

St. Lawrence County Community Services 2025 Annual Report

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Mission and Locations

MISSION: To develop, maintain, and oversee a continuum of services for people with mental illness, substance use disorders, or developmental disabilities that ensures the opportunity for recovery and/or achievement of their optimum potential in the community.

The Vision of the Community Services Board is that “Every person with a qualifying disability will have access to needed services in order to thrive in the community of their choice.”

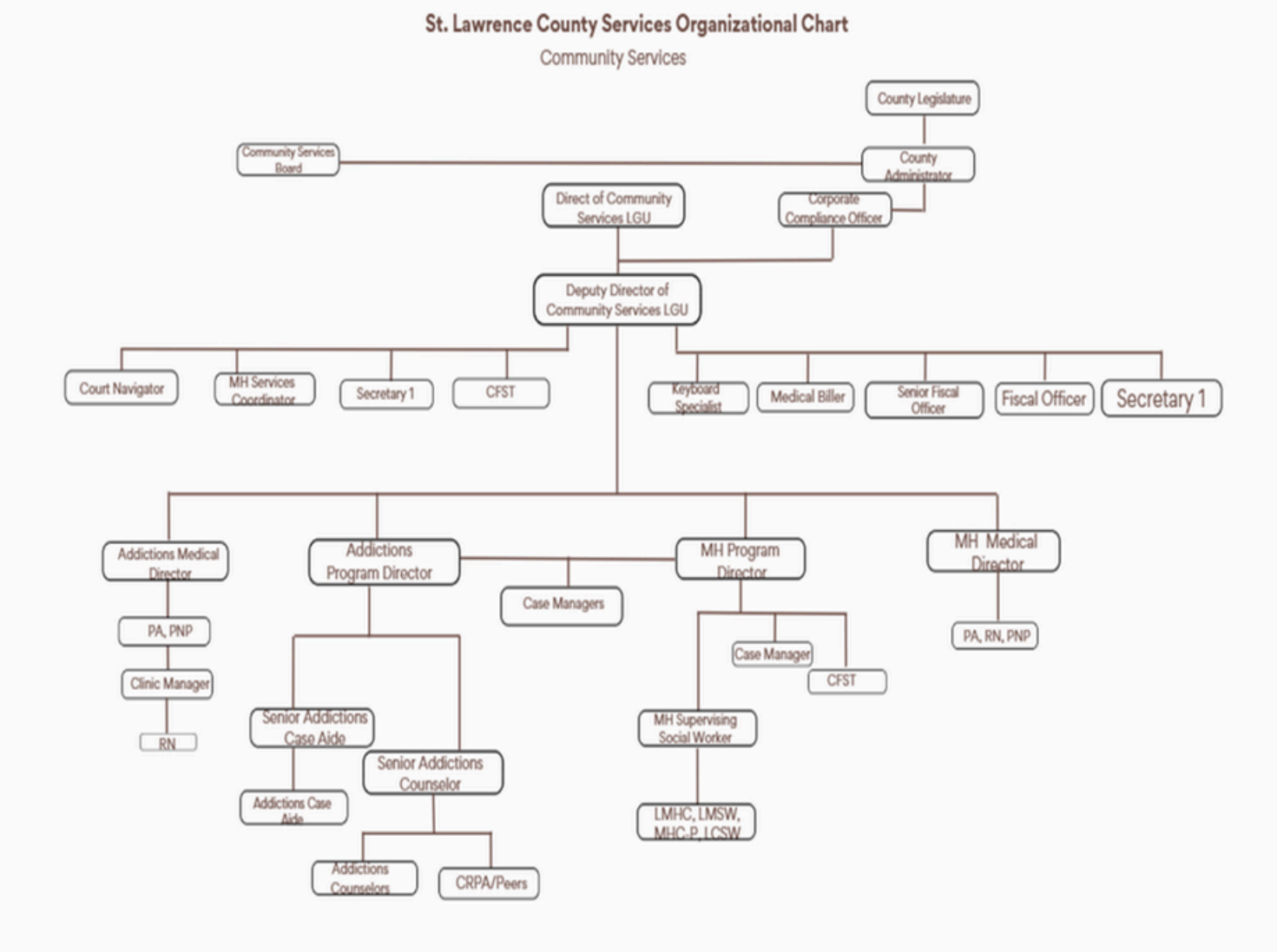
LOCATIONS

Canton
COPS Program (OTP)
80 State Highway 310, Suite 1
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 386-2189

Ogdensburg
Addiction Services
206 Ford Street
Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-1164

Canton
Mental Health Services
80 State Highway 310 Suite 1
Canton, NY 13617
(315) 386-2167

Organizational Chart



Addiction Services - Ogdensburg

St. Lawrence County operates an Article 32 Outpatient Addiction Clinic in Ogdensburg, delivering comprehensive treatment services for individuals affected by substance use and gambling disorders. Services are provided through a multidisciplinary team that prioritizes individualized, patient-centered care. Treatment is delivered within a healthcare framework that recognizes substance use disorders and pathological gambling as chronic, treatable conditions, including when they co-occur with physical or mental health disorders.

The clinic offers a full continuum of outpatient services, including health assessments, individual and group counseling, case management, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and peer support services. To further enhance access, services are delivered through a hybrid model combining in-person care and telepractice, reducing barriers related to transportation and geography.

Staffing Overview:

- Senior Counselor position successfully filled in Spring 2025
- One (1) vacant CASAC position
- 0.5 vacant Registered Nurse position

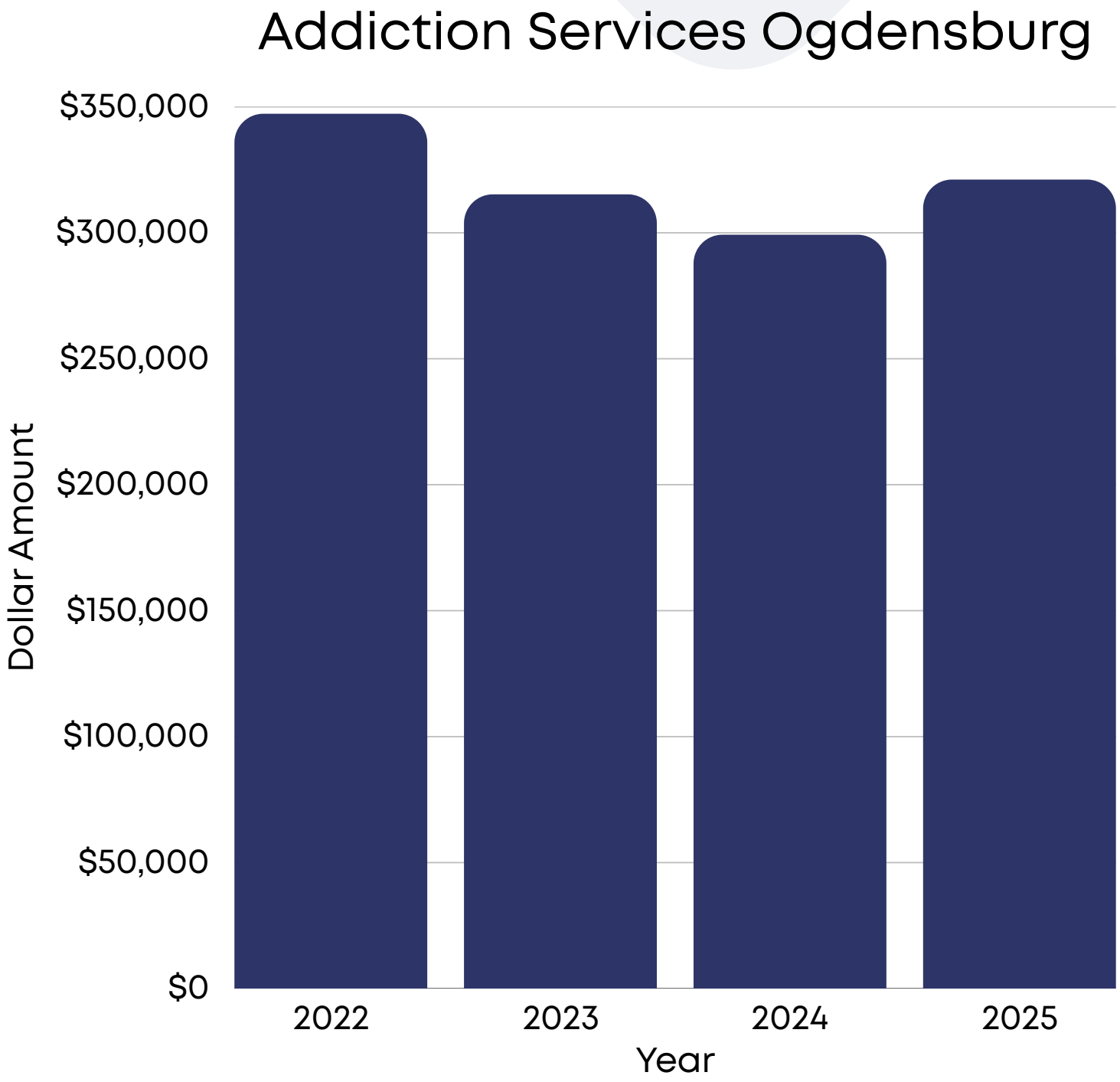
Programmatic Highlights:

- Delivered 6,483 service units over the reporting period
- Served 381 unique individuals
- Provided 84 billable services via the Mobile Treatment Vehicle to 7 individuals
- Successfully completed a New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports site review with no significant deficiencies, resulting in a three-year Operating Certificate
- Multiple counselors obtained the Gambling (G) designation, expanding service capacity for individuals with gambling disorders

Goals:

- Obtain formal gambling service designation through New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports

Revenue


Addiction Services Ogdensburg
$350,000
$300,000
$250,000
$200,000
$150,000
$100,000
$50,000
$0
Dollar Amount
2022
2023
2024
2025
Year

Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program (COPS)

During the reporting period, the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports advanced system integration efforts through the establishment of a Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program (COTP). This restructuring merged outpatient services, formerly operated as the Canton Addiction Clinic, with the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), resulting in a unified and more coordinated model of care.

The Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program delivers a full continuum of services for individuals affected by substance use and gambling disorders. Services are provided through a multidisciplinary team that prioritizes individualized, patient-centered care and integrates both clinical and medical treatment. Care is delivered within a healthcare framework that recognizes substance use disorders and pathological gambling as chronic, treatable conditions, including when they co-occur with physical and mental health disorders.

Program services include health assessments, individual and group counseling, case management, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and peer support services. As part of the integrated model, methadone and buprenorphine are dispensed through the Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), ensuring access to evidence-based pharmacologic treatment for opioid use disorder.

To further enhance access and continuity of care, services are delivered through a hybrid model combining in-person treatment and telepractice, reducing barriers related to transportation, geography, and scheduling

Staffing Overview:

- Senior Counselor position successfully filled in Spring 2025
- One (1) vacant CASAC position
- 0.5 vacant Registered Nurse position
- Two Contractual Peer Positions were lost
- Successfully filled one (1) Peer position

Programmatic Highlights:

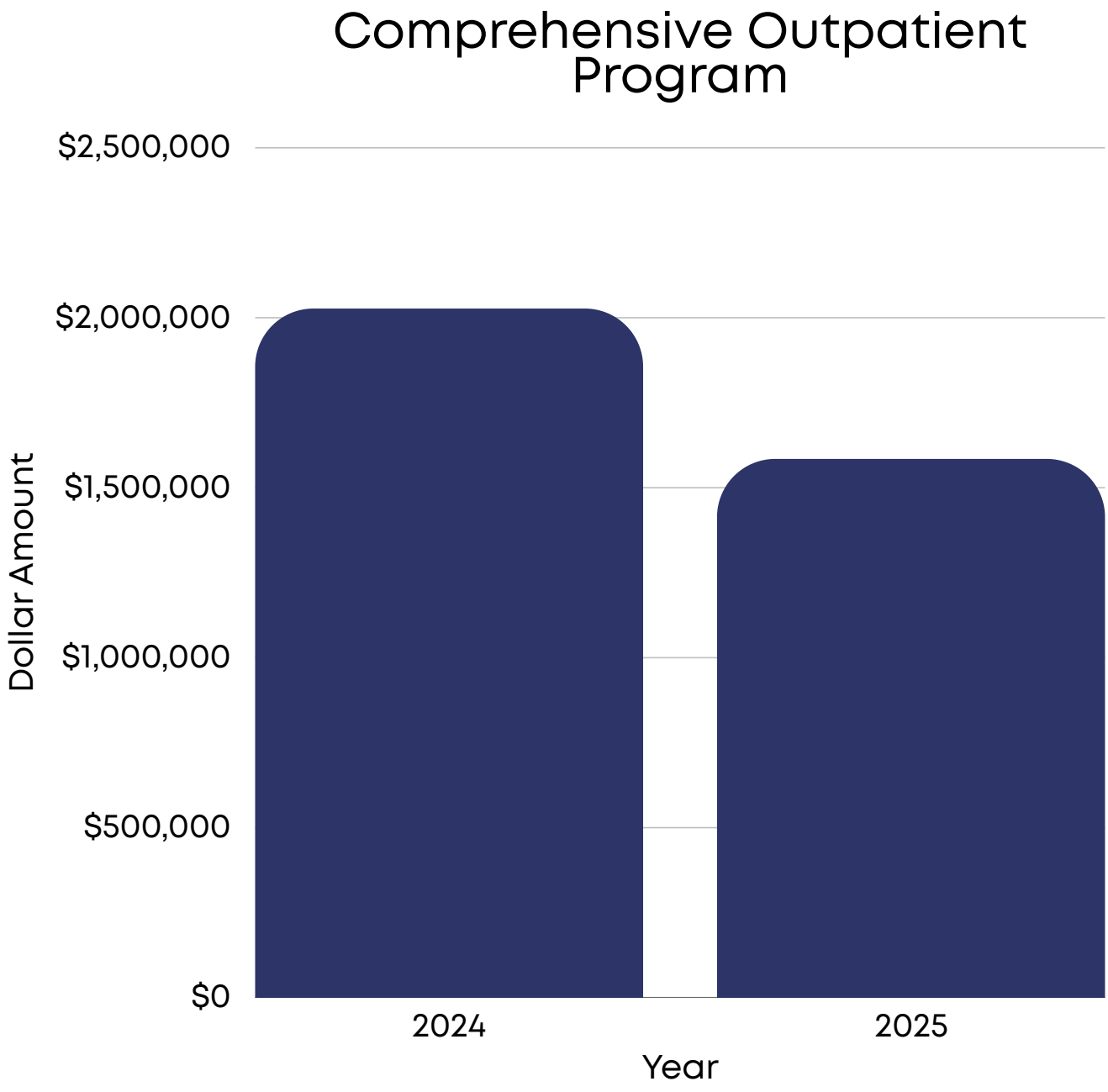
- Delivered 13,248 service units during the reporting period
- Served 727 unique individuals across outpatient and opioid treatment services
- Successfully completed an New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports site review with no significant deficiencies, resulting in a three-year Operating Certificate
- Secured an additional $66,000 in State Aid to support medication-assisted treatment for individuals receiving methadone services within the county correctional facility
- The Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) provided 14,397 onsite medication dispenses, supporting continuity of care for individuals with opioid use disorder
- Delivered 391 primary care services to 163 individuals, including EKGs and laboratory testing, to meet regulatory requirements and support whole-person care

Primary care services within the program continue to play a critical role in identifying previously undiagnosed or unmanaged health conditions, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, and kidney disease. These interventions support timely referral and linkage to specialty medical care within the community, reinforcing an integrated behavioral health and primary care model.

Goals:

- Obtain formal gambling service designation through New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports
- Secure a contract with Department of Corrections to provide Methadone to inmates
- Secure additional funding to continue the Harm Reduction & Transportation Specialist position
- Increase access to harm reduction resources, including overdose prevention tools and safe drug use supplies, such as testing strips, and proper needle disposal.

Revenue


Comprehensive Outpatient Program
$2,500,000
$2,000,000
$1,500,000
$1,000,000
$500,000
$0
Dollar Amount
2024
2025
Year

Forensic Services

In alignment with New York State policy, following the enactment of Legislation S.1795/A.868 signed by Kathy Hochul, St. Lawrence County has expanded access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) within local correctional settings. This legislation is intended to reduce drug-related overdose deaths and strengthen pathways to recovery by ensuring that incarcerated individuals have access to evidence-based treatment services.

Consistent with this mandate, all incarcerated individuals are screened for substance use disorders and, when clinically indicated, receive comprehensive treatment services. These services include individual counseling, group counseling, peer support, and transition planning to support successful reentry into the community.

Program services are delivered by a Certified Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) and a Peer Advocate, who provide ongoing evaluation, counseling, and recovery support. Structured group programming is offered six times per week, with a focus on developing coping skills and addressing criminal thinking patterns.

This initiative reflects the County's commitment to reducing overdose risk, improving continuity of care, and supporting long-term recovery outcomes for justice-involved individuals.

Staffing Overview:

- Adjusted staffing to reflect a transition in service delivery, reducing CASAC coverage from 1.2 FTE to 0.2 FTE as the Correctional Facility implemented in-house substance use services.

Programmatic Highlights:

- From January through July 2025, the program served 172 unique individuals and delivered 788 total services, including 36 court-ordered evaluations
- In July 2025, the program was restructured as the Correctional Facility transitioned to providing in-house addiction services
- Staffing was adjusted accordingly, with CASAC coverage reduced from 1.2 FTE to 0.2 FTE to align with the new service model
- The Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) provided 3,600 guest methadone doses to the County Correctional Facility, a significant increase from 860 doses in 2024, supporting continuity of care
- Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program funding was utilized to offset programmatic expenses and support service delivery

Goals:

- Continue to provide incarcerated individuals with Methadone.
- Continue to provide court ordered evaluations as needed.

Colocation Program

The Co-Location Program is designed to support early identification and intervention for individuals at risk of substance use disorders through a collaborative partnership with the Department of Social Services (DSS). The program provides targeted screening and assessment for individuals identified by DSS, with the goal of improving timely access to treatment and recovery supports.

This initiative embeds Chemical Dependency Case Aides within the local DSS, working alongside child welfare staff to strengthen coordination between assessment, referral, and case management processes. By aligning service delivery across systems, the program seeks to improve outcomes for children and families involved in both behavioral health and social services.

With three embedded staff members, the program facilitates comprehensive assessments and ensures timely referral to appropriate levels of care, promoting a more integrated and responsive service system.

Staffing Overview:

- All positions remained filled for the calendar year.

Programmatic Highlights:

- The program received 638 referrals, conducted 1,265 drug screenings, and completed 148 assessments, leading to 76 clients being referred for addiction services.

Goals:

- Increase the number of completed tests by 25%.
- Increase the number of referrals to clinical services by 25%.

Case Management

Through funding provided by the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports Outreach and Engagement Grant, St. Lawrence County expanded targeted case management services for individuals experiencing substance use disorders. The program focuses on connecting individuals to harm reduction services, treatment, and recovery supports, with an emphasis on engaging high-risk and hard-to-reach populations.

The grant-funded positions added two Case Managers, which complemented an existing Case Manager who serves individuals with mental health concerns. Together, this expanded team strengthens the County's capacity to address co-occurring behavioral health needs through a more integrated and comprehensive case management approach.

Case Managers play a critical role in addressing both clinical and social determinants of health by ensuring individuals have access to basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter. Outreach efforts also include the distribution of harm reduction resources, including naloxone (Narcan), safe sex kits, fentanyl test strips, and wound care kits.

The program supports continuity of care by identifying individuals who are at risk of disengagement from treatment, including those missing appointments or at risk of discharge due to loss of contact. Case Managers collaborate closely with Peer Advocates and clinical staff to actively re-engage individuals in services and facilitate timely access to care, including same-day appointments for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) when clinically appropriate.

This work reflects the department's commitment to reducing barriers to care and improving treatment engagement by addressing both immediate needs and long-term recovery supports. Recognizing the effectiveness and sustainability of these services, the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators approved the continuation of two revenue-generating Case Manager positions initially established through the OASAS grant, further strengthening the County's integrated behavioral health service system.

Staffing Overview:

- All positions remained filled for the calendar year.

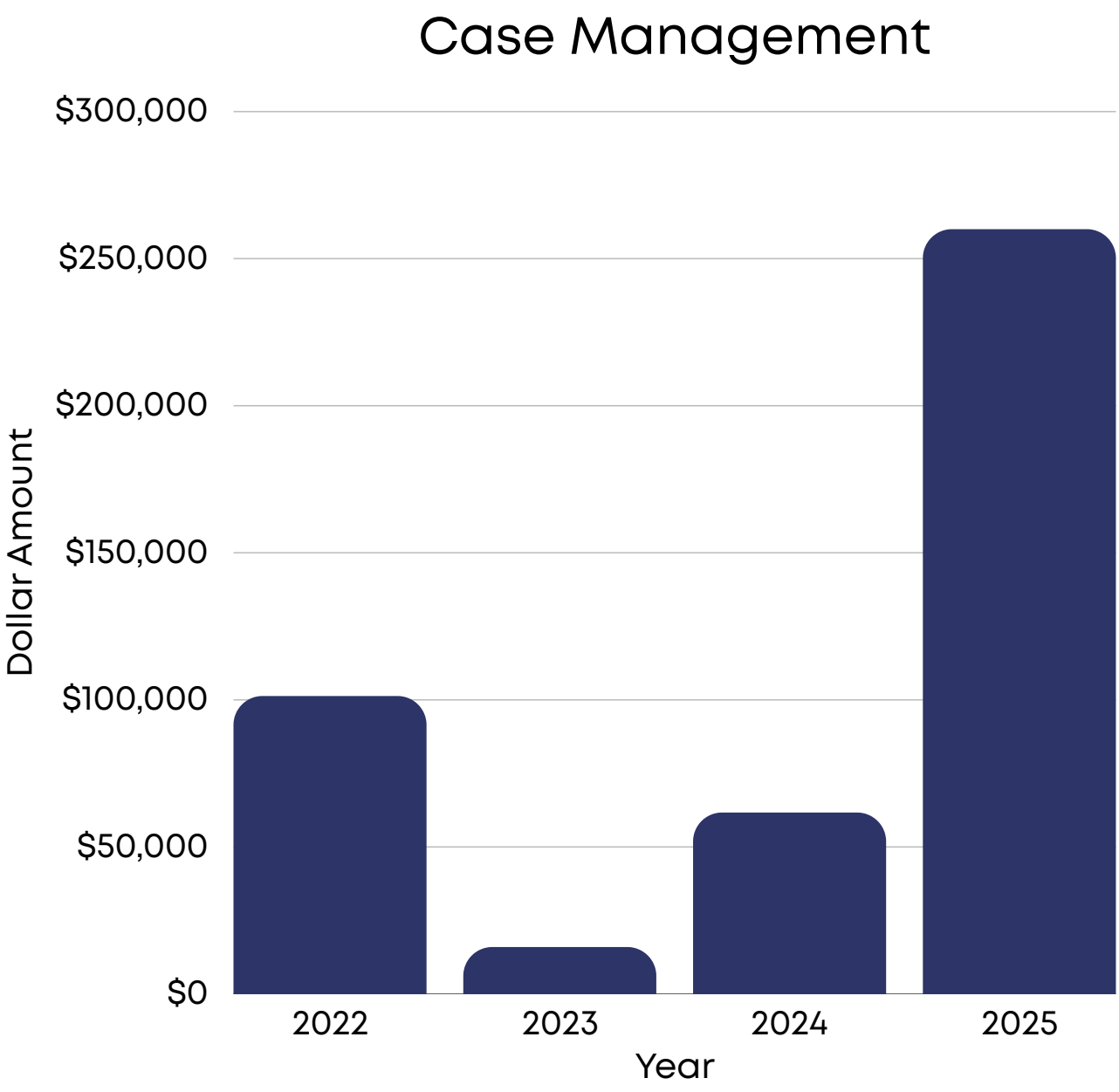
Programmatic Highlights:

- Delivered 3,172 services, a significant increase from 1,614 services in 2024
- Served 100 unique individuals through targeted case management and outreach interventions
- Program data reflects 727 total encounters with 168 unique individuals, averaging 4.33 encounters per individual per month, demonstrating sustained engagement with high-need populations
- Cumulatively conducted over 180 outreach events, engaging approximately 950 individuals through harm reduction interventions
- Distributed 568 naloxone (Narcan) kits to reduce overdose risk
- Distributed 2,942 harm reduction supplies, including fentanyl and xylazine test strips, hygiene kits, and other safety resources
- These efforts reflect a continued emphasis on proactive engagement, overdose prevention, and connecting individuals to treatment and recovery supports.

Goals:

- Maintain full caseloads for all Case Management Staff
- Ensure that any and all-appropriate recipients of Case Management services have the appropriate Health Home Designation to maximize billing revenue

Revenue


Case Management
$300,000
$250,000
$200,000
$150,000
$100,000
$50,000
$0
Dollar Amount
2022
2023
2024
2025
Year

Mental Health Services

St. Lawrence County provides a comprehensive continuum of mental health services for adults, adolescents, and children, ensuring access to timely, person-centered care across the lifespan. Services are designed to address a wide range of mental health conditions, from early identification and intervention to ongoing treatment and complex care management.

Clinical services include initial and follow-up assessments, individual, group, and family therapy, as well as psychiatric evaluations and psychotropic medication management. The program also offers complex care coordination for individuals with higher acuity needs, including those with co-occurring disorders or significant functional impairments.

Care is delivered through a multidisciplinary team that emphasizes evidence-based practices and individualized treatment planning. Services are structured to promote engagement, continuity of care, and improved clinical outcomes while addressing both behavioral health needs and social determinants impacting recovery.

To enhance accessibility and responsiveness, the program offers flexible scheduling options, including after-hours appointments, ensuring that individuals and families can access care in a manner that meets their needs. Collectively, these services reflect the County's commitment to providing high-quality, accessible mental health care for the communities it serves.

Staffing Overview:

- The Supervising Social Worker Position was filled in the fourth quarter.
- All other clinical positions remained filled.

Programmatic Highlights:

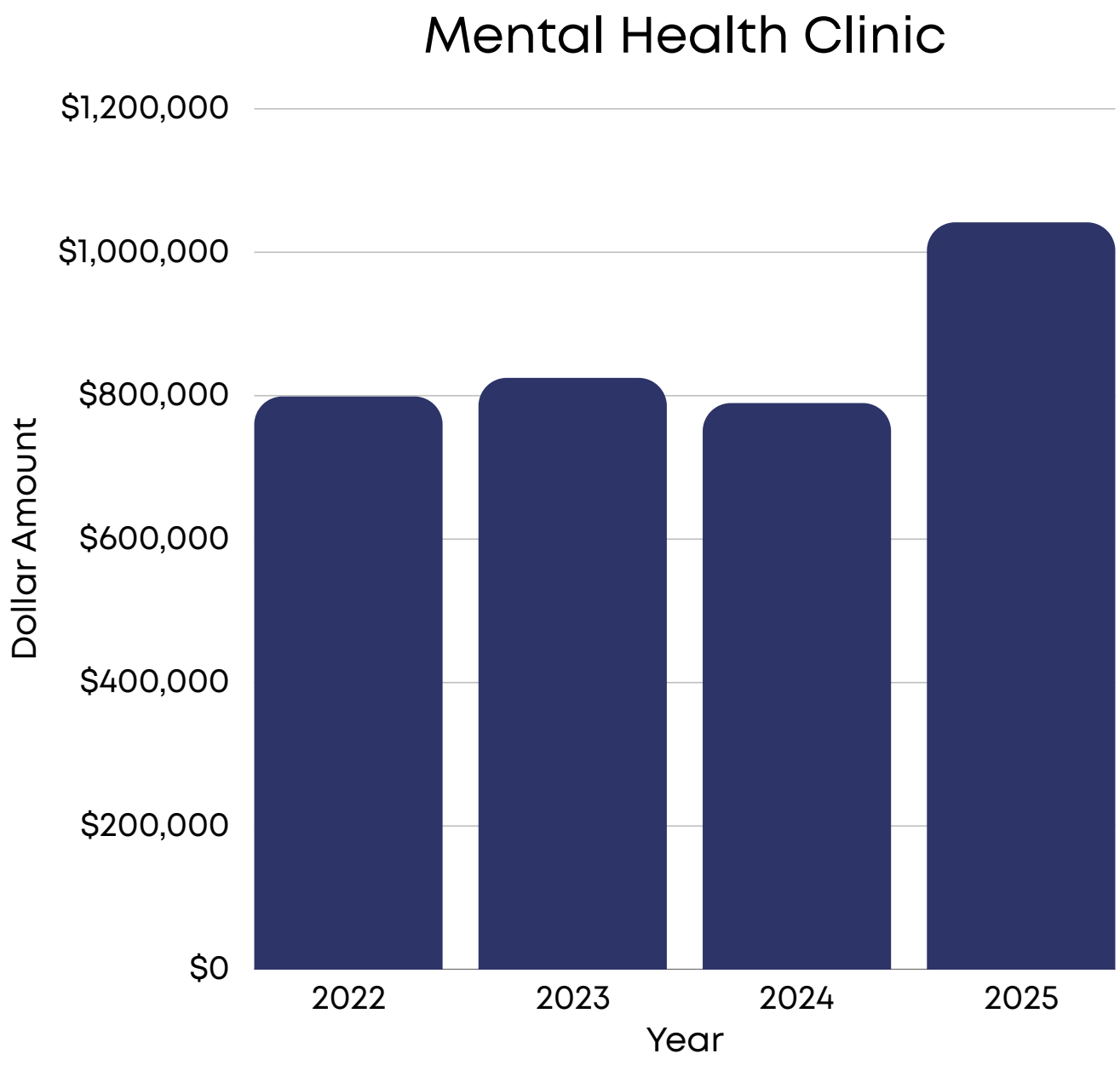
- Clinicians continue to manage their own schedules, particularly within a telepractice framework, resulting in increased efficiency and productivity
- Delivered 7,627 billable service units, an increase from 5,949 units in 2024
- Served 603 unique individuals, up from 502 individuals in 2024, reflecting continued growth in service demand
- Ongoing implementation of tele-mental health services has improved client engagement and reduced barriers related to transportation, scheduling, and access to care
- Successfully obtained Medicare credentialing at the individual provider level, expanding service capacity for Medicare beneficiaries
- Achieved full staffing across all positions during the reporting period
- ·Successfully completed a site review by the New York State Office of Mental Health with no significant deficiencies, resulting in a three-year Operating Certificate

These outcomes reflect continued expansion of access, improved operational efficiency, and a strong commitment to high-quality mental health service delivery.

Goals:

- To remain a fully staffed team of qualified mental health professionals while optimizing operational processes, ensuring that each client receives timely, effective, and personalized care.
- Increase group therapy services.

Revenue


Mental Health Clinic
$1,200,000
$1,000,000
$800,000
$600,000
$400,000
$200,000
$0
Dollar Amount
2022
2023
2024
2025
Year

Child and Family Support Team

The Child and Family Support Team delivers comprehensive, family-driven services to support children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances while reducing family stress and strengthening caregivers' ability to support their child at home and in the community. Using an individualized approach that recognizes each family's unique strengths and needs, the program emphasizes collaboration, skill-building, and connection to resources, while promoting peer support to reduce isolation and build resilience. Core services include education, advocacy, case management, and facilitated family support, with ongoing coordination across schools, healthcare providers, and community agencies to ensure consistent, integrated care.

Staffing Overview:

- Filled Behavioral Health Counselor Position second quarter
- Filled Youth/Family Peer Advocate Position

Programmatic Highlights:

- Maintained continuity of services and successfully adapted operations despite a vacant clinical position
- Continued to provide consistent support to families while managing a vacant peer position, demonstrating program flexibility and resilience
- Sustained strong collaboration with schools and community-based providers
- In 2025, served 25 unique families and delivered 292 service sessions, including pre-admission meetings, school- and community-based collaboration, and ongoing case management services
- Continued focus on strengthening family systems and improving outcomes for children and adolescents with complex behavioral health needs

Goals:

- To maintain a fully staffed team of qualified mental health professionals while optimizing operational processes, ensuring that each client receives timely, effective, and personalized care in and out of the home.

Impaired Driver Program

The Impaired Driver Program (IDP) is a core component of New York State's strategy to reduce alcohol- and drug-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities while lowering recidivism among impaired drivers. Fully funded through participant fees, the program operates without reliance on local tax dollars. During the reporting period, Traffic Safety and STOP-DWI functions were transitioned to the Probation Department to better align enforcement, supervision, and prevention efforts. IDP delivers structured, evidence-informed education using multimedia, facilitated discussion, and interactive activities to help participants identify and change high-risk behaviors. Participants also complete a screening for substance use disorder (SUD) risk, with those identified as at-risk referred to a provider of their choice for comprehensive assessment and treatment.

Staffing Overview:

- Secretary I was reduced to .25 FTE
- Three (3) Part-Time Instructors teaching the required classes

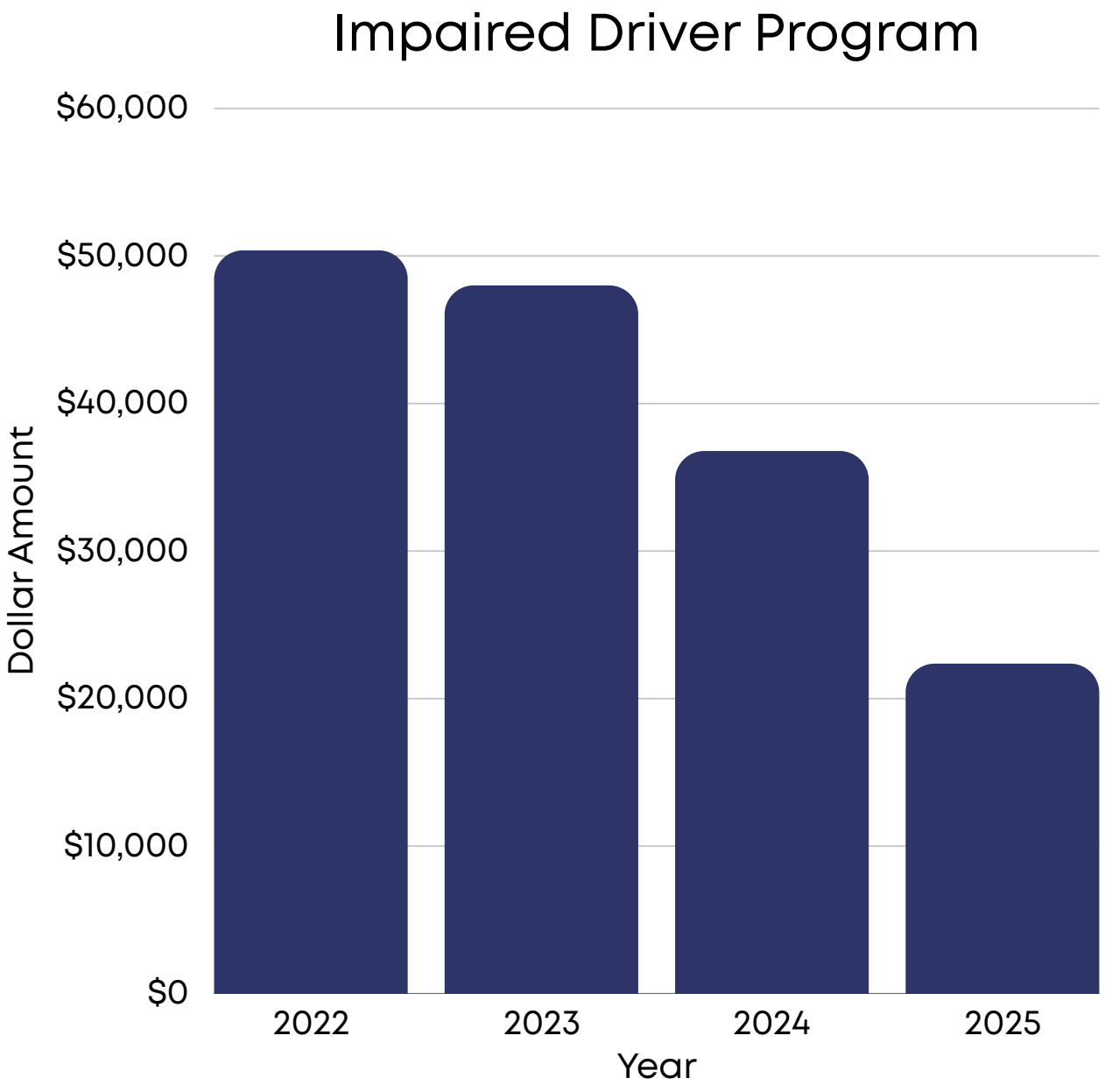
Program Highlights:

- Continued delivery of IDP services to St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties,
- Provided structured education to promote behavioral change
- Completed screening for substance use risk factors, with referrals made to treatment providers as clinically indicated

Goals:

- Continue to reduce recidivism related to impaired driving offenses through education and early identification of substance use disorders
- Expand participant engagement strategies to further increase behavioral change and program completion outcomes

Revenue


Impaired Driver Program
$60,000
$50,000
$40,000
$30,000
$20,000
$10,000
$0
Dollar Amount
2022
2023
2024
2025
Year

Single Point of Access (SPOA)

The Single Point of Access (SPOA) serves as the centralized referral and coordination system within the Local Governmental Unit (LGU) for both adults and children requiring access to intensive mental health services. Operated under the oversight of the New York State Office of Mental Health, SPOA ensures a standardized, equitable, and clinically appropriate process for linking individuals and families to high-need services across the behavioral health continuum. The SPOA program is fully funded by State Aid.

SPOA manages referrals for a range of OMH-designated services for both adult and youth populations, including care management, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), children and family treatment supports and services (CFTSS), home and community-based services (HCBS), housing supports, and other intensive community-based programs. Through a structured multidisciplinary review process, referrals are evaluated to determine eligibility, level of need, and appropriate service placement, ensuring that resources are allocated effectively and aligned with clinical necessity.

The program plays a critical role in system coordination by facilitating communication among providers, schools, child-serving systems, and community partners. SPOA supports continuity of care, reduces fragmentation across service systems, and prioritizes individuals and families with the highest level of need. By centralizing access and strengthening cross-system collaboration, SPOA enhances the County's ability to deliver timely, person-centered services and improve outcomes for both adults and children.

Staffing Overview:

- Mental Health Services Coordinator
- Deputy Director provides supervision and oversight

Goals:

- To develop a Children's System of Care for St. Lawrence County
- To continue to ensure services are provided in the right amount at the right time for children and adults within St. Lawrence County

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) is a court-ordered, community-based program designed to support individuals with serious mental illness who have a history of treatment non-adherence that has resulted in hospitalization, incarceration, or other adverse outcomes. As part of the Local Governmental Unit (LGU), the AOT program operates under the oversight of the New York State Office of Mental Health and is implemented in accordance with New York State Mental Hygiene Law. The AOT program is fully funded by State Aid.

The AOT program provides a structured framework to ensure that eligible individuals receive and adhere to a comprehensive treatment plan while living in the community. Court-ordered plans may include a combination of services such as case management, psychiatric treatment, medication management, substance use disorder services, and other supportive interventions tailored to individual needs.

The LGU plays a central role in the AOT process, including referral review, coordination of required evaluations, petition development, and ongoing monitoring of court orders. The program emphasizes collaboration among treatment providers, legal partners, and community stakeholders to promote engagement, stability, and recovery.

AOT has been shown to reduce hospitalizations, incarceration, and emergency service utilization while improving treatment adherence and overall quality of life. Through a coordinated and legally supported approach, the program enhances public safety and supports individuals in achieving long-term stability within the community.

Staffing Overview:

- Deputy Director coordinates the program and oversees individuals placed on AOT

Mental Health Court Navigator

The Mental Health Court Navigator Program, administered through the Local Governmental Unit (LGU) and overseen by the New York State Office of Mental Health, provides targeted support to individuals with serious mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system.

The program is designed to improve coordination between the behavioral health system and criminal justice systems by assisting participants in navigating court requirements while accessing appropriate mental health treatment and community-based supports. The Navigator serves as a key liaison among the court, treatment providers, probation, and other stakeholders to ensure individuals remain engaged in services and compliant with court mandates.

Core functions of the program include facilitating referrals to mental health and substance use treatment, supporting appointment attendance, addressing barriers to care, and assisting individuals in accessing essential resources such as housing, benefits, and transportation. The program emphasizes individualized support, accountability, and continuity of care to promote long-term stability.

By strengthening cross-system collaboration and providing hands-on support, the Mental Health Court Navigator Program contributes to reduced recidivism, improved treatment adherence, and more positive outcomes for justice-involved individuals with behavioral health needs.This program is fully funded by State Aid.

Staffing Overview:

- Two Mental Health Court Navigators were hired in Q4 2025.
- Deputy Director provides supervision and oversight

Goal:

- Strengthen coordination between the court, treatment providers, and community partners to improve participant engagement and compliance, while reducing recidivism and promoting long-term stability in the community

Community Services Board

Per Article 41.13 of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law, the purposes of this board are to advocate, foster, enable, and encourage preventive, intervention, treatment, and rehabilitative services for those that struggle with substance use, mental illness, and developmentally disabilities; to improve existing programs for people with disabilities to plan for the integration of community, regional and state services for these individuals, to oversee and evaluate locally sponsored providers, to include contract agencies, and others under its jurisdiction; and to plan and oversee the entire mental hygiene delivery system within St. Lawrence County.

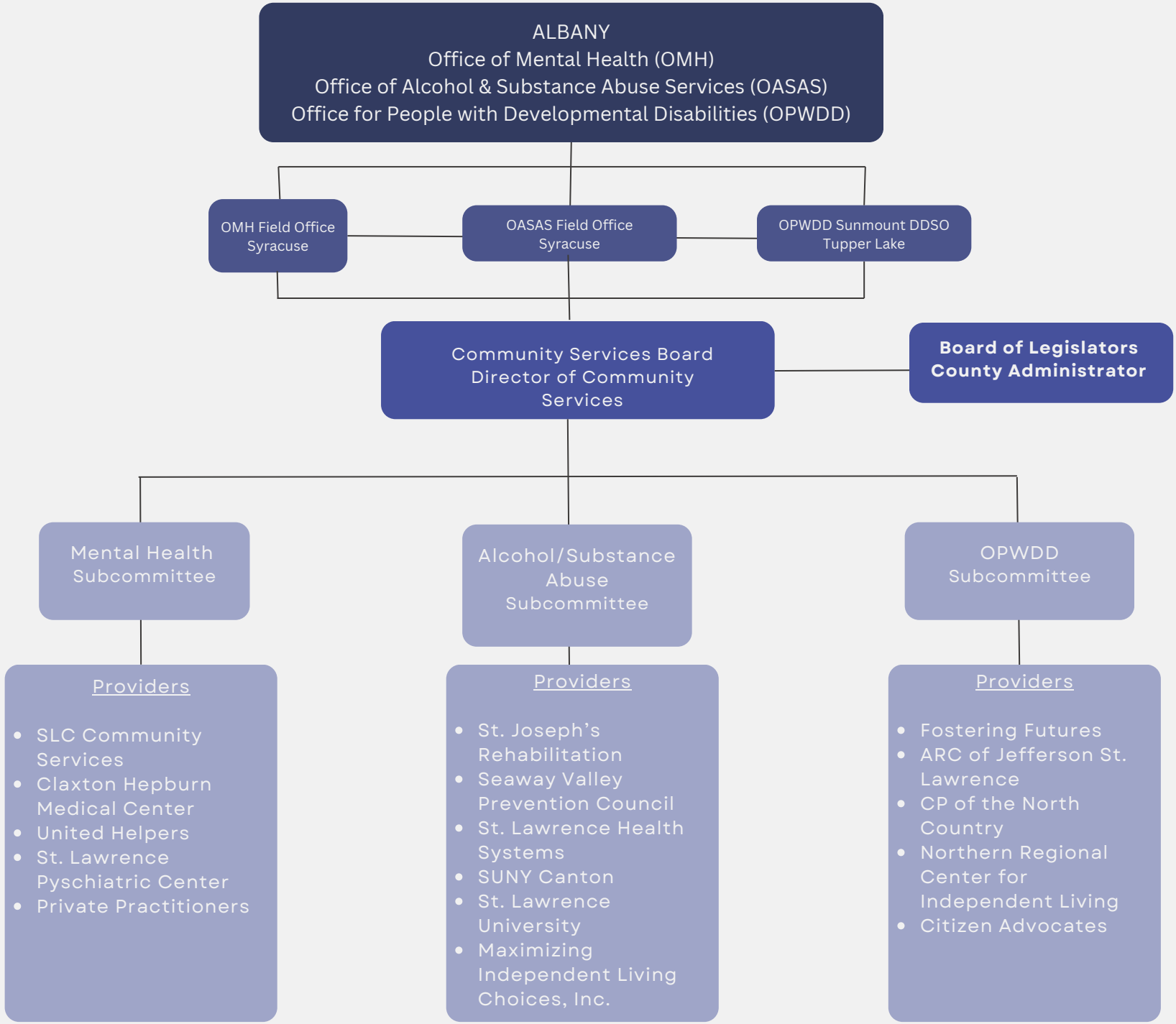
The CSB shall have the powers and duties as set forth in Article 41.13 of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law as amended or as set forth in the regulations of the Commissioner of Mental Health, Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, and Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

The CSB shall have 15 members who shall be nominated by the CSB and appointed by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators.Whenever practical, at least one member of the CSB shall be a licensed physician and one shall be a licensed psychologist or otherwise, at least two members shall be licensed physicians.The CSB will make every effort to have representation, both demographically and geographically, whenever practical and all members of the CSB shall represent the community's interest in all the problems of mental hygiene. The CSB will make a diligent effort to ensure that a consumer from the disability groups, in compliance with regulatory requirements, is nominated to the CSB and/or appropriate subcommittees. The CSB shall have subcommittees for mental health, developmental disabilities, and alcohol/substance abuse. Each subcommittee shall have no more than nine members. Each subcommittee shall be composed of persons who have demonstrated an interest in the field of services for the particular area of mentally disabled.

Each subcommittee shall include former patients, parents or relatives of such mentally disabled persons and community agencies servicing the particular class of mentally disabled. Three members of each such subcommittee shall be members of the CSB.

The Chairperson and CSB members represented on the subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the CSB and the non-CSB members shall be appointed by the County Legislature from names submitted by the CSB. The nominating process for these individuals shall begin at the respective subcommittees.

Each term of a CSB member shall be four years beginning with the first day of January of the year of appointment. New members completing a term of a prior member can be appointed for two full terms if the completion of a prior member's term is less than two years. No person shall serve more than two four-year terms consecutively. All vacancies are to be filled by appointment by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators.


ALBANY
Office of Mental Health (OMH)
Office of Alcohol & Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)
Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)
OMH Field Office Syracuse
OASAS Field Office Syracuse
OPWDD Sunmount DDSO Tupper Lake
Community Services Board Director of Community Services
Board of Legislators County Administrator
Mental Health Subcommittee
Alcohol/Substance Abuse Subcommittee
OPWDD Subcommittee
Providers
SLC Community Services
Claxton Hepburn Medical Center
United Helpers
St. Lawrence Pyschiatric Center
Private Practitioners
Providers
St. Joseph's Rehabilitation
Seaway Valley Prevention Council
St. Lawrence Health Systems
SUNY Canton
St. Lawrence University
Maximizing Independent Living Choices, Inc.
Providers
Fostering Futures
ARC of Jefferson St. Lawrence
CP of the North Country
Northern Regional Center for Independent Living
Citizen Advocates

Thank You

For Your Attention

Please contact us for further information

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315-386-2048

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80 State Highway 310, Suite 1
Canton, NY 13617

Website
www.stlawco.gov