

**MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF JAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE – DECEMBER 4, 2025**

**ATTENDANCE:** Robin Licari, Wally Walters, Lynn Ladieu, Kathy Connelly

**ABSENT:** George McCabe

**EXPANDING HEALTHCARE:** The next 6-hour volunteer training course for Mercy Care of the Adirondacks is in Tupper Lake on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Robin will promote the training on JCN. Robin discusses problems Mercy Care Volunteers have been experiencing. She suggests that volunteers need more support. Committee members ask Robin to contact Mercy Care Volunteer Coordinator to discuss these problems and seek meaningful resolutions. Most of the Mercy Care cases are simple errands and friendly visits but at times the cases can be complicated. Committee members discuss how clients should be well screened. Instacart and housekeeping services have been utilized by the clients, and they are pleased with these services that have allowed greater independence.

**CHILD CARE/DAY CARE:** Lynn visited ACAP programs at Holy Name and talked about ACAP's attempt to start an Early Head Start Program. The Early Head Start Program is for children 18 months to 3 years old. The program does not meet the needs of working parents due to their limited hours to the school day. The program is income base and after a child is 3 they are ineligible for the program. Kids Cove Day Care Center in Keeseville is about \$1,000 a month, which is considerably cheaper than Little Peaks in Keene. However, Little Peaks gives scholarships to decrease tuition. Lynn spoke with the School Nurse and Secretary at the Au Sable Valley Elementary School. Although School Nurse and Receptionist thought having more local day care is a good idea, they were not aware of many children needing Day Care. They could only remember parents of 3 children inquiring about Day Care. The School Nurse states that the after school program might not continue because the program is funded by a grant. Committee members discuss the difficulty of finding out what the Child Care/Day Care need is in the Town of Jay. Robin will speak to Ann Holland from AES regarding the number of children in the Town of Jay in each age group. Discussion regarding how the Pre-K grant that AVCS received included Head Start students and therefore could have contributed to ending the Head Start program at ACAP.

**YOUTH AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES:** Kathy continues to work with Gabrielle Schultz, Director of the Upper Jay Arts Center regarding a Junior Jam at the Arts Center.

**FOOD BANK:** Robin places a list of foods needed at the Food Bank in the JCN on a weekly basis. Cash donations ensure the longevity of the program. Cornell

Cooperative Extension, Adirondack Community Foundation, and the United Way have given large monetary donations. Robin gives an update on application to become a partner in the Regional Food Bank. St. James Episcopal Church applied in July. Robin contacts the Regional Food Bank with pictures of the Food Bank weekly. Regional Food Bank was stressed due to the Government shut down. Regional Food Bank's focus was providing food for their current partners. Aaricka Rayburn, Regional Food Bank representative stated she hoped to have information for Robin after Thanksgiving Holiday.

**NEXT MEETING:** February 5, 2026

No meeting next month.

Robin