

DUTCHESS COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S

Annual Report 2025



Sue Serino

Dutchess County Executive



DUTCHESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

January 30, 2026

RE: Dutchess County Executive's Annual Report for 2025

Dear Chair Yvette Valdés Smith and Members of the Dutchess County Legislature,

Pursuant to the Dutchess County Charter, filed herewith is the County Executive's written report of the finances of the County and the activities of the Executive Branch of County Government for the year 2025.

As you read this report, I hope you feel the same pride and appreciation that I do for our Dutchess County Government workforce – our dedicated employees care deeply about our community, and their hard work and commitment make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors every day.

This report demonstrates that commitment, highlighting what our departments, divisions, and offices have accomplished over the past year and outlining the many ways they serve our community. It reflects a workforce that is skilled, dedicated, and driven to help others. I am truly proud of what we have achieved together and grateful to work alongside such an outstanding team.

Building on these achievements, we turn our attention to continuing successes in the coming year. Thank you for welcoming me to the Legislative Chambers to present the *2026 State of the County Address* on Tuesday, March 3rd at 4pm. I look forward to outlining our vision and goals, as we keep striving to have real, positive impacts on the lives of everyone we serve.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Serino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sue Serino
Dutchess County Executive

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County Finances Update

County Finances Update

Dutchess County's 2024 Annual Financial Report, filed in April 2025, demonstrated the County's strong financial position, with the unassigned General Fund balance at \$104 million. Of that amount, \$11.4 million remained in the set-aside for the Community Benefit Fund (CBF), which is allocated to provide strategic community investments.

Also in 2025, the County's AA++ bond rating was reaffirmed, continuing to be one of the highest County ratings of S&P rated New York counties. The AA+ rating allows the County to borrow at a lower cost, and reflects a track record of conservative budgeting, sound fiscal management, healthy reserve levels, and a stable and growing economy.

Economic growth in 2025 slowed slightly, with 2025 sales tax revenue projected to finish with less than 1% growth from 2024, coming in under original budget projections. Sales tax supports approximately 45% of the County's budget. To meet the 2025 budgeted sales tax revenue, the County will need to achieve 1.6% growth. Current year-to-date growth is at .9% with a projected shortfall of \$1.8 million. Inflation has stabilized with CPI just under 3% in 2025. Interest rates were lowered by the Fed twice at the end of 2025 hoping to shield the economy from a recession and safeguard the job market. Locally, unemployment remained low, at under 4%, through September 2025.

The 2026 Adopted Budget appropriates \$31.8 million in unassigned General Fund balance and \$5.3 million from the CBF, which will reduce the County's unassigned fund balance when the books are closed for 2025. However, total revenues and appropriations cannot be projected as the year has not been finalized.

Significant uncertainty continues at both the federal and state levels. As changes occur at the federal level, the full impact is often unclear until the state determines how those changes will be implemented, as much of the federal funding the County receives flows through the state. As we await state decisions, we remain prepared to adjust as needed to mitigate any potential negative financial impacts from federal or state actions.

Additionally, the 2026 Adopted Budget did not include the pending contract settlement with the CSEA bargaining unit, the County's largest employee union. A final agreement has been reached covering the period 2025–2028, and fund balance will be used to cover the retroactive payments, and the current-year salary increase costs. These financial impacts will create additional challenges for the 2027 budget process, which will begin with a \$37.1 million gap from the use of fund balance and CBF outlined above.

As 2026 progresses, revenues will be closely monitored to mitigate any shortfalls that may be encountered. County decision-makers must remain mindful of how current-year actions affect future budgets, particularly use of one-time revenues to fund ongoing operating costs and the approval of capital projects that require significant long-term debt service.



Executive Department Activities

The following are highlights, by department, of the activities of the Executive Branch of Dutchess County Government for 2025.



Office for the Aging

Office for the Aging

- Received 42,714 calls from older adults, caregivers, and healthcare providers and greeted 7,692 walk-in visits.
- 370 volunteers provided 24,000 hours of valuable support with many OFA programs and services; assisting with insurance counseling, event assistance, home delivered meals, Friendship Center help, Friendly Calls, clerical work and more.
- The popular “Friendly Calls” program continued with 170 successful pairings. “Friendly Calls” is a multi-lingual program with volunteers and participants communicating in more than 10 languages and dialects.
- Distributed 38 digital intervention devices to isolated older adults to combat loneliness including 8 Elli-Q devices (proactive voice-operated care companions), 20 animatronic companion pets, and 10 tablets.
- Took part in and/or organized 120 group activities and events, including, but not limited to:
 - Senior Park Prints (January/February), with Dutchess County Parks
 - Pawling Senior Luncheon (February)
 - East Fishkill Seniors Lunar New Year Event (February)
 - Hospice/Dutchess County Veterans Event (March)
 - Pancakes in the Park, with Dutchess County Parks (April)
 - Central Hudson event in Millerton (April)
 - Dutchess County Health Fair (April)
 - Introduction to Pickleball (April/May), with Dutchess County Parks
 - Town of Wappinger Senior Services Day (May)
 - “Spring into Happiness” at Locust Grove (May)
 - Poughkeepsie Wellness Fair (May)
 - Dutchess County Caregiver Conference (May)
 - Older Adult Skills Fair (July)
 - “Rat Pack” end-of-summer concert (September)
 - Citizens Preparedness trainings (September/October), with Medical Reserve Corps
 - Vassar College Employee/Retiree Fair (October)
 - The Senior Prom (October)
 - “Getting To Know Your Smartphone” Event with AARP (November)
 - Veterans Breakfast with Hudson Valley Hospice (November)
 - “Rat Pack Holiday” concert (December)
- Hosted County Executive Sue Serino’s inaugural Older Adult Skills Fair at the Henry A Wallace Education Center, connecting nearly 500 attendees with businesses and community organizations looking for volunteers and/or employees.

- Co-sponsored annual Golden Gathering at Arlington High School, in partnership with New York Senators Rob Rolison and Michelle Hinchey. Over 1,000 older adults and caregivers attended and received information about resources and services available to them; 230 older adults received their annual flu shot at the event.
- SAIL (Staying Active and Independent for Life) and general senior exercise; more than 270 older adults took part.
- Nearly 200 pounds of unwanted/unused/outdated prescription medications were collected for safe disposal at 12 Senior Picnics, in collaboration with Dutchess County Traffic Safety/STOP DWI and the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

Nutrition

- Served over 155,000 home delivered meals, an increase of 6.9% over the previous year, to 653 homebound older adults.
- Provided 36,683 meals and social activities to 457 attendees at eight OFA Friendship Centers in a congregate setting.
- Hosted 12 senior picnics throughout the county attracting 4,669 attendees, a 17% increase over the previous year.
- Completed 899 comprehensive assessments to Home Delivered Meal clients; 10% more, year-over-year. These assessments gather information about the clients' needs, functional status, psychosocial and informal support. The assessment assists in helping to identify areas where further support is needed to maintain independence. Of these assessments, 100 referrals were made to other OFA programs
- Distributed Nutritional Education materials to over 1,100 older adults through the Home Delivered Meal program and Senior Friendship Center congregate meals, an increase of more than 22%.
- Hosted 12 senior picnics throughout the county attracting 4,669 attendees, a 17% increase over the previous year.
- 49 Nutrition Education presentations for local groups and organizations.
- Distributed over 2,000 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition program coupon books to low-income seniors, an 81% increase over the previous year.

Public Awareness

- In its first full year of operation, OFA's Facebook page nearly doubled its audience to 1,400 followers, serving as a key source of information and resources for older adults and caregivers.
- Delivered weekly "Aging News" email blasts to over 4,000 subscribers (an 8% increase over 2024), along with weekly printed "Aging News" newsletters to over 1,100 Friendship Center and Home Delivered Meals clients, 83% more recipients than the previous year.

- Delivered four quarterly “THRIVE60+” newsletters and one annual “Medicare Spotlight” newsletter to 2,010 print subscribers and distributed over 1,700 quarterly print newsletters to public libraries and older adult groups throughout the county.
- Delivered 39 outreach presentations on topics including OFA services, home safety and falls prevention, and scam prevention, to over 600 older adults and caregivers.

Services

- HHCAP Coordinator and volunteers provided 377 health insurance counseling sessions.
- Provided 636 hours of legal services to 121 clients, a 30% increase in clients over the previous year.

NY Connects Unit

- Recorded a total of 8,505 contacts, through incoming calls, emails, walk-in clients, and outreach events, an increase of 13% over 2024.
- Provided information regarding long term supports (Medicaid) to 1,486 individuals and completed 221 referrals to OFA’s Public Health Nurses.
- Provided information on a range of Social Determinants of Health topics including in the home, transportation, health insurance, housing, energy assistance, and nutrition and made 1,327 referrals to programs within OFA.

Public Health Nurses

- Made 412 visits to 260 community-based, long-term care clients for homecare assessments and reauthorizations, aide orientations, aide supervision, Private Duty Nursing (PDN) assessments, UAS assessments for Medicaid waiver programs and Patient Review Instrument (PRI) screens.
- Provided over 4,375 hours of Case Management to 260 clients and 82 assessments for Home Delivered Meals.

Homecare Unit

- Case Managers served more than 716 clients with various services:
 - 6,725 hours of case management
 - 21,015 hours of homecare
 - 728 days (4368 hours) Social Adult Daycare
 - 315 Emergency Response Units
 - 123 Alzheimer’s Caregiver Consultations, including follow up and ongoing support

- Served 215 caregivers through the National Family Caregiver Support Program with various services:
 - 82 Caregiver intensity assessments
 - 968 hours of Case Management
 - 1,731 hours of In- Home Respite
 - 471 days (2,829 hours) of Out of Home Respite (Social Adult Day Care)
 - 52 Caregiver counseling sessions
 - 23 Support Groups
 - 22 Caregiver Training Sessions
 - 60 Overnight Respite days

Community Benefits Specialists

- Served 905 served clients including:
 - 140 Medicaid applications
 - 111 Medicare Savings Program applications
 - 21 Medicare Savings Program recertification applications
 - 167 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program applications
 - 63 Medicaid recertification applications
- Attended and/or facilitated over 40 outreach education presentation events including “Medicare 101” and “Navigating the Medicare Website” classes, reaching 347 residents.

HEAP

- Received and processed 1,171 applications through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP); including but not limited to:
 - 194 emergency HEAP applications
 - 6 Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement applications
 - 31 Clean and Tune applications
 - 99 Cooling Assistance Program applications

Transportation

- Provided 24,155 units (one-way trips) of transportation, an increase of 31% over the previous year, to 464 clients utilizing OFA buses and through partnerships with community-based organizations, including Friends of Seniors, Pawling Resource Center and Northeast Community Center for medical appointments, shopping, and senior center activities, as well as through contract with Hudson Valley Concierge Services.
- In partnership with GoGo Technologies, provided 2,991 trips for clients within Dutchess County to non-emergency medical appointments, visits to loved ones in a hospital, skilled nursing facility or hospice facility.



Office of Central & Information Services

Office of Central & Information Services (OCIS)

Division of Information Services

Recognitions/Awards

- Ranked 4th in the nation by the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) in its 2025 Digital Counties Survey for counties in the “250,000 - 499,000 population” category. The award recognized efforts to enhance cybersecurity, streamline delivery of services and apply innovative technologies to county priorities. Dutchess County has ranked in the nation’s top 10 digital counties for 22 consecutive years.

County Intranet & Internet

- Launched effort to update all web content to meet accessibility standards and comply with federal regulations.
- Website engagement continues to be strong as residents and visitors rely on www.dutchessny.gov for information and online services.
 - 715,000 visitors, or users, visited the Dutchess County Government website in 2025.
 - Page views and event counts totaled 9,600,000 million for 2025. This updated total is a combination of page views and engagement.
 - 27,991,085 pages were served on the County’s website, which includes website pages and documents such as PDFs, Excel spreadsheets, etc. visited by users, including repeat visits.

Customer Service

- Worked with Finance and Real Property Tax on the redesign of tax bills to meet new State requirements
- Processed, balanced, and printed more than 250,000 tax bills for County/Town, School and Village Taxes representing 2 cities, 20 towns, 15 School Districts, and the Hyde Park Fire and Water District.
- Partnered with Marist University for the 2025 Hudson Valley Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit. A post-event survey indicated that 94% of attendees were satisfied or very satisfied with the event.
Topics presented:
 - AI Awareness: The history of artificial intelligence, different types of AI, and potential use cases.
 - AI Ethics: Benefits and challenges of AI
 - Hosted breakout sessions for industry specific discussions.

Cybersecurity

- Participated in Board of Elections (BOE) Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise facilitated by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), with other counties in NYS.

- Provided Cybersecurity End-User Awareness Training via KnowBe4 using active campaigns testing end-users on phishing attacks and online learning.
- Continued cybersecurity testing and worked quickly to address areas of concern.
- Implemented Identity Threat Protection, which prevents identity-based attacks by continuously monitoring user behavior and access risk to stop credential abuse, lateral movement, and privilege escalation in real time across hybrid environments.
- Used automated configuration and patch management to reduce human error, close security gaps faster, and enable rapid incident response.
- Implemented an onsite sandbox, which safely analyzes suspicious files and behaviors in an isolated environment, enabling faster threat detection and preventing malware from impacting production systems.

Digital Transformation

- Partnered with the Sheriff's Office and District Attorney's Office on the continued implementation of technology for the new Real Time Crime Center.
- Partnered with the Department of Health on several projects:
 - Expansion of Electronic Health Permits web application to allow local businesses to apply for additional permit types online.
 - Implementation of Patagonia electronic health record system.
 - Creation of a Septic System Replacement Fund Eligibility Indicator for constituents to determine if their home may be eligible for State funding to help replace septic systems that may be adversely impacting designated bodies of water.
 - Creation of the Water Analysis Tool for Environmental Regulation to assist in the enforcement of the local law to regulate hazardous pollution sources in proximity to public water supply sources, aquifers, and wetlands.
- Deployed updated CAD Reporting web application allowing local fire departments to generate reports for CAD data related to their incidents. The updated application improves security, user experience, and makes it easier for fire departments to manage access.
- Partnered with the Department of Planning and Development to develop a web-based process allowing constituents to apply for inclusion of parcels in the County's agricultural district.

Infrastructure Support

- Configured temporary workspace and assisted moving departments for the County Office Building HVAC project.
- Replaced 250 workstations as part of the annual phased equipment program to reduce unplanned outages.

- Continued disaster recovery testing program using Zerto Long Term Recovery (LTR), enabling a faster recovery time and improved continuity of operations during a disaster.
- Replaced leased host servers and replaced/increased storage for the backup environment at the Law Enforcement Center.
- Supported technology infrastructure including networks, servers, Help Desk, telephones, desktide workstation support, printers, and/or server rooms to meet ongoing needs.
- Completed migration to new primary database server, including improved security.
- Completed upgrade to new version of OnBase electronic content management platform.
- Replaced and retired numerous old servers that reached end-of-life.

Networking and Telecommunications

- Increased bandwidth and added redundant internet access with automatic failover to reduce outages.
- Maintained Mobile Device Management system to inventory and track County-provided cell phones and tablets.
- Upgraded network devices at various sites to improve reliability of service.

Shared Services

- Provided cloud-based web hosting to municipal websites including Arlington Fire District, City of Beacon, Town of Amenia, Town of Beekman, Town of East Fishkill, Town of Lagrange, Town of Pawling, Town of Wappinger, and Village of Wappingers Falls.
- Developed updated website for Arlington Fire District.

Division of Central Services

Municipal Procurement Assistance Program and Shared Services

- Maintained the Municipal Procurement Assistance Program giving municipalities access to professional, lower-cost procurement services throughout the County, with the goal of reducing the need for services at the local level, providing value and cost savings.
- Contracted with 13 municipalities for procurement shared services; assisted contracted municipalities with 12 procurement projects.

Print Shop

- Received over 1,300 printing requests. Completed 2.5 million impressions.
- Printed more than 250,000 school tax and property tax bills in a timely manner.

Procurement Card

- County's Procurement Card Program received over \$21,500 in rebates in its sixth program year (March 2024 – February 2025).

Purchasing

- Received 75 Requests for Bid and Proposal submissions and 32 Requests for Quotes submissions.
- Participated in multi-County bids and forums to enable the procurement of supplies, successfully navigating disruptions in supply chain distribution.
- Shared new purchasing flow chart as part of Countywide training program.

Storeroom

- Continued e-waste program, eliminating the County's need to pay for disposal service resulting in the removal of 8,000 pounds of e-waste such as old monitors, computers, printers and more.
- Repurposed approximately 136 pieces of furniture allowing County departments, local municipalities, and agencies to save \$19,075.
- Coordinated three surplus equipment auctions and vehicle sales, generating over \$142,000 in revenue.

Mail Room

- Maintained courier service for County USPS mail, interoffice mail and delivery of storeroom orders for County Departments.
- Held Narcan training for Central Services employees with 90% staff participation.



Community & Family Services

Community & Family Services

General Highlights

- Delivered services to more than 31,000 unduplicated individuals across all programs.
- Participated in the Childcare in Dutchess County Roundtable Discussion and continued to participate in the Dutchess County Childcare Coalition seeking universal system, which means an early learning and childcare space is available for every child in Dutchess County, regardless of income, family structure, number of children, or location.
- The Commissioner's Rapid Response team responded to approximately 3,200 inquiries received through the DCFSinfo email on the County website.
- Offered three *Navigating the DCFS System* hybrid workshops to bring providers up to date on the various benefits available. One workshop explained the Temporary Assistance application process, with 65 individuals representing 25 agencies participating. The other two workshops discussed the Medicaid application process, with a total of 76 individuals representing 14 agencies including Nursing Homes and community partners that assist in applying and recertifying for chronic care and Medicaid.
- In March 2025, the DCFS Commissioner attended the City of Beacon Council meeting to discuss services that the respective departments offer to Dutchess County residents, with a focus on housing services.
- June 2025, the DCFS Commissioner presented to the full County Legislature on the various homeless and housing services offered by the Department.
- One of the key initiatives in 2025 was the work done to address food security to ensure that fresh, locally grown food is accessible to everyone. To achieve this, the Department:
 - Worked with the Food Security Council to connect farmers with food pantries, local schools, and other community organizations that provide food to those in need.
 - Contracted with a consultant to conduct a comprehensive food system assessment and identify opportunities for improvement and enhance food access, sustainability, and economic development
 - Partnered with Dutchess Outreach, following a request for proposal, to purchase a refrigerated box truck to rescue over 100,000 pounds of food annually from farms and deliver it to food pantries across the county, to help reduce waste and ensure surplus food reaches those in need.
- When the New York State's Cooling Assistance Program (CAP) funding was depleted, the county allocated funds to the Department to ensure local seniors and medically vulnerable residents continued to receive assistance. DCFS contracted with Community Action Partnership to distribute and install free air conditioning units to eligible residents. A total of 15 households were assisted.

- Continued adoption recruiter partnership with New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Children’s Home of Poughkeepsie and the Wendy’s Wonderful Kids Foundation. The recruiter worked with eight children.
- The Department finalized a total of 26 adoptions, representing a 52% increase from 2024.
- Continued the practice of Blind Removal meetings, where case information is presented to a committee of staff not familiar with the case where all demographic information of a family is excluded to remove bias in the decision to petition for removal. In 2025, 29 Blind Removal meetings were held; DCFS sought removal in 24 of those cases.
- Continued the partnership with Mental Health America on the Coached Visitation Program, an interactive program where trained volunteer work with parents during supervised visits, to help them meet the needs of their children so they can safely return home from foster care. In 2025, 14 families received these services.
- Administered a Rental Supplement Program (RSP) to provide vital rental assistance to individuals and families, regardless of immigration status, who are experiencing homelessness or are facing an imminent loss of housing. The district has contracted with a local nonprofit, Hudson River Housing (HRH), to administer the program, and is closely monitored.
 - 607 applications were received; processed and eligibility was determined for 594 applications, housed 66 adults and 12 children (59 households) and placed 13 applicants on the waiting list.
 - Collaboration with the Continuum of Care remains ongoing, as the County is using HOME ARP and CDBG funds to supplement the rates from 85% Fair Market Rent (FMR) to 120% FMR.
- The Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) members discussed and coordinated outreach to over 90 individual cases, responded to direct outreach referrals from the community, and conducted 18 joint targeted outreach efforts to several areas including at Middle Main, Cannon St. Parking Deck, Governor Clinton Apartments, Dollar General/Main St., Christ Church Warming Center, and other identified potential encampment sites.

Staff Development

- The Department vacancy rate continued to fluctuate around 15%, impacting the implementation of program mandates. The Department redoubled its recruitment efforts while also seeking to reduce barriers to recruitment and retention including:
 - Participation in career fairs, including an event at Marist University to recruit Seasonal Student Workers and inspire students to enter the social services field.
 - Continued using the temporary testing waiver from the New York State Department of Civil Service as part of the State’s Hiring Emergency Limited Placement Statewide (HELPS). In 2025, 41 employees were hired through this testing waiver program.

- Staff Development continued its efforts to train and strengthen the workforce, including:
 - Partnering with Marist University to implement a pilot program for New Supervisory Training. 11 newly appointed supervisors learned strategies for effectively stepping out of a peer role to a leadership role through five training sessions. They learned how to implement a Coaching Leadership Style and a Growth Mindset to encourage team resiliency, trust and transparent communication.
 - As part of the Department's employee selfcare and wellness efforts, Staff Development conducted a full staff retreat at the MJN Convention Center that focused on the theme, "Ambassadors of Hope: Surviving and Shining." Staff learned and practiced tools to help them better face the challenges and stress of working with clients.
 - 51 Unit Overview presentations were offered. These monthly overviews, provided to all new employees, ensure that staff are informed and aware of all the division/units and programs offered by the Department and how the programs integrate with each other to provide a comprehensive service approach for the clients we serve.

Reception

- The Poughkeepsie Office Front Desk handled 29,680 transactions, an increase of 20% from the previous year.
- In September 2025, a second client privacy booth in the reception area of the main office building was added. The two phone booths were utilized for around 14,500 calls, an increase of 7% from 2024.

Administrative Services

- Processed over 27,600 documents submitted through the NYDocSubmit mobile app.
- Requested and processed 937 Fair Hearings. 709 hearings were held and processed, 228 hearings are pending, not scheduled or adjourned.
- Fair Hearing session days increased from 92 session days to 150 session days due to additional emergency hearings for TA / Shelter/ Housing issues.
- Completed 26 Fiscal Day Care Audits for NYS Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS) for the first two quarters of 2025. All transactions and funding calculations were properly claimed and processed for Dutchess County without any discrepancies. The 3rd and 4th quarter audits are still on hold by OCFS and have not been provided for auditing.
- Processed over 300 contracts for various services including, but not limited to, supportive service agreements, domestic violence, employment, homeless prevention, foster care services, and an additional 109 resource parent agreements. Value of contracts over \$61,000,000.

- Processed 74,500 fiscal transactions in the accounting unit, totaling more than \$71 million.
- Maintained accounts for 42 clients in receipt of Supplemental Social Security who need help managing their money. Deposits of \$781,679.09 and issuance of 2,703 checks totaling \$769,306.17 occurred on behalf of these clients.
- The Accounting Unit processed 1028 credit/debit card transactions for a total of \$212,608.88.
- Accepted more than 10,700 incoming voter registration forms (included in benefit application packages).
- Processed nearly 120,200 pieces of outgoing U.S. mail (not including incoming postal mail or interoffice mail).
- Processed 1,333,191 images into IEDR, 1,261,859 of which were processed by the file room.
- Processed 354 employee change form requests:
 - General - 71
 - New Employee - 106
 - Office Move - 35
 - Reassignments - 77
 - Left Agency - 65

Adult Services

- Received 904 Adult Protective Services referrals, an increase of 7% over the previous year, and provided ongoing services to 511 adults, including 46 clients in need of Representative Payee Services. There were 36 guardianship cases in 2025.
- Administered the Family Type Home Program, a licensed community congregate care program that provides 24-hour adult care, in a home environment, to adults in need of minimal assistance with their adult daily living needs. As of December 31, 2025, there were 11 such homes in Dutchess County.
- Conducted over 20 inspections for the Foster Family Home Program, a licensed community congregate care program with medical oversight.
- Provided Domestic Violence Liaison (DVL) service to people who need assistance in obtaining waivers for eligibility determinations, emergency residential services, or non-residential domestic violence services. There were 45 new DVL assessments, and 20 reassessments, increases of 2% and 46%, from 2024.
- Continued to provide emergency shelter services for the homeless at the temporary PODs located in the Law Enforcement Center and Jail campus, sheltering an average of 97 individuals per night, an 18% decrease from 2024.

- In addition to the individuals served at the PODs, the Department provided Temporary Emergency Housing Assistance to 891 adults and 450 children, representing an increase of 11% for adults and decrease of 4.5%, for children placed in emergency shelters from 2024. More than \$11.6 million was expended on emergency shelter/hotel placements, representing a 40% increase over 2024 expenditures, according to Cognos reports.

Children's Services

- Child Protective Services (CPS) investigated 2,079 reports of suspected child abuse or maltreatment, including subsequent reports that were merged into active investigations. There were 49 removals with 105 children placed in foster care, 18 of the removals were not requested by DCFS but were ordered by the Family Court judge.
- As of December 31, 2025, there were 152 children in foster care, a decrease of 7% from 2024. 33 of the children were placed in approved relative homes.
- 95 children moved out of foster care to permanence.
- 26 adoptions were finalized. There were 18 Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGap) discharges. As of December 31, 2025, 30 foster children had a goal of adoption.
- Recruitment efforts continued to locate, train, and certify qualified foster parents for Dutchess County children. 18 kinship homes were certified, and 13 non-relative homes were certified. There are currently 10 Kinship homes in emergency status. In December 2025, an additional 9 non-relatives were in the process of being certified as foster homes. As of December 2025, Dutchess County had a total of 122 active foster/adoptive homes.
- DCFS contracts with five agencies to provide preventive services to families. In 2025, 287 families received preventive services with 182 new families referred to preventive services.
- Continued to partner with the Office of Probation and Community Corrections to provide services to meet the needs of Juvenile Delinquent (JD) youth. In 2025, 11 youths required non-secure detention.
- Continued to partner with the County's Office of Probation and Community Corrections to provide services to meet the needs of Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) youth. In 2025, there were no Pre-Dispositional Placements for PINS.
- Continued to coordinate Secure Detention Services on a 24-hour basis. In 2025, 14 youths required secure detention, and seven youths required specialized secure detention.
- Conducted outreach to all Dutchess County school districts to address educational neglect, offering in-person presentations regarding Child Protective Services and available Community Based Preventive Services. Presentations were given in the following school districts: Hyde Park, Rhinebeck and Dover. Presentations were also given to various community organizations regarding the availability of preventive services.

Safe Harbour/Human Trafficking

- The Human Trafficking Coordinator worked with 25 at-risk youth and continued to work with 12 youth from previous year, for a total case management of 37 youth. Held five meetings of the full Dutchess County Task Force Against Human Trafficking.
- Held the 2nd annual Human Trafficking Forum at Dutchess Community College for over 85 Law enforcement and community service providers.
- Provided presentations on Human Trafficking to over 1,000 youth in Dutchess County covering five school districts.
- Provided nine *Human Trafficking 101* presentations to community members including Nuvance Hospital medical professionals, EMS workers, Dutchess County ITAP Day Rehab, Dutchess County Foster Parents and Department of Health Sexual Health Provider Conference.
- Attended several community events to disseminate information, including Dutchess County Health Fair, City of Poughkeepsie National Night Out, Enhanced Coordinated Children's Services Initiative and Beacon Community Health event.
- Facilitated the Love146 Prevention/Education program to four different youth groups.
- Trained three additional DCFS staff members as facilitators of the Not a Number Prevention Education Program, for a total of six facilitators
- Two "Not a Number" Prevention Education Program training courses were completed. Five youths and two adults participated in the training at the Council on Addiction & Prevention Education of Dutchess County (CAPE), in Wappingers. 12 youth and one adult participated in the training at the Green Teen site in Beacon.
- Participated in committee meetings with the Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Abuse (CASADA), Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), and the Criminal Justice Council Victims Subcommittee. Participated in panel discussions at three events on services for victims.

Youth Services

- Youth Board and Coordinating Council (YBCC) awarded New York State Office of Children and Family Services funding through four grant streams in two cycles:
 - 4 Youth Team Sports (YTS) awards totaling \$85,295.
 - 27 Youth Development Program (YDP) awards totaling \$279,410.
 - 10 Youth Sports and Education Funds (YSEF) awards totaling \$166,785.
 - 1 Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) award totaling \$120,200.
- Held multiple grant workshops to review the various funding processes, attended by 50 individuals representing 47 organizations.

- YBCC recommended two \$1,500 scholarships, provided by the Dutchess Community College (DCC) Foundation, to an incoming freshman from Faith Christian Academy and a returning DCC student. The scholarship is provided by the DCC Foundation.
- 14 agencies were awarded grant funding through the You Drop-in Grant initiative. A total of \$250,000 was allocated to these agencies with grant awards ranging from \$10,000 - \$30,000.
- Four City of Poughkeepsie agencies were awarded grant funding through the City of Poughkeepsie- Enhancing Youth Programs grant. A total of \$50,000 was allocated with each agency being awarded \$12,500 each.
- As part of the Scope of Services for the Enhancing Youth Programming Grant, agencies were required to participate in technical assistance provided by the Poughkeepsie Children's Cabinet (PCC). Agencies received training virtually and in-person. The sessions focused on data collection, outcome reports, board development, fostering partnerships, grant applications, seeking potential donors, and other relevant information that will benefit these smaller agencies.
- Supportive services were provided for 122 youth; 87 cases were closed, with 98% of clients achieving at least one goal.
- "Be Aware, Take Care" workshops were held at Lagrange Middle School in July 2025, reaching a total of 43 youths and right adults. The first workshop was conducted for 6th and 7th grade students, with 24 youth and four adults attending. The second workshop was conducted for 8th grade students with 19 youth and four adults attending.
- Continued partnership with Astor Services to enroll 581 families in the READY4K parent engagement program.
- 60 youth enrolled in The Chamber Foundation's Youth Leadership program and participated in the "Team Power: Leading Complex Projects Together" workshop led by the Youth Services staff on November 4, 2025.
- Continued implementation of the Youth and Police Initiative (YPI). In 2025, the following was accomplished:
 - Seven youth and three YPI trainers attended the 3rd Annual Youth and Police Initiative Leadership Conference at Binghamton University, July 20 –23, 2025.
 - Six youth and YPI trainers-in training and one Senior YPI trainer received training certifications on October 25, 2025, after successfully conducting four YPI sessions, reaching 75 youth.
 - 26 youth successfully completed the YPI sessions held at Poughkeepsie High School, March 3- 8, 2025.
 - 25 youth successfully completed the YPI sessions held at Poughkeepsie Middle School, April 7-12, 2025.
 - Eight youth successfully completed the YPI sessions held at the Red Hook VFW Post 7765, October 20 -25, 2025.

- Collaborated with Putnam County Youth Bureau on the “Parents as Driving Partners” initiative aimed at fostering safer driving habits and creating safe drivers; 17 Parents as Driving Partners referrals were received.
- Two Strengthening Families sessions were held; seven families completed the program.
- “Leveraging Individual Student Support Plans to Address Adverse Childhood Experiences” presentation was conducted at Vassar Institute on January 24, 2025.
- “Advancing Positive Youth Development (PYD) to Youth Justice” presentation was conducted at the New York Public Welfare Winter Conference on January 29, 2025.
- “Pathways To Success and Opportunity: Youth Employment Programs and Employment Readiness” presentation and panel discussion was held at Transit Tech Career and Technical Education High School on November 13, 2025
- The Town of Pleasant Valley launched Camp Sunny Days, a full-service day camp at Camp Nooteeming, for youth ages 3 through 9th grade, from June 30 through August 8, 2025.
- Community Matters 2, facilitated summer camp activities including swim testing for 30 youth enrolled in its camp during the week of July 28 – August 1, 2025, at Camp Nooteeming in Pleasant Valley.
- There were over 900 users on the Path to Promise website in 2025.
- Partnered with World Evangelical Center, Camino Al Exito Project for All, and Mental Health Association of Dutchess County to launch the 2nd Annual “Swinging with Spirit” Youth Golf mentorship program and tournament reaching 44 youth ages 6-15, 16 high school mentors, nine adult team captains and 15 volunteers.

Temporary Assistance

- Processed 7,226 Temporary Assistance applications (average of 602 cases/month as of December 2025) for a total of 1,198 individuals receiving Temporary Assistance benefits.
- Referred and opened 157 cases with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley to assist with SSI applications. A total of 40 applications were submitted and 27 were to receive awards, totaling \$299,928 in annual benefits (\$24,994 monthly) to Dutchess County households and \$96,102 in retroactive benefits were received for clients who were assisted with applications.
- Through continued partnership with BOCES, five individuals completed the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) intake assessment; eight Temporary Assistance recipients enrolled in Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes and/or the High School Equivalency program.

- Continued partnership with the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce, DCFS offers TANF eligible individuals with employment and life skills workshops, job seeking, placement, and retention services.
 - 41 TANF/Safety Net recipients participated in the Next Step Program
 - 10 recipients became employed
 - 15 recipients became engaged in work/training activities
- Continued collaboration with the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board (DCWIB) to offer “Way to Work Dutchess” program, which assists low-income working families to meet their transportation needs. In 2025, the following outcomes were achieved:
 - 45 eligible Dutchess County residents were assessed for transportation needs
 - 31 received instruction on financial literacy
 - 5 individuals received learner’s permits
 - 22 participants took driving instruction
 - 8 earned New York State driver’s licenses
 - 12 participants received pre-owned vehicles
- Contracted with the DCWIB to implement youth employment programs with the following outcomes:
 - 156 youth successfully completed the Summer Youth Employment Program organized by the DCWIB
 - 181 Youth employment participating in nine agencies
- Contracted with Mental Health America in April 2025, targeting eligible TANF and Safety Net individuals who are homeless to provide intensive case management, additional supportive services, and assist with obtaining permanent housing. Nine individuals obtained permanent housing.

Day Care Unit

- Service provided to 1,009 families and 1,596 children with no waiting list.
- In September 2025, the Department had to suspend accepting new applications for childcare subsidies because the program had reached its fiscal capacity, having run out of the federal and state allocated funds.
- Partnered with the DCWIB and Childcare Coalition to offer free babysitting classes to teenagers and young adults to help them gain experience and skills, encouraging childcare as a rewarding career path.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- 9,339 SNAP applications were received; 10,962 cases were open representing 15,275 individuals.

- Due to the freeze of SNAP benefits in October 2025, from the government shutdown, the County allocated up to \$1.5 million (\$150,000 a week) to support local food pantries to assist residents who receive SNAP benefits. Collaboration with the Food Security Council was utilized for food distribution.

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

- Authorized 9,974 regular benefits for a total of \$5,636,185 for the 2024-2025 HEAP season (Federal Fiscal Year to Date as of September 2025).
- 4,609 non-heating benefits were issued, totaling \$139,110.
- Emergency HEAP opened on January 2 and closed on April 7, 2025. A total of 1,161 emergency HEAP benefits were issued, totaling \$841,425; 165 households received a second emergency HEAP benefit, totaling \$118,430.
- Heating Equipment Repair & Replacement (HERR) started on October 1, 2024, and closed on May 9, 2025. Authorized 43 furnace/boiler repairs and 29 furnace/boiler replacements, totaling \$244,272.
- Clean & Tune Component of HEAP opened on October 1, 2024, and closed on May 9, 2025. 193 Clean & Tune services were completed, totaling \$76,411.
- The Emergency Fuel Depots dispensed 1,360 gallons of heating fuel to 136 households.
- Cooling Assistance Component (CAC) of HEAP opened on April 15 and closed on June 23, 2025. 173 CAC benefits were issued totaling \$150, 791. The maximum benefit was \$800 per unit.

Indigent Burials

- 236 burial assistances were requested; 116 were approved and 120 denied. A total of \$239,666 was paid to funeral homes for burial of the indigents.

Medicaid

- Processed 45,833 transactions, for a total caseload of 13,498.
 - 3,923 applications were received for a total of 11,854 active community cases.
 - 344 chronic care applications were received, for a total of 814 active chronic cases.
 - 317 community cases with requests to upgrade coverage to chronic care.
 - 751 community cases with a request to upgrade coverage to an increased level of community coverage.
 - 157 Supplement Security Income (SSI) applications received for a total of 4,987 active SSI cases.
 - 181 cases had determinations for Disability Reviews.
 - 1,589 cases referred by New York State of Health (NYSOH) for processing by Medicaid.
 - 10,432 recertifications processed.

Child Support Unit

- Child support collections totaled \$27,397,075.
- Filed 4,598 Family Court petitions.
- Established paternity for 91.78% of children in the IV-D caseload born out-of-wedlock.
- Support establishment rate is 87.56%.

Special Investigations – Fraud Prevention & Detection

- 1,048 cases referred to the Special Investigation's Unit.
- Amount recovered in lawsuits totaled \$61,755.76.
- Personal incidentals and other bank accounts totaled \$256,543.44.
- Income executions accounted for \$13,066.07.
- There were 67 SSI repayment recoveries amounting to \$371,761.57.
- There were five SNAP disqualifications totaling \$19,372 that were attained through the Disqualification Consent Agreement (DCA) process in conjunction with the Dutchess County's District Attorney's Office, as well as through administrative disqualification hearings.
- The number of Confession of Judgments equaled 20, totaling \$30,360.00.
- Cost avoidance by Front End Detection System (FEDS) were as follows:
 - Temporary Assistance \$4,458,768.00
 - Day Care \$305,100.00



Emergency Response

Emergency Response

Administration

- Acting Commissioner appointed in January, confirmed as Commissioner in September 2025.
- New Deputy Commissioner appointed in December 2025.
- Departmental reorganization under new administration throughout 2025.
- Concept and design for new Fire Training Burn Building completed with construction expected in Spring 2026.
- Established and Executed Multi-faceted Countywide Emergency Medical Services Program:
 - **Regional Collaboration & Coordination** - conducted regular meetings with local elected officials, fire chiefs, rescue squad captains and other stakeholders to identify issues, gaps and vulnerabilities in the delivery of pre-hospital emergency medical services.
 - **County-wide Supplemental EMS Response Units** - in January, two county-contracted basic life support ambulances and one advanced life support fly-car began providing supplemental service throughout Dutchess County. The system performance has been analyzed on a weekly basis, and numerous adjustments have been made to improve response times and patient care. In October, transitioned to a level-one basic life support ambulance, one advanced life support ambulance, and one advanced life support fly car. Overall, in 2025, countywide supplemental units responded to more than 3,200 calls and transported 930 patients. Since the service level transition, countywide supplemental units have averaged 4.4 patients transports per day.
 - **Basic Life Support Fly Car Grant Program** - to support Basic Life Support first response agencies, a county grant program was developed to provide funding to eligible agencies to purchase lifesaving medical equipment for the purpose of further expanding capabilities.
 - **Public Education & Marketing** - provided front-facing information to the public on the proper use of 911 and when to use an ambulance or consider other options, billboards, mass transit bus advertising and social media campaigns were employed.
- Achieved New York State Emergency Management Accreditation in February 2025. Dutchess is the first county between New York City and Albany to achieve this accreditation.
- Continued Mobile Command Unit (MCU) integration incidents and training exercises. In-service training is ongoing with County personnel and multi-disciplinary partners.
- Continued work on the Consolidated Trunked Radio Project, with construction beginning at tower sites. This is an ongoing, multi-year capital project with a full system testing targeted for summer 2028.

- Ongoing development and expansion of Dutchess County Threat Assessment Group (TAG) with a significant increase in case load in 2025. Grant funding has been appropriated to fund a part-time investigator to assist with case management.
- Continued expansion of the Dutchess County First Responder Health and Wellness program, which includes an appointed Deputy Coordinator for First Responder Health and Wellness. Additional First Responder Resiliency Awareness Trainings were provided to partner agencies. This resource was utilized on several occasions to support first responder de-briefs after critical incidents.
- Conducted multi-agency tabletop and functional exercises at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport with all partner agencies.

9-1-1 Communications Center

- Processed 207,964 individual phone calls for assistance and created 118,049 individual incidents through the 9-1-1 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD).
- 911 Communications Center staff attended a total of 7,541 hours of new employee and continuing education training.
- 911 Communications staff conducted 28 hours of public education and staff recruitment efforts.
- Conducted a one-year review of the APCO Intellicom Police and Fire call taking software and continued to review Emergency Medical Dispatch Protocols by making modifications based on real world experience.
- In July, held a ceremony celebrating 60 years of providing Emergency Dispatching to the Citizens of Dutchess County including honoring Al Kaehler, one of the original four dispatchers of the Dutchess County Bureau of Fire.
- Assisted the Dutchess County EMS Citizens Advisory Committee and the County's consultant Labella with their efforts in improving EMS response within the County by providing statistical reports of call volume and response as well as providing insight into the emergency medical dispatch call taking process, the different response algorithms among county agencies, and the various outcomes and response decisions made by dispatchers.
- Continued to analyze and modify process for dispatching the County's Supplemental EMS service that went live January 1, 2025.
- Assisted 988/HELPLINE with their disaster planning and continuing operations plan, including a simulated evacuation drill in Fall 2025.
- Continue to work with HELPLINE staff and the County Coordinator for First Responder Health and Wellness on a program to provide on-going support for dispatchers' mental health and wellbeing.

- With the assistance of County Human Resources Department, utilized NY HELPS (NY Hiring for Limited Placement Statewide) to fill entry level Public Safety Call Taker positions without the need for a civil service exam.
- Began working with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department to develop best practices involving interactions with the Real Time Crime Center.
- Applied and received a New York State Next Generation 911 grant total value of just over 1.6 million dollars to be used toward upgrading the Vesta Call Handling System.

Emergency Management Division

- Ongoing integration of Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, and Medical Reserve Corps continues into the Emergency Management – Public Health Unit. This effort continues to redefine multidisciplinary emergency management, a model now viewed as a national best practice.
- Under the County's Domestic Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention Plan, additional specialized training was provided to county first responders through a partnership with New York Medical College, including: Tactical Emergency Casualty Care, Cold Zone Training, Pre-Hospital Trauma and Life Support.
- Continued monthly Integrated Public Alert and Warning testing to ensure proficiency in Wireless Emergency Alert transmission to cell phones during major emergencies.
- Deployed vehicle barricades to multiple mass gatherings county-wide.
- Supported the Board of Elections with back-up generators and light towers during 2025 Primary and General Elections.
- Supported multiple agencies and County departments at preplanned events and incidents. Preplanned events have included:
 - Dutchess County Classic Half Marathon
 - Eastern Dutchess Marathon
 - Walkway Over the Hudson "Fourth of July" Fireworks
- Ongoing preparedness activities include:
 - 'Ready Dutchess' Smartphone app expansion
 - Access and Functional Needs Registry expansion
 - Citizens Preparedness Training offered at several locations

Fire and Rescue Division

- County Fire Coordinator responded to several incidents to assist on-scene incident commanders and provide guidance.
- Deputy Fire Coordinators responded to 131 mutual aid incidents to support incident commanders at complex and escalating incidents.

- Dutchess County Emergency Response's specialized volunteer teams were active in 2025:
 - Fire Investigation Division responded to 48 incidents to conduct fire investigations
 - Hazardous Materials Response Division responded to 15 incidents to assist with mitigation of hazardous materials incidents
- The Fire Training Division provided 2,370 hours of training across the county.

Emergency Medical Services Division

- County EMS Coordinator response to several incidents to assist incident commanders with emergency medical services coordination.
- Deputy EMS Coordinators responded to 12 incidents to assist with on scene patient management.
- County-wide Supplementary Emergency Medical Services Program planned and executed weekly meetings throughout the year to improve patient care and response times for supplemental ambulances.
- In coordination with Dutchess Community College EMS program, assisted in the purchasing of upgraded and necessary training equipment to improve the EMS courses provided at Dutchess Community College.
- Hosted meetings of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for EMS with continued discussions on strategy to improve county-wide EMS response times.
- Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Response Trailers, which carry large quantities of basic supplies in case of large-scale incidents, were deployed for standby at multiple mass gatherings and special events.
- Expanded the County's Public Access Defibrillator (AED) Program.
- Conducted CPR and First Aid Training for county employees.
- Continued discussion with Mid-Hudson Regional and Vassar Brother's Hospitals to expand EMS training and exercises to focus on trauma related injuries, and in 2026, newborn simulator training will be conducted to simulate life-like emergencies during childbirth.
- Attended regular meetings of NY State Division of Emergency Medical Services, the Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Council, Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee, Dutchess County Emergency Medical Services Council, Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Protocol Committee, Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital Trauma Committee, and Hudson Valley Regional Trauma Advisory Committee.
- In collaboration with the Hudson Valley Regional Emergency Medical Services Protocol Committee, recommended change to patient care protocol to include nasal epinephrine for severe allergic reactions for First Responders. A cost effective and easier way to administer necessary medication in a life-threatening emergency.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

- Composed and/or updated the following plans:
 - PHEPR Communications Plan (reviewed/updated)
 - Environmental Plan (currently developing)
 - DCDMH Disaster Mental Health Response Plan (new)
 - Integrated Preparedness Plan and Workshop (new)
 - Emergency Operations Center Health and Medical Desk Plan (new)
 - Mass Fatality Plan/FAC Plan (under review)
- Reviewed Hazardous Materials Plan and DCDOH activities during a HazMat incident were added to integrate our Environmental Health Divisions' requirements.
- Completed NYSDOH Deliverables and Tasks for PHEP and CRI.
- Maintained and worked on the Mobile Health Unit (MHU) for 2025. Served on the MHU Planning Committee. Served on many MHU deployments.
- Maintained the Recovery and Resiliency Coalition of Dutchess and conducted quarterly meetings.
- Continued meetings with the Rhinebeck Coalition and completed several exercises with the group including one full scale exercise in 2025.
- Participated and/or planned several exercises with partners including DHSES, NYSDOH, DCDER, and Vassar Brothers Medical Center and other partners.
- Served on the following county-wide committees:
 - School Safety
 - Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC Vice Chair) – Working on GIS Mapping of Dutchess County Water System with the Planning Department.
 - DMH Safety and Security Committee
 - DC Southern Nursing Home Group (Led)
 - DCDOH Safety and Security Committee
 - NYSDOH Medical Surge Committee
 - NYSDOH Exercise Design Committee
 - NYSDOH Communications Planning Committee
 - Homecare Emergency Planning Committee
 - Hazard and Risk Analysis Committees

- Emergency Community Responses:
 - Vassar Brothers Power Shutdown
 - Evacuated the Avalon Assisted Living Facility secondary to a fire
 - Vassar Brothers Water System Failure Incident
 - Dutchess County Hudson River Events include Salt Line and HABs events
 - Renaissance Sewage Incident
 - Sapphire Nursing Structural Integrity Emergency
 - Avalon Norovirus Outbreak Response
- Participated in/staffed the following planned events:
 - Dutchess County St. Patrick's Day Parade
 - DC DOH Health Fair
 - Walkway Over the Hudson Fireworks Event
- Launched the 2026 Black Flight 26 MCI/MF/FAC Exercise Planning Committee. Began the plan, writing and coordination for a large 2-day exercise in 2026 that will test the following capabilities:
 - MCI response
 - Mass Fatality Operations
 - Family Assistance Center Operations
 - Public Information Management throughout both days
 - Disaster Mental Health support throughout both days
- Conducted fire drills at DMH and DOH.
- Initiated and participated in the Lower Hudson Valley Water/ Drought Planning Coalition:
 - Hosted several meetings with Public Health, water operators and system engineers
 - Goal for 2026 is to create a semi-annual coalition to include the 7 major water intake counties in the LHV
- Conferences and regional meetings attended:
 - NYSDOH Collaborative Coalition Conference
 - IDMH Disaster Mental Health Conference
 - NYSEMA Annual Emergency Management Conference
 - Presented at the Dutchess County School Safety Superintendent Conference
 - Region 2 Emergency Manager's Meetings
 - NYSDOH Quarterly HEPC Meetings
- Worked with the clinic on vaccine storage and setting up vaccine refrigerator maintenance and monitoring.
- Participated in the NYS Hurricane Evacuation Study Team conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- Maintained warehouse inventory.

- Co-Authoring a volunteer management chapter for a medical and healthcare emergency management textbook.
- Directed the County CPR Program. Completed 80 formal CPR Trainings:
 - 51.2% BLS
 - 22.5% Heart Saver
 - 26.3% First Aid
- Participated monthly in the nationwide Language & Accessibility for Alert & Warning Workgroup, which focuses on equity and accessibility in public communications.
- Conducted monthly IPAWS drills to satisfy FEMA requirement that allows Dutchess County to conduct wireless emergency alerts (WEA) and traditional emergency alert system (EAS) notifications.
- Continued training in the Everbridge notification system and expanding internal use of the system for more efficient and immediate team notification; trained and expanded alert origination team.
- Participated in intensive Public Information Officer training for NYS Incident Management Team members.
- Performed ongoing administrative, communications, and maintenance tasks, including:
 - Continued creation of NYSDOH Health Commerce System accounts for new/transferred staff
 - Continued updates to communications directory, removal of accounts for staff members who leave
 - Conducted quarterly IHANS drills
 - Issued Public Health Alerts and other notifications via Health Commerce System as requested by DOH Commissioner

Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)

163 volunteers of Medical Reserve Corps of Dutchess County provided 3,000 hours of volunteer time serving over 3,946 community members at an economic value of \$117,680 during 2025, including:

- Supported two (2) OFA pancake breakfasts, all 12 Senior Citizen Picnics, the Annual Foster Care Picnic, the ThinkDIFFERENTLY Fitness & Field Day, the Health Fair sponsored by Department of Health, the Golden Gathering, and the Amenia Harvest Festival providing first aid and completing over 530 blood pressure screenings to community members.
- The MRC's Mental Health Team members responded to 20 trauma calls assisting over 254 community members in partnership with Department of Mental Health staff. One of these calls was a three-day response with the Arlington High School for staff and students surrounding the death of a student.

- Assisted in the Opioid Epidemic Response by assembling over 2,800 Narcan Kits for distribution in the community.
- MRC's Animal Response Team (DCART) hosted Pet First Aid training for the communities of Beacon & Fishkill and partnered with the John Jay FFA Chapter to host a teaching class combined with 262 community members. During Pet First Aid Classes and various community events including the Dutchess County Fair, John Jay FFA Spring Festival, and Amenia Fall Festival, over 1,230 community members were taught pet CPR and the importance of pet preparedness.
- Collaborated with the Town of Poughkeepsie Police Department to host a Women's Personal Safety Awareness training for over 50 community members.
- Taught Stop the Bleed (how to respond to life threatening bleeding) to community groups, reaching over 165 individuals.
- Provided Citizens Preparedness training to 264 community members at a variety of locations including the Stanford Library, Pine Plains Community Center, Vassar College, Beacon Green Teen Program, and various senior groups, and assisted the Commissioner of Emergency Response at three (3) classes that reached another 95 participants for a total of 359 community members.
- MRC volunteers participated in 289 hours of drills and exercises to assist in preparing for scenarios such as point of distribution center, mass casualty incidents, medical facility evacuations, sheltering people and pets, and 15 volunteers assisted with the seven Dutchess Community College EMT and Paramedic Practical's for over 100 hours of volunteer time.
- MRC volunteers trained in areas such as radios, ICS, NIMS, CPR, Cultural Humility, Narcan, Hazmat/PPE, Citizens Preparedness, Seizure First Aid, Suicide Awareness, Mental Health First Aid, Disaster Mental Health, and other areas to be better prepared to assist Dutchess County in future emergencies.



Finance (incl. Real Property Tax)

Finance (including Real Property Tax)

- Maintained a bond rating of AA+ with a stable outlook by Standard & Poor's in March 2025.
- Actively managed the County's cash and working capital resulting in approximately \$11 million in interest income earned across all funds.
- Reduced overall debt level by \$7 million dollars.
- Implemented GASB 101 in time for the County's Annual Update Document to be filed as required with New York State in May 2025.
- Worked with the Capital Plan Committee to develop the 2026-2031 Capital Improvement Plan.
- Implemented Bargaining Agreement changes related to the settlement of the Dutchess Staff Association contract
- Worked in coordination with Human Resources and the County Attorney's office on the FLSA language which was utilized in drafting the 2025 proposal to CSEA.
- In coordination with the Department of Human Resources, Division of Risk Management process improvements are being developed to improve management and accounting for employee benefits.
- Continued work with a multi-department team to implement a countywide electronic time and attendance recordkeeping system. The goals include increased efficiencies in all phases of the payroll process and standardization of time and attendance recordkeeping using biometric and other electronic data capture methods.
 - Rolled out to additional county departments including County Clerk, Office for the Aging, and Probation.
 - Trained over 200 staff
 - Approximately 70% of all County employees were reporting time on an electronic timekeeping system by the end of 2025.
- Implemented Local Law No. 2 of 2025, a local law authorizing installment payments of delinquent real property taxes.
 - First notice went out to all taxpayers with unpaid current year tax bills in July.
 - Answered hundreds of calls and in-person inquiries about the law and qualifications.
 - Directed taxpayers who did not qualify for an installment contract to other resources such as the Homeowner Protection program at homeownerhelpny.org
 - Successfully executed 33 installment agreements in our inaugural year.

- Held a training program at Arlington Central School District for County Tax Collectors and Receivers. The goal of the training was to ensure new collectors (Town, Village, City, & School) are aware of the proper process for reviewing their bills, handling corrections, and turning over their unpaid files at the end of collections. Guests from Comptroller's office and New York Association of Towns provided training on relevant topics related to collection in addition to providing collectors with information on Local Law No. 2 of 2025 and accepting feedback on the revised bill formats to make any additional improvements.

Real Property Tax Division

- Completed all mandated programs under Article 5 of Real Property Tax Law, and completed all local programs and duties assigned by the County Charter including:
 - Over 80 investigative reports for Administrative Corrections of Errors,
 - Maintaining parcels lines for over 111,000 parcels for tax mapping and Parcel Access purposes,
 - Administering the assessment software database for local assessors,
 - Providing state-mandated training to 21 Board of Assessment Review members and 8 other municipal and state employees,
 - Processing of over 6,600 property transfers, filed maps and other documents,
 - Maintenance of over 44,000 escrow accounts, and
 - Calculation and verification of approximately 380 tax rates for County, Town, City, School, Village and special district purposes.
- Coordinated with OCIS to process assessment and tax rolls as well as print tax bills for 60 school district segments, 20 towns, 2 cities, 8 villages and 1 fire district.
- Provided administrative and systems support for 13 municipalities in Dutchess seeking to sustain annual reassessment: approximately 63,000 parcels.
- Provided training in assessment administration to local assessment staff in Dutchess County and Real Property Tax directors across the state, as well as the Dutchess County Realtor's Association.
- The Director continues to serve as a member of the Real Property Tax Administration Committee and the Real Property System Governance Group Committee, which seek to resolve administrative and procedural issues that arise because of changes in the Real Property Tax Law, and guide the implementation of the current assessment software used by Dutchess County and most assessing units in New York.
- The Director was elected to the Board of Directors for the NYS Real Property Tax Directors' Association.



Health

Health

General Department Highlights

- Hosted the fourth annual Dutchess County Health Fair at Dutchess Community College on April 11, 2025, adding exciting new vendors and offering to provide hundreds of residents with valuable health information and activities.
- Recruited and filled multiple critical positions including Deputy Medical Examiner, Director of Fiscal Services and Assistant Director of Nursing.
- Partnered with Vassar College and the Poughkeepsie Farm Project to launch the pilot “Dutchess Youth Kitchen” program, gathering Spackenkill Middle School students at the Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center to explore healthy eating through hands-on cooking.
- Expanded outreach efforts with the Mobile Health Unit (MHU) by participating in 58 outreach events, focusing on regions with the highest proportions of uninsured residents to help reduce access barriers and advance health equity. The MHU provided clinical services, mental health support, and health education in both English and Spanish.
- Launched new electronic medical records software, Patagonia, Inc., which offers a more efficient way to handle records. Full billing through the software is expected to begin in 2026.
- Participated in the Dutchess County Fair, facilitating educational activities around healthy eating and nutrition, physical activity, tick borne illness, and lead awareness while providing hands only CPR and Narcan administration and interacting with over 1,000 individuals over the six days.
- Distributed 6,000 units of Narcan to all parts of Dutchess County and trained approximately 2,000 community members in how to safely administer the life-saving drug.
- Completed both Mid-Hudson Region and Dutchess County Community Health Assessments including the following efforts:
 - Collaborated with Siena Research Institute on the third iteration of the Mid-Hudson Regional Community Health Survey, administered to 500 Dutchess County residents, and compiled a report on the results.
 - Surveyed 830 Dutchess County residents and 109 community partners on health priorities related to the New York State Prevention Agenda.
 - Planned and hosted 2025 Community Health Summit, with more than 70 attendees from a variety of partner organizations

Medical Examiner’s Office

- 1,510 total reported cases for 2025, with 409 scene investigations and 450 cases required DCME investigation, including:
 - 253 autopsies
 - 75 external examinations

- 119 death certifications
 - 3 consultations
- Those autopsies, external examinations and certifications were classified as:
 - 6 Homicides
 - 152 Accidents
 - 24 Suicide
 - 188 Natural
 - 7 Undetermined
 - 47 still pending investigation
- 23 cases were released to LiveOnNY and/or Lions Eye Bank for tissue/bone/organ/corneal donation.
- Contracted for Marist University Physician Assistant Program and Quinnipiac University Pathology Assistants Program to perform rotations at the DCME; 6 (3 from each school) rotated at the DCME. The office also had 2 Medicolegal Death Investigation Student Interns including a student from Boston University.
- Hosted John Jay High School's forensics class.
- Provided training and education including:
 - Presented “Careers and Role of The Medical Examiner” at the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department headquarters.
- Worked with the Opiate Task Force and participated in the Dutchess County Suicide & Overdose Fatality Review Committee (S/OD FRC) Overview and Dutchess County Resiliency Council for Suicide Prevention.

Public Health Preparedness and Community Engagement & Prevention Division

Public Health Emergency Preparedness / Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)

- These units are a collaboration of the Department of Health and the Department of Emergency Response. Annual activities can be found under [the Department of Emergency Response](#).

Early Intervention (EI) and Preschool Special Education

- Total Early Intervention enrollment for 2024 was 1,231 children.
 - 714 Early Intervention referrals were received and evaluated, with 62% found eligible for services.
 - 681 intakes were completed
 - 1,097 home visits were conducted.
 - 677 office visits were conducted.
 - Average monthly number of children awaiting EI services was 15, a 46% decrease over the previous year.
- Total Preschool Special Education enrollment for 2024 was 2,132 children.

- Continued recruitment of therapists to better meet the needs of the children within the Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education programs and reduce waiting times and ensure timely services.
- Provided regulatory guidance and support to Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education provider agencies as well as to the Committee for Preschool Special Education chairpersons in the 16 school districts to ensure children are receiving the most appropriate and effective services needed to improve their delay or disability.
- Worked with the Preschool center-based programs to expand their services to serve more students in need of center-based programs.
- In April 2025, the Children and Youth with Special Health Care needs (CYSHCN) program was moved under the Early Intervention program, as it better aligns with the programs mission and services.
- Increased efforts in the Preschool program as it continues to see an increased number of students with complex medical needs who require full time 1:1 nursing in order to successfully attend center-based programming as well as students requiring nursing support during their transport to and from program.

Public Health and Disease Prevention Division

Adolescent Tobacco-Use Prevention Act (ATUPA)

- Conducted 892 ATUPA compliance checks, generating 45 violations.
- Received and investigated 20 ATUPA and 12 Clean Indoor Air Act related complaints.
- Completed 29 enforcement actions for ATUPA violations.
- Began discussion with local partners Dutchess BOCES and The Art Effect to use funds from the state's Juul settlement to create the "Escape the Vape" Art Contest, an anti-vape media campaign submission contest to bring awareness to the harms of vaping, scheduled to launch early 2026.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

- Completed 2 enforcement actions for lead-based paint violations.
- Trained and certified 168 individuals in lead safe work practices through contract with CertRebel, LLC.
- Offered U.S. EPA Lead Abatement Supervisor and EPA Lead Abatement Worker courses, training 4 individuals.
- Received 3,610 lead screenings; 39 children newly identified elevated lead levels reported.

- Performed lead hazard assessments at 34 dwellings in the program's target area (high-risk housing in the City of Poughkeepsie) with goal of educating, inspecting, and controlling lead-based paint hazards before a child becomes lead poisoned.
- Received 60 elevated blood lead level referrals for environmental case management.
- Provided lead prevention education to 125 individuals through combined efforts and community events.
- Presented to Sun River Healthcare staff and Nuvance family medicine doctor about lead program, surveyed pediatricians about childhood lead poisoning and what local healthcare professionals need to know.
- Met with at Vassar Brothers Medical Center to discuss how setting up a program to provide medical treatment for children with significantly elevated blood lead levels.
- Bolstered tenant incentive package for Primary Prevention program with new Pack N Plays from community partner.
- Cultivated inter-divisional partnerships to streamline outreach efforts to families with new babies residing in the primary prevention target area.
- Staff completed the EPA Lead Inspector and Lead Risk Assessor courses.

Indoor Air Quality

- Investigated 35 indoor air quality complaints.

Rental Registry Program

- Hired Program Manager and two Sanitarians to implement the Rental Registry Program, required by New York State law and launched in fall 2025.
- Entered an Intermunicipal Agreement with the City of Poughkeepsie to implement the Rental Registry Program; together, they will work cooperatively to complete Rental Registry inspections.
- Staff completed Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) trainings, U.S. E.P.A Risk Assessor and Lead Inspector training classes to increase understanding of federal lead-safe work practice requirements and become certified Lead Risk Assessors.
- Launched a new webpage for the program as well as create outreach materials for landlords and tenants.
- Attended the 2025 National Lead & Healthy Housing Conference to engage and collaborate with peers and other stakeholders working to advance lead poisoning prevention and healthy housing nationwide.

Communicable Disease

- Held four Rabies vaccination clinics; one in partnership with Dutchess County SPCA and three in partnership with Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary; a total of 460 pets were vaccinated.
- Partnered with Stray HELP and Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary to facilitate trap neuter vaccination return (TNVR) of feral cats as well as provide public education. 233 feral cats were spayed/neutered with the funding for this service.

Clinic-based services

- Various screenings, testing and immunizations were conducted at the DOH Clinic at the Family Partnership Center in Poughkeepsie in 2025 including but not limited to:
 - Oversight of 4 active and 5 latent Tuberculosis cases
 - 457 sexual health clinic patients
- Followed 2 new perinatal Hep B cases that will continue to be monitored into 2026.
- Clinic staff participated in 42 MHU outreach events to provide immunizations, sexual health education/screening and point of care services.
- Received more than 70 referrals for incomplete newborn screenings and ensured newborns were reconnected with pediatricians for re-testing and treatment as needed.

Immunization

- Immunizations at the DOH clinic are detailed as follows:
 - 188 Adult immunizations, 31.5% more than in 2024
 - 569 Children's immunizations (including 29 minors from The Children's Home of Poughkeepsie), an increase of 23.7% over the previous year
 - 186 private and travel vaccines
- Translated multiple foreign immunization records for students whose country of origin has different vaccine requirements, to help them safely and lawfully start school in Dutchess County.
- Participated in meetings with school nurses to provide vaccine updates and promote collaboration in increasing vaccine uptake.
- Collaborated with Environmental Services to manage and oversee 151 rabies post-exposure cases.

Communicable Disease Control

- Total of 1,041 confirmed Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) cases reported countywide:
 - Gonorrhea: 205
 - Chlamydia: 725
 - HIV: New Out of Care 11
 - Early or Symptomatic Syphilis: 67, Latent:31, Congenital: 2
- Confirmed a case of Powassan virus neuroinvasive disease, resulting in one adult fatality.
- Launched “Red Umbrella” project to advance harm reduction, trauma-informed care, and health equity to reduce barriers to essential health services and improving outcomes for underserved populations.
- Increased surveillance efforts after measles cases increased nationwide; no confirmed cases of measles in Dutchess County.
- Developed Spanish-language educational materials and created a survey assessing gaps in services and educational outreach for the Spanish-speaking population.
- Hosted the second annual “Spilling the Tea on STIs,” sexual health educational forum, to local healthcare providers sharing valuable resources among community health organization partners.
- Public Health Advisors attended Annual World AIDS Day and Ending the Epidemic Summit, participating in panel discussions and workshops that addressed health equity, sexual health, and community-led solutions.

Environmental Health Services

Bathing Beaches, Swimming Pools, and Recreational Aquatic Spray Grounds

- Regulated 26 public bathing beaches including:
 - Conducted 102 public bathing beach operation inspections and re-inspections, citing 5 critical violations, which were corrected.
 - Routine bacterial monitoring with 831 samples collected; 70 samples exceeded the threshold for acceptable bathing water quality, prompting 10 temporary closures until compliance was restored.
 - Two harmful algae blooms occurred, resulting in the shutdown of operations until it could be demonstrated that the water was below the acceptable threshold.
- Provided regulatory oversight of 192 public swimming pools including permitting, conducting inspections, and investigating complaints:
 - Conducted 658 public swimming pool operation inspections and re-inspections, citing 114 critical violations, which were corrected.
 - Conducted 5 informal hearings for swimming pool operations.
 - Conducted 1 administrative hearing for a swimming pool operation

- Permitted 3 recreational aquatic spray grounds for compliance:
 - Conducted 9 recreational aquatic spray ground inspections and re-inspections; no critical violations were cited.
- Hosted 10 drowning prevention seminars at public swimming pools facilities; trained 400 individuals.

Children's Camps

- Regulated 59 children's camp operations including:
 - Performed 174 children's camp inspections and re-inspections, citing 16 critical violations, which were corrected.
 - Investigated 38 reportable children's camp injuries; no children's camp illnesses were reported.
 - Investigated 7 complaints about children's camp operation
 - Conducted 5 informal hearings for children's camp operation
 - Conducted 1 administrative hearing for children's camp operation
 - Conducted five sessions of in-person supervision training for camp employees, reaching over 500 camp employees.
- Provided regulatory oversight of 10 childcare facilities and performed 14 inspections and re-inspections.

Engineering Projects

- Reviewed over 2,550 engineering submissions of new private wells, sewage collection and treatment system improvements, public water system improvements, public swimming pool improvements, subdivisions, extension of approval requests, use change requests, completed works certifications, and septic system repair notices of intent.
- Assisted with implementation of the new local Aquifer Law; 11 engineering plan submissions were impacted by the law.
- Updated public health engineer training manual.
- Helped develop a statistical report about environmental services tailored by municipality to be used online.

Food Service

- Regulated 1,227 year-round food service operations for compliance and performed 2,895 food service inspections and re-inspections:
 - Cited 1,017 critical violations, which were resolved.
 - Investigated 115 food service facility complaints.
 - Conducted 22 informal hearings for food service operations.
 - Conducted 5 administrative hearings for food service operations.
 - Issued 11 waivers for food service operations.

- Regulated 151 mobile food service operations:
 - Performed 111 mobile food service inspections and re-inspections, cited 9 critical violations; investigated 1 complaint.
 - Modernized Mobile Food Service Facility permitting guidance for Sanitarian Staff to provide uniform approach and consistency across district offices and with operators.
- Regulated:
 - 41 State Department of Education Summer Feeding Sites conducting 45 inspections and re-inspections, cited 4 critical violations.
 - 10 Office for the Aging Feeding Site operations for compliance and conducted 19 inspections and re-inspections; 3 critical violations were cited.
 - 4 vending facility operations for compliance; conducted 1 inspection with no critical violations cited.
- Oversaw 754 temporary food service operations for compliance.
- Taught two in-person food safety training courses for food service operators in a classroom setting, educating 27 food service workers; held on-site trainings at 70 food service operations.
- Developed a bilingual pamphlet to guide farmers' market vendors on the permit application process and hosted a virtual training session with 45 participants.

Housing & Nuisance Complaints

- Investigated 301 housing complaints and 42 indoor air complaints along with the Public Health and Disease Prevention Division. Conducted 2 informal hearings for housing complaints and 1 administrative hearing for a housing nuisance.
- Investigated 84 public health nuisance complaints.

Private wells

- Reviewed 148 applications to drill, deepen or abandon wells.
- Reviewed 292 sampling results for private wells tested as part of town-mandated private well testing regulations for the towns of East Fishkill, Wappinger, and Fishkill.
 - Notified 281 homeowners by letter when results exceeded drinking water standards.

Public Water Systems

- Public health engineers and public health engineering technicians regulated the operation of 633 public water systems.
- 880 site visits conducted; 158 sanitary surveys completed; 618 violations were cited.
- Investigated 179 chemical spills for impacts to public water systems.

- Investigated 18 public water system complaints.
 - Conducted 12 administrative hearings and 6 compliance meetings for public water system operations.
- Consulted with hospitals and dialysis centers regarding the operational impacts of the advancing salt front that moved north on the Hudson River.
- Collected twice-weekly samples at 4 water treatment plants due to harmful algal bloom to test for the presence of microcystins; none were detected in treated water.
- Evaluated and approved 11 candidates for Water Treatment Plant Operator certifications.
- Helped develop a new internal mapping tool that shows the location of public water system wells, Tier II facilities, and other environmental features.

Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

- Processed 220 Residential Sewage Disposal System applications (SAN 34) from local building departments verifying the availability of approved septic system and/or well designs before issuing building permits for individual residential projects.
- Approved 144 residential septic system and well installations for individual residential projects.
- Reviewed 502 residential septic system repair notices of intent (SAN 36).
- Investigated 56 reports of sewage failure.
- Developed and mailed postcards to inform residents that funding may be available to upgrade their septic system.
 - Processed 15 applications, of which 8 were eligible for funding.

Temporary Residence, Campgrounds, Mobile Home Parks, Migrant Farmworker Housing, Rooming Houses & Bed and Breakfasts and Public Functions

- Regulated 98 temporary residence operations.
 - Completed 184 inspections.
 - 20 critical violations were cited and corrected.
 - Investigated 12 temporary residence complaints.
 - Conducted 1 administrative hearing
- Regulated 13 campground operations
 - Performed 27 campground inspections and re-inspections; 6 critical violations were cited.
 - Investigated 1 campground complaint.
- Regulated 74 mobile home park operations.
 - Performed 131 inspections.
 - 12 critical violations were cited.
 - Investigated 7 complaints.

- Regulated 14 migrant farmworker housing operations.
- Regulated 31 rooming houses and bed & breakfast operations.
- Permitted 1 agricultural fairground operation, performed 2 agricultural fairground inspections; no critical violations were cited.
- Regulated 5 public function operations (attendance of over 5,000 people) including the Dutchess County Fair, the Sheep and Wool Festival, the Rhinebeck Antique Car Show, Balloon Festival. and Barton Orchard Harvest Weekends.

Rabies Exposure Program

- Investigated 675 potential human rabies exposures from animal contacts.
- Authorized 152 individuals for rabies post exposure prophylaxis. Of those, 76% were authorized due to bat exposure.
- 111 animal specimens were tested for rabies, with 73 of those specimens being bats. Two animal specimens tested positive for rabies, both were raccoons.
- Streamlined the rabies post exposure prophylaxis protocol, increasing education and communication for patients and reducing billing errors with healthcare community partners.
- Offered virtual sessions attended by over 50 participants for healthcare providers and community partners on administering rabies post-exposure prophylaxis

Weights & Measures

- Performed 640 inspections at 494 establishments.
- Inspected 4,579 weighing and measuring devices; 4,450 devices were found to be correct, a 97% accuracy rate.
- Submitted 144 gas samples taken from random Dutchess County gas stations for octane analysis as part of the New York State Petroleum Quality Program; no violations found.
- Conducted 40 inspections for pricing accuracy; more than 3,870 items checked with 97.7% accuracy rate.
- Responded to 21 complaints including: gas signage, scale accuracy, weight discrepancy, accuracy of amount of fuel dispensed, fuel pump operation, fuel quality, item pricing and scanner accuracy at supermarkets, delis and small establishments; all concerns were addressed.
- 30 supermarkets and 16 chain pharmacies in Dutchess County continue to participate in the Item Pricing Waiver Law.
- Licensed 28 Secondhand dealers.

Quality Improvement

- Established a Quality Improvement Team and created revisions to FOIL form to improve efficiency.
- Developed new employee learning plans to streamline onboarding and reduce paper usage.
- Collaborated with Environmental division to establish a plan with the goal of reducing restaurant violations through training and education.
- Initiated data collection on referral sources to the Health Clinic to evaluate outreach effectiveness.
- Coordinated the department's first "Lunch and Learn" session to promote staff engagement and knowledge sharing.



History

History

- Designed and implemented the Dutchess County Rev250 Programming Grant, which funded 22 original projects connecting residents and visitors to various aspects of the American Revolution's impact on Dutchess County
- Collaborated with Destination Dutchess for the launch of the Commander-in-Cheers Beers promotion, the latest installment of our award-winning Rev250 Heritage Tourism project.
- Received the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society's Preservation in Action Award
- Received Destination Dutchess's Storytelling Award for the Tavern Trail series
- Completed indexing of 25,000 pages of Ancient Documents for future imaging.
- Completed Phase 11 of the Ancient Documents Project, successfully digitizing 25,000 pages of historic court records to make accessible for public research.
- Secured Phase 12 imaging funding of an additional 25,000 pages of the Ancient Documents Collection through a State Archives LGRMIF Grant for \$23,500.
- Collaborated with the County Clerk's Office to digitize 25,372 pages of historical manuscript material through the Archival Imaging Initiative to preserve invaluable documents from the County archives as well as from local historical society collections.
- Delivered 33 public programs at venues throughout Dutchess County.
- Delivered seven Dutchess County Historic Tavern Trail programs at sites throughout the county.
- Presented original research on Dutchess County at three conferences: the McNeil Center for Early American Studies/University of Pennsylvania's 'Where is Early America?' Conference, The Fort Plain America 250 Conference, and the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Conference.
- Supervised a summer intern from the Wappingers School District
- Partnered with the East Fishkill Historical Society on Dutchess County Civil War Days weekend event.
- Led three forum meetings of all Dutchess County history organizations for collaborative planning and networking.
- Presented at the Dutchess County Clerk's Office's June 6th naturalization ceremony
- Led network of local and county-level planning groups throughout Dutchess and expanded regional partnerships for Rev250 planning.
- Served on the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Management Advisory Committee.

- Served as an ex officio member of the Dutchess County Historical Society Board of Trustees.
- Advised and assisted the Dutchess County Historical Society and local historical societies throughout the county on strategic planning, board development, and other institutional projects.
- Answered 51 research inquiries from the public at large and maintained countywide communications network for county history community through department landing page and email list.



Human Resources

Human Resources

- Approved, tracked and recorded personnel actions including appointment, promotion, and salary updates, etc. for 2,070 employees of the County and 7,148 non-county employees.
- Reviewed 6,281 applications for appointment eligibility (2,524 exam applications, 3,003 recruitment applications and 754 non-county applications).
- Administered 169 civil service exams and 137 recruitments, as well as conducted FPAT testing for Firefighters, Deputy Sheriff/Police Officer Agility Testing, and Correction Officer Agility Testing and administering 911 PC Qualifying Tests.
- Established first eligible list in new application/exam software platform as well as posted the Eligible Lists for the public.
- Processed 329 new employee orientations.
- Reviewed 229 positions from County and covered agencies for classification and conducted multiple appeals and desk audits. Revised 61 job specifications.
- Completed 50 payroll audits and certified a total of 5,952 County and non-County civil service employees for civil service compliance.
- Submitted 32 Resolutions to NYS Civil Service Commission to update the Rules for Dutchess County, including additional 225 HELP titles.
- Received 27 complaints/inquiries about harassment/discrimination involving nine departments. Full investigations were completed and/or referrals/mediated disputes were resolved.
- Established a County account with Handshake, a career development platform for college students and recent graduates, for increased digital presence for recruiting.
- Settlement of DSA Collective Bargaining Agreement with ratification by County Legislature.
- Equal Employment Opportunity and Inclusion Officer (EEOIO) participated in the Marist Career and Internship Fair and Roundtable Series, as well as career pipelines within Dutchess County Government.
- Participated in community outreach and recruitment meetings that serve underrepresented groups regarding employment with Dutchess County Government.
- Participated in approximately 13 Career and Recruitment Hybrid Fairs and tabling events.
- A total of 2 inquiries and applications were received and submitted for the 55A program.
- Adopted Separation Policy.
- First group of CDL Trainees were successful in the new trainee program with all 8 fully licensed and serving probationary periods.

Risk Management Division

- 25 ADA Requests received, reviewed and determinations completed.
- Received and processed 37 workplace violence investigations, with 71 employees interviewed.
- 119 employees tested as part of the annual test for the Hearing Conservation Program.
- Completed 73 miscellaneous safety inspections for county departments (confined space inspections, noise complaints, unsafe condition reports, decibel testing, mold/lead complaints, emergency egress complaints).
- Completed 157 building inspections for the County along with Workers Compensation Trust participants.
- Assisted 218 employees with Defensive Driving Signups/payment processing.
- 6 employees trained and certified to operate forklifts.
- Managed NEOGOV training, with 1,924 new and existing employees completing over 9,584 trainings.
- Processed over 216 new Workers' Compensation claims for Dutchess County and 10 other Article 5 Plan Participants.
- Conducted 70 Federal Transit Administration Random, Post Accident and New Hire Drug Tests and 50 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Random, Post Accident and New Hire Drug Tests.
- Managed and maintained all Health Insurance benefits and processed Open Enrollment for all 1,944 active employees and about 1,200 retirees.
- 153 Paid Parental Leave, Paid Family Leave and Disability Claims Processed.
- Successfully completed Federal Transit Administration (FTA) audit.



Law

(County Attorney's Office)

Law (County Attorney's Office)

- Prepared and submitted 166 resolutions on behalf of County Departments to the County Legislature for review and approval.
- Prepared and circulated approximately 1730 contracts, grants, extensions and amendment agreements for County departments through the OnBase system.
- Assisted 104 residents with applications for Poor Person status, enabling them to start actions in Dutchess County courts without paying initial filing fees or other costs.
- Provided legal counsel to Risk Management and various departments on 73 civil litigation cases.
- Represented Dutchess County before the Appellate Division, Fourth Department and the State's highest court, the Court of Appeals, regarding the constitutionality of the "Even Year Election Law", in seeking to protect County Home Rule and the sanctity of the Dutchess County Charter as it concerns the election of local elected officials.
- Provided general counsel to County Executive's Office and Department of Emergency Response relating to the continuation and expansion of initiatives to address EMS challenges including:
 - Counsel to contract for Supplemental EMS support services to Dutchess County, which provides both basic life support and advanced life support ambulance services under a new pilot program.
 - Fly Car Grant awards, which provide critical funding for life-saving equipment to fire departments, rescue squads, and ambulance corps.
- Obtained two favorable decisions of the Dutchess County Supreme Court regarding the Schatz industrial site in the Town of Poughkeepsie, firstly vacating the County's temporary incidents of ownership and permitting tax foreclosure to proceed and secondly awarding the County judgment of foreclosure, in the effort to rehabilitate this tax-delinquent brownfield site and restore it to productive reuse.
- Provided general counsel and assisted the Executive Branch during the recruitment and appointment and re-appointment of Department Heads and County leaders, including Deputy County Executive, Commissioner of Human Resources, Commissioner of Emergency Response, Commissioner of Department of Community & Family Services, Director of Probation and Medical Examiner.
- Provided general counsel to Department of Public Works on a \$1.9M USDOT SMART Grant agreement to fund the design and installation of an Autonomous High-Definition Aircraft Video Tracking & Data Collection System at Hudson Valley Regional Airport, advancing regional aviation safety, operational analytics, and technology modernization.

- Successfully defended Dutchess County Board of Elections at the Second Department Appellate Division in the *Furlong and Hunt v. Dutchess County BOE*, regarding Town of Pawling Town Board elections.
- Successfully negotiated a resolution to a dispute over a district of origin claim concerning the County, Millbrook and Arlington, avoiding a hearing before the Commissioner of Education, which assisted DCFS in reviewing its internal policies for determining district of origin cases and ensuring best practices to comply with the law.
- Coordinated litigation defense strategies in various litigation matters where the County is a party.
- Provided guidance to DPW on tree removal: assessing risk, liability and enhancing safety.
- Counseled the Department of Mental Health's AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) Coordinator to update litigation strategy in AOT prosecutions to successful resolutions.
- Provided general counsel and negotiated terms of a DSA ("Dutchess Staff Association") collective bargaining agreement.
- Provided general counsel to the Division of Central Services on Preferred Source procurement, developing clear guidelines to ensure continued compliance with State Finance Law.

Training

- Hosted a County-wide FOIL and Open Meetings Law Seminar for attorney CLE credits.
- Provided training at the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) School Resource Officer (SRO) Conference regarding Juvenile Law and Raise the Age for SROs throughout New York State.
- Provided Juvenile Law training at the DCSO Police Academy.
- Instructed and presented a Continuing Legal Education class on Juvenile Delinquency Law at the CAASNY Winter Meeting in Saratoga, New York.
- Instructed and presented to police officers on Juvenile Delinquency Law for the State of New York Police Juvenile Officers Association, a class necessary for police to be certified by NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services as juvenile officers.
- Conducted training for local affiliated hospital staff regarding Child Protective and Adult Protective Services.



Mental Health

Mental Health

Administration/Department Highlights

- Created a Policy and Procedure committee. Reviewed and re-wrote the entire policy and procedure manual for the Department of Mental Health.
- Trained all contract agencies to use the ClearPoint outcome metric entry system which allows for clear and concise monitoring of contract outcome metrics.
- Defined and implemented quality improvement projects in each division of the Department of Mental Health. Trained staff on monitoring data outcome measures related to internal programmatic goals to ensure treatment efficacy.
- Served 10 individuals through the hoarding task force and prevented four evictions related to hoarding. Developed an online hoarding referral system.
- Received a grant from the Department of Justice to evaluate Mental Health Response in the community through Sequential Intercept Mapping. Grant related activities will occur in 2026, in collaboration with the Criminal Justice Council.
- Launched the new Office of Mental Health licensed S.T.E.P (Support, Treatment, Empowerment, Progress) Intensive Outpatient Program and Clinic. Clinic serves individuals who have not been successful in other treatments available throughout the county.
- Received a grant to place five additional Naloxone vending machines throughout the county each strategically placed in various corners of the county: one in Central Dutchess (Poughkeepsie), two in Eastern Dutchess (Millbrook and Amenia), one in Southern Dutchess (Beacon), and one in Northern Dutchess (Red Hook)
- 115 naloxone cabinets (“naloxboxes”) were distributed to community partners as part of an outreach grant project. In total, approximately 170 naloxboxes have been distributed since 2024.
- Expanded outreach with the Mental Health Town Halls, previously called Public Forums, to hear the mental health needs of the community, directly from the community. Four Town Halls were held in Central Dutchess (Poughkeepsie), in Southern Dutchess (Wappinger), in Northern Dutchess (Red Hook), and in Eastern Dutchess (Amenia).
- Hired forensic psychiatrist with extensive experience working with criminally involved people with serious mental illness.
- Established two new Mental Health Court Navigators. One navigator will be full-time in the City of Poughkeepsie, and the other will be available to courts throughout the county. Both navigators will work as real-time clinical consultants in the courtroom to assist in connecting individuals to mental health and substance use services as well as assisting members of the criminal justice team in making treatment connections for people with unmet behavioral health needs.

- Partnered with 25 community-based organizations to provide comprehensive prevention, treatment, recovery, case management and housing support for youth and adults with behavioral health and developmental needs. Services are provided to thousands of people across Dutchess County.

All Abilities

- Responded to over 175 inquiries for information and guidance regarding resources and services from families, individuals and partner agencies.
- ThinkDIFFERENTLY hosted/cohosted 17 different events for residents, their families and providers which included:

| 2025 ThinkDIFFERENTLY Events | |
|---|------------|
| Event | Attendance |
| OPWDD Provider training (a 2-part training) | 12 |
| Fun on the Farm Day | 120+ |
| Flower Box Workshops at DC Fairgrounds x 2 | 30 |
| Sensory Friendly Movie (Lyceum) | 136 |
| 5 th Annual Fitness and Field Day | 409 |
| Dutchess County Fair (all week) Sensory Friendly Space used by groups | 83 |
| First Responder Autism Training | 11 |
| ADA Title II Website Accessibility Training | 16 |
| ADA Title II Local Government Accessibility Training | 18 |
| ADA Title II Barriers to Accessibility Training | 23 |
| ADA Small Business Toolkit for Inclusive Small Businesses Training | 29 |
| First Responder Meet and Greet (weekend) | 15 |
| First Responder Meet and Greet (weekday) | 40 |
| Trick or Treat at the Farm | 120+ |
| Bardavon Day Time Sensory Friendly Performance (David Gonzalez) 10am | 108 |
| Bardavon Day Time Sensory Friendly Performance (David Gonzalez) 12pm | 136 |
| Sensory Friendly Movie (Roosevelt) | 199 |
| Bardavon- The Nutcracker | 197 |

- Dutchess County Dept. of Mental Health along with ThinkDIFFERENTLY was represented at 52 different community events, sharing information about the initiative, mental health services for adults and children, connecting individual & families to services, and networking with providers.
- The ThinkDIFFERENTLY.net website had over 18,000 hits, with 8,600 engaged sessions lasting at least 10 seconds or involving two or more pages.
- Processed 105 Children's Single Point of Access (CSPOA) applications, an increase of 17 applications from 2024.

- The Think Accessible Community Certification initiative was implemented. 14 local businesses were awarded a gold, silver or bronze status for their accessibility to individuals with disabilities.

PODS Behavioral Health Specialists

- At the end of 2024, two new Behavioral Health Specialists were hired to be co-located at the PODS. They work hand-in-hand with the DCFS Case Managers, to engage clients of the PODS in individual counseling to help them meet their needs. Their role focuses on helping clients improve their mental wellness, reduce substance use, build positive relationships, pursue employment goals and develop healthier lifestyles. The two Behavioral Health Specialists averaged 25 active cases each per month.

Probation Behavioral Health Specialists

- Filled both the Adult and Youth Probation Behavioral Health Specialist positions. These are licensed clinical providers embedded into the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections, one for the adult unit and one for the juvenile unit. They work to increase probationer engagement in evidence based clinical practice to achieve goals; including but not limited to, increasing mental wellness and positive relationships with others, decreasing substance use, , creating gainful employment goals, healthier lifestyles, etc.
- The Youth Probation Behavioral Health Specialist has engaged youth and families in various evidence-based interventions to reduce recidivism; from Functional Family Therapy to brief interventions for substance use, and emotional regulation skills. Also engaged the Probation Officers in wellness activities around their own self-care.
- The Adult Probation Behavioral Health Specialist worked with the probationers through evidence-based practices such as engagement in Moral Reconation Therapy, Emotional Regulation/Anger Management, and Interactive Journaling to help them understand how to improve their decision making, and accept responsibility, while increasing their mental wellness and decreasing their substance use. In-services were held with probation officers about various available services, these will continue into 2026.

AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment)

- There are currently 90 active AOT orders, a 36% increase from 2024, and 10 Enhanced Service Contract orders.
- Participated in regular meetings with community partners, including the Greater Poughkeepsie Community Care Team, Westchester Medical Center, Housing Outreach Team, and the Dutchess County Justice and Transition Center.
- Updated the Weekly Report form to ensure comprehensive and consistent clinical updates.

- Developed and distributed AOT scopes, outlining provider responsibilities when working with vulnerable populations.

Forensic Services

- Completed 192 forensic evaluations for the court, providing recommendations for addiction and mental health treatment options as alternatives to incarceration.
- Attended weekly Judicial Diversion team meetings and bimonthly Veteran's Court dates.

Competency to Stand Trial Evaluations

- Completed 122 reports for clients with pending criminal charges in cases where the court was concerned that the client was not psychiatrically stable enough to participate in the legal process.

Adult SPOA (Single Point of Access)

- Received and processed 360 Adult SPOA applications, a 22% increase from last year.
- Housed 40 individuals this year.
- Current active SPOA is 217 individuals.

Care Management

- Received and processed 96 applications.

ACT (Assertive Community Treatment)

- Received and processed 87 referrals this year, a 521% increase from last year, as the team could not receive referrals last year without a psychiatrist.

HELPLINE

- Answered approximately 22,500 calls to 845-485-9700 number.
- Answered 38,943 texts from individuals.
- Answered 6,132 Lifeline/988 calls, a 39% increase from 2024.
- 398 new downloads of the Dutchess HELPLINE app for a total of more than 2600 downloads.
- Received 279 calls and texts for help via HELPLINE app.
- Conducted 57 active rescues. An *active rescue* refers to actions undertaken by Center staff to ensure the safety of individuals who are at imminent risk of suicide or who are in the process of a suicide attempt. The term *active* indicates that Center staff initiate protective actions on behalf of individuals who are assessed to be at imminent risk and who, despite efforts to engage them, are unwilling or unable to take steps to secure their own safety.

Trauma Team

- Responded to 27 calls, meeting around 250 individuals.
- Completed Disaster Mental Health policy and procedure. Currently awaiting approval from OMH.

Dutchess County Threat Assessment Group (TAG)

- Received 41 referrals, and have 26 active cases.
- Held two full Participating Member Agency (PMA) membership meetings. There are now 42 participating schools, businesses, municipalities and other entities across the county
- Provided the PMAs with in-person training and update from Department of Homeland Security. Brought in Supervisory Special FBI Agent and Co-Author of Making Prevention a Reality, Molly Amman to provide training on Threat Assessment.

Intensive Treatment Alternatives Program (ITAP)

- Provided 4,282 Outpatient Rehab visits.
- 69 unique individuals served, with an average daily census of 19 people.

Partial Hospital/Intensive Outpatient Program

- In October, the Partial Hospital Program officially transitioned to a new Intensive Outpatient Program called the S.T.E.P Program and Clinic.
- Between January 1st and October 1st the Partial Hospital served 188 unique individuals with an average daily census of 12 people.
- Between October 1st and December 31st the S.T.E.P Program served 94 unique individuals with an average daily census of 17 people.

Empowerment Center

- Successfully completed OASAS Street Outreach and Engagement Services (OES) grant project. The goal of this project is to provide street-level OES in the community to populations who have a hard time accessing harm reduction, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, and recovery support services.
- Obtained housing for eight participants including independent housing, supported housing, Section 8, or emergency housing.
- Conducted outreach in the community 178 times
- All staff trained and certified in evidence-based Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP) I & II for individuals and groups. Started weekly WRAP wellness group.
- Started weekly “Recovery in Motion” fitness program, introducing fitness as a pathway to recovery.

- Provided Recovery Coach services to 212 unique individuals.
- Facilitated 154 group and training sessions with participants and community members. Group sessions included Recovery Connections, Wellness in Numbers, Restoration League, Recovery in Motion, as well as trainings on Narcan, Fentanyl and Xylazine testing, de-escalation skills and more.

Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

- Received 18 referrals to LEAD; 14 were eligible and accepted entry into the program.
- Program now has 38 total participants.
 - 23 are now housed, with seven residing in rental apartments.
- Team made 166 direct connections to services.
- LEAD's Policy Coordination Group (PCG), which consists of leadership from city and county government, the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department and People USA added a new member, Corporation Counsel. With this addition, a new initiative was established to allow for the diversion of city ordinance violations to LEAD, creating a new pathway to enter the LEAD Program.

Jail-Based Services

- Discharge Planner had approximately 501 inmate contacts, providing support and planning with people incarcerated in the Justice Transition Center (JTC).
- Discharge Planner transported people directly to treatment around 20 times.
- Discharge Planner completed 53 referrals to treatment for incarcerated individuals, including 29 to inpatient substance use treatment.
- Chemical Dependency Counselor opened 178 new Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) cases in the JTC (buprenorphine, methadone, or naltrexone, etc).
- Chemical Dependency Counselor facilitated over 70 ongoing MAT support/education groups in the JTC.
- Chemical Dependency Counselor linked 28 individuals to ongoing outpatient MAT maintenance.
- Recovery Coach worked with 256 participants. 107 of these individuals were also on MAT.
- Recovery Coach had 507 total peer engagements with participants, with 238 of those engagements out in the community, including accompanying people to their treatment appointments.
- Recovery Coach provided 90 direct connections/introductions to recovery supports in the community.

Commission on Human Rights

- The Commission on Human Rights had more than 150 contacts from 87 unique individuals, organizations and municipalities reaching more than 650 people throughout Dutchess County.
- Collaborated with 16 faith-based organizations and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County to hold eight events, as part of “Breaking Bread, Building Bridges” initiative, reaching around 300 people in Eastern, Central and Southern Dutchess. Published article about this project in *The Voice*, November 2025.
- Held six 100 Cups of Coffee Dialogues, reaching 180 people including:
 - Three sessions: *Millerton: Thriving Together*
 - One *Stanfordville: We Created a Playground: What’s Next?*
 - One *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR): What Does it Mean Today? Small Places Close to Home: Pathways to Historical Understanding Conference*, FDR Presidential Library + Museum
- Facilitated multiple group conversations including:
 - Person w/disability barred from volunteering: contacted stakeholders and facilitated meeting resulting in agreement to allow person to volunteer
 - Facilitated meeting between two organizations after conflict at public event
- Other presentations and community engagement included:
 - Age Discrimination presentation to Marist University Continuing Life Studies Program
 - Represented the Commission at nine community events throughout the county
 - Represented the Commission on the NYS Division of Human Rights, Bias Prevention Unit, Mid-Hudson Prevention Regional Council
 - Represented the Commission at two conferences: ADL *Never is Now* conference and NYS Division *We All Belong Here* Symposium
- Co-hosted educational workshop in collaboration with The Brain and Body Coalition to raise awareness for Bebe Moore BIPOC Mental Health Month with a 2-part program:
 - *Come Create and Celebrate*: connecting art and making with mental health
 - *Creating Space*: panel discussion about art and nature and connection to mental wellness
- Convened 10 monthly Commission on Human Rights meetings.
- Three Commission members re-appointed for terms beginning Oct. 1.



Planning & Development

Planning & Development

Agriculture

- Developed a new online Agricultural District application portal through the Agricultural District Parcel Viewer application with OCIS.
- Assisted in the review of the 2025 annual Agricultural District inclusions; recommendations were approved by the legislature and adopted by NYS Ag & Markets.
- Coordinated and spoke at the annual Agricultural Forum held at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Concluded the forum with a tour of the fairgrounds for the President of SUNY Cobleskill; approximately 65 people attended.
- Began holding Education Sub-Committee of the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) meetings; began discussion for a 2026 event for high school students to showcase agricultural careers.
- Coordinated the March 2026 continuing education credit seminar for Dutchess County Assessors Association on Agricultural District Law and Agricultural Value Assessment.
- Completed an update to the Agricultural Directory (formerly Agricultural Resource Inventory), including redesign of layout to increase accessibility.
- Completed the outline for the *Cultivating Dutchess* webpage to replace the existing agriculture section on the Planning & Development website.
- Assisted approximately 120 constituents with issues related to Agricultural Value Assessment, Right to Farm Laws, Economic Development, land use, and general agricultural-related questions.
- Drafted an Agricultural Awareness Questionnaire to be used when speaking with planning boards/municipal officials to gauge their awareness on current ag plans/outreach, building from the Farm Friendly Audit.

Community Investment / CDBG / HOME

- Completed the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs.
- Completed the review of 13 CDBG Municipal applications for the 2025 program year and awarded 7 projects totaling \$1,020,000.
- CDBG-CV funds in the amount of \$420,000 were used for the rehabilitation of the former Webster House overnight emergency shelter in the Town of Poughkeepsie with 21 beds in three sleeping rooms for unhoused individuals.
- CDBG-CV funds in the amount of \$400,000 were also used in partnership with a non-profit housing developer to acquire land in the Village of Red Hook for the development of 20 affordable housing units.

- Completed 9 CDBG Municipal projects.
- Completed the review of 5 HOME applications for the 2025 program year and awarded 5 projects totaling \$786,960.
- Completed projects for 4 homeowners through Owner-occupied Rehabilitation Program. Two additional projects have been approved and are in progress.
- Administered the 2025 Agency Partner Grant (APG) Program with \$1.5 million awarded to 25 agencies for 32 programs.
- 2025 APG: Infrastructure Program: received and reviewed 16 applications requesting more than \$440,000 and awarded \$100,000 to 4 projects.
- Launched the 2026 APG Program, which included hosting an APG Application Workshop and Q & A session; received and reviewed 65 applications requesting more than \$4.2 million and awarded \$1.5 million to 27 agencies for 32 programs.
- 2025 Municipal Investment Grant (MIG) Program: received and reviewed 11 applications requesting more than \$730,000 and awarded \$500,000 for 8 projects.
- In partnership with the Department of Emergency Response, launched the 2025 Fly Car Equipment Support Grant Program; received and awarded 9 projects totaling more than \$134,000.
- Completed 24 MIG projects and 6 APG: Infrastructure projects.

Data, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Graphics

- Assisted the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) with mapping Tier II hazardous material facilities by verifying locational data and producing updated draft maps organized by fire district to support emergency response and planning.
- Conducted an analysis of prior Centers & Greenspaces GIS work to prepare for potential future updates.
- Updated Agricultural District data based on Ag. & Markets approval of 2025 agricultural district inclusion requests.
- Worked with OCIS to launch an updated Parks & Trails website and new parks contact application to ensure data integrity and accuracy.
- Provided GIS analysis support to the Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) for the upcoming 2026 Metropolitan Transit Plan (MTP) update.
- Completed the annual zoning data update, aligning zoning layers with parcels for use in the Zoning Application and updated community zoning maps.
- Completed annual review and update of departmental GIS layers.

- Completed 2024 mapping for annual U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.
- Fulfilled 105 custom mapping and data requests/projects for municipalities, engineering firms, local non-profits. Highlights include:
 - Launched staging site for new WATER GIS tool for evaluation of project compliance with Local Law No. 2 of 2024 Regulating Hazardous Pollution Sources in Proximity to Public Water Sources, Aquifers and Wetlands.
 - Provided data and mapping analysis for the Health Department's Rental Registry Program, supporting compliance with NYS Public Health Law §1377 to ensure lead-safe rental housing and prevent childhood lead exposure.
 - Developed a Food Resources map displaying food pantries, farmers' markets, and farm stands for the Health Department's booth at the Dutchess County Fair.
 - Conducted spatial analysis for the Health Department to identify smoking and vaping vendors with underage sales violations near schools.
 - Created 6 detour maps for DPW.
 - Reviewed existing data with Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority (DCWWA) and started cleaning it to support both DCWWA's internal use and the County Water & Sewer Mapping Initiative.
 - Created/updated 9 maps for DCWWA water district benefit assessments.
 - Created bus shelter maps for DCPT. Provided mapping support to the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Dutchess County for upcoming Point of Dispensing (POD) drill at the Farm and Home Center.
 - Provided water system mapping series for the Dutchess County Local Emergency Management Planning Committee.
 - Provided mapping of the Village of Rhinebeck to the Dutchess County Agricultural Society to support police planning for the Dutchess County Fairgrounds.
- Fulfilled 55 custom graphics requests/projects for Dutchess County departments/staff. Highlights include:
 - Printed and mounted large format posters for the "Putting Your Skills Back to Work" senior skills fair, Honor-a-Veteran series events, and the "Faces of Resilience" Women's Networking Event.
 - Completed final design for manufacturing printed vinyl graphics for the bus shelter at Quiet Cove Park.
 - Provided photography for a National Night Out pedestrian safety event to support the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Health Department.
 - Produced multiple materials for the pedestrian safety event "National Night Out."
 - Adapted "Watch out for Me" campaign crosswalk graphics for the printing of lawn signs.

Economic Development

- Submitted the Schatz Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) study to the NYS Department of State for approval.

- Applied to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Central Dutchess Pump Station Water Storage Tank.
- Provided updates to the Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC) for the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).
- Facilitated a consultant-led study to perform an organizational assessment of Think Dutchess and the Economic Development Ecosystem.
- Presented summaries of housing and agricultural issues to the Economic Development Advisory Council (EDAC).
- Participated in discussions with Pattern for Progress on the development of the Economic Developments Regional Council ARCHIVE application.
- Worked with the Dutchess County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) on the development of a potential IDA housing policy.

Energy and Environment

- In coordination with Central Services, issued a Request for Information (RFI) in October for the County Water & Sewer Mapping Initiative. The RFI closed in December with 8 responses from industry professionals. Reviewed submissions and documented insights on industry standards, best practices, and typical project costs. Findings will help inform a pilot project and may support development of a future RFP.
- Finalized the County's [2024 Climate Smart annual progress report](#).
- Advised and contributed to the Environmental Management Council's 2025 State of the Environment report update.
- Coordinated and convened the Dutchess County Climate Smart Communities Task Force (DCCSCTF) for 2 full meetings and 3 sub-committee meetings.
- Hosted 2 annual Conservation Advisory Council/ Environmental Management Council roundtable events for local conservation advisory groups within the County.
- Completed 10 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Part 58 Environmental Reviews for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funded projects.
- Provided technical support to the Hudson 7 Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) project, which covers all Dutchess communities that rely on the Hudson River for drinking water and submitted final report to NYS DOH for final approval and adoption.

- Provided support as an ex-officio member of the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council at 10 meetings.
- Supported the EPA Dredging and Lower-Hudson Community Advisory Group as the designated representative on behalf of Dutchess County interests at 3 meetings.
- Held a meeting with staff from 3 local land trusts (Scenic Hudson, Winnakee Land Trust, and Dutchess Land Conservancy) to discuss planning-related issues, including conservation subdivisions.
- Staff participated in Pace University Land Use Law Center's Land Use Leadership Academy for clean energy.
- Presented updates on the County Water & Sewer Mapping Initiative at the EMC/CAC roundtable to keep stakeholders informed of progress and next steps.
- Provided support to Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County; staff in hiring a new environmental educator.
- Continued close coordination with DC DOH in developing draft rules and regulations for the enforcement of Local Law No. 2 of 2024 Regulating Hazardous Pollution Sources in Proximity to Public Water Sources, Aquifers and Wetlands.
- Verified State Drinking Water Information System Public Water Supply (SDWIS PWS) data for 10 water systems (serving 3,300+ people) in coordination with the Department of Health, supporting AWIA compliance, water/sewer mapping, and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) hazard monitoring. Improved data accuracy for mapping, risk assessments, and Department of Health records.
- Facilitated a coordination meeting with DOH, LEPC, and major water operators to review updated data, mapping, and establish ongoing communication channels.
- Provided support to the Hudson 7 Intermunicipal Council in coordinating evaluation and response to emerging issues along the river including harmful algal blooms and monitoring the salt front.
- Staff presented at 2 Dutchess County drought committee meetings.
- Staff presented at Mid-Hudson Young Environmental Scientists Program at the Cary Institute.
- Reviewed EPA water district data and SDWIS PWS data to support water infrastructure mapping and local hazardous pollution law implementation.

- Provided support to the Dutchess County Local Emergency Management Planning Committee for the water system mapping series.
- Collaborated with DC DOH in updating Water Resources section of the County's Natural Resources Inventory website to include additional information pertaining to flooding and droughts.
- Provided coordinating support and staffing at 2025 Dutchess County Earth Day event.
- Provided review and support to DC DOH for 3 submitted projects pertaining to compliance with the Local Law Regulating Hazardous Pollution Sources in Proximity to Public Water Sources, Aquifers and Wetlands.
- Completed annual report on 2024 municipal CAC and County EMC activities and 2025 goals, including update of all municipal CAC contact information.
- Delivered presentation on county water infrastructure mapping project to Dutchess County Planning Board members.
- Delivered presentation on County Natural Resources Inventory to municipal CAC members.
- Provided support to incoming environmental staff at CCEDC, orienting them to relevant County projects and programs and setting up introductions with other partner organizations.
- Conducted annual outreach to current Solar PILOT operators ensuring that all annual payments have been received.

Housing and Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

- Completed the first Housing Trust Fund Project in May 2025, creating 3 new affordable rental units in the City of Poughkeepsie.
- Two other Housing Trust Fund projects are under construction, 9-13 Noxon Street, Poughkeepsie and Two Cross Street, Beacon. Both projects are expected to be completed within the 2026 calendar year for a total of 25 affordable housing units supported by the program.
- The Housing Trust Fund closed on loans for two large projects – Wallace Campus in the City of Poughkeepsie and Locust Hill in the Town of Rhinebeck – in December. These two projects expect to begin construction in 2026 and when completed, will add 267 units of affordable housing.
- Completed the review of 9 Housing Trust Fund applications requesting almost \$12 million and awarded 4 projects in Round 2 totaling \$2.45 million.

- Provided data and mapping of affordable housing distribution in support of Industrial Development Agency policy considerations.
- Completed data collection, drafted, and published the [2024 Rental Housing Survey](#). Surveys were circulated to rental complexes of 20 or more units.
- Completed data analysis, drafted and published the [2024 For-Sale Housing Report](#).

Interdepartmental

- Assisted the County Department of Health in the development of rules/regulations for the implementation of Local Law 2 of 2024 “Regulating Hazardous Pollution Sources in Proximity to Public Water Supply Sources, Aquifers, and Wetlands.”
- Managed a grant writing consultant which assisted all County Departments; 6 grants were applied for and are awaiting award announcements.
- Coordinated the development of the 2025-2029 Capital Program process, working with all County departments to update information regarding ongoing and new capital projects.
- Assisted in the review and resolution of 2 ADA Title II complaints.
- Provided an educational session on the RAMP application and gave access to the Department of Health EHS Division to assist in DOH reviews.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

- Approved a new [Federal Fiscal Year \(FFY\) 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#), programming \$175 million in federal funding for highway and transit projects across the county, sponsored by state, county and local agencies. This includes a new \$4.3 million project to redesign the CR114 (Main St)/Grand Ave intersection in Poughkeepsie.
- Adopted a new [Unified Planning Work Program \(UPWP\)](#) for State Fiscal Year (2025-2026), programming \$1.6 million in federal assistance for transportation planning activities for the region, county, and local municipalities.
- Completed the [Beacon-Hopewell Rail Trail Feasibility Study](#), which assessed a 13-mile section of the inactive Beacon Line from Beacon to Hopewell Junction to determine the feasibility of developing a rail trail along the corridor. A ‘rail to trail’ concept was deemed feasible and would provide a safe option for non-motorized transportation along the corridor.

- Completed substantial work on a countywide [Transportation Safety Action Plan \(SAP\)](#), which will include engineering/infrastructure-based recommendations, best practice programs and policies, priority projects, and performance measures to improve safety across the county's transportation system. The SAP will meet USDOT standards for the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program (SS4A) and enable the County and all 30 municipalities to apply for SS4A implementation funding.
- Completed the [City of Poughkeepsie Speed Limit Reduction Study](#) and presented the findings to the Common Council.
- Completed a traffic signal optimization study of 19 intersections along the Route 9/9D corridors in the Towns of Fishkill, Poughkeepsie, and Wappinger, Villages of Fishkill and Wappingers Falls, and City of Beacon to address local concerns about traffic on those corridors.
- Completed annual motorized and non-motorized traffic count program, which included 144 vehicle traffic counts and 33 volunteer pedestrian/bicycle counts.
- Initiated an update to [Moving Dutchess Forward](#), a long-range transportation plan, to include contracting with a public outreach firm to better engage the public and reach vulnerable populations. A mix of virtual and in-person tools will be used to increase public awareness of the plan, gather meaningful feedback during its update, and present interim work products.
- Initiated an update to the MPO's [Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan](#) ("Coordinated Plan"). The plan will identify the transportation needs of people with disabilities and older adults, along with ways to better meet those needs.
- Initiated a sidewalk condition inventory for the City of Beacon, which will assist the city with future capital programming.
- With the Orange and Ulster County MPOs, underwent a Federal Certification Review of the Mid-Hudson Valley Transportation Management Area (TMA). This review, done every four years by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, ensures that the three MPOs are carrying out federal transportation planning requirements.
- Developed a series of intersection improvement concepts in the City of Poughkeepsie, based on fieldwork from Walkability Audits coordinated in 2024 by AARP. Presented these concepts to the city for potential incorporation in its DRI program.

- In coordination with the New York Bicycling Coalition and Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board, organized and held training for law enforcement agencies and others on bicycle laws, including the regulation of e-bikes and e-scooters, with 65 attendees from at least 23 agencies/organizations.
 - These included municipal police departments, County representatives, college security (Vassar, Marist, DCC, CIA), Walkway ambassadors and State Parks staff, State Troopers, and Bridge Authority staff, as well as several agencies from outside Dutchess (White Plains, Westchester, Saugerties, Kingston, and Ulster County).
- Published [Annual Listing of Obligated Project for FFY 2025](#) that shows how federal highway and transit funds were spent in Dutchess County from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

Municipal Support/Education

- Executed new Intermunicipal Agreements with all 30 Dutchess County municipalities to eliminate the requirement to refer certain actions for GML 239 review.
- Began laying out a framework and developing focus areas for a new Dutchess County Comprehensive Plan.
- Continued development work for a future update to the Greenway Connections guide, including updated Centers & Greenspaces mapping. Greenway Connections is used by Dutchess County municipalities for land use planning and site plan review.
- Drafted improvements to the RAMP system to simplify workflows for municipal and county staff. Updates include a new one-page response form, a standardized transmittal sheet, and added automation to improve consistency in municipal submissions and county responses. Improvements are anticipated to go live in Q1 2026.
- Completed 376 development reviews and referrals under General Municipal Law Sections 239-l and 239-m and the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

- Provided a total of 2,738 hours of community assistance to Dutchess County municipalities including:
 - City of Beacon’s Fishkill Creek Development (FCD) zone review.
 - City of Beacon –provided mapping for a proposed zoning change.
 - City of Beacon – researched and generated housing construction data.
 - City of Poughkeepsie Choice Housing Task Force.
 - Town of Amenia – offered guidance on submitting new local laws for GML 239 review on various local laws as well as the Cascade Creek and Keene Stud subdivisions.
 - Town of Amenia Workforce Housing Committee.
 - Town of Amenia – provided mapping support for their Comprehensive Plan Committee’s public engagement.
 - Town of East Fishkill review of Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Updates including GIS data.
 - Town of Hyde Park bike trail planning and mapping guidance.
 - Town of North East review of Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Updates.
 - Town of Pawling – provided trail mapping and map creation for the Recreation Department (Lakeside Park/Edward R Murrow Park/Pawling Rec Town Park).
 - Town of Poughkeepsie – Inclusionary Zoning review assistance.
 - Town of Poughkeepsie – provided advice on sustainable waste Climate Smart Communities (CSC) actions to town CSC Task Force members.
 - Town of Poughkeepsie – provided mapping for a proposed agricultural overlay district.
 - Town of Poughkeepsie – provided GIS assistance to the Recreation Department for trail mapping/development (Creekside Park/Stanley Still Park).
 - Town of Pleasant Valley – provided housing data for pro-housing communities’ application requirements.
 - Town of Stanford – provided guidance on short-term rental regulation, recent changes in state law.
 - Town of Stanford – participated in the Stanford Water Quality Committee, assisted with mapping, and contributed to a grant application to the Hudson River Estuary Program for local water testing.
 - Town of Red Hook – assisted with public participation efforts for Town’s comprehensive plan update by facilitating visioning workshop.
 - Town of Red Hook – provided GIS data.
 - Town of Rhinebeck – provided GIS data.
 - Town of Wappinger – participated in DWSP2 Committee meetings and assisted with a grant application to the Hudson River Estuary Program for education on water resources and protections.
 - Village of Millbrook and Town of Washington - offered guidance on the GML 239 referral process, our IMA with the Town, and what projects are required to be referred.

- Municipal Support through the Agricultural Navigator
 - Town of Beekman – discussion of agritourism and Ag District Law.
 - Town of Lagrange – provided agricultural information specific to a parcel.
 - Town of North East – provided agricultural specific comments to proposed zoning amendment.
 - Town of Pleasant Valley – provided agricultural information specific to a parcel.
 - Town of Red Hook – discussed Ag District Law, the review process and how application works.
 - Town of Rhinebeck – provided agricultural information specific to a parcel.
 - Town of Stanford – review of Right to Farm Law.
 - Town of Washington – review of Right to Farm Law.
 - Village of Red Hook – provided agricultural information specific to a parcel, neighbor issues, zoning concerns and agricultural impact, Ag District process review education, facilitation of mediation meeting with Ag & Markets pertaining to a specific parcel and Ag District Law.
- Education and Training Local Board Members, on behalf of the Dutchess County Planning Federation:
 - Hosted 10 educational sessions with a total of 606 participants. Classes were on the following topics:
 - Dutchess County Aquifer Law (x3)
 - Zoning Board of Appeals Basics
 - Short-Term Rentals
 - Municipal Planning and Zoning Board Clerks
 - How to Read a Site Plan
 - Land Use Case Law Update
 - Historic Preservation
 - Community Design Tools

Division of Solid Waste Management

- Hosted 3 household hazardous waste and electronics recycling events, utilized by 987 residents, collecting:
 - 32,768 pounds of chemicals
 - 60,527 pounds of electronic waste
- Hosted 1 small quantity generator of hazardous waste event for businesses, schools, and government; 10 entities took part.
- 7,572 pounds of pharmaceuticals, including 4,180 pounds from Dutchess County, were safely incinerated at the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Facility. This is a free community service provided to police departments from medication drop boxes and collection events.

- Licensed 9 new solid waste haulers and relicensed 22 existing haulers. Investigated 38 unlicensed haulers conducting business in Dutchess County.
- Partnered with the Poughkeepsie Repair Café to co-host two cafés.
- Bi-monthly newsletters have been published on the Division's website. Newsletters inform residents of best recycling practices as well as pertinent sustainability information.
- Sold 22 backyard composting Earth Machine bins at-cost to residents and continued promotion of availability.
- Recycling Educator attended City of Poughkeepsie Farmers Markets to host an informational table on composting.
- Partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County to co-host 3 free workshops, educating residents on best practices to compost at home.
- Continued to promote the paint stewardship program, PaintCare; there are 11 dropoff sites accessible to residents year-round.
- Gave 71 recycling presentations, educating residents how to properly recycle, ways to reduce throwing materials into the garbage and how to compost at home.
- Awarded a contract to Resource Recycling Systems, an environmental consulting firm, to conduct the Waste Reduction and Diversion Feasibility Study, anticipated to be completed by fall 2026.
- Held the Dutchess County Earth Day event with approximately 200 attendees.
- Awarded a NYSDEC Municipal Food Scraps Recycling Grant, which will be used to increase food waste diversion through home composting and outreach.
- Amended Local Law No. 3 of 2014 pertaining to Solid Waste Management Rules and Regulations, in collaboration with the Commissioner of Planning & Development and the County Attorney to more accurately reflect the intent of the law.
- Recycling Educator visited 11 transfer stations within the County, gathering information about what each accepts, so Division can update its webpage.
- Partnered with the Culinary Institute of America to host two events to teach residents how to reduce food waste by repurposing leftovers.
- Partnered with Recycle Coach to launch a mobile and desktop app that allows residents to search for how to recycle, donate or dispose of materials in their municipality.

- Held second annual Dutchess County “America Recycles Day Art Challenge” to teach children about recycling and reusing materials, while instilling important lifelong habits that will help reduce waste; more than 40 students took part.
- Initiated partnership with Helpsy, a clothing and textile donation and recycling company, to offer local municipalities the option of housing a donation bin on their municipal property and/or offer curbside clothing pick-up to their residents; facilitated coordination with 16 communities to set up this program.
- Bi-monthly newsletters have been published on the Division’s website, informing residents on best recycling practices as well as pertinent sustainability information.
- The Division issued 4 fines to licensed haulers for non-compliance of source separation per Dutchess County Local Law No. 3 of 2014.

STOP-DWI

- Was awarded \$41,000 for participation/coordination of the NYS STOP DWI Foundation’s Impaired Driving High Visibility Community Engagement Enforcement Grant Project. Due to program effectiveness, we received an additional \$6,000 reallocation, in addition to the original \$41,000 award. Funding supported 11 law-enforcement agencies countywide and directly resulted in 620.5 combined hours of coordinated enforcement activities, including 2 coordinated checkpoints and dedicated patrols, resulting in 21 additional impaired-driving arrests.
- The Prescription Drug Take Back Program continues to be a proactive and effective campaign to reduce the availability of prescription drugs for misuse/abuse, and improper disposal of unused medications. More than 3,621.4 pounds of unused, unwanted medications were collected/destroyed countywide from the 11 permanent drop boxes and multiple community events. The total includes 206.5 lbs. collected at Office for the Aging Senior Picnics. Since the drop boxes were established in 2013, more than 36,848.9 pounds of unused/unwanted medications have been collected and properly destroyed.
- Co-sponsored the Mid-Hudson Regional STOP-DWI Conference hosted by Orange County in Middletown, which included presentation of the Dutchess County Top DWI Cop Awards.

Traffic Safety Board

- Administered a “A Safe Systems Approach to Community Based Injury and Crash Prevention” grant program through the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee (\$65,809) with an emphasis on Unsafe driving behaviors, Safe Older Driver Mobility, School Bus, Motorcycle, and Helmet Safety with an emphasis on enhancing community and individual awareness of traffic safety issues. Program goals were attained through enhanced opportunities to generate awareness and distribute multi-topic educational materials and injury prevention programming/events.

- Conducted 6 Bicycle Safety Rodeos with 213 participants and 87 helmets replaced).
- Distributed bicycle helmets and provided education provided safety partners including the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, municipal police departments in East Fishkill, Fishkill, Wappingers Falls, and Millerton, as well as the Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS).
- School Bus Safety program, including stop-arm cameras, remained in effect in 10 local districts; 3 more districts in discussions about joining
 - 16,186 citations issued in 2025, an increase of 17.1% over the previous year
- Multimedia public awareness campaign was presented in municipalities and school districts throughout the County as they joined.
- The 22nd annual Dutchess County School Bus Driver of The Year award was presented at an Operation Safe Stop press event.
- Distributed more than 400 School Bus Safety activity books and loaned related safety videos to School District transportation personnel to support student training.
- Sent countywide mailer and distributed multiple press releases with a back-to-school driver responsibility theme, reminding motorists of the penalties for passing a stopped school bus.
- Awarded \$19,500 grant to provide child safety seats and fitting materials to the 11 fitting stations covered under the grant. Collectively they inspected/correctly installed 478 seats and replaced 77 child safety seats.
 - Included \$3,400 to support a Low-Income Seat Distribution Program coordinated with Dutchess County Community and Family Services, Astor HeadStart, and Nuvance Health's hospital base program. With support of the TSB, 30 child safety seats were purchased/provided to identified high-risk families and qualified caregivers.
- Provided organizational support for Regional National SAFE-Kids CPS Technician certification courses held within the grant cycle.
- TSB and members of the Dutchess County CPS Coalition, with leadership from Nuvance/Northwell Health, in ongoing efforts to educate the public/caregivers on proper use of child safety seats, coordinated/supported 15 community seat check events throughout the grant cycle; 198 seats were inspected and 47 were replaced at these child safety seat check events.

Dutchess Responds

- Coordinated with Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley to reactivate the "Dutchess Responds fund following the federal freeze on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding.



Probation & Community Corrections

Probation & Community Corrections

- Supervised over 3,300 adults and juveniles placed under probation supervision.
- Hosted the third annual Dutchess County Probation Officer Academy, which trained six, newly hired Probation Officer Trainees as well as two graduates from Ulster County. This year's curriculum added several weeks of required training in the NYS Basic Course for Peace Officers (BCPO), procedural justice, and implicit bias.

Juvenile Services

- Initiated the evidence-based groups, Girl's Circle and the Council for Boys and Young Men, which has shown effectiveness in reducing delinquency in students ages 9 through 18. 10 individuals graduated the circles in 2025.
- Continued use of a universal trauma screening instrument to identify youth in need of trauma-informed interventions.
- Monitored and encouraged participation in an evidence-based brief Target Trauma Group that is delivered by Dept. of Mental Health and Astor therapists.
- 40 youth participated in restorative justice and evidence-based programs including empathy workshops and Interactive Journaling. Integrated Atlas, a digital programming platform that better meets the youth's needs, including enabling tasks to be completed online, instead of hand-writing journaling.
- Continued the Juvenile Risk Intervention Services Coordination (JRISC) Program. There are now two therapists on-site who are trained to provide evidence-based interventions to youth and their families.

Pretrial Services

- Over 1,600 pretrial screens were conducted, and over 800 releases to supervision occurred.
- Maintained certification from the New York State Office of Court Administration (OCA) to operate as the pre-trial service provider within the courts of Dutchess County until 2028.
- Successfully validated the New York Release Assessment (NYRA) with grant funding support from the Division of Criminal Justice Service's (DCJS) Office of Justice Research and Performance (OJRP).
- Continued to utilize Reconnect software as a tool to enhance communication with pretrial services and treatment courts clients, with a plan to further expand the use of this application with other justice-involved individuals.

Adult and Administrative Services

- Selected to participate in the State-wide Targeted Reduction in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) initiative from DCJS to focus on victims/survivor safety to reduce domestic violence incidents.

- Collaborated in the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative, a multi-agency effort to reduce gun violence in the community and established a GIVE model of investigation and supervision of individuals judged at high risk of involvement in gun crimes.
- Collected approximately \$130,000 in restitution for distribution to victims of crime.
- Supported the activities of the Criminal Justice Council with staff serving on its committees and as chairs of the Juvenile Justice, Special Populations and Justice-Involved Women's Committees.
- 46 people participated in the Veterans Court and Drug Diversion Treatment Court, and between the two courts there were 20 graduates.
- Maintained a successful partnership with Project M.O.R.E.'s Community Employment Program, which focuses on employment readiness and mentoring to assist people on probation find and maintain employment. It uses the highly effective evidence-based Ready, Set, Work curriculum. The Community Employment Program had 75 participants and 62 successful completions in 2025.



Public Defender's Office

Public Defender's Office

- The Public Defender's Office competently and professionally handled 7,620 cases. Of those, the Criminal Unit handled 5,428 cases in the many criminal and appellate courts and the Family Court Unit handled 2,192 cases in Dutchess County Family Court.
- Provided legal representation at 5,059 arraignments in all Dutchess County criminal courts, and are on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Of those total arraignments, 3,964 (78%) of individuals were released on their own recognizance or other forms of immediate release.
- Utilized Aid to Defense and Aid for Discovery awards from the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), totaling \$945,438, to create a Discovery Evidence Unit to manage, troubleshoot, and work on highly technical discovery evidence; purchase a new case management system created by LegalServer; and fund training on the use of technology to leverage evidence in criminal cases. Both grants are part of a one-year program that began in April 2025.
- Began the development and onboarding process with Legal Server, a new Case Management System (CMS). The CMS will go live in late spring, 2026. The new CMS will leverage new tools, data tracking, internal and external communications, and secure artificial intelligence to enhance criminal defense and family court advocacy. Furthermore, the new system will help further the department's goal of managing all case files in a paperless format.
- Participated in Year 3 of the \$750,000 Second Upstate Family Defense (Child Welfare) Quality Improvement and Caseload Reduction Grant through the State. Funding was used to create two additional family court attorney positions, exclusively handling Article 10 (child welfare) proceedings.
- Successfully filed the 2024 ILS-195 Annual Report, the second Parent Representation Semi-Annual Report (PRR-195), and the April and October semiannual Performance Measures Progress Reports. These workload reports ensure continued funding from the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services in criminal and family court cases.
- The Criminal Unit conducted two violent felony jury trials, five violation bench trials, and numerous hearings and contested proceedings.
- The Family Unit conducted 63 bench trials.
- The Appeals Unit presented one oral argument to the New York Court of Appeals.
- The Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) and Social Worker Unit assisted in over 190 cases. Assistance includes hands-on support and planning for clients, assisting clients with entrance into social welfare programs, enrollment into housing programs, coordinating treatment for clients, transporting clients to and from high-importance appointments, and other needed services that assist in our holistic approach to effective representation and public safety, to reduce recidivism and prevent future criminality. In addition to the above assistance, our Social Workers wrote ten mitigation reports advocating alternatives to incarceration.

- Participated in numerous training programs, including Continuing Legal Education (CLE) presentations by the Adelphi University, Albany County Bar Association, All Rise for Justice, Dutchess County Bar Association (DCBA), Finger Lakes Community College, Nassau County Bar Association, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), National Association for Public Defense (NAPD), New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NYSACDL), New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), the New York State Defenders Association (NYSDA), and Onondaga County Bar Association.
- Management and employees participated in numerous community programs, including:
 - Alternatives to Incarceration Forensic Committee;
 - Centralized Arraignment Committee;
 - Community Solutions;
 - Criminal Justice Council, including the following subcommittees: Victims, Special Needs, Opioid Task Force and Harm Reduction;
 - Domestic Violence Offender Project Committee;
 - Dutchess Community College Youthful Offenders Initiative;
 - Dutchess County Family Court Improvement Project;
 - Dutchess County Provider's Committee;
 - Dutchess County Opioid Task Force;
 - Dutchess County Public Defender Coat Drive;
 - Dutchess County Re-Entry Task Force;
 - Dutchess County Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Committee;
 - Dutchess County Youth Summit;
 - Indigent Legal Services Family Court Workload Group;
 - Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD);
 - New York State Public Defense Social Worker Coalition;
 - Toys for Tots.
- Employed two law school student interns who used student practice orders under the supervision of staff attorneys to represent clients at arraignment and learn appellate practice. Accepted 25 college students over three semesters as interns who assisted with office intake/eligibility determinations. Hosted two master's degree level student interns who assisted the social work staff in providing client services.
- Overall jail admissions in 2025 were 1,396, an increase of 85 admissions from 2024.
- In Dutchess County, a total of 25 individuals were incarcerated on civil commitment orders involving failure to pay child support or contempt of court, for a total of 316 jail bed days used (note that one individual accounts for 180 of those days).



Public Works

Public Works

Airport Division

- Exceeded 85,000 take-offs and landings operations, continuing operational growth.
- Continues to maintain 100% occupancy in both office space and on the airfield, with waiting lists for hangars and tiedowns.
- Continued to work with NYDEC to obtain environmental compliance to build the SkyHarbour north hangars, slated to begin construction in spring 2026.
- Completed the lighted front wall sign project, terminal painting project, terminal awning project. The Airport is in contract to have the digital marquee sign installed. Additionally, there was enough funding leftover to carpet the terminal lobby floor.
- Continued to work with NYDEC to obtain environmental compliance to build the Operations outdoor salt and storage buildings.
- Received green electric mowers and maintenance vehicles through the NYDOT Air99 grant program.
- Began new program offering schools and youth groups special tours to explore the airport and find out about the potential career opportunities in aviation operations, with behind-the-scenes tours of the airport's facilities. Hosted 42 students.

Auto Service Center/Fleet Services Division

- Provided safe, operational, and fully maintained vehicles and equipment for all Dutchess County departments and staff as well as Hyde Park Police, Hyde Park Recreation, Dutchess Community College, and Dutchess County BOCES as part of ongoing Shared Services agreements.
- Worked with County departments and staff to evaluate fleet needs, order vehicles that are more fuel-efficient and improve work environments at the Auto Center and Highway Garage.
- Auto service center processed 1,033 work orders.
- Highway garage processed 1,386 work orders.
- Highway received 2 excavators, 1 wheel loader, 3 sector trucks, 2 roadside mowers and 1 gang truck.
- Received and placed into service 37 new vehicles for all county agencies including the Sheriff's Office.
- Highway mechanics received training on Allison transmissions and Cirius plow controls.

- Continued to train and audit processes in the use of the County's computerized fleet maintenance system to increase operational efficiency and find cost savings as well as providing better service to departments and staff.
- Conducted weekly toolbox talks with auto center and highway garage staff to discuss safety, fleet needs, and industry enhancements.

Buildings Division

Maintenance & Building Operations

- Completed 2,427 maintenance work orders throughout 2025.
- Supported various OFA senior picnics and county events throughout the summer.
- Replaced water-damaged electrical service feed and distribution panel components at OCIS, 503 Haight Ave., Poughkeepsie.
- Replaced a failed rooftop HVAC unit at the Beacon Center.
- Developed bid specifications, awarded contracts, and completed exterior repainting of the Hudson Valley Regional Airport terminal building.
- Repainted offices and replaced carpeting on the 3rd and 4th floors of the District Attorney's Office, 236 Main St., Poughkeepsie.
- Replaced the employee entrance storefront at the District Attorney's Office, 236 Main St., Poughkeepsie.
- Completed ADA accessibility improvements and parking lot upgrades at the War Memorial, Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie.

Roof Replacement Projects

- Engaged a consultant to update the 2019 Roof Replacement Master Plan.
- Prepared specifications and awarded bids for roof replacement designs at 45 Market St., Amenia Outpost, Wilcox Park, and Bowdoin Park.
- Completed roof replacements at the Beacon Center, Eastern Dutchess DPW Outpost, and Rhinebeck DPW Outpost.
- Completed roof replacement and siding repairs at the Beekman Salt Shed.

Facility Relocations & Space Reconfiguration

- Successfully relocated the District Attorney Bureau from 22 Market St. (3rd Floor) to 40 Garden St., Poughkeepsie.

Engineering Division

- Completed replacement of the following bridge and culvert projects:
 - Bridge L-29, Noxon Road (CR-21), Town of LaGrange
 - Culvert R-24, Round Lake Road (CR-52), Town of Rhinebeck
 - Culvert N-21, Boston Corners Road (CR-63), Town of North East
 - Culvert PA-4, N Quaker Hill Road (CR-68), Town of Pawling
- Completed the following intersection improvement projects:
 - Traffic signal camera upgrade at the intersection of Noxon Road (CR 21) and Titusville Road (CR 49), Town of LaGrange
 - Traffic signal replacement at the intersection of Middlebush Road (CR 93) and Sgt Palmateer Way in the Town of Wappinger.
- Continued the design of the following intersection improvement projects:
 - Intersection improvements at Clove Branch Road (CR 29) and Hillside Lake Road (CR 33) in the Town of East Fishkill.
 - New traffic signal at the intersection of Myers Corners Road (CR 93) and Spook Hill Road in the Town of Wappinger.
 - Improvements to the intersections of Red Oaks Mill Road (CR 44) with Walker Road (CR 44S), Cochran Hill Road, and Titusville Road (CR 49) in Town of LaGrange.
- Completed design for the following bridge and culvert replacement projects:
 - Bridge M-20, Salisbury Turnpike, Town of Milan
 - Bridge S-13, Cold Spring Rd (CR-53), Town of Stanford
 - Bridge WP-34, Jackson Road (CR-110), Town of Wappinger
 - Culverts D-6 & D-7, Chestnut Ridge Rd (CR-23) and Halls Corners Rd (CR-24), Town of Dover
 - Culvert M-29, Round Lake Road (CR-52), Town of Milan
- Continued design of the following bridge and culvert projects:
 - Bridge F-2, North Jackson Street (CR 34), Town of Fishkill
 - Culvert WP-35, All Angels Hill Road (CR 94), Town of Wappinger
 - Culverts M-28, M-30, and M-31, Round Lake Road (CR 52), Town of Milan
 - Culvert S-25, Millis Lane (CR 87), Town of Stanford
 - Culverts PA-37 and PA-40, Harmony Road (CR-69), Town of Pawling
- Began design of the following bridge and culvert projects:
 - Bridge RH-17, Mill Road, Town of Red Hook
 - Culvert W-18, North Mabbetsville Rd (CR-98), Town of Washington
 - Culvert D-8, Halls Corners Road (CR-24), Town of Dover
 - Culverts U-12 & U-13, North Clove Road (CR-9), Town of Union Vale
 - Culvert U-51, Camby Road (CR-90), Town of Union Vale
- Advanced the design for the stabilization of South Mill Road (CR 85) in the Town of Rhinebeck.

- Completed a study for improvements of Annandale Road (CR 103) in the Town of Red Hook
- Completed traffic signal camera upgrades and the intersection of Noxon Road (CR 21) and Titusville Road (CR 21) in Town of LaGrange.
- Began construction on the replacement of the traffic signal at Middlebush Rd (CR-93) and Sgt. Palmateer Way.
- Reviewed and developed sign improvements for various segments of County roads.
- Completed 165 miles of road striping, parking lot striping and special marking applications.
- Researched and provided survey mapping at 28 locations to various engineers and surveyors.
- Provided 67 Right of Way (ROW) determinations to the County's Highway Construction and Maintenance Division.
- Continued monitoring and reporting at the closed Balefill landfill at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in accordance with DEC requirements.
- Continued regular inspections of County-owned dams, pedestrian bridges, and major culverts.
- Inspected 97 stormwater outfalls and 23 County-owned stormwater ponds and structures as required by the State's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations.

Highway Construction & Maintenance Division

- Collaborated with the Engineering Division on bridge, culvert, and highway improvement projects, addressing inspection flags, drainage issues, and safety concerns.
- Maintained intermunicipal shared services agreements with six municipalities to provide snow and ice control on 61.67 miles of County highways.
- Organized three Household Hazardous Waste Collection events in partnership with the Division of Solid Waste Management.
- Removed hundreds of trees from highway rights-of-way, parks, and other County properties.
- Continued the annual MS4 program for cleaning drainage ditches, pipes, and catch basins. 218 basins were cleaned and over 100 pipes were routed along County and municipal roadways.
- Responded to over 160 after-hours emergencies involving downed trees, auto accidents, culvert or bridge safety issues, guiderail damage, environmental spills, and other incidents.
- Completed approximately 1,740 miles of roadside mowing. Including boom mowing of roadside vegetation.
- Installed more than 3,300 feet of new or replacement guiderail.

- Installation of a 60" x 110' culvert was completed on CR52 Salisbury Turnpike to address drainage issues and improve water flow.
- Bridge crew performed preventive maintenance by sealing bridge decks to extend service life and reduce future deterioration.
- Provided snow removal and ice control for 33 storms.
- Paved parking lot and access road at Wilcox Park.
- Completed 17.5 miles of road surface improvements on the following County roads:
 - Crum Elbow Rd. (CR41)
 - Overlook Rd. (CR46)
 - North Quaker Hill Rd. (CR68)
 - Van Wagner Rd. (CR38)
 - Primrose Hill Rd. (CR84)
 - Salisbury Turnpike (CR52)
 - Leedsville Rd. (CR2)
 - Hollow Rd. (CR14)
 - Noxon Rd. (CR21)
 - Cold Spring Rd. (CR53)
 - North Main St. (CR83A)
 - Clove Valley Rd. (CR9)
 - Bog Hollow Rd. (CR3)

Parks Division

General Highlights

- Parks Naturalists hosted numerous sessions of popular programming for children and adults, serving more than 3,815 homeschoolers, campers, residents, and participants in the summer camp programming. Our growth was in the Park Palette and local school programs.
- Collaborated with Office of the Aging to host Learn to Paint activities in Senior Centers.
- Dutchess County Parks Facebook page has grown to over 8,000 followers.
- Participated in the Dept. of Health's Dutchess County Health Fair at Dutchess Community College.

Bowdoin Park

- Processed 584 reservations for pavilions, Maple Knoll Lodge, athletic fields, Ellesdie Chapel, picnic areas and the auditorium through the Parks Reservation System.
- Hosted the Maple Weekend Breakfast with more than 300 residents attending.
- Collaborated with Red Knight's Motorcycle Club Trunk or Treat with more than 1,000 in attendance.

- Welcomed numerous County and community events, including:
 - Poughkeepsie Public Library District's collaborative nature hike
 - Think Differently Fitness and Field Day
 - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Walk
 - Office for the Aging Senior Picnic for residents of the Town of Poughkeepsie & Pancake Breakfast for Seniors
 - Dutchess County Community and Family Services Foster Family Picnic
 - Town of Poughkeepsie Community Day Event (Bowdoin): 1,000+ visitors

Cross Country Meets

- Bowdoin Park Classic: 585 athletes, 1,500 spectators
 - NYS Public High School Athletic Association's Section 1 cross-country meet: 1,671 athletes, 2,400 spectators
 - Federation Cup: 600 athletes, 2,000 spectators
 - Section 1 5K: 203 athletes, 800 spectators
 - Nike Cross-Country Regionals: 2,500 athletes, 7,500 spectators
 - Section 1 Championship: 763 athletes, 2,200 spectators
 - Bowdoin Bushwack 5K: 150 athletes
 - MHRRC Coach Slinsky 5K: 100 athletes
- Contracted with Kevin McCurdy for the 49th season of Kevin McCurdy's Haunted Mansion, and the 21st season of the Holiday Spirit Festival.

Wilcox Memorial Park

- Processed 373 reservations for the athletic fields, pavilions, and Forest Acres campground.
- Swimming lake welcomed over 2,500 guests.
- The splashpad served over 3,000 guests.
- Hosted Wilcox Wow Professional Disc Golf Association B-Tier Tournament in September.
- Collaborated again with the State DEC to complete a second camera survey to document mammal habitats throughout the park.

Quiet Cove Riverfront Park

- Processed 84 reservations for the Boathouse and open space areas.
- Reached maximum capacity for the second year in a row for the kayak slip rentals.
- Collaborated with Office for the Aging to host a series of Learn to Pickleball Clinics and senior painting classes
- Installed a new, nature-inspired mural inside bus/pedestrian shelter at entrance to the park.

Rail Trails

- In partnership with the Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, welcomed two community events and a clean-up day along the Harlem Valley Rail Trail.
- Repaired and replaced fences along WRS Dutchess Rail Trail and Harlem Valley Rail Trail.
- Welcomed several community running events and fundraisers along the DRT with nearly 2,000 athletes and spectators attending
- Conducted snow plowing and mowing maintenance to keep the MJM Northside Line open for use 24/7/365.
- Entered into an interim agreement with Metro North (MTA) to resume maintenance along the 15-mile Maybrook Section of the New York State Empire Trail, which connects to the DRT, in September. Removed fallen trees, overgrowth, and brush from the trail.

Upper Landing Park

- Hosted State DEC's eel counts project with local students.
- Hosted three Movies Under the Walkway events in partnership with Millman Harris Romano Foundation.
- Hosted the Walkway Over the Hudson's Starry-Starry Night benefit gala.

Heritage Financial Park (FKA Dutchess Stadium)

- In addition to a successful Hudson Valley Renegades baseball season (hosting 66 home games), the following special events were hosted at the park:
 - Cupcake Festival
 - Arlington High School and Beacon High School Graduation ceremonies
 - Marist College Baseball Games
 - Halloween Trunk or Treat event – vendor/sponsor tables on promenade in stadium
 - Winter Glow Experience holiday lights trail.

Public Transit Division

- Logged over 824,028 passenger trips.
- System-wide Route Modification Plan went into effect in January 4.
- Substantially completed construction of Transit facility improvements, including flood mitigation, additional parking areas, a new storage garage, renovation of mechanics' restrooms and locker rooms, renovations of ADA restrooms and conference room.
- Used \$3 million in Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and \$494,138 in Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funding from the FTA to help support Public Transit 2025 operating expenses.

- Completed project to update camera software package to allow for immediate recording of accidents/incidents from the buses and easily troubleshoot issues with cameras using \$69,648 in Federal Funds.
- Received two new 30-foot and three cutaway Transit vehicles with \$1,426,555 in Federal 5339 funding.
- Continued study to develop strategies for the phased implementation of battery-electric transit buses. This project used \$450,000 from the Federal 5305-2 Statewide and Non-Metropolitan Transportation Planning and Planning Programs funds.
- Completed a \$763,932 State MEP funded system-wide bus shelter replacement plan to install 8 new bus shelters throughout the county.
- Continued contract partnerships with Bard College, Hudson River Housing, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie City School District, City of Beacon, and Dutchess Community College to offer transit services at no charge to their passengers.
- Contracted with Genfare to replace old farebox system using Section 5307 funds.
- Year two of the bus advertising contract with Timely Signs yielded \$68,650 in revenues.
- Began pilot program using a portion of CMAQ funding of \$1,211,600 to provide express bus service to and from Poughkeepsie and Walmart/Amazon.



Office of Veterans Affairs

Office of Veterans Affairs

- Rendered 26,875 contact services to Dutchess County Veterans and their families regarding services and entitlements available from federal, state, and local government.
- Provided updated information via email to more than 2500 veterans.
- Awarded a total of \$200,000 to 15 organizations through the 2025 Veterans Microgrant Program.
- Implemented successful new transportation program with GOGO Veterans in February. Program provides veterans three round trip rides per month within Dutchess County to appointments and basic needs such as groceries. 133 veterans are utilizing the services to date.
- Launched the Honor-A-Veteran initiative in partnership with County Executive Serino. This initiative honors and celebrates the lives and selfless service of deceased local veterans, who are nominated by family or friends, at special monthly ceremony held April thru November.
- Hosted popular and well-attended events, including the “Red, White & You!” Veteran Appreciation Picnic and the annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies at the Dutchess County War Memorial.
- Partnered with local organizations to coordinate community events including the Walkway over the Hudson Salute to Vets event as well as Veterans Baseball Night held at the Heritage Financial Park.
- Participated in popular MHA Veterans Programs of Dutchess County events, such as:
 - Veteran Stand down events with MHA VET-TAP where information was provided to veterans regarding benefits and employment information
 - MHA Veterans Gala
 - Two Veterans Pasta Dinners, co-hosted by County Executive Serino
 - Annual Veterans’ Christmas Party
- Attended all OFA Senior Picnics to educate and meet with senior veterans and those interested in veteran’s issues.
- Conducted outreach at multiple community events throughout the county to reach veterans and their families, including a six-day informational booth at the Dutchess County Fair.
- Coordinated a memorial ceremony for Charles Johnson, a Korean War hero from Dutchess County who died of wounds sustained in that action and who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Veterans Affairs arranged for the Medal of Honor flag to be displayed at his grave at 9 Partners Cemetery.
- Coordinated the burial of WWII Veteran Eugene Darrigan, whose remains were found and accounted for in late 2024, in his hometown of Wappingers Falls.

- Organized a funeral and procession for Dutchess County veteran, Richard P. McCabe, who passed away with no immediate family.
- Mailed condolence letters, processed burial benefits, and applied for markers for surviving spouses for 235 veterans.
- Issued nearly 250 F.A.V.O.R. (Find and Assist Veterans Of Record) veteran discount cards, a program offered in partnership with Dutchess County Clerk Brad Kendall.
- Provided \$17,548 in financial assistance to 15 veterans through Tom Zurhellen Fund.
- Continued the publication of monthly column in the Northern and Southern Dutchess newspapers.
- Ongoing communications with local law enforcement agencies and the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections regarding veterans who are incarcerated or on probation.
- Used technology platforms enabling the submission of claims outside of office.
- Participate in continuing education to stay up-to- date and knowledgeable on claims submission and maintain NYS and American Legion Accreditation for all Veterans Service Officers.
- Continued the procedure of obtaining home addresses from the VA Records Management Service, allowing the Division of Veterans' Services to send out letters to all newly discharged veterans returning to Dutchess County, inviting them to come in and apply for veteran benefits with our office.
- Served on numerous Boards and Committees including the Veteran Advisory Board (VAB), Veteran Advisory Committee (VAC), VA Hospital Director's VAC, Dutchess County Legislature VAC and Hudson Valley Veterans Task Force and attended meetings of Senator Rolison's VAB, and Congressman Pat Ryan's VAC.



Water Resources/ Water & Wastewater Authority

Water Resources/Water & Wastewater Authority

Operations and Customer Service

- Successfully managed and operated 31 water and sewer systems, serving over 6,300 customer connections.
- Launched "Pipeline for Jobs" to raise awareness of water careers and attract new talent.
- Improved treatment outcomes and reduced violations through initiative to transition from contract operators to in-house staff. Previously non-compliant systems now have over a year of compliance with few issues following a commitment to hire, train and develop staff operators.
- Hosted successful public information and listening meetings with customers with Valley Dale Water & Sewer, Schrieber Water, Pinebrook Water & Sewer, Greenfields Water & Sewer, and Tivoli Water & Sewer.

Financial and Administrative

- Completed Annual Financial Audit with no outstanding findings.
- Continued deployment work order management system.

Design and Construction Projects

- BOCES/Peach Road Project: Construction to begin spring 2026.
- Dalton Farms Sewer System: Construction commenced on new disinfection system.
- Chelsea Cove Sewer System: Completed construction for a new bar screen. System is online and operating.
- Hyde Park Water System:
 - West Dorsey-Route 9 Extension: Designed with all necessary approvals. Public bidding process and construction planned for 2026.
 - Coordinated with Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) for new power line construction in the Hudson River
- Greenfields Water System: Commenced design of system improvements and continued detailed design for interconnection with the Hyde Park water system.
- Central Dutchess Transmission Line: Completed a new connection for the Hopewell Senior Living facility.

Funding and Grants Secured

- Awarded \$1,020,600 NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant (WIIA) to fund Rothkranz Street Water Main Extension mitigate PFAS contamination and expand regional water supply to Madison/Holt Road Area.

- Settled PFAS litigation, securing \$447,200 in compensation to cover costs for affected systems.
- Schreiber Water System: Qualified for subsidized loans and paired with an existing grant (~\$2.6M) to address radionuclide contamination. Phase 1 initiated with additional source well drilling.
- Schrieber Water System: Awarded Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) totaling \$200,000 to fund improvements to treatment and source to address naturally occurring radionuclides contamination exceeding maximum contamination level.
- Tivoli Water System: Awarded Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) totaling \$125,123.32 to fund the extension of public water main to allow for a connection of the Peach Tree Court manufactured housing community, located at 5194 Route 9G, Tivoli, to the Tivoli Water System.
- Village of Tivoli Partnership: Secured ~\$8M in grants and ~\$15M in interest-free financing for replacing the sewer treatment plant and upgrading the collection system. Treatment Plant upgrades have reached the mid-point of construction.

Community Partnerships and Development

- Coordinated with Town of East Fishkill to establish new water districts for redevelopment projects.
- Coordinated with Crofton Mews developer on Water Treatment Plant (WTP).
- Coordinated with Preserve at Lakes Kill developer on Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- Coordinated with Rockledge Estates developer on WTP and WWTP.
- Coordinated with Homeowner Association (HOA) on Maple Ridge/River Ridge WWTP.
- Coordinated with Alain Estates developer on WTP and WWTP improvements. Secured funding and all approvals to proceed with work in 2026.
- Coordinated with CIA Hotel & Villas developer for completion of water service.
- Coordinated with Bellefield developer on WTP.
- Coordinated with Town of Hyde Park on water and sewer projects to support public health and economic development.
- Coordinated with Town of Wappinger on conceptual water projects to support public health and economic development.
- Coordinated with Town of Fishkill on conceptual water projects to support public health and economic development.
- Coordinated with Town of Wappinger on conceptual water projects to support public health and economic development.

- Partnered with Dutchess County & Hudson Valley Regional Council submitting application to U.S. Economic Development Administration for planning grant funding to construct a water storage facility near the Central Dutchess Water Transmission Line.
- Hosted successful public information and listening meetings with property owners regarding current and future water improvements for Madison-Holt Water Area, North Park Water Area, South Cross Road System, and Dutchess Estates System.
- Coordinated with Dutchess County Public Works and Dutchess County Emergency Response to provide potable water and fire protection to the Dutchess County Fire Training Center.
- Coordinated with Dutchess County Public Works & Dutchess County Board of Education (BOCES) to provide potable water to the Dutchess County BOCES Facility Dutchess County Automotive Center and Dutchess County Weights & Measures. Construction to begin and be completed during 2026.