

BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release: July 1, 2025

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Police Athletic League of Binghamton (PAL) Camp Seeks Community Support to Continue Providing Free Summer Camp to Low-Income Families in Binghamton

Organizers from the Police Athletic League of Binghamton (PAL) Camp, local community partners and members of local police organizations are seeking the Broome County community's support in helping fund this year's PAL summer camp.

The Police Athletic League of Binghamton (PAL) Camp is a completely free summer day camp dedicated to serving at-risk children from ages 5–13 from low-income and underserved communities in Binghamton and Broome County.

First organized more than 70 years ago, PAL Camp has helped struggling families provide safe sports and activities for generations. Campers are provided transportation, breakfast, lunch, snacks, and a full schedule of enriching activities — all at no cost to their families.

"The kids and their families don't have pay for anything to attend this camp, and that's how we're able to reach kids living in low-income housing communities, kids who are at risk and kids who simply don't have the means to attend a summer camp," said PAL Camp President Matthew Lewis. "Everything is funded by our generous community sponsors and local donations, and we're looking for additional sponsors and donors to help staff our increased attendance this year and provide more lifelong memories and experiences to local children in need."

This year's PAL Camp enrollment has reached the highest level in nearly 40 years, and Pal Camp's organizers and community partners are seeking additional local sponsors and donors to help cover this year's increased operating costs.

"Our Sheriff's Office is proud to join our community partners and contribute to this wonderful camp," said Sheriff Fred Akshar. "We're encouraging every community member and business in Broome County to join us in recognizing how important it is to provide our children with opportunities to be successful, whether you can donate \$5 or \$500, every single

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contribution helps make a difference."

To become a sponsor or donate to help support the PAL Camp, please visit www.binghamtonpalcamp.org.

To date, local sponsors include:

- Binghamton Police Department
- Conrad and Virginia Klee Foundation
- Broome County District Attorney's Office
- Broome County Sheriff's Office
- Visions FCU Visions Cares
- Rogers Trucking
- Binghamton Police Benevolent Association
- Town of Kirkwood
- Tom Connors
- Stephanie Crawford
- Jane Erich
- Erick Erich
- Jim & Carol Lewis
- Micki Matthews
- Various Anonymous Donors

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