

The Mon Valley Providers Council Presents *The Communicator*

April - June 2018

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Women & Girls HIV Awareness Dinner

Human Services Center

On March 13th, the HIV/AIDS Working Group of the Human Services Center Corporation, held their annual National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Dinner at Bethlehem Baptist Church in McKeesport. This year's 44 guests learned from and engaged with a variety of presenters, including Dr. Yui Sugiura, Leatra Tate (The Girl Talk Project), and a personal perspective from someone living with HIV. The evening ended with HIV/AIDS Awareness BINGO and a performance by the Victorious Praise Team of Morning Star Baptist Church. Free and confidential testing was provided throughout the evening by Macedonia FACE.

The HIV/AIDS Working Group works year-round to organize events to educate and raise awareness of HIV in the Mon Valley. This summer, the Working Group will host Project H.E.A.R.T., a peer education training program for teens. The Working Group will also be hosting the 18th Annual Mon Valley HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk on Saturday, October 6th, 2018.

The HIV/AIDS Working Group would like to thank Bethlehem Baptist Church and everyone who presented and attended the 2018 National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Dinner.

Youth Programs Now Enrolling

Need a KOOL Summer Program?

Human Services Center

Now in the 23rd year, the Kids, Outgoing, Outdoing, and Learning (KOOL) Program, a summer academic enrichment program of the Human Services Center Corporation, is currently accepting applications for children going into grades 1-5 in the fall of 2018. Spots fill up very quickly! Apply as soon as possible!

The KOOL Summer Program, a program of the Human Services Center Corporation, provides participants with an educational and fun summer experience where youth participate in reading, math, science, and cultural activities on a daily basis. They also participate in arts and crafts and recreational time. In addition, seminars provided by local agencies are offered to participants throughout

the summer. On Fridays, KOOL participants have the opportunity to attend field trips to various places throughout the Pittsburgh region including the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, Carnegie Science Center, Boyce Park and Wave Pool, and many more.

KOOL is located at the Human Services Center Corporation, 519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145 from July 2-August 17, Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM for students going into grades 1-5. Other than a modest application fee the program activities are FREE! For more information or to obtain an application, please call 412-829-7112, visit www.hsc-mvpc.org to download an application, or email loreilly@hsc-mvpc.org.



2017 KOOL Program participants during a field trip

Program for Incoming High School Seniors

Human Services Center

Do you want your teen to have a set plan for after graduation? Do you want your senior to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to move on to a successful life after high school? Then the Human Services Center Corporation's Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) may be a perfect fit!

ELP is a very successful workforce development and college readiness program for seniors attending East Allegheny, McKeesport Area, Penn Hills, West Mifflin Area, and Woodland Hills High Schools that is incorporated into the students' school day. Participants attend a weekly session during the school day where they are instructed in a curriculum specifically created for seniors to prepare them for success after high school. A variety of professionals present to the class throughout the year on their career fields and personal development as well

as students are matched to job shadowing opportunities. Outside of the classroom, participants work one-on-one with a staff person to receive highly individualized attention and support in their pursuit of their goals. They create goal plans and refer to the plans throughout the year to stay on track. Plus, participants will have the chance to earn money periodically based on participation and goal completion throughout the school year and post-graduation.

There will be limited spots available and your family must meet the designated requirements to participate. If you or your teen would like to hear more details about the program and/or apply, please call 412-829-7112 or visit our website at www.hsc-mvpc.org to download an application. Spots fill up very quickly! Apply as soon as possible!

Looking for a Positive Activity for Teens this Summer?

Human Services Center

The Human Services Center and HIV/AIDS Working Group is seeking teens who are aspiring leaders to participate in an educational summer program! Project HEART provides HIV/AIDS education and workforce and job readiness skills in a fun and supportive environment. Participants will learn information on HIV/AIDS and STI (sexually transmitted infections) prevention as well as be trained to become a peer educator which is someone who shares information with their friends and classmates. Teens be-

tween the ages of 13 and 17 must be able to commit 8 weeks every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-12pm, (except on the 4th of July), June 26th - August 16th. Upon successful completion of Project HEART, participants will receive a \$400 stipend, and formal recognition from community and program leaders. This is a competitive program that fills quickly, so please contact Mallory at 412-829-7112 or mclark@hsc-mvpc.org ASAP to receive an application! Apply as soon as possible!

Summer Programs are Heating Up

Heritage Community Initiatives

Heritage Community Initiatives has a variety of options for families with children of all ages throughout the summer! Heritage 4 Kids Early Learning Center and HOST (Heritage Out of School Time) Summer Sessions are NOW ENROLLING for 2018.

Heritage 4 Kids Early Learning Center provides early learning care and education for children from 6 weeks to 5 years old. HOST provides out-of-school time enrichment for students in kindergarten through 8th grade.

At Heritage Education Programs, youth participate in exciting hands-on learning opportunities, field trips and swimming lessons. Classrooms are academically based and led by professional educators. All students receive nutritious meals, made up of at least 75% fresh ingredients with an emphasis on cooking from scratch.

Both programs are licensed by the Department of Human Services and rated Star 4, the highest rating available, by Pennsylvania Keystone Stars. Each program is a member of, or accredited by, the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Pennsylvania Child Care Association.

For more information, to schedule a tour, or to enroll please contact: Mia McMillan, 4 Kids Director at mmcmillan@heritageserves.org or (412) 271-3300 and Michele Blazina,

HOST Director at mblazina@heritageserves.org or (412) 271-2090. Childcare subsidies are accepted.

Back for a fifth year of service, Heritage Summer Nutrition Program will open on Monday, June 11th and run through Friday August 17th. Free lunch and snack is available for all youth 18 years of age and under, Monday through Friday from 11:30am-1:30pm. The Heritage Summer Nutrition program is located behind the 4 Kids Early Learning Center at 404 Braddock Avenue, Braddock, PA 15104. Heritage Summer Nutrition Program is an approved Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) site.

Registration is not required and all youth are welcome to join! Information about healthy meals, recreation equipment, as well as arts and crafts are available for all youth to enjoy.

For questions, please contact Laura Kelley, Director Business Development at lkelley@heritageserves.org or (412) 351-0535.

Are you or someone you know interested in working with youth or in food service this summer? Heritage is hiring for full and part-time positions. Experience in education and nutrition is preferred. Contact Nicole Hill at (412) 351-0535, nhill@heritageserves.org or visit our careers page at www.heritageserves.org/careers.

AFN Mental Health, A Family Affair

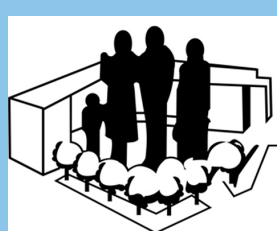
Allegheny Family Network

Allegheny Family Network invites you to a one-day conference on Friday, May 11, 2018, 9 am to 4 pm at Pittsburgh Wyndham University Center (100 Lytton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213). Workshops throughout the day, and

Vendors.

FREE, but registration is required. Contact: Christa Jones at 412-438-6118 or email her at: cjones@alleghenyfamilynetwork.org by 5/1/2018.

The Communicator is the official newsletter of the Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), an alliance of over 70 human service agencies serving more than 37 communities in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County. The MVPC is a program of the Human Services Center, a United Way Agency. To learn more about the MVPC, our member agencies, and their services, read this edition and visit our website at www.hsc-mvpc.org.



Human Services Center Corporation



IMPACT FUND AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania serves Allegheny, Westmoreland, Fayette & Southern Armstrong Counties

519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
412-829-7112 • 412-829-4363 (fax) • www.hsc-mvpc.org
facebook.com/humanservicescenterturtlecreek

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the Human Services Center Corp. can be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Services at the Human Services Center

The Westinghouse Valley Human Services Center, located at 519 Penn Avenue in Turtle Creek, provides a variety of services to residents in eastern Allegheny County communities and the Westinghouse/Turtle Creek Valley.

- **The Braddock Carnegie Library – Turtle Creek Extension** is open to the public and has full access to the Carnegie Library system. Call 412-829-7112 for hours of operation.
- **Health Insurance (Affordable Care Act), Medicaid, CHIP, Food Stamps (SNAP), Prescription Assistance, and FAFSA: YWCA Greater Pittsburgh** will assist individuals with signing up for many services. Call 412-829-7112 to schedule an appointment.
- **Property Tax/Rent Rebate Applications, PACE/PACENET, ACCESS applications, Senior Bus Pass Applications, PennDOT forms and assistance with state related issues: State Senator Jim Brewster's office** can complete state related forms and provide assistance on the first Tuesday of each month from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Call 412-829-7112 for more information.
- **Turtle Creek Development Corporation** meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm at the Human Services Center (519 Penn Avenue). Call 412-464-4000.
- **Turtle Creek Valley Historical Society:** The Society meets on the second Saturday of the month. Call 412-816-1686.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA):** AA has a support group at the Center every Friday at 7:00pm. Call 412-824-1958.
- **Youth LIFE After-School Program** begins in September. Youth LIFE After-School Program serves 100 youth going into first through fifth grade. For more information, contact 412-829-7112.
- **KOOL Summer Program** is accepting applications. KOOL Summer Program serves 150 youth going into first through fifth grade in the Fall. For more information, contact 412-829-7112.
- **The Emerging Leaders Program (ELP)** is a workforce development and college readiness program for seniors in the East Allegheny, McKeesport Area, West Mifflin Area, Woodland Hills, and Penn Hills High Schools. ELP is currently accepting applications. For more information, contact 412-829-7112.
- **Supports for Success** helps individuals seeking to achieve self-sufficiency through employment and/or education by providing referrals and guidance. For more information, call 412-829-7112.

Tenant Agencies at the Human Services Center

Adagio Health 724-288-2130
Allegheny County Health Dept. – W.I.C. Program 412-823-1333
Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Community School East 412-464-4043
Braddock Carnegie Library – Turtle Creek Extension 412-829-7112
Eastern Area Adult Services 412-824-6880
Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council 412-969-8486
Healthy Start 412-247-4009
Human Services Center Corporation 412-829-7112
Learn “N” Play Development Center 412-829-0240
Mon Valley Providers Council 412-829-7112
Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs 412-824-0006
TCV Community Services Adult Programs 412-824-8510 Children, Adolescents and Families 412-349-0632 Psychiatric and Social Rehabilitation 412-461-3811 x5710

Exercise Classes for Seniors

Eastern Area Adult Services

The Turtle Creek Senior Center at 519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek is a great place to go this spring to get back in shape. Being physically active on a regular basis is one of the healthiest things people can do. Studies have shown that exercise provides many health benefits and that older adults can gain a lot by staying physically active. Even moderate exercise and physical activity can improve the health of people who are frail or who have diseases that accompany aging. Being physically active can also help people stay strong and fit enough to keep doing the things they like to do as they get older. Making exercise and physical activity a regular part of life can improve health and help maintain independence.

Exercise Classes offered at the Turtle Creek Senior Center are:

- 11:00 am (Donation requested) Yoga (mat class) on Mondays, 5:00 – 6:00 pm (Donation requested) Tai Chi on Wednesdays, 10:00 am – 11:00 am (Donation requested) Silver Sneakers/Exercise on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am or 10:00 am. (Silver Sneakers members free, others \$2 per class) Chair exercise on Fridays 10:00 – 11 am (Donation requested)

Stop by the Center or call at 412-824-6880 before attending the programs. Information on additional programs can also be found on the agency website, www.eaas.net. The Turtle Creek Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Lunch is available daily for a voluntary donation. Information and assistance is available on helpful services including transportation, meals on wheels, rent rebates, and PACE.

Chair Yoga on Mondays, 10:00 –



Silver Sneakers class at the Turtle Creek Senior Center

About the Mon Valley Providers Council

Our Mission: The Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), in collaboration with individuals, families, and groups in the Mon Valley communities, will define and address mutual issues and needs. Building upon the providers and communities, the Mon Valley Providers Council will promote agendas and develop resources for collective action.

Who We Are: The Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), a program of the Human Services Center, is an alliance of human service and related organizations, which are based in or have a substantial service presence in the Mon Valley. The MVPC serves as a formal network for information and resource exchange among human service providers in the Mon Valley. The MVPC involves its member organizations in Working Groups which address crucial issues in the Mon Valley in the areas of Employment and Training, Health, Housing, and Youth. These four Working Groups involve the participation of over 70 dues-paying members and over 250 staff members of those organizations. Through these standing Working Groups, the MVPC promotes cooperation, coordination, and collaboration among its member and participating organizations in an effort to fill gaps in human services in the Mon Valley communities.

Staff: The MVPC is staffed through the Human Services Center. Current MVPC staff are:

- David Coplan**, Director
- Maura Jacob**, Program Assistant

Leadership in the MVPC: The Steering Committee

- Laura Zinski**, Chairperson, Mon Valley Initiative
- Darla Poole**, Vice Chairperson, Auberle
- Kelleigh Boland**, Jefferson Regional Foundation
- Eric Ewell**, Penn State Greater Allegheny
- Devon Goetze**, Auberle
- Carol Gross**, Mon Yough Community Services
- Tiffanee Heywood**, Goodwill of Southwestern PA
- Shari Holland**, UPMC McKeesport/Latterman Health Clinic
- Dean Jolin**, CCAC South
- Derek Kendall-Morris**, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pittsburgh
- Elli Latterman**, McKeesport Hospital Foundation
- Erica Maloney**, Mon Valley Circles
- Paula McWilliams**, Heritage Community Initiatives
- Charlene Newkirk**, CCAC South
- Jim Phillips**, TCV Community Services
- Lisa Scales**, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
- Bob Sukolsky**, Forbes Family Medicine/Allegheny Health Network
- Lynn Tatala**, Project ELECT - AIU
- Nancy Osterhus**, Ex-Officio Member

2018 Membership Listing for the MVPC

Adagio Health AHN - Forbes Family Medicine Allegheny County Health Department Allegheny County Juvenile Probation Allegheny Family Network Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Community School East Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Head Start Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Project ELECT Allies for Health + Wellbeing Auberle Center for Victims Century Heritage Federal Credit Union Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC - Family Care Connection at Braddock/East Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC - Family Care Connection at Turtle Creek CADA Programs Clairton Family Center Community College of Allegheny County - Boyce Campus Community College of Allegheny College - South Campus Discovery House Duquesne Family Center	Duquesne Family Support Center East Allegheny Family Center Eastern Area Adult Services Every Child, Inc. Family Resources Forbes Hospital Global Wordsmiths Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pgh Healthy Start, Inc. Heritage Community Initiatives Highlands Family Center Human Services Center Corporation Jefferson Regional Foundation Just Harvest Latino Family Center Lincoln Park Family Center Macedonia FACE, Inc. McKeesport Family Center McKeesport First Steps Parenting Program McKeesport Hospital Foundation Mon Valley Circles Initiative Mon Valley Initiative Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce Mon Yough Community Services, Inc. MUSA PA CareerLink at Allegheny East	Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs Penn State Greater Allegheny Rainbow Kitchen Community Services Rankin Christian Center Small Seeds Development, Inc. State Senator Jay Costa State Senator Jim Brewster Steel Valley Family Center Sto-Rox Family Center Supports for Success TCV Community Services Touching Families Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments University of Pittsburgh - School of Social Work UPMC McKeesport Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh - Hunger Services Veterans Leadership Program Wesley Family Services Wilksburg Family Center YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh -- Wilmerding & McKeesport Branches YouthPlaces YWCA Greater Pittsburgh
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Self-Sufficiency Program

Rainbow Kitchen

Are you ready to take charge of your life? Do you want a job, a better job? Do you need training or education to obtain employment? Would you like support, guidance and referrals to help you meet your goals?

If you want to take charge of your life, and are ready to start your journey but are not sure how to do it, the Personal Paths Program may be exactly what you need. Rainbow Kitchen will help you set goals, of-

fering the support, guidance and referrals needed to achieve your goals such as: Securing Employment or Finding Better Employment, Training/Education, and Budgeting.

To join the Personal Paths Program, you must want to work, live in Allegheny County (outside the City of Pittsburgh) and be at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (annual household income for 1 can have income up to \$15,175 a house-

hold of 2 - \$20,575).

If you have questions or would like more information about the Personal Paths Program contact: Rainbow Kitchen Community Services/ Renee Conte at (412) 464-1892 or email renee.conte@rainbowkitchen.org.

This program is funded in part by a grant provided by the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development.

Rankin Christian Center Programming

Rankin Christian Center

The Rankin Christian Center is a non-profit, faith based community social service agency, primarily focusing on serving the underserved communities in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County. The agency houses program services to at-risk individuals from birth to senior citizens.

Here are some of the wonderful Programs offered at the Rankin Christian Center:

Youth Programs - Summer Camp runs from June 18 - August 10, 2018 and is currently accepting applications. After School operations from 3:00-6:00pm. Evening Youth of a Nation - is Tuesday and Thursday - 6:00 to 8:30pm.

The Senior Program offers daily programming from 9:00am to 1:30pm. This includes an exer-

cise class, computer class, walking group, line dancing, monthly bingo, and a monthly luncheon.

The Food Pantry distributes food to local residents in need of food and food products and have financial difficulties (proof of residence and income required).

Mon Valley Supports Coordination has established itself as a leader among the Supports Coordination sector by delivering services in a way that is uniquely people-driven, committed and progressive. For children and adults who have been diagnosed with an intellectual disability and/or autism, our supports coordination is well-known and is well-respected program that helps with locating, coordinating and monitoring services that improve the quality of their

lives.

The Rankin Christian Center will continue awarding Woodland Hills High School Seniors and College Student monetary awards for college and trade school for the 39th year through the A.N. Minney Awards. Applications will be available in April for the 2018 A. N. Minney Awards.

