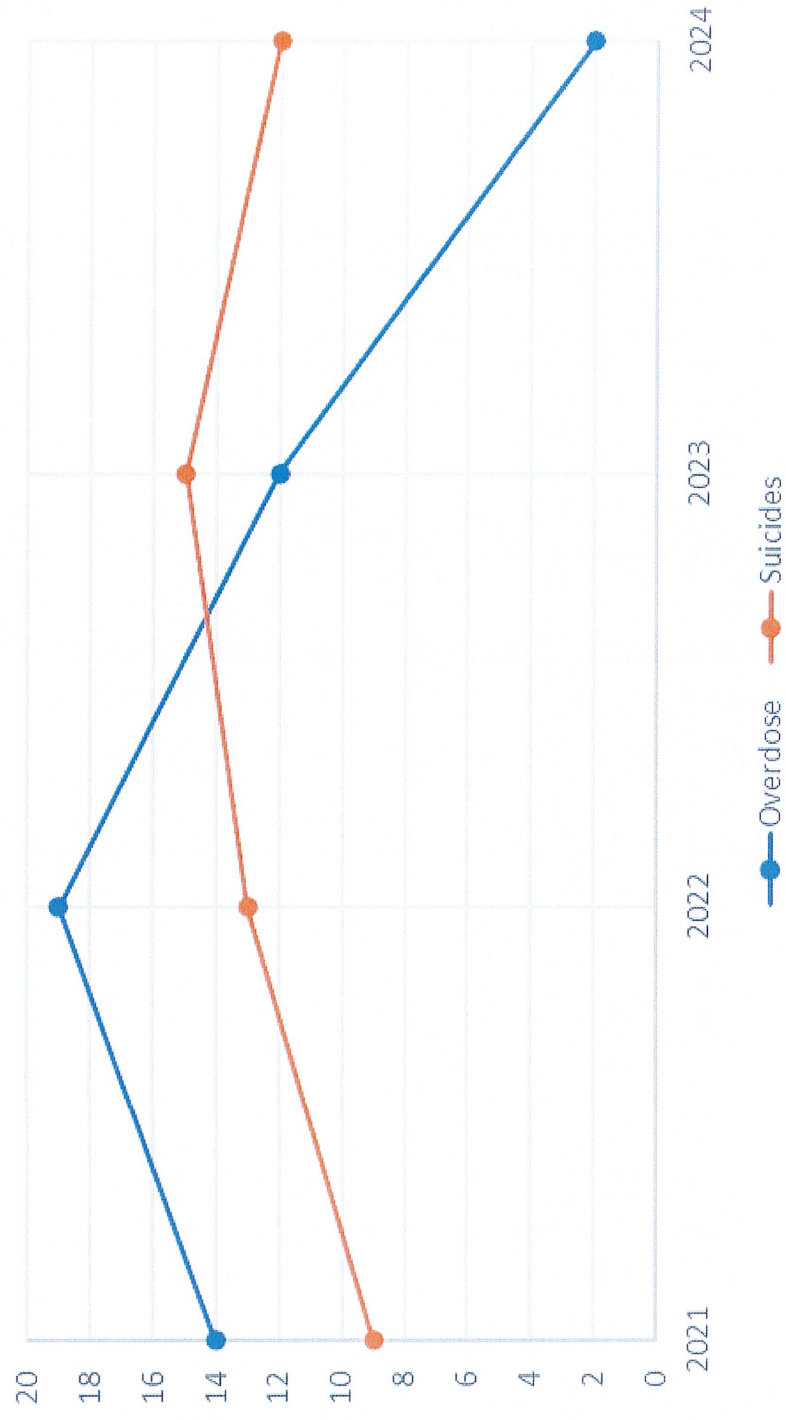


Overdose and Drug Trends

2021-2024

Putnam County PROFILE

Putnam County Coroner Data 2021-2024





Timeline of Events

DATE OF DEATH: FEBRUARY 15, 2024



MOCK OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW

Identifying Recommendations

1. Brainstorm Solutions:

- Summarize key themes and findings.
- What interventions could prevent future fatalities in similar cases?
- What positive practices should be replicated or expanded?

2. Develop implementation and evaluation plans for priority recommendations including lead agencies and metrics.

3. Track progress and revise as needed.

Next Steps:

SOFR planned for Fall 2025.

#6



MICHAEL LEWIS
Commissioner of Finance

SHEILA BARRETT
First Deputy Commissioner of Finance

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

July 3, 2025

Ms. Diane Schonfeld, Clerk
Putnam County Legislature
40 Gleneida Avenue
Carmel, NY 10512

Dear Ms. Schonfeld,

Pursuant to Code Section 5-1, B dated February, 14, 2010, I am advising you of the following request to amend the 2025 Department of Social Services budget.

Increase Estimated Revenues:

10028000 434887	Mental Health Alcoholism Services Council State Aid COLA	\$3,034
10030000 434884	OASAS Contracted Services State Local Asst	\$11,668
10431000 434981 10151	Mental Health- LGU State Aid OASAS Jail Based Services	\$2,983
10431000 434981 10234	Mental Health-LGU OASAS- Naltrexone & Buprenorphin	<u>\$5,010</u> \$22,695

Increase Appropriations:

10028000 54647	Mental Health Alcoholism Services Council Sub Contractors	\$3,034
10030000 54647	OASAS Contracted Services Sub Contractors	\$11,668
10431000 55646 10151	Mental Health- LGU Chargeback Contracts Jail Based Services	\$2,983
10431000 55646 10234	Mental Health-LGU OASAS- Naltrexone & Buprenorphin	<u>\$5,010</u> \$22,695

2025 Fiscal Impact -0-

2026 Fiscal Impact -0-

Your approval is requested to amend the 2025 Mental Health budget to reflect adjusted State Aid levels to be passed through to provider agencies in accordance with the most recent State Aid authorization from the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) dated 06/10/2025. Supporting documentation attached.

AUTHORIZATION:

Date Commissioner of Finance/Designee: Initiation by \$0 - \$5,000.00

Date County Executive/Designee: Authorized for Legislative Consideration \$5,000.01 - \$10,000

Date	Chairperson Audit/Designee: \$0 - \$10,000.00
------	---

Date	Audit & Administration Committee: \$10,000.01 - \$25,000.00
------	---

25A062

KEVIN BYRNE
County Executive

SARA SERVADIO
Commissioner

NICOLLE MCGUIRE
Deputy Commissioner



**DEPARTMENTS OF MENTAL HEALTH
SOCIAL SERVICES AND YOUTH BUREAU**

MEMORANDUM

June 26, 2025

TO: Michael Lewis, Commissioner of Finance

FROM:  Kristen Wunner, Fiscal Manager of Department of Mental Health, Social Services, and Youth Bureau

SUBJECT: Mental Health 2025 Budgetary Amendment

Your approval is requested to amend the 2025 Mental Health budget to reflect adjusted State Aid levels to be passed through to provider agencies in accordance with the most recent State Aid authorization from the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) dated 06/10/2025. Supporting documentation attached.

Increase Estimated Revenues:

10028000	MH ALCOHOLISM SVCS CNCL	
434887	COUNCIL STATE AID COLA	\$3,034
10030000	OASAS CONTRACTED SVCS	
434884	PRIVATE OASAS ST LOCAL ASST	\$11,668
10431000	MH LGU	
434981	MH ST AID	\$2,983
10151	MH OASAS JAIL BASED SERVICES	
10431000	MH LGU	
434981	MH ST AID	\$5,010
10234	OASAS – NALTREXONE AND BUPRENORPHIN	
	Total Revenue	\$22,695

Increase Appropriations:

10028000	MH ALCOHOLISM SVCS CNCL	
54647	SUB CONTRACTORS	\$3,034
10030000	OASAS CONTRACTED SVCS	
54647	SUB CONTRACTORS	\$11,668
10431000	MH LGU	
55646	CHRGBK CONTRACTS	\$2,983
10151	MH OASAS JAIL BASED SERVICES	
10431000	MH LGU	
55646	CHRGBK CONTRACTS	\$5,010
10234	OASAS – NALTREXONE AND BUPRENORPHIN	

Total Appropriations		\$22,695
----------------------	--	----------

Fiscal Impact (25)	- 0 -	
--------------------	-------	--


Fiscal Impact (26)	- 0 -	
--------------------	-------	--

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Attachments:

SUMMARY OF COUNTY BUDGET- OMH / OASAS

New York State Office of Addition Services and Supports State Aid Funding Authorization 06/10/2025

cc:  Sara Servadio, Commissioner of Department of Mental Health, Social Services, and Youth Bureau

**New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports
State Aid Funding Authorization**

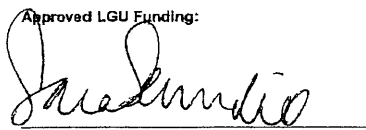
SBRRPALB100
06/10/2025 16:23

County: Putnam (40)
Region: Hudson

Fiscal Year : 2025

As of: 06/10/2025

Agency Number/Name	Init Code	Program Code/Index	PRU Direct	Approved Budgeted Amounts								Restr. Code	
				Gross	Revenue	Net	Funded Net	Funding Code/Source	One- time	Approved State Aid	Local Share		Non- Funded
27700		0850 00	53172	111,461	0	111,461	111,461	013S		111,461	0	0	
Putnam Family and Community Services, Inc. d/b/a CoveCare Center		3520 00	50422	607,675	241,840	365,835	365,835	013S		220,376	145,459	0	
		5520 00	90024	378,255	34,249	344,006	344,006	013S		278,201	65,805	0	
		Agency 27700 Total:		1,097,391	276,089	821,302	821,302	All		610,038	211,264	0	
34280		5520 00	90031	219,786	54,180	165,606	165,606	013S		158,606	7,000	0	
The Prevention Council of Putnam, Inc.		Agency 34280 Total:		219,786	54,180	165,606	165,606	All		158,606	7,000	0	
70310		0890 00	70007	65,087	20,281	44,806	44,806	013S		33,755	11,051	0	
Putnam County Mental Health Services	JB	4084 00	53435	125,052	2,844	122,208	122,208	013S		122,208	0	0	
	BN	4084 10	53435	5,010	0	5,010	5,010	013W		5,010	0	0	
		Agency 70310 Total:		195,149	23,125	172,024	172,024	All		160,973	11,051	0	
County Putnam (40) Summary - All Agencies:				1,512,326	353,394	1,158,932	1,158,932	All		929,617	229,315	0	
Less Direct Contracts/DASNY:				0	0	0	0	All		0	0	0	
Approved LGU Funding:				1,512,326	353,394	1,158,932	1,158,932	All		929,617	229,315	0	


Signature

6/13/25
Date

SUMMARY OF COUNTY BUDGET - OMH / OASAS

[illegible]

MICHAEL J. LEWIS
Commissioner of Finance



SHEILA BARRETT
First Deputy Commissioner of Finance

ALEXANDRA GORDON
Deputy Commissioner of Finance

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Diane Schonfeld, Legislative Clerk

FROM: Michael J. Lewis, Commissioner of Finance - MJL

RE: **Budgetary Transfer - 25T190**

DATE: July 10, 2025

2025 JUL 11 AM 11:20
LEGISLATURE
PUTNAM COUNTY
CARPENT, NY

At the request of the Senior Fiscal Manager at the Health Department, the following budgetary transfer is recommended.

GENERAL FUND:

Increase Estimated Revenues:

10296001 432773	Early Learning Center - Education & Transportation 3 to 5	\$	78,540.00
-----------------	---	----	-----------

Decrease Estimated Revenues:

10296000 432773	Preschool - Education & Transportation 3 to 5	\$	78,540.00
-----------------	---	----	-----------

Fiscal Impact - 2025 - \$ 0

Fiscal Impact - 2026 - \$ 0

This Budgetary transfer is recommended by the Sr. Fiscal Manager. Please see the attached.

RIAN RODRIGUEZ, MPH
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR



KEVIN M. BYRNE
PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael J. Lewis, Commissioner of Finance

FROM: William A. Orr, Jr., Senior Fiscal Manager *WAO*

DATE: July 10, 2025

RE: Budgetary Amendment

Please process a Budgetary Amendment for the following Health Department accounts:

Increase Revenue: 10296001-432773	\$78,540.00
Early Learning Center - Revenue	

Decrease Revenue: 10296000-432773	\$78,540.00
Preschool - Revenue	

Fiscal Impact	-0-
---------------	-----

Transferring respective revenues for kids receiving services in the new Early Learning Center program.

COUNTY OF PUTNAM

FUND TRANSFER REQUEST # 312

TO: Commissioner of Finance
FROM: William A. Orr, Jr., Senior Fiscal Manager
DEPT: Health
DATE: July 10, 2025

I hereby request approval for the following transfer of funds:

FROM ACCOUNT # / NAME	TO ACCOUNT # / NAME	AMOUNT
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-52110 ELC-Furniture	\$28,000.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-52120 ELC-Office Equipment	\$2,300.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-52130 ELC-Computer Equipment	\$1,500.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-52170 ELC-Kitchen Equipment	\$900.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-52180 ELC-Other Equipment	\$3,400.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54310 ELC-Office Supplies	\$10,000.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54311 ELC-Printing and Forms	\$300.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54313 ELC-Books and Supplements	\$1,000.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54410 ELC-Supplies and Materials	\$6,500.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54441 ELC-Itinerant Services	\$132,000.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54510 ELC-Machine Maintenance	\$1,000.00

LEGISLATURE
PUTNAM COUNTY
CARMEL, NY

2025 JUL 11 AM 11:20

25T191

10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54634 ELC-Telephone	\$250.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54635 ELC-Cell Phones	\$900.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54636 ELC-Internet	\$100.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54646 ELC-Contracts	\$30,000.00
10296000-54678 Preschool-Leased Transportation	10296001-54670 ELC-Travel Non-Employee	\$1,000.00
10296000-54678 Preschool-Leased Transportation	10296001-54678 ELC-Leased Transportation	\$50,000.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54783 ELC-Licensing and Accessories	\$100.00
10296000-54441 Preschool-Itinerant Services	10296001-54989 ELC-Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$270,250.00

PURPOSE

This transfer is required to purchase all the items that are necessary to initiate the start up of the new Early Learning Center.

2025 Fiscal Impact \$ 0.00

2026 Fiscal Impact \$ 0.00

Department Head Signature/Designee Date

AUTHORIZATION: (Electronic signatures)

Date Commissioner of Finance / Designee: Initiated by: \$0 - \$5,000.00

Date County Executive / Designee: Authorized for Legislative Consideration: \$5,000.01 - \$10,000.00

Date Chairperson Audit / Designee: \$0 - \$10,000.00

Date Audit & Administration Committee: \$10,000.01 - \$25,000.00

25T191