

Lansing Youth Services Town Board Report Summer 2026

Lake Life 7/6 - 7/9 Total Enrollment: 11, Males: 8, Females: 3, Average Daily Attendance: 10, Life Skills: Social Skills, Decision Making

Lake Life kicked off our Summer Skies with a super busy week. This program was combined with youth from Newfield and the Joint Youth Commission. Daily activities included landscape paintings, tons of arts and crafts, fishing, swimming, birding, kayaking and canoeing, basketball, playground time, and even a trip on the Floating Classroom! The group really enjoyed being able to choose their activities, and loved watching the ospreys and eagles. Fishing took place every day all around Myers Park and Salmon Creek, and some got to fish from the canoe!

Sunshine Crafts 7/13 - 7/16 Total Enrollment: 4, Males: 4, Females: 0, Average Daily Attendance: 3, Life Skills : Wise Use of Resources, Self-Motivation

Sunshine Crafts was a combined program with youth from Danby; participants were very busy making all kinds of crafts. Students were able to use materials respectfully without wasting much of what was provided. The group learned how to tie-dye, make cyanotype prints, used UV resin to make resin molds of all shapes and sizes. Watercolor paintings came out beautifully and the week ended with a trip to the Corning Museum of Glass.

Iron Chef 7/20 - 7/23 Total Enrollment: 10, Males: 7, Females: 3, Average Daily Attendance: 9, Skills : Contributions to group effort, Disease Prevention

Iron Chef returned this summer, joining with youth from Dryden. Beginning at Myers Park, the group made banana pancakes and grilled hot dogs. At the 4-H Youth Fair, the cooking competition went well with one group from the Lansing team winning (and they learned a lot about kitchen safety)! The fair also held a “Camp Day”, where youth got to go around to all of the stations of animals and projects and see small presentations of what the projects or animals were, ask questions, see how they could get involved. When the group wasn’t competing, they learned to make friction fires, cooked s’moreoes, cinnamon snakes, and made doughnuts on the fire!

Grow Your Own Way 7/27 - 7/30 Total Enrollment: 8, Males: 8, Females: 0, Average Daily Attendance: 7, Life Skills : Community Service Volunteering, Responsible Citizenship

This brand-new program was in combination with Dryden youth and facilitated by the Cornell Botanical Gardens. The many activities that the Cornell Students presented went quite well, like the “Bio Blitz”, creating nature journals, studying the stream quality, making art with natural

pigments, planted succulents to take home, and collected insects. Contributing to the community science project was definitely a highlight for youth!

Games in the Grass 8/3 - 8/6, Total Enrollment: 12 , Males: 12 , Females: 0, Average Daily Attendance: 9, Life Skills : Teamwork, Contributions to Group Effort

Games in the Grass participants were joined by youth from Dryden for this new program. Students worked on teambuilding and teamwork activities. Assembling the games like Spike ball and can jam, organizing large basketball games, chess tournaments, and working together through “minute to win it” challenges all provided opportunities for youth to work together towards a common goal. On one program day, the groups went to see a Syracuse Mets Minor League baseball game in Syracuse with a meal package, and we even got a shout out on the Megatron!

Sky's The Limit! 8/17 - 8/20 Total Enrollment: 9, Males: 6, Females: 3, Average Daily Attendance: 7, Life Skills : Teamwork, Accepting Differences

Lansing and Dryden youth combined for some tried and true trips, like the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, rocket building and launching- while adding a new museum this summer, the Glenn Curtiss Museum, in Hammondsport. This was a new experience and a great museum to experience the local history and influence on aviation and motorcycles.

Cardboard Boat Building 8/24 - 8/27 Total Enrollment: 9 , Males: 8 , Females: 1, Average Daily Attendance: 8, Life Skills : Marketable Skills, Social Skills

Cardboard Boat Building was just as busy as ever. This program combined with Dryden and Newfield youth, so lots of familiar faces and friendships continued. Starting with mini boats and racing them down Salmon Creek is always a fun start, and this year we had a weir to catch the boats as they crossed the finish line. Students worked in groups of 2-4, and made several designs - some flat bottom, some with a v hull, pontoons, outriggers, and even a canoe style! Many boats sunk, but several stayed afloat until the timer was up. Engineering was constantly changing as their boats came to life and changes were made for support, and duct tape management was a hot topic!

D.I.Y.- Summer Edition 8/31 - 9/3 Total Enrollment: 12, Males: 11, Females: 1, Average Daily Attendance: 10, Life Skills: Personal Safety, Problem Solving

D.I.Y- Summer Edition was combined with Dryden and Joint Youth Commission (JYC) youth. Projects were provided daily, such as watercolor landscape painting, primitive fire making, flint napping, carving with a knife, as well using a Dremel tool, cork boats to cork cabins, and UV Resin. They finished out the week with a hot dog bar and all the fixings, and of course, smores with the huge marshmallows.

Summer 2026 Youth Employment

Youth Employees were extremely busy this summer. Each week Lansing Youth Services had one or two assistants. Two of which had not worked full days before, so they got to experience what a full day in youth development is like. One of those employees wants to work a lot this year, and will when his schedule allows with sports. The same is true for the second new employee. The two other employees were great mentors, and helped to ensure that each week ran smoothly. The focus was on safety and supervision, assisting with activities, and both employees intuitively would seek out students who seemed to spend more time alone. This fall we will have two new, regular employees at the Lansing Public Library. They have already been doing their training at the Lansing Public Library this summer so should be ready to get into our program very soon. There are three past participants who have expressed interest in assisting with LYS programs this year, I am waiting on the return of their applications and then will move forward with getting them scheduled!