

April 2024

Washington County
Department of Human Services

WASHINGTON COUNTY DHS TOWN HALL

APRIL 3, 2024

3:00-3:30 VIA TEAMS

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE MEETING](#)

1 872-212-5559 PHONE CONFERENCE ID: 197 321 302*

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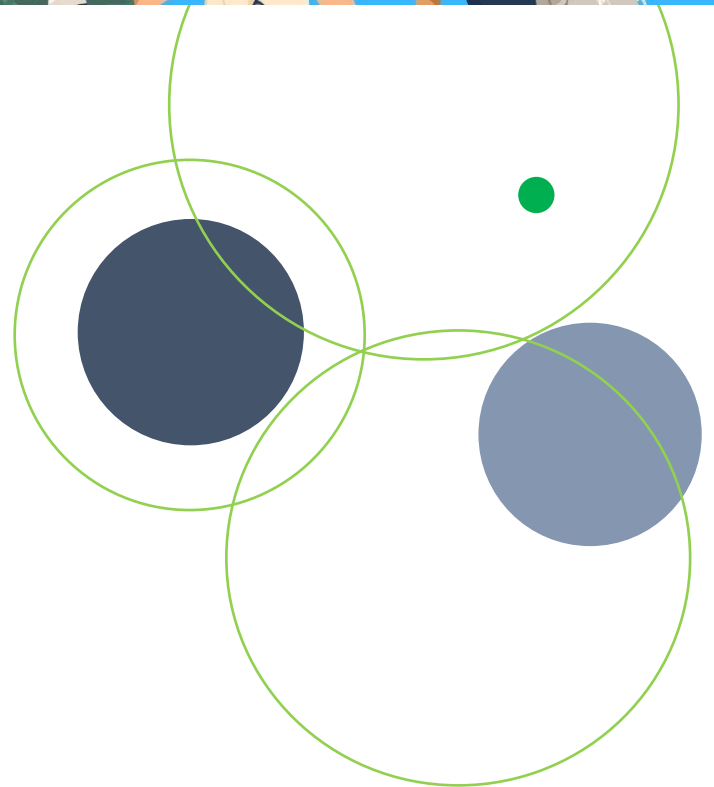
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Request for Applications Announcement



SAVE THE DATE

Washington County's

Intellectual Disability and Autism (ID/A)

Recognition Day

Washington County's Administrative Entity is hosting ID/A Recognition Day to celebrate all individuals throughout Washington County. There will be refreshments, activities, prize raffles, resources and more. All encouraged to attend!

Thursday April 25, 2024

Washington Park Main Pavilion

11:00 AM-7:00PM

Self Advocacy meeting will be held at the event from 5:00-6:30 PM

NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

SHOP 'N SAVE

617 W. PIKE ST #1 | CANONSBURG, PA 15317

DON'T: FLUSH EXPIRED OR UNWANTED RX AND OVER-THE COUNTER DRUGS DOWN THE TOILET OR DRAIN

DO: RETURN UNWANTED OR EXPIRED RX AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS TO DRUG TAKE-BACK PROGRAMS

FREE NARCAN & DETERRA BAGS

*LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE



THE BOROUGH OF
Canonsburg
PENNSYLVANIA



READY TO DEFINE SUCCESS ON YOUR OWN TERMS?

June
25th
Noon-6PM

Join us for the Summer EmployHER Pittsburgh-Washington County

OPPORTUNITY FAIR & PROGRAM KICK-OFF

DoubleTree by Hilton
340 Racetrack Rd, Washington, PA 15301

- 10 Area Companies Hiring for Open Positions
- 20 Nonprofit Resources
- Wardrobe, Hair, and Makeup Support
- Complimentary Professional Headshot
- Resume Workshop and Support
- Childcare and Lunch Provided

After the fair you'll have 6 months of support for success with: Finding a job, Education and training, Building a network of support.

Can't make it to the kick-off but still want to participate? The Fall opportunity fair will take place October 29 at Dee's Event Center.



Scan to learn more & to RSVP.

EmployHER Pittsburgh-Washington County is a collaborative initiative between Blueprints, Dress for Success Pittsburgh, and When She Thrives.



CLEAN SLATE DAY

Friday
April 12th

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Washington
City Mission
In the Back Dining Room
84 West Wheeling Street
Washington, PA 15301

For Washington County cases or residents

On-site consultations at **no charge**. Financial eligibility is required for representation by legal aid or referral to the WCBA Modest Means Program

TO REGISTER:
CALL 1-800-846-0871
OR SCAN

A **charge** not resulting in a conviction?

Apply to EXPUNGE it.

Last **conviction** was over 7 years ago?

Apply to SEAL it.

Last **sentence** end over 3 years ago?

Apply for a PARDON.



www.citymission.org
www.summitlegal.org

Walk-ins will be welcome on a first come, first served basis

What's the Buzz at the Department of Human Services



Abigail Gerlach (Community Outreach Liaison) connected with participants about resources available in Washington County.

The Washington County Department of Human Services participated in several opportunities in the community in March. Representatives from the Department of Human Services participated in the Waynesburg University's Regional Counseling Symposium *Elevating Voices: Adverse Childhood Experiences* on March 15, through a tabling opportunity, a poster presentation from the Clinical Unit titled *Correlations between Childhood ACE Scores and the Legal System* and a panel discussion *Nurturing Resilience: Unpacking the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Child Welfare*. Jennifer Scott (BHDS-Administrator), Lisa Milan (BHDS-Deputy) and Anne Schlegel (CYS-Director) served on the Steering Committee for the symposium.



Children and Youth Services attended a job fair on March 19 at PennWest University in which they provided information on employment opportunities and resources within Washington County and Human Services.

Adam Garrity (CYS Deputy) led a panel discussion on *Unpacking the impact of adverse Childhood Experiences in Child Welfare*.

Pictures L to R: Brean Fuller (Greene Co. Administrator), Tenisha Brown (CYS), Rebecca Salsbury (DHS), Samantha Dawson (Pressley Ridge-Homebuilders) and Adam Garrity (CYS-Deputy)

Behavioral Health and Developmental Services attended Local Interagency Coordination Council (LICC) event on March 15th in which they provided information on early intervention services. Bethany Bowman represented BHDS by providing information on resources, and fine motor skills activities such as color matching and playdough outlines. Lisa Milan represented BHDS/HS at KidsFest on March 23rd, where outreach occurred to 410 individuals!



Washington County Clinical Unit presented a poster on *Correlations between Childhood ACE Scores and the Legal System*.

Pictures L to R: Jonathan Dawson (Clinician), Rebecca Salsbury (Clinical Director), Hillary Sabol-Schultze (Clinician), Amy Begley (Research Analyst) and Matthew Emerson (Clinician)



Washington County Behavioral Health and Developmental Services offered fine motor skills activities at the LICC event on March 15th.

From the Desk of Aging Services



On March 23, the Canonsburg Senior Center had the opportunity to be part of the Be My Neighbor Day. Be My Neighbor Day is a free event for families to celebrate kindness and what it means to be a caring neighbor!



Washington County Department of Human Services Employee Spotlight

An interview completed by Taylor Wall, Human Services Coordinator with

Sheila Fullerton: BHDS, Intellectual Disabilities/Autism Director

Sheila attended college at Waynesburg University and received a bachelor's degree in human services with a minor in child development. The most rewarding part of her job is "being able to help our individuals, to witness our individuals succeeding and living an everyday life of their choosing!" Sheila professionally looks up to BHDS administrator Jennifer Scott who has always had her door open to Sheila. "Jen has guided me to be successful in my current position as IDA Director. She has pushed me out of my comfort zone when she believed I could succeed even when I doubted myself." Sheila appreciates the dedication that Jen puts into all individuals who work in BHDS. Her resourcefulness, dedication and guidance are all qualities that Sheila admires. Outside of work Sheila enjoys remodeling her home and spending time with her family, dogs and cat. Her favorite shows to watch are Gilmore Girls and Sons of Anarchy.



An interview completed by Jacob DeWoody, Human Services Coordinator with

Scott Berry: BHDS, Mental Health Director

Scott has an undergraduate degree in Sociology from Washington and Jefferson College. Scott Berry believes that the most rewarding part of his position is helping others succeed and interacting with the public. Scott also finds it very rewarding when individuals who have struggled previously find ways to overcome those struggles to be successful. Scott states that his largest influence professionally is Dr. Bill Law and Steven Lee, who are psychiatrists who helped to mentor Scott. Scott states they taught him how to interact with the public and identify what services exist for individuals in the community. In Scott's personal life, his grandmother is someone who pushed Scott to go to college, study and make sure he was successful. Outside of work Scott enjoys a good round of golf, riding side by side's, camping and hunting. Scott also has an interest in working with Law Enforcement and the Washington County SWAT. Scott's two favorite movies are Goonies and the Breakfast Club. His favorite TV series is M.A.S.H.



From the Desk of BHDS

Guest Columnist: Mary Jo Patrick-Hatfield, BHDS Director

In 2023, with the support of Jennifer Scott (BHDS Administrator) and numerous others with whom I interact professorially, I applied and was appointed to the Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) Mental Health Planning Council. In addition to general representation, I service on the Older Adult committee, serving specifically on two workgroups: one specific to Older Adult Suicide Prevention and the other on Outreach. These assignments have proven to be a good match. In my role as Mental Health Director for adult services, Quality Planning and Development, some of my areas are incident management and prevention as well as Outreach for Mental Health Awareness. For a number of years, I and/or my designated staff have visited the Washington County Senior Centers at least annually to do Mental Health Screenings, where we also introduce "Feel Good Bingo" which is a fun way for Seniors to learn about the signs and symptoms of anxiety and depression. During our visits to the Centers, we also provide resource information for those who wish to link with our service system. All these opportunities have been and continue to be some of the most rewarding pursuits in my professional career.



Intellectual Disability and Autism Recognition Day

Guest Columnist: Sheila Fullerton, Intellectual Disabilities/Autism Director

Washington County will be celebrating Autism Acceptance Month, by recognizing all the individuals with Autism and Intellectual Disabilities with an event on April 25th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. The event will be held at the Washington Park Main Pavilion, and all individuals in Washington County. We have a full day of activities, presentations and resource tables scheduled. There will also be Food and refreshments.

Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 am-5:00 pm:** DJ & Dancing
- 12:00 pm-3:00 pm:** Face Painting
- 1:00 pm-1:30 pm:** Presentation by Freedom Transit
- 2:00 pm-2:30 pm:** Eruption Athletics Exercise
- 3:00 pm-4:00 pm:** Self Advocates United as one Presentation
- 5:00 pm-6:30 pm:** Self Advocacy Meeting
- All Day:** BINGO, Photo Booth, and Rock Painting

Resource Tables

Eruption Athletics-ART Table-Always B Smiling-OVR-PA ABLE-Healing Bridges-Freedom Transit-Southwest Training-TRIPL-CCBC-Washington County Human Services

Raffle Basket items

Signed STEELERS Cam Heyward Picture-Variety of Gift Cards-Bowling Gift Certificates-Escape Room Tickets-Wild Things Tickets and more!!

A colorful event poster for Washington County's Intellectual Disability and Autism (ID/A) Recognition Day. The text is centered and uses various colors and fonts. At the bottom, it specifies the date as Thursday, April 25, 2024, and the location as Washington Park Main Pavilion from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The poster features a blue background with yellow and green accents.

Washington County's
Intellectual Disability and Autism (ID/A)
Recognition Day

Current Activities Planned:
11am-5pm: DJ & Dancing
12pm-3pm: Face Painting
1pm-1:30: Presentation by Freedom Transit
2pm-2:30pm: Eruption Athletics Exercise
3pm-4pm: Self Advocates United as one Presentation
5pm-6:30pm: Self Advocacy Meeting
All Day: BINGO, Photo Booth and Rock Painting

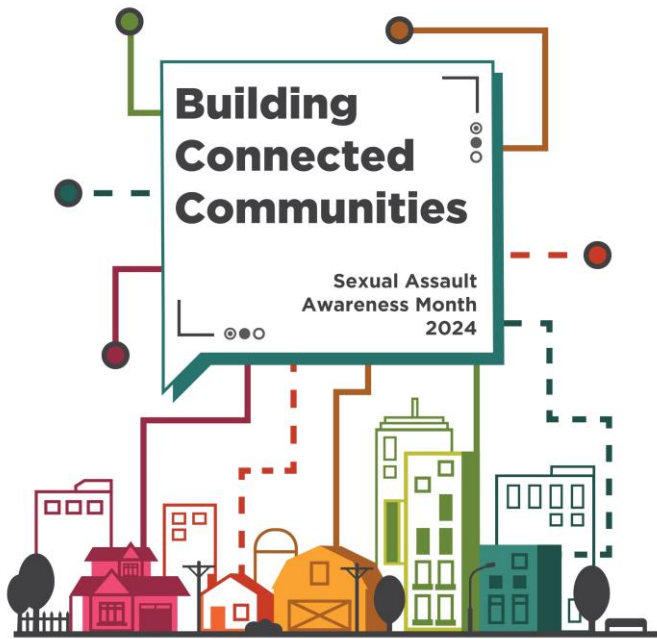
Many Resource/Vendor Tables
Eruption Athletics-ART Table-Always B Smiling
OVR-PA ABLE-Healing Bridges-Freedom Transit
Southwest Training-TRIPL-CCBC-
Washington County Human Services

Raffle Basket items
Signed STEELERS Cam Heyward Picture-Variety of
Gift Cards-Bowling Gift Certificates-
Escape Room tickets-
Wild Things Tickets and more!!

Thursday April 25, 2024
Washington Park Main Pavilion
11:00 AM-7:00PM

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Guest Columnist: Joanna Dragan, Supervisor of SPHS STTARS



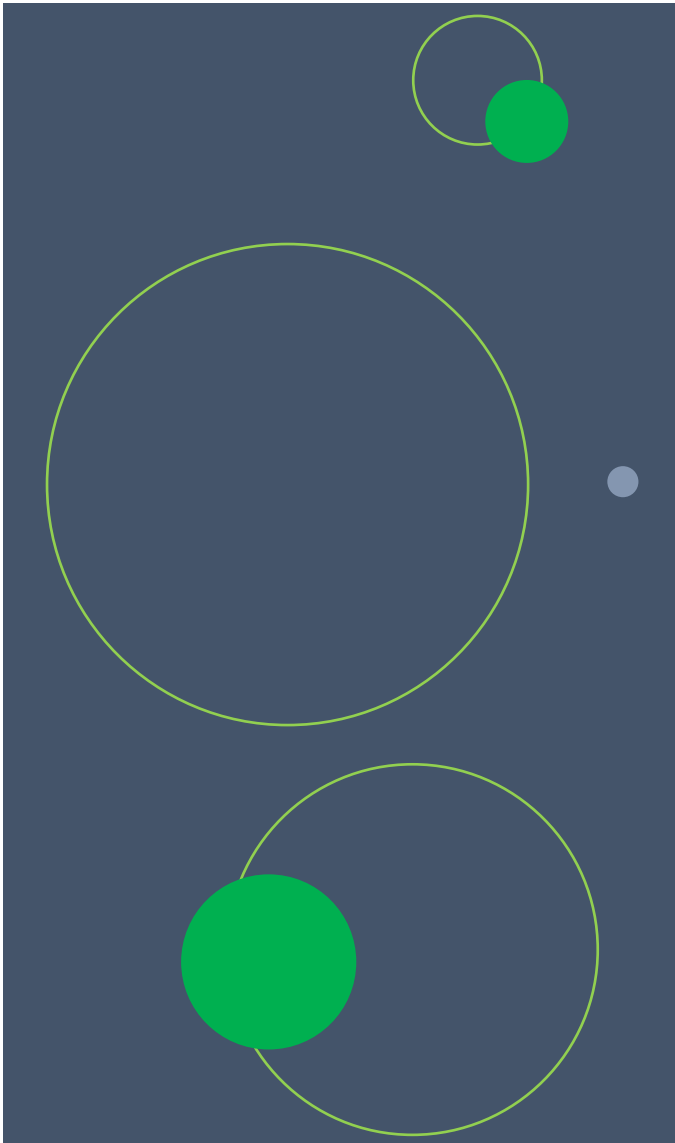
Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) takes place in April, and this year's theme is "Building Connected Communities." Building Connected Communities helps us reduce the likelihood of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment within those communities. Any space where people come together is a community, whether in neighborhoods, workplaces, campuses, organizations, or online spaces.

Community is powerful. It creates a sense of belonging and reminds us of how our beliefs, choices, and actions impact one another. At the center of Building Connected Communities is ensuring our communities are safe, inclusive, and equitable. Addressing the social and structural determinants of health, such as education, income, employment, safety, and social support, is crucial to improving the conditions in which we live, learn, work, and play. In a connected community, we can look out for one another and make choices to promote health, safety, and wellbeing.

Building Connected Communities brings us closer to the goal of health equity. Health equity means that everyone, no matter their situation, has a chance to achieve their best possible health, creating a fair and just opportunity for all to reach their highest level of well-being (PI & NSVRC 2021).

Partnering with the Pennsylvania Coalition to Advance Respect (PCAR), the STTARS Program provides a variety of services within the Greene and Washington County communities to address and prevent sexual violence, with offices in Washington, Waynesburg, and Charleroi. These include counseling services both in-person and telehealth, legal and medical advocacy, and a 24-hour hotline. Services are designed to empower, educate, and support clients through the healing process. All services are free and confidential. Prevention programming is available for schools, community groups, and professionals on a variety of topics related to sexual abuse, harassment, stalking, mandated reporting, and human trafficking.

If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexual abuse, you would like to schedule programming for your school, community group, or workplace, or if you're interested in volunteering to help us stand up to sexual violence in our area, you can call the STTARS Program at 724-229-5007 or visit our website at: www.sttars.sphs.org.



REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) ANNOUNCEMENT

COMMUNITY TO HOME (C2H) PROGRAM

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, BUREAU OF FAMILY HEALTH (BUREAU) IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A FUNDING OPPORTUNITY RELEASED ON MARCH 21, 2024.

GOAL

Community to Home (C2H) is a home visiting program, focused on rural areas of PA. C2H improves the health of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) by assisting them, with their families, to access the services and supports required to thrive in the community and develop to their full potential. This program utilizes evidence based, home visiting services through the Community Health Worker (CHW) model to provide care coordination and education allowing CYSHCN and their families to learn the skills they need to succeed in living with their special health care needs. There are six service regions for this program.

The Bureau is seeking qualified Pennsylvania organizations to provide direct, individualized services to families who qualify for C2H. The organization is required to employ CHWs to work with individuals and their families to create a plan of continuous care. CHWs are trusted members of the communities in which they serve and specialize in health literacy, health education, and care coordination to facilitate access to services.

BACKGROUND

Data from the 2020-2021 National Survey of Children's Health measures who has a medical home, quality health care, school success, positive home environment and neighborhood safety and



support. According to the survey, CYSHCN have more difficulty getting referrals than non-CYSHCN. They are less likely to receive adequate health insurance and care coordination when needed. CYSHCN meet the Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health's quality health care index of having a medical home, adequate insurance and at least one preventive medical visit in the prior 12 months less often than their non-CYSHCN counterparts. Data shows that less than half (42%) received care in a medical home¹.

CYSHCN residing in rural areas in Pennsylvania experience similar unmet needs as those in non-rural areas. However, addressing unmet needs in rural areas becomes a greater challenge due to barriers including lack of transportation and lack of available health care providers, including primary care as well as specialists.

FUNDING INFORMATION

Using Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant funding, the Bureau has released an RFA for the C2H Program on March 21, 2024, with an anticipated grant start of July 1, 2024. The Bureau anticipates awarding one grant to provide services in four of the C2H regions; Southwest, Northwest, Northwest Central, and Northeast Central.

QUESTIONS & FURTHER DETAILS

The C2H RFA can be found on the Pennsylvania eMarketplace (www.emarketplace.state.pa.us) by searching for RFA 67-186. Questions regarding the RFA can be submitted through the Pennsylvania eMarketplace process until April 4, 2024, and during the pre-Application Conference, which is schedule for April 11, 2024. Responses will be posted as an addendum to

¹ (2020) Data Resource Center for Child & Adolescent Health: <http://childhealthdata.org/>

