

June 2023

Issue 21

Washington County Department of Human Services

*If you truly love nature, you will find
beauty everywhere.*

~Vincent van Gogh

Pictured captured on Beau Street in Washington, PA by
Human Services Clinician Jonathan Dawson.



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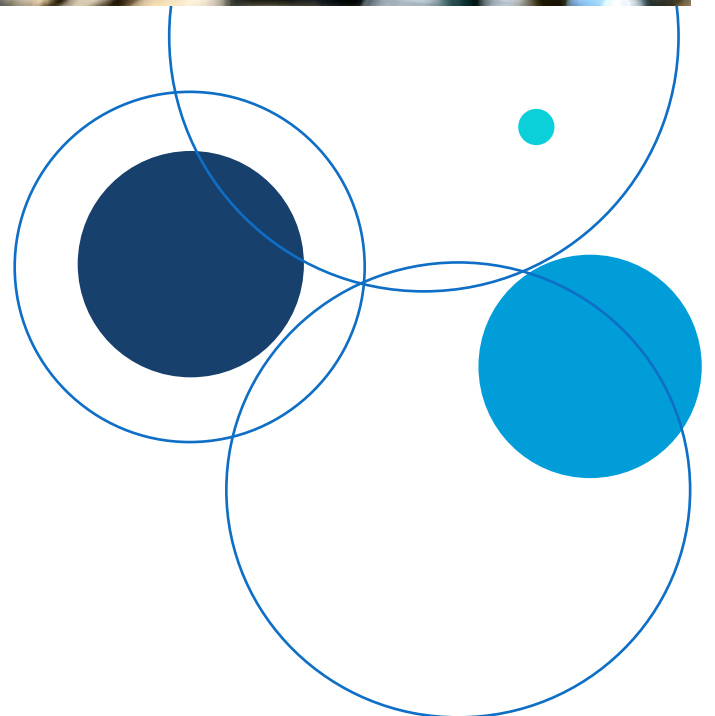
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Washington County Out of the Darkness Walk

September 30, 2023

For information, email rebecca.salsbury@co.washington.pa.us

Register at afsp.org/WASHINGTONPA



Food Booths
Health & Wellness Fair + Screenings
Super Bingo
WMBS DJ Arnie Amber

Cornbag Toss • Putting • Stationary Bike • Wellness Walk

Thank you to our sponsors: **UPMC for Life**
 UPMC Health Plan Medicare Program



Sponsored by:



Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Agency on Aging, Inc.



Fayette Co-Hosts:
 Albert Gallatin Human Services, Inc.
 Crosskeys Human Services, Inc.
 Connellsville Area Senior Tigers, Inc.
 Fayette County Community Action Agency, Inc.

Dates to Remember

June 2023

June 7-DHS Town Hall at 3:00

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

June 10-PRIDE event

June 15-Help Center Coordinator will be available at City Mission from 1-3.

June 21-Senior-ritaville Event

June 23-Chartiers Center Open House 2-4

June 27-Pathfinders Task Force Meeting at 10:00

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

We are now accepting submissions for the July, August, and September newsletter. Please reach out to Rebecca Salsbury at Rebecca.Salsbury@co.washington.pa.us if you are interested in being a guest columnist or if you know of any upcoming events!

Washington County Department of Human Services

Do you need our HELP?

We are dedicated to finding the help needed for Washington County residents, addressing the following needs and more:

- Food
- Housing
- Transportation
- Childcare
- Employment
- Education
- Mental/Physical Health
- Finance / Legal

1234 HELP CENTER Call (724) 228 -1234

HELP is as easy as 1234!

What's the Buzz at Washington County

Department of Human Services



During the month of May, Washington County Department of Human Services was a buzz with activities. On May 18, 2023, two proclamations occurred celebrating Older Americans month and Mental Health Awareness month.

On May 20th Behavioral Health and Developmental Services in partnership with The Pennsylvania National Strategy for Suicide Prevention planned a Shine the Light on Mental Health and Suicide Awareness event by hosting a Color Run at Washington Park. Over 240 individuals registered for the event which included Depression and Suicide Screening, speakers, music, refreshments, and prizes! Crisis services are available 24/7 by calling 1-877-225-3567/724-225-3584.

Please consider joining us for National Suicide Prevention Month on September 30, 2023, at the Main Street Pavilion for the second annual Washington County Out of the Darkness Walk.

Aging services celebrated their volunteers recently by holding volunteer luncheons to honor the dedication and support of their everyday heroes! If you are interested in being a volunteer scan the QR code below for more information.



On May 24, Children and Youth Services hosted a Foster Dreams open house as part of the Foster Parent Recruitment Campaign.

How Can You Give A Child Hope?

- 1.) **Attend our information Session:** Learn more about foster parenting and have your questions and concerns answered.
- 2.) **Spread the Word:** Share our campaign with friends, family, and social networks. Help us reach potential foster parents who may be unaware of the need in Washington County.
- 3.) **Become a Mentor:** If you are already a foster parent or grandparent or relative caring for children, consider being a mentor to new foster parents. Share your experiences, offer guidance, and provide a support network for those just starting their journey.

If you are interested in more information, please reach out to Kate Grant at grantkat@co.washington.pa.us or [724-228-6884](tel:724-228-6884)



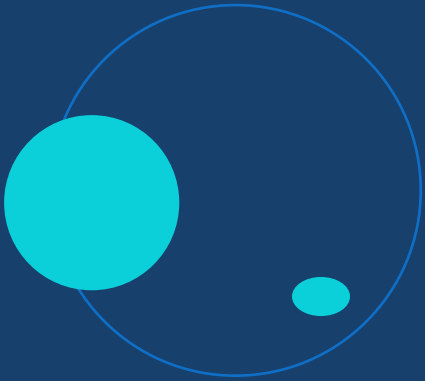



Provider Spotlight Information provided by Mary Kay Bonn

In 1966, the Pennsylvania State Legislature passed the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Act which had as its major purpose “to make it possible for every person with a mental disability to receive the kind of treatment he needs, when and where he needs it.” Catchment areas were set up statewide and each area was headed by a Base Service Unit (BSU). The BSU was to see that the mandated services were offered to the public. As a result, a community meeting was held in July of 1968 and a plan was endorsed to create Chartiers Community Mental Health and Retardation Center. In May 1969, the first official meeting of the Chartiers MH/MR Center was held, and a permanent Board of Directors was elected. A series of task forces and committees were created that included community constituents whose purpose was to identify the services that would best benefit and meet the needs of the community’s citizens.

Now, in our 54th year of service to the community, Chartiers Center continues to make it possible for every person to receive the kind of treatment he or she needs, when and where he or she needs it. The staff and leadership of Chartiers Center are committed to providing compassionate support to those in need who face behavioral health, co-occurring disorders, or IDD challenges as they transform their lives.

Chartiers Center is a private, non-profit corporation funded by the state, county, third-party insurances, and private funds. Services have grown to include a wide range of programs and service locations to assist behavioral health consumers and families, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. To best meet the consumer’s needs, the focus is on the integration of physical health and mental wellness.




Chartiers Center Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic

Washington County

Do You Need Help With

- Mental Health Services
- Support Services
- Call to schedule an appointment

412 221-3302 ext.123
Intake@chartierscenter.org




Chartiers Center
here when you need us

Behavioral Health
Outpatient Treatment
Services

CALL 412 221-3302 EXT 123
Intake@chartierscenter.org

For information call Alesha, Director, Outpatient Services,
Washington County at (412) 221-3302 ext. 150.



90 West Chestnut St.
East Wing Entrance
Washington, PA 15301



Chartiers Center's Outpatient Team Welcomes You



Washington County Outpatient Team pictured L to R: Jen O'Brien MA, CAADC, Clinical Administrator Recovery Treatment, Alesha McGough MSCP, Director of Outpatient Services Washington County, Marcella Hauser LSW, Therapist

As of June 1, 2023, we will now be providing outpatient treatment services to the Washington County community. The clinic provides behavioral health outpatient treatment services for adults looking for mental health support. Treatment services include individual therapy, medication evaluation and medication management. The Washington County Outpatient team will consist of a psychiatrist who has a working relationship within Washington County, a nurse practitioner who has worked extensively with veterans and master level and licensed therapists. The Washington Outpatient Clinic's management team each have over 20 years' experience in the behavioral health field.

The clinic, located at 90 West Chestnut Street, East Wing Entrance, is now open for referrals by calling our Intake Specialist at 412 221-3302 ext.123. If you prefer you can email Intake@chartierscenter.org with your questions. Walk-ins are welcome, during which time you can schedule an initial appointment.

Chartiers Center Washington Clinic invites the community to our Open House on Friday, June 23rd from 2-4pm. During the Open House we will be featuring an art contest and displaying the artistic works of our clients. The public will be invited to participate in the contest by submitting their vote for a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner. Prizes will be awarded to the individual and/or program responsible for the winning entries.

Alesha McGough, Director Outpatient Services, Washington, said, "In preparation of our opening, we have received a warm welcome from the Washington County provider community, and we are excited to develop those working relationships in service to the wellness of the Washington County community."

We invite you to stop in and say hello and visit our website www.chartierscenter.org to learn more.



Chartiers Center's Outpatient Team Welcomes You



Washington County Outpatient Team pictured L to R: Marcella Hauser LSW, Therapist, Alesha McGough MSCP, Director of Outpatient Services, Jen O'Brien MA, CAADC, Clinical Administrator Recovery Treatment



Washington County Gay Straight Alliance, Inc.

Guest Columnist Information provided by Kathy Cameron, Chair,
WCGSA, Inc. Board of Directors

Dear Friends:

We welcome you to **Washington PA PRIDE 2023** which takes place from *Noon-9:00 p.m. on Saturday, JUNE 10, 2023, at the Main Street Pavilion, located at 139 Main Street, Washington.*

The **Washington County Gay Straight Alliance, Inc.** is in its 11th year as a nonprofit serving the larger LGBTQA+ community and 18th year as a facilitator for a youth Sexuality and Gender Alliance. Please check us out at www.WCGSA.org for more detailed information on our many programs.

Building on our inaugural PRIDE Festival in 2022, we are delighted to welcome back old friends and meet new ones. Our 2022 PRIDE Magazine and 2023 information is on our PRIDE website www.washpride.com. We again plan to offer entertainment to meet all demographics of the tri-state area with both national and regional acts. Our Wellness Village will be full of health and wellness organizations/vendors that contribute to the wellbeing of the community which we serve. By popular demand we have added a Family & Youth section this year to meet the needs of our attending families. We prioritize safe spaces at this event and are pleased to offer music, food/drink options, vendors of all kinds, and some surprises to be announced. Those 21+ are invited to a ticketed After Party at 19 North Main for DJs, Drag, drinks & performances from 9:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m. Tickets on Eventbrite, at PRIDE, or at the door.

We appreciate that those in attendance and supporting the event believe that ALL people should be treated equally, respectfully and given the opportunity to gather and celebrate in a safe environment. We look forward to seeing you on June 10th!



59 E. Strawberry Ave.

Washington, PA 15301

(724) 213-0096

<https://wcgsa.org/>

Private Industry Council-DADS MATTER

Guest Columnist Information provided by Michelle Ferguson and Daniel Bell



The DADS MATTER Program builds upon effective practices in fatherhood initiatives identified in research and strategies that were implemented in the Private Industry Council's prior successful DADS MATTER Program, with its initial inception in Fayette County, PA in 2007.

The DADS MATTER Program is a voluntary program that is federally-funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and Administration for Children and Families. It is a five-year grant (September 30, 2020-September 29, 2025) that encourages fathers/father figures to be the BEST that they can be by offering 4-6 week group sessions (virtual or in-person) that provide an opportunity for men to network and share common parenting /family experiences.

The DADS MATTER Program provides voluntary services for community fathers/father figures who reside in Beaver, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties. You must be 18 years or older and caring for at least 1 child age 24 or younger. Father figures can include adoptive/foster fathers, grandfathers in a caregiving role, men residing and/or co-parenting with a partner who has children, older sibling or relative, or expectant fathers. There are no income guidelines.

In addition, workforce and education training options (virtual and/or in-person) are available that include forklift, scissor lift, financial wellness, economic stability, and behavior/learning support.

Fathers/father figures can complete an online interest form by accessing the QR code or link below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCZgijFmMrs184DWi-hljdY0AqjwV4kIHdVtX2CwN8gDPPg/viewform?usp=sf_link



Please visit the Private Industry Council's website (<https://privateindustrycouncil.com/>) to view our programs and/or upcoming events. Please also feel free to view our Facebook Page for past events and highlights: <https://www.facebook.com/people/PICs-DADS-MATTER-Southwestern-PA/100067324853950/>

Please feel free to contact Amanda Toth from the DADS MATTER Program & Team at (724) 836-2600, extension 209.