

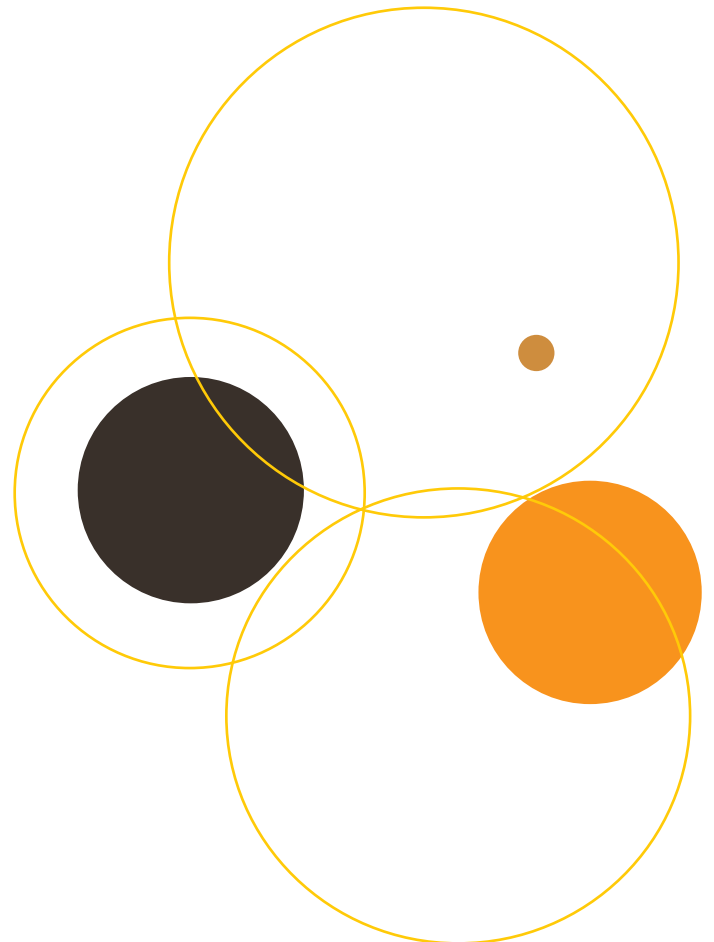
October 2024

Washington County  
Department of Human Services



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WASHINGTON COUNTY  
**gay straight**  
**ALLIANCE**  
incorporated

wcgsa.org

# LGBTQIA+ Oral Histories Public Launch

October 12, 2024  
2 - 5 pm



Washington and Jefferson College  
@ Clark Family Library

Event is Free and Open to the Public

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Community Awareness Days

October 4th and 5th 11am-7pm  
Washington Crown Center

### Community Baby Shower

October 5th 12pm -1:30pm  
Lady of the Miraculous Medal Catholic  
Church

### Community Goal

October 6th 1pm  
Charleroi Trustees Community Park

### Market in the Park

October 12th 9am-1pm  
Washington Park

### Canonsburg Hospital Trunk or Treat

October 24th  
Canon-McMillan High School

### EmployHER

October 29th 10am-6pm  
Dee's Event Center



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR  
15TH ANNUAL AMI, INC  
POETRY AND FINE ART SHOW

OCTOBER 9TH, 2024  
11 AM UNTIL 6 PM

Washington Elks Lodge Ballroom  
138 E. Maiden Street Washington, PA, 15301  
Awards Ceremony at 2 pm



WASHINGTON COUNTY

# COMMUNITY *Goal*

OCTOBER 6TH AT 1:00PM

CHARLEROI TRUSTEES COMMUNITY PARK

1 CHAMBER PLAZA  
CHARLEROI, PA 15022

Enjoy a recreation soccer  
tournament, kids' activities,  
food trucks and a resource fair!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!



Community Goal  
Soccer Tournament

## What's the Buzz at the Department of Human Services



Abigail Gerlach, Human Services Community Outreach Liaison, and Tiffany Milovac, Human Services Deputy Director, had the opportunity to attend the Sisters Together Advocating for Recovery Support (STARS) event on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Venue 19 North. Attendees were able to hear from two keynote speakers, Amy Hess and Liz Mims, connect with local resource providers, and participate in self-care activities such as chair yoga, self-hand massage, bracelet making, and kindness rocks. Participants were also able to hear from a wellness panel which included four women at various stages in their recovery journeys.



On September 12, 2024, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Washington County Area-wide Senior Picnic took place at beautiful Mingo Park. The Picnic was attended by 245 older residents who enjoyed great weather, food, and entertainment. A magician, Steve Haberman, entertained with card tricks and various magic feats. After lunch, Mark Davis & Belinda entertained with country music along with favorites from the Seventies and Eighties. Raffle Baskets and a 50-50 Drawing ended the day. A great time was enjoyed by all. The Picnic was in partnership with Aging Services of Washington County, Metz Culinary, SWPA Area Agency on Aging, Inc., and Washington Area Senior Citizens Center.

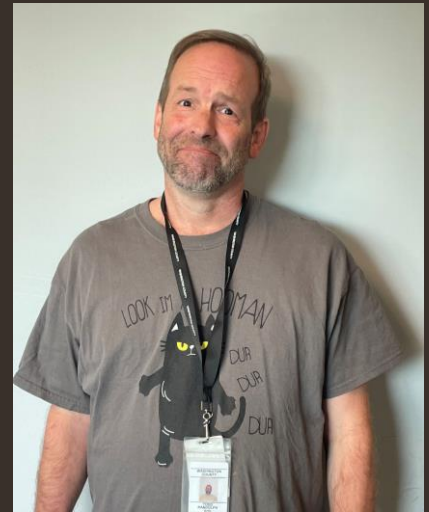


On September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Washington County Out of the Darkness Walk occurred at the Main Street Pavilion in Washington, PA. Individuals gathered in remembrance of loved ones, a personal struggle and/or to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Attendees had the opportunity to connect with local community-based organizations during a pre-ceremony resource fair. Honor beads in 10 different colors were provided to represent different connections to the cause like losing a spouse, child, parent, sibling, friend, or someone who has had their own struggle or attempt. The top fundraising team, Team Gypsies led the start of the walk by carrying the banner.

## Employee Spotlights

### **Todd Randolph, BHDS ID/A Waiver Program Specialist - Compliance**

Todd attended Waynesburg University where he obtained his bachelor's degree in elementary education. Todd expressed that the most rewarding part of his job is advocating for his people. Todd stated that he looks up to Shelia Fullerton because she is very knowledgeable about everything. She also is never bothered when Todd asks her questions. In his free time, Todd enjoys caring for his cats and gardening. His favorite movie is Barefoot in the Park with Jane Fonda and Robert Redford.



### **Kate Grant, Children & Youth Services Community Engagement Specialist/SWAN Liaison**

Kate attended Waynesburg College and California University where she obtained her bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in criminal justice. Kate expressed that the most rewarding part of her job is the ongoing collaboration and outreach with the providers and community to meet the needs of the families we serve. Kate mentioned that she also values her role in establishing timely permanency for children. Kate stated that she has several people that she looks up to professionally that work hard every day and strive to bring blessing, kindness, and support to others. Kate enjoys traveling to Texas and Disney, working on her farm, and antique shopping. Her favorite tv show series is anything on HGTV.



### **Melissa Gorby, Aging Services Long Term Care Ombudsman**

Melissa attended Waynesburg College (now Waynesburg University) where she obtained her bachelor's degree in psychology. Melissa expressed that the most rewarding part of her job is meeting new people and being able to help the aging population. Melissa stated that she looks up to Rose with Community Action, who trained Melissa in the Ombudsman program 23 years ago. Melissa enjoys watching any movie or tv show series that is fantasy related. Her favorite movies/tv show series are Dungeons and Dragons, Shirley Valentine, and Supernatural.



Join us for a conversation with Washington County Commissioners



*On the Road with County Government*

6:30-8 PM  
Wednesday, October 9, 2024  
Multipurpose Room  
Peters Township Community Recreation Center



## Washington County Board of Commissioners

**Guest Columnist: Patrick Geho, Director of Public Affairs**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will host a town hall meeting on Wednesday, October 9 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at the Peters Township Community Recreation, 700 Meredith Drive, Ventia. This new initiative aims to bring County government directly to the residents, allowing the commissioners to answer questions and hear residents' concerns. It also provides an opportunity for them to educate residents about county government services. Please plan to join the commissioners for an informative program.



**They get an education while you build a future.**



## Blueprints

**Guest Columnist: Nathan Williams, Director of Communications**

Did you know Blueprints offers low-no cost childcare that helps prepare your kiddos for kindergarten AND gives parents a chance to achieve their goals?

If you or someone you serve is on the lookout for high-quality childcare and education programs, please send them our way! Interested parents, families, and caregivers can visit [myblueprints.org/enroll](https://myblueprints.org/enroll) or dial 724-225-9550.

# Seniors Helping Seniors of SWPA

Guest Columnist: Theresa Lalak, Community Liaison

C.J. Girod, President, started Seniors Helping Seniors of SWPA approximately 3 years ago with the idea of hiring active seniors to help other seniors. These caregivers do so because they want to stay active and feel good about helping others. As a result, our caregivers provide companionship and are compassionate and reliable.

At Seniors Helping Seniors of SWPA, we serve seniors who need assistance in their homes – whether living in a house, apartment, or senior community. Our geographical area includes Southern Allegheny and Washington Counties. Our services are customized to the needs of each client. We provide companionship and socialization, light housekeeping and laundry, medication reminders, meal preparation, transportation, dementia care, personal care, and more. Some of our clients need socialization and want to go to lunch or shopping. Other clients need transportation to and from doctor’s appointments. Others need assistance with showering and meal preparation. We’ve taken clients to weddings and funerals, so their loved ones are able to participate without worry.

As mature adults themselves, our caregivers understand the aging process. This allows for unique friendships. We bring the power of love to every client for peace of mind for our clients and their loved ones. Interested seniors can contact us to discuss their needs. If they are interested in proceeding, we will schedule an assessment to determine their exact needs and how we can help. Next, we will match the client needs with caregiver preferences to create a good fit.

For more information, please visit our website at [seniorshelpingseniors.com](http://seniorshelpingseniors.com).

