

OUR MISSION

Oneida County Youth Bureau was created to provide access for Activities, Programs and Services to all youth under the age of 21.

We are responsible for Planning, Coordinating, and Supplementing the activities of public, private and religious agencies devoted ~ *in whole or in part* ~ to the welfare and protection of our youth.

STATE AID FUNDING

The Oneida County Youth Bureau is allocated funding from the Office of Children and Family Services for youth programming.

The Youth Bureau administers state funds for recreation and youth service programs. It monitors and evaluates these programs.

All agencies, cities, towns, and villages that provide programming for our youth are eligible to request funding through the Oneida County Youth Bureau Office.

To learn more about these services
Contact us at (315) 798-5027
or

Visit our website: www.ocgov.net/youth

WHO WE ARE

Kevin M. Green ~ Youth Bureau Director
kgreen@ocgov.net

Kevin was appointed Director in 2015. Prior to his appointment he was the Physical Education teacher and Department Chair at Notre Dame High School. He is currently the head coach of the New Hartford Varsity Baseball program.

Karen Pensero-Shanley ~ Program Director
kpensero-shanley@ocgov.net

Karen joined the Youth Bureau in 2018. Prior to joining the Youth Bureau, Karen was employed by The Arc Oneida-Lewis Chapter, NYSARC for 20 years. Twelve of those years were spent as the Deputy Director of Service Coordination. She was responsible for overseeing the Medicaid Service Coordination Unit (MSC). Karen supervised 25 MSC's & oversaw services to 1200 persons (children & adults) with developmental disabilities.

ADVISORY BOARD

Our Youth Advisory Board is comprised of volunteer community leaders who serve to advise the youth bureau and the agencies it supports.

Board members dedicate many hours of work on a volunteer basis and are an invaluable resource to the staff. Board members are appointed by the County Executive and Youth Bureau Director.

Oneida County Youth Bureau
800 Park Avenue ♦ Utica, NY 13501
(315) 798-5027 ♦ Fax: (315) 798-6438
www.ocgov.net/youth

Anthony J. Picente Jr.
Oneida County Executive



Oneida County Youth Bureau



Serving Our County's Youth

Since 1977

Kevin M. Green
Youth Bureau
Director

HISTORY OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

The Youth Bureau was created in 1977 by the Oneida County Board of Legislators. For decades it has carried out its mission of planning, advocating and coordinating services for children and youth under the age of 21.

State aid is allocated to programs on a yearly basis via RFP (request for proposal) process which the youth bureau oversees.

The Youth Bureau allocates these funds on a yearly basis to programs that provide youth services such as youth development, RHY (runaway and homeless youth) and early childhood intervention.

We will continue to nurture our current relationships and work tirelessly to develop new ones. We will fulfill County Executive Picente mission of bringing agencies, municipalities, school districts and merchants together to deliver the best possible and most cost effective programs above and beyond what has been and is currently being offered to all youth in Oneida County.



ANNUAL INITIATIVES

INTERGENERATIONAL CLEAN UP SPRING (APRIL) / FALL (OCTOBER)

In collaboration with the Office for Aging & Continuing Care, youth volunteers from Oneida County school districts, colleges and youth organizations provide general yard clean up services for senior citizens who physically can't do the work or financially afford to have the work done.

STOP DWI HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL CLASSIC (MAY)

This educational event is held just before the prom, ball and graduation season. Ten Oneida County varsity baseball teams will play in the event that is free of charge to the public. Presentations are given throughout the event.

The mission of the classic is to make our youth and their families aware of the terrible consequences that result when people make destructive decisions.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARD CEREMONY (JUNE)

This initiative gives us another opportunity to recognize standout youth and adults within Oneida County that are doing exceptional work, have overcome obstacles and continue to strive for the improvement of themselves and others through volunteerism, setting attainable goals and leading with their heart.

SIDEWALK ART CONTEST (JULY)

This fun filled event is open to all Oneida County youth ages 5 through 18. Contest rules are simple; draw a positive image on a single sidewalk slab with sidewalk chalk.

There are individual contests and finals where each age group has an opportunity to win. Medals are awarded to the top 3 artists of each age group.

YOUTH FUN & FITNESS RUN (AUGUST)

The youth fun & fitness run was developed to promote health and wellness with the help of the Oneida County Health Department. It is open to all Oneida County youth, ages 4 through 13.

Traditionally the run is held on the outdoor track at Mohawk Valley Community College.

ONEIDA COUNTY CHILDREN CARE (JANUARY - DECEMBER)

This initiative introduces our youth, from different agencies that we fund, the valuable lesson of community service through volunteerism and civic engagement.

