

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES/MENTAL HEALTH
2/20/24

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: STRAINER, RUNYON, GILLIGAN, BRUNO, PATCHETT, WILD, THOMAS - *The Chair of the Board of Supervisors shall be an Ex-Officio member when needed in accordance with Section C(4) of the Rules of the Board.*

- I. Committee meeting called to order by Chair
- II. Approval of minutes of prior Committee Meeting
- III. Privilege of the floor and public comment
- IV. Action Agenda/New Business Items:
 1. Request:

Rationale:
- V. Discussion Items:
 1. Update on Warren County ARPA Behavioral Health projects.
 2. Overview presentation: Office of Community Services for Warren and Washington Counties
- VI. Referrals/Pending Items:
- VII. Privilege of the floor and public comment
- VIII. Motion to adjourn

Attachments: 1. Handout: Status Report: Warren County ARPA Behavioral Health projects.

Warren County ARPA Behavioral Health Projects – Current Status Report (February 2024)

- 1) Look Media Resources – Challenges Facing Youth Media Project
Total Funding Award: \$25,000
Funds advanced: \$25,000
Project Status: This project is being implemented. Video interviews are being conducted with various local individuals working with youth who are impacted by homelessness, mental health and/or addiction. The result will be a documentary video series related to these issues.

- 2) ADK Employee Assistance Program – Health Platform
Total Funding Award: \$26,367
Funds advanced: \$26,367
Project Status: This project is being implemented. The Health and Wellness Platform (MyLifeExpert) has been purchased and is in use with various entities contracted with Adirondack EAP, including Warren County.

- 3) Brayton Psychological Services – Minecraft Group
Total Funding Award: \$3,000
Funds advanced: \$3,000
Project Status: This project is fully implemented. A server was purchased and is in use for the project, as proposed. Therapists use the private server to host virtual therapeutic group activities in their work with youth.

- 4) WAIT House – Clinical Services for Homeless Youth
Total Funding Award: \$ 88,517
Funds advanced: \$ 88,517
Project Status: This project is being implemented. Wait House has hired a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) to provide clinical services and a certified peer to provide peer supports. Insurance billing will provide sustainability.

- 5) ASCEND Mental Wellness (formerly Warren-Washington Association for Mental Health) – Community Outreach
Total Funding Award: \$245,531
Funds advanced: \$122,766 (quarterly disbursements over a two-year period).
Funds remaining to be advanced: \$122,765
Project Status: This project is being implemented. Outreach personnel have been hired and are providing the proposed services.

- 6) People USA – Warren County Transitional Care Wellness Team
Total Funding Award: \$167,137
Funds advanced: \$167,137
Project Status: This project is being implemented. Certified Peer personnel have been hired and are providing proposed services.

- 7) Glens Falls Hospital – Crisis Unit Relocation/Expansion
Total Funding Award: \$444,448
Funds advanced: \$0. The hospital is drawing down Warren County ARPA funds first, then will voucher for the Behavioral Health ARPA funds.
Funds remaining to be advanced: \$444,448
Project Status: This project initially ran into some delays obtaining State agency approvals from NYS DOH and OMH, but all approvals have recently been obtained and construction has begun. GFH expects renovations to be complete later this year.

- 8) Additional BH Project funds – Mental Health and Homelessness
Total Funding: \$111,286
Funds awarded: \$0
Funds remaining to be awarded: \$111,286
Contract Status: The contract has not yet been executed for this project.
Project Status: Additional ARPA proposal(s) were solicited from the participants of the local Continuum of Care (CoC), which consists of various community not-for-profit agencies planning and collaborating together to address homelessness. Three agencies: ASCEND Mental Wellness, The Open Door and Wait House have submitted a collaborative proposal that will provide housing and supports to individuals that are homeless upon discharge from the GFH Behavioral Health Unit. This project is currently being vetted by the Community Services Board. An award is anticipated within the coming weeks.

- 9) National Council for Mental Wellbeing – Mental Health First Aid Training
Total Funding Award: \$65,000
Funds advanced: \$30,000
Funds remaining to be advanced: \$35,000
Project Status: This project is being implemented. A county workgroup has been formed consisting of Rob York, Director of Community Services; Jackie Figueroa, Human Resources Director; Tammie DeLorenzo, Assistant to the County Administrator; Dan Durkee, Health Services; and Susan McManus, Executive Director of Adirondack EAP. The county workgroup is holding a series of meetings with the National Council's implementation team to develop a menu and schedule for available trainings. This project will include Mental Health First Aid Training for both County employees and community members, as well as additional mental health-related training options. Trainings are anticipated to begin in the coming months, as scheduling allows.

ARPA Behavioral Health Project Summaries

Look Media Resource: Brief Project Summary/Description: LMR is developing a video series focusing on the vital work NFP's are doing in our County to address the crisis facing youth in our communities. The focus is- Mental Health, Trauma, Addiction, Homelessness. The series features interviews with numerous orgs. dealing with the crisis, as well as conversations with young adults. The emphasis is on the programs, services and implementation strategies these NFP's provide. It is our intention, in conjunction with CSB to utilize the power of video to amplify the impact, and importance of the orgs. they work with, to reach a vast video audience through media and to provide educational tools for each org. in their outreach efforts.

Adirondack EAP: Brief Project Summary/Description: Our goal is to enhance services provided to our employee members and their families by adding an electronic work life balance platform. The platforms currently under review will enhance, work life balance, physical and mental wellness, as well as provide resources for childcare and caregiver support. By further assisting our member companies we hope to support goals of employee retention and health in the workforce. The project will include review and purchase of the platform and education for our staff. Further training monies are requested to respond to trauma and grief related presenting problems within the workforce.

Brayton Psychological Services: Brief Project Summary/Description: A semi-structured therapeutic group that can be administered online through a combination of Zoom and Minecraft. Minecraft is a video game that focuses on creativity and building. It has endless applications and has already been implemented successfully in academia. Many of the interventions that are currently used by mental health professionals can be implemented and explained in this virtual world. Doing so would connect better with youth than some of the dated methods that are currently being used. This group would have a daily agenda where the youth would be asked to engage in an activity on Minecraft and then discuss the importance of it through Zoom. Minecraft also has an online setup where the youth could log in together and view each other's creations throughout the process. The exact structure will be a 12-week group that has one session per week. The group will last approximately an hour per session. For each session of the group, 10 youth will be recruited.

Wait House: Brief Project Summary/Description: The Clinical Services for Homeless Youth Program will provide much needed support and services to homeless youth in our region. Demand for WAIT House's services to homeless youth continues to rise in the wake of COVID19 and this program will provide seed monies necessary for an expansion of services to better meet local demand. Two staff will be hired; a LMSW and a Youth Peer Support who will provide short-term services to homeless youth as follows: LMSW: Assessment of needs, therapy to address psychiatric, social and behavioral barriers, linkage to outside services where appropriate, collaboration with other community providers. Youth Peer Support: A young adult will be hired who has lived experience with homelessness, mental health, substance abuse, child welfare, criminal justice and/or behavioral challenges. This individual will help provide a voice to local homeless youth to provide hope and direction as work toward their individual goals.

ASCEND Mental Wellness (formerly Warren-Washington Association for Mental Health): Brief Project Summary/Description: The pandemic put increased pressure on our community's ability to meet social determinants of health. In our community there exists a wide range of resources to help these individuals, however, one must know about them and how to access them as access to the continuum of care such as mental health services, primary care, food banks, shelters, educational opportunities, and even the social safety net is difficult. This is a critical gap in the provisioning of services. These funds will be used to expand WWAMH's current Community Outreach Program by hiring two Outreach Specialists for two years to work within Warren County. They will make the connections for person centered care by meeting people where they are at, in their homes or temporary locations (homeless), provider offices, etc. While this position is not crisis-based, these professionals will be at the front line and may handle crisis situations around mental health, substance use, and homelessness.

People USA: Brief Project Summary/Description: People USA is proposing to develop a Transitional Care Wellness Team that will provide individuals living with significant mental / behavioral health issues – with histories of high hospital utilization, unaddressed social determinants of health (e.g. homelessness, poverty), poor engagement in ongoing preventive care (e.g. outpatient clinics, primary care), or prior criminal justice involvement – with intensive, peer-led transitional care management and whole health / wellness coaching services designed to help them stabilize, create roadmaps for their recovery & wellness, implement care plans with hands-on support, break cycles of adverse events, and improve their health & quality of life outcomes. We are ready to begin operating the program. We are also getting it approved through the Medicaid Health Home, Adirondack Health Institute, which will allow us to bill for services. Project funding will be used for partial year 1 start-up, until the program is fully sustainable by year 2.

Glens Falls Hospital: Brief Project Summary/Description: The Crisis Stabilization (CSU) Relocation and Expansion Project will relocate the current 7-bed CSU to a new 14-bed CSU. It will have two sections, an 8- bed and 6-bed area to allow separation of children/adolescents from adults and include a large common area where patients can be outside of their rooms. This project will 1) Relocate the current CSU (built in 2018 in the Emergency Room (ER)) to provide a larger, safer environment for people presenting to the ER for mental health and/or substance abuse treatment; 2) Decompress the ER to allow for better throughput and patient satisfaction. The GFH has seen increased volume and needs of Crisis patients in recent years. This project will move the CSU to an adjacent space from the ER and allow GFH to utilize the footprint of the current Inpatient Adult Behavioral Health Unit to meet the needs of Inpatient Adult and the Crisis populations. GFH can make changes to address the community needs in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR WARREN AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES

230 Maple St., Suite 1

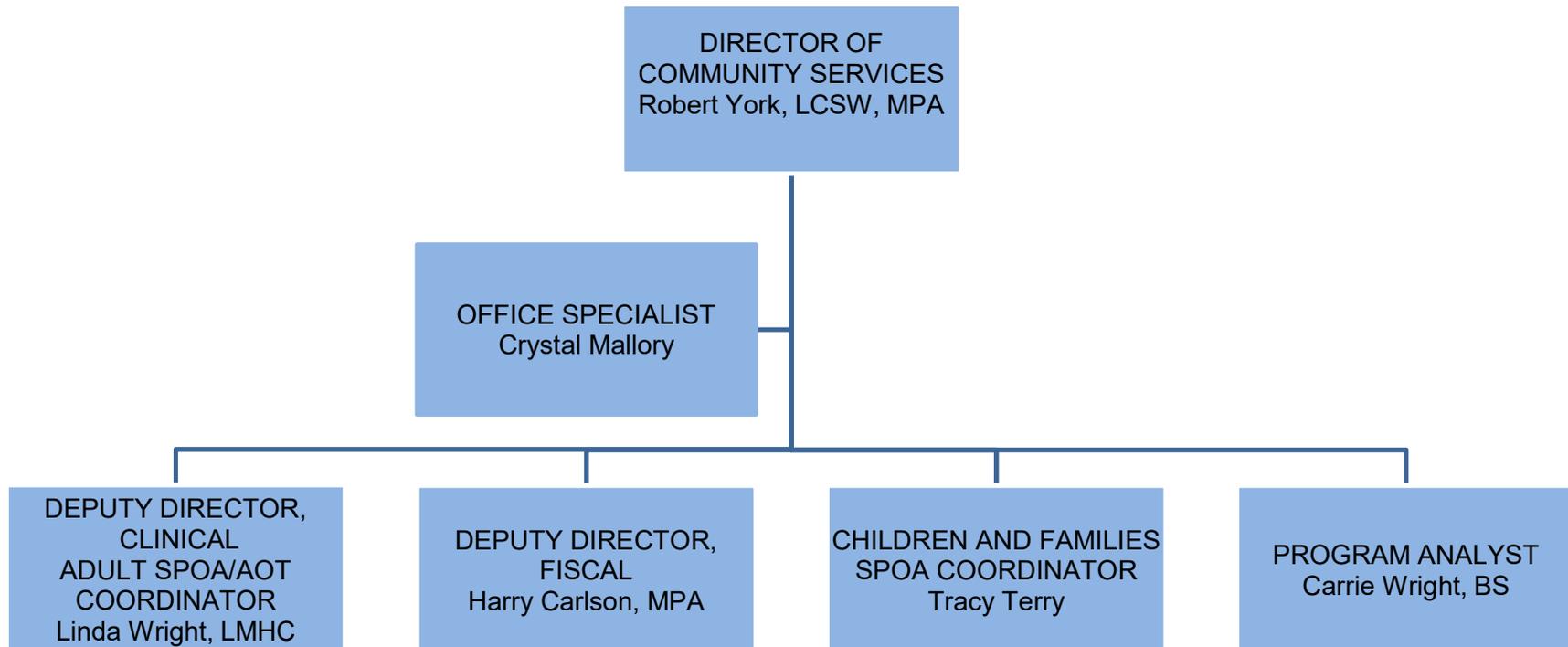
Glens Falls, NY 12804

(518) 792-7143

www.warrencountyny.gov

www.washingtoncountyny.gov

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES



State Agencies

- NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)
- NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS)
- NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

- MHL Article 41 directs local governments (Counties) to either “provide or arrange for” “preventive, rehabilitation, and treatment services” for the “mentally ill, the developmentally disabled, and those suffering from the disease of alcoholism and substance abuse”.

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

- MHL Article 41 requires the establishment by each county of a Local Governmental Unit (LGU), given authority in accordance with Article 41 to provide or arrange for local services.
- The Office of Community Services, together with each respective County Community Services Board (CSB), comprises the local governmental unit (LGU) given this authority by both Warren and Washington Counties.

Two LGUs, One Administrative Office

- Warren and Washington Counties have executed an Inter-municipal Agreement which details the sharing of one administrative office, the Office of Community Services for Warren and Washington Counties, covering both counties.
- Administrative costs are totaled and split between the two counties, through an annual chargeback mechanism to Washington County.

Office of Community Services for Warren and Washington Counties

Admin Offices

230 Maple St., Glens Falls, NY



New York State Mental Hygiene Law

- MHL Article 41 requires each local governmental unit (LGU) to have a Community Services Board (CSB).
- CSB members serve four year terms; officers are elected for two-year terms.
- Unexpired Terms are filled.

Warren County Community Services Board

- Kimberly Brayton, JD, Ph.D., Chair – Psychologist, Private Practice
- Deidre Grieve, LCSW-R, School Social Worker, GF City School District
- Holly Irion, LMHC, Vice-Chair – Asst. Professor of Counseling, SUNY ADK
- Belinda Bradley – Retired, former Mental Health Program Director
- Gregory Canale, Esq. – Warren County Public Defender
- Christina Mastrianni, Acting Commissioner, Warren Co. Dept. of Social Services
- Susan McManus, LCSW – Program Director, Adirondack EAP
- Cynthia Wasson – Parent

Washington County Community Services Board

- Heather Adams-Wendell, Chair – Parent, Service Provider
- Tammy DeLorme, Vice-Chair – Commissioner, Wash. Co. Social Services
- Kristen L. Hardy, MPA – Lieutenant, Washington County Sheriff's Office
- Jennifer Hogan, LPN– Supervisor, Children's Health Home Care Management, AHI
- Tina McDougall – Director, Washington County Public Health
- Linda Michaud – Parent
- Sue Mowrey – Asst. Director, Wash. Co. Youth Bureau/Alternative Sentencing
- Mary Alice Murphy, RN – Retired Public Health Administrator
- Adele Potter, P.T. – Physical Therapist

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

- MHL Article 41 requires the direction and administration, by each LGU, of an annual local comprehensive planning process.
- This is accomplished through a subcommittee structure.
- The Local Services Plan for Warren and Washington Counties is posted on the County websites.

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

MHL Article 41 requires each Community Services Board (CSB) to have separate subcommittees for:

- Mental Health
- Addiction Services and Recovery
- Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

The CSB Subcommittees provide venues for

- Service system planning
- Implementation/coordination of local services
- Provider collaboration
- Information sharing
- Multi-stakeholder problem solving

New York State Mental Hygiene Law

- Subcommittees are comprised of CSB members, LGU staff, service providers, service recipients, and family members.
- Subcommittees generally meet quarterly throughout the year.

CSB Standing Committees

- Each CSB has three Standing Committees
 - ✓ Budget Review Committee
 - ✓ Nominating Committee
 - ✓ Personnel Committee

Contract Agencies - Warren

Agency	2024 Contracts
820 River St.	\$70,834
Adirondack Community College/SUNY ADK	\$96,200
Addictions Care Center of Albany	\$863,734
Behavioral Health Services North	\$557,690
Community, Work and Independence, Inc. (CWI)	\$52,075
Council for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse	\$389,986
Glens Falls Hospital Behavioral Health Services	\$179,318
Liberty House Foundation, Inc.	\$302,579
Parsons Child and Family Center (Northern Rivers)	\$1,182,345
People USA	\$192,130
ASCEND Mental Wellness	\$1,171,676
C&Y Respite Services	<u>\$65,580</u>
Total	\$5,124,147

Contract Agencies - Washington

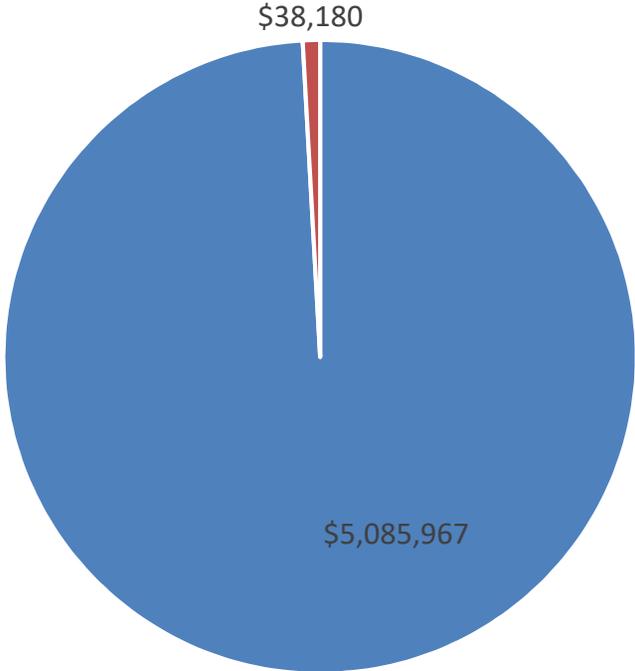
Agency	2024 Contracts
820 River St.	\$42,913
Adirondack Community College/SUNY ADK	\$96,200
ASCEND Mental Wellness	\$1,093,804
Behavioral Health Services North	\$568,617
Community, Work and Independence, Inc. (CWI)	\$35,207
Council for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse	\$922,398
Glens Falls Hospital Behavioral Health Services	\$124,015
Liberty House Foundation, Inc.	\$143,126
People USA	\$199,015
Eden Center	<u>\$61,200</u>
Total	\$3,286,495

Some Additional Local Governmental Unit Responsibilities...

- Fiscal Management/Reporting
- Single Point of Access (SPOA) Process
- Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Program
- Certificate of Need/Expansion of Service Approvals
- Overall System Coordination
- Emergency Removals (MHL 9.45 “pick-up orders”)
- Coordinate County Disaster Mental Health Team
- SAFE Act Reporting
- Active involvement with various regional healthcare planning and coordination structures and initiatives to lower costs, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the health and behavioral health care systems and to improve outcomes for the residents of our Counties

State Aid vs. County Tax Levy – Warren (2024)

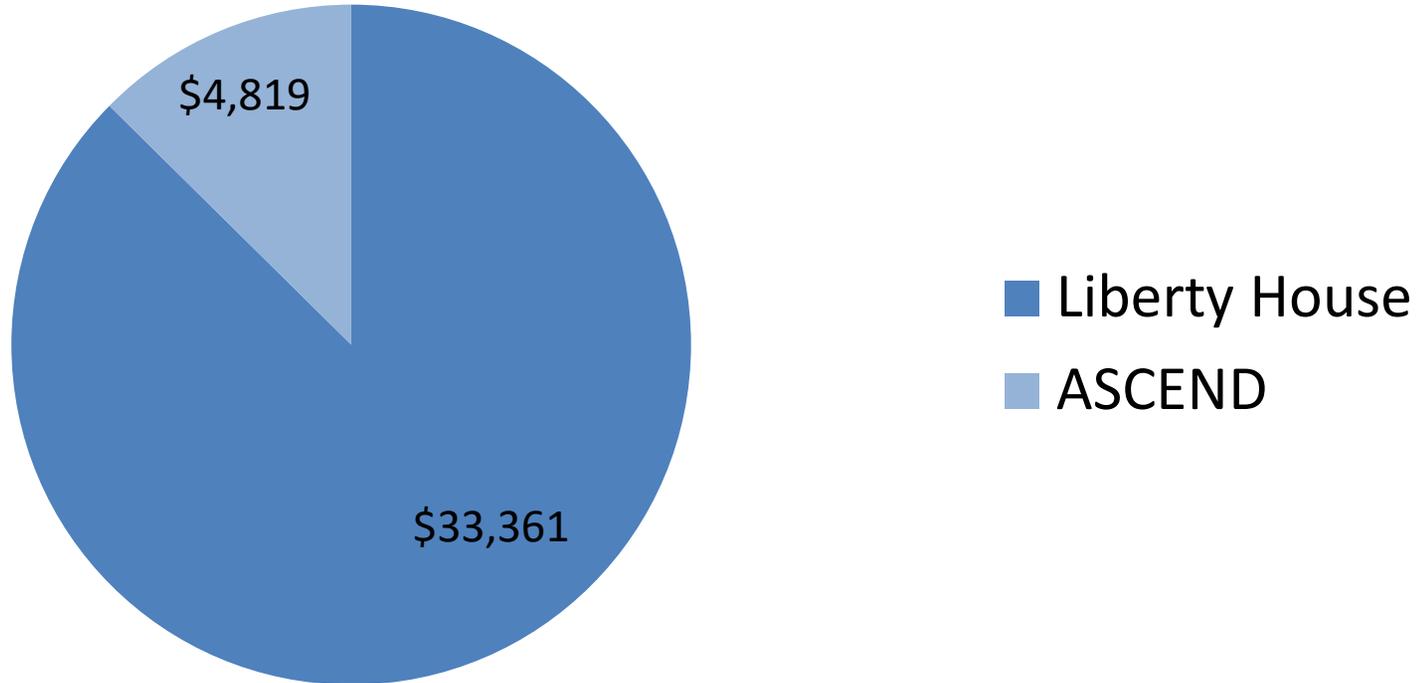
Contract Funding (\$5,124,147)



■ State Aid (>99%) ■ County Tax Levy (<1%)

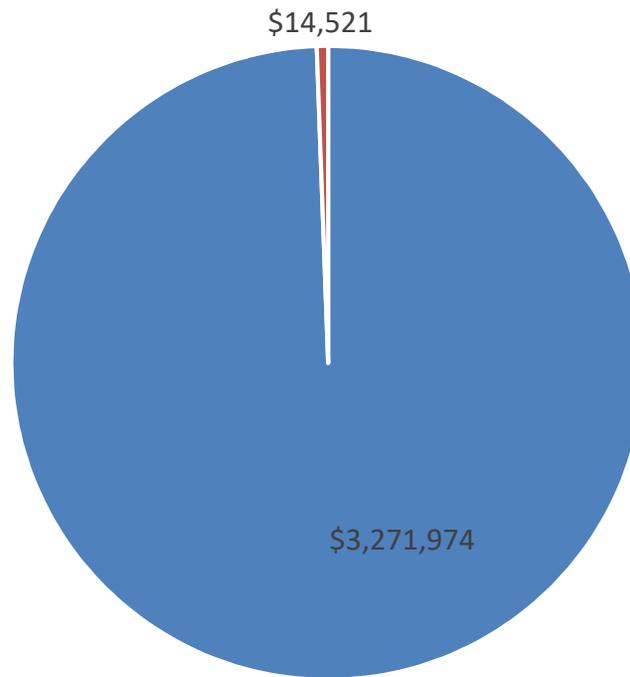
2024 County Funding by Agency - Warren

County Funding (\$38,180)



State Aid vs. County Tax Levy – Washington (2024)

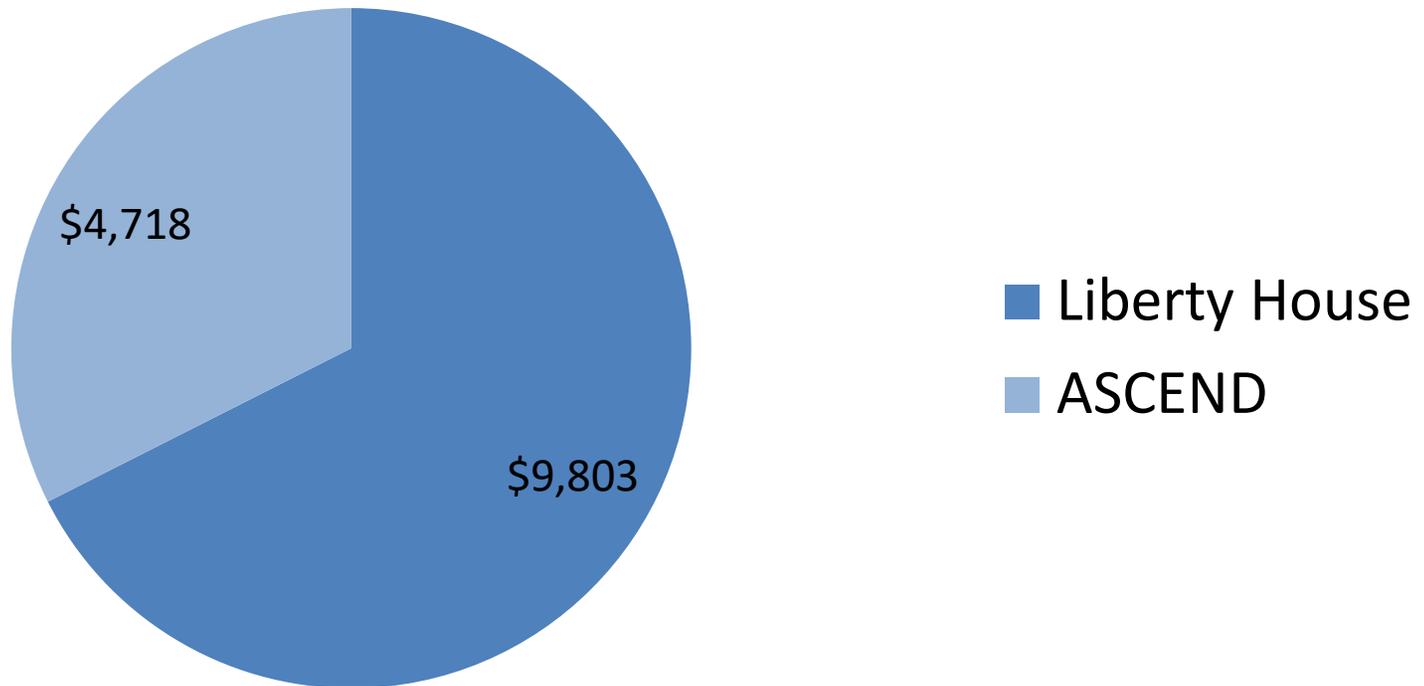
Contract Funding (\$3,286,495)



■ State Aid (>99%) ■ County Tax Levy (<1%)

2024 County Funding by Agency - Washington

County Funding (\$14,521)

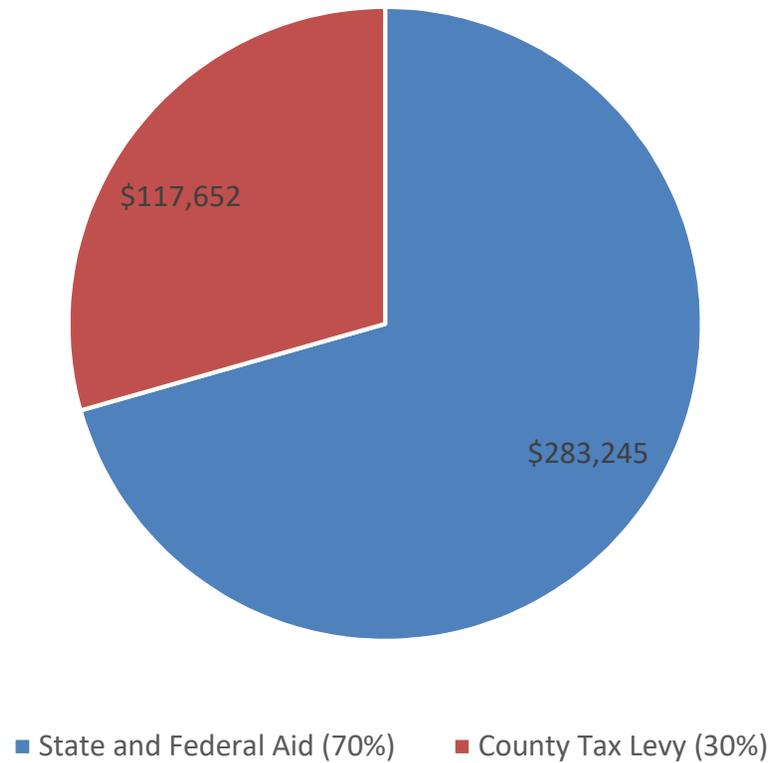


OCS Administration

	2024 Budget
Warren County Administration	\$400,897
Washington County Administration	<u>\$385,384</u>
Total	\$786,281

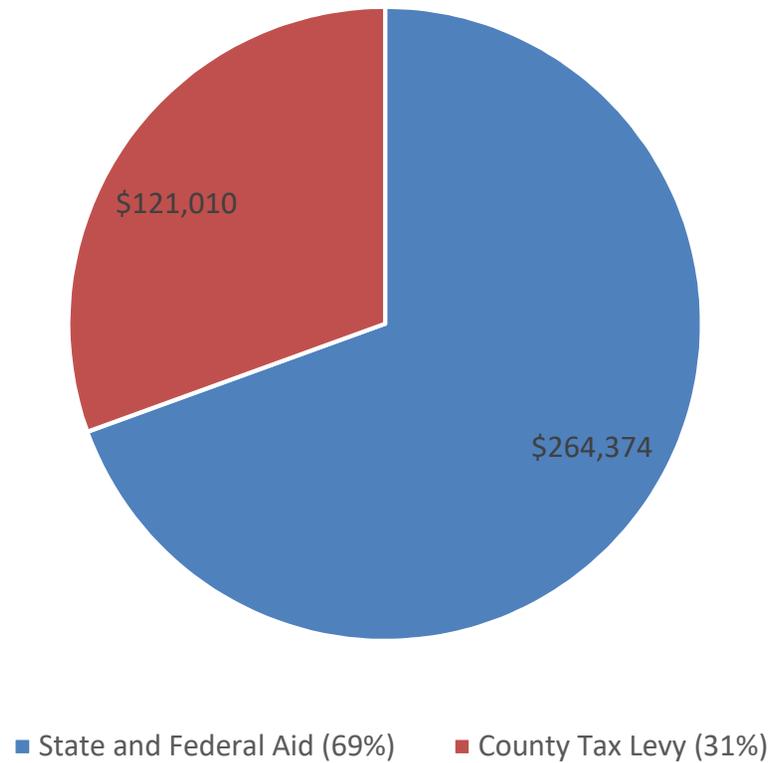
Warren Admin State/Federal Aid vs. County Tax Levy (2024)

Admin Funding (\$400,897)

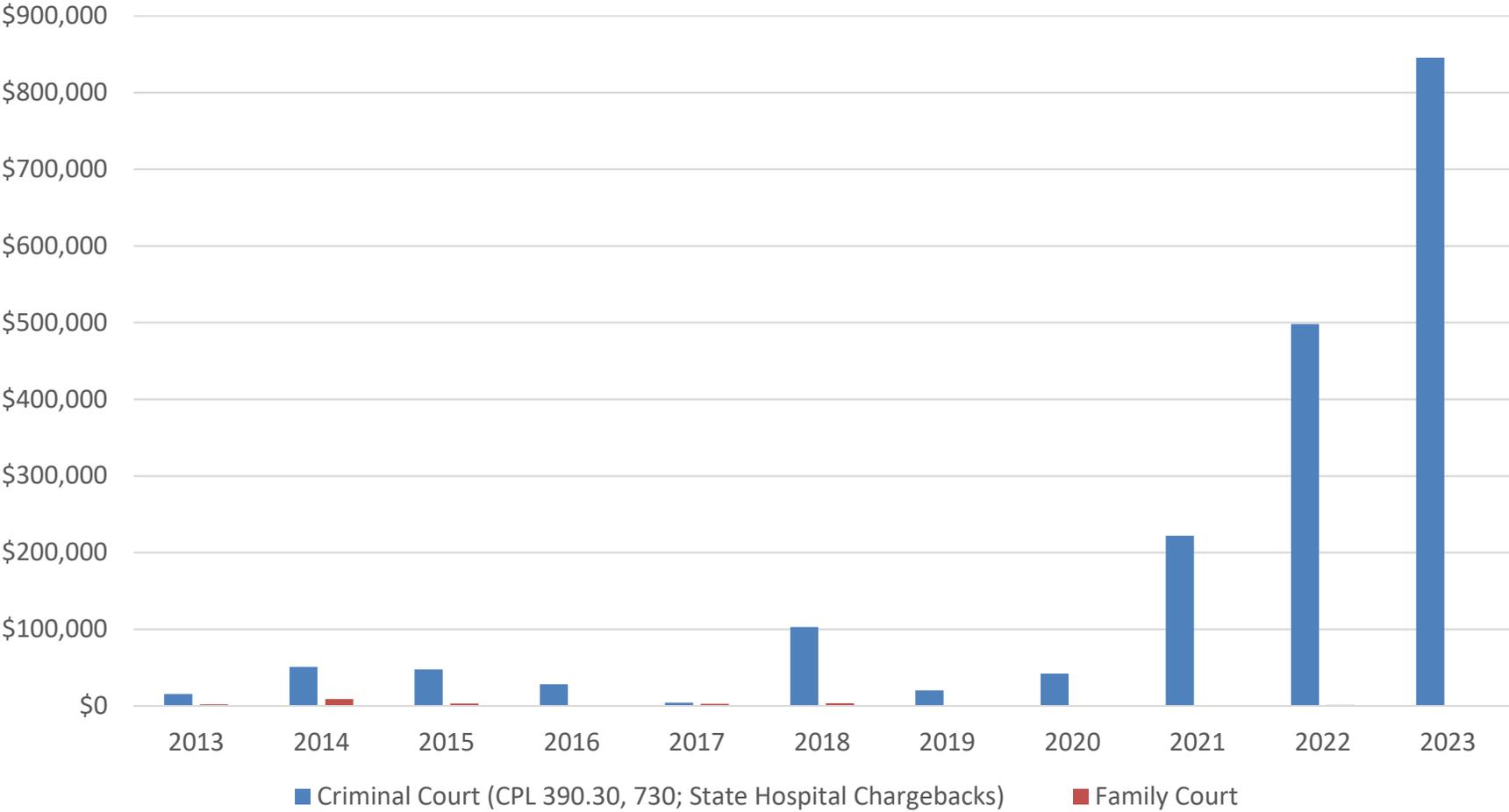


Washington Admin State/Federal Aid vs. County Tax Levy (2024)

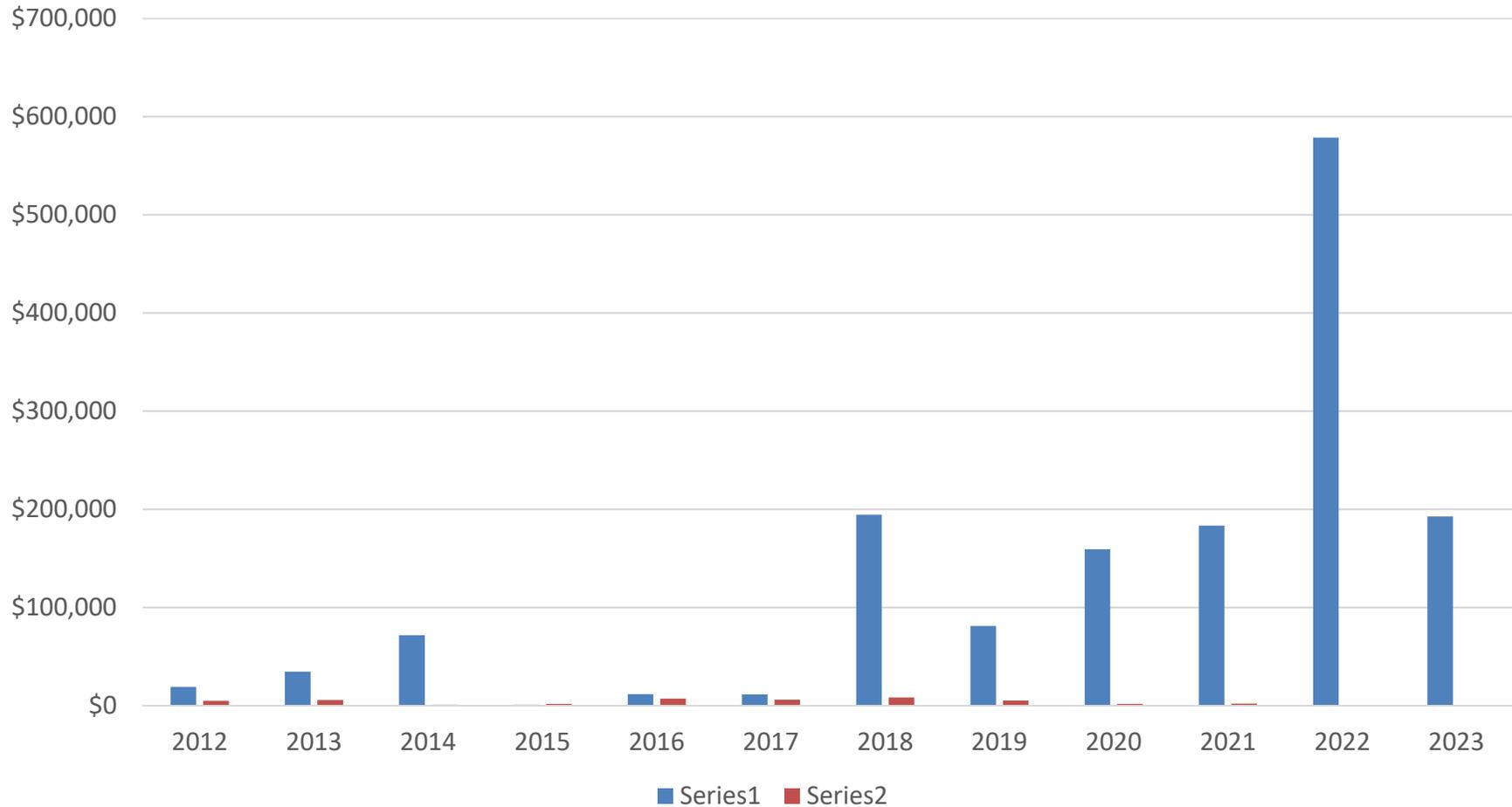
Admin Funding (\$385,384)



Court-Ordered Psychiatric Expenses – Warren



Court-Ordered Psychiatric Expenses – Washington



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