## The Mon Valley Providers Council

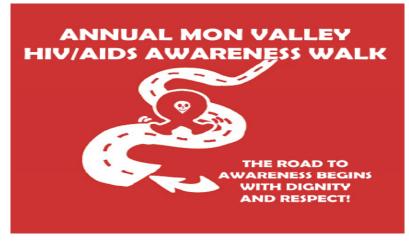
**Presents** 

## The Communicator

## July - September 2018

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## 18th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk

**Human Services Center** 

The Human Services Center Corporation's HIV/AIDS Working Group and its partners are preparing for the 18th Annual Mon Valley HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk, the only walk in Allegheny County focused on raising awareness of HIV/AIDS. This year's Walk will take place on Saturday, October 6th, 2018.

The Walk is a long-standing tradition in the Mon Valley that is organized by the HIV/AIDS Working Group. The Working Group strives to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, educate the public on means of prevention, and offer guidance about free testing sites. Its efforts are critical to the Mon Valley, a community that has one of the highest rates of HIV/AIDS in Allegheny County.

We invite individuals and organizations to consider becoming sponsors for the 18th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk. Various sponsorship packages are available.

The deadline and receipt of payment for all sponsors wanting to be listed on our program materials and T-Shirts is Friday, August 3, 2018. If sponsorship is not an option, we still encourage you to register individually or as a team and join us on October 6th!

The Walk will begin and end at Bethlehem Baptist Church located at 716 Walnut Street, McKeesport, PA 15132. On the day of the Walk, registration opens at 8:30a.m. with a free continental breakfast. Opening remarks will begin at 9:00a.m. and the Walk will commence shortly after. After the Walk, please join us for a cookout, trophy presentation, and prizes!

For more information concerning the Walk or how your donation can make a difference, please contact Abbie Godollei at agodollei@hscc-mvpc.org or 412-829-7112. We hope to see you on October 6th, 2018!

## Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council changes name

Literacy Pittsburgh

Greater Pittsburgh Literacy
Council changed its name to Literacy
Pittsburgh at an official ceremony
on May 2. The organization still
provides the same services it did
before. Its main services include
adult GED classes and tutoring,
ESL tutoring, and career coaching.
Literacy Pittsburgh also helps
students become familiar with

computers, learn how to make a budget, and much more! All of its services are free. Literacy Pittsburgh also has a new website (www.literacypittsburgh.org). Stop by the East Suburbs office at the Human Services Center in Turtle Creek to grab a free pen or a notepad with the updated brand!

## **Program for 2018-2019 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 and 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 are 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.hscc-mvpc.org to download an application. Spots fill up very quickly! Apply as soon as possible!

#### Join the effort to revolutionize our kids' futures

By Dave Coplan, Executive Director of the Human Services Center

Here in the Mon Valley, we believe that by giving our kids every opportunity to succeed, we're giving our region the future we deserve. I have worked here for over 28 years and know this initiative will benefit kids here in the Mon Valley!

The Our kids. Our commitment. Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative is an effort to revolutionize the way we support our kids' futures to ensure the health and wellbeing of children across the county. The Human Services Center Corporation, along with other local community partners and leaders, is taking part in this effort.

Investing in our kids is an investment that will pay dividends for generations to come. We believe that a strong tomorrow starts with our kids today. Three specific areas proven to yield strong benefits for children and the community at large include: good nutrition, early childhood education and after school programs.

Hungeraffectslearning, growth and development. Kids who attend pre-k are more likely to succeed in school and life, while saving families, schools and taxpayers money. After school programs don't simply increase school attendance and reduce drug use, they fuel our children's passions while keeping our kids and neighborhoods safe.

Right here in the Mon Valley, there are kids going hungry, with nearly 13,000 kids eligible for free and reduced priced meals at school in just the five districts we serve. There are students who do not have access to an early learning opportunity. And too many kids are not attending an engaging after school program because too few are available here in the Mon Valley. We know that our communities have higher rates of unemployment and that there are a number of single parent households here as well.

We believe that investing in these priorities is a smart investment in our future and will make our entire community stronger.

By using the voter referendum process, we are working to collect more than 40,000 signatures to get the Allegheny County Children's Fund on the Nov. 6, 2018, General Election ballot. This would allow our

community to 'Vote YES' and make a change for the kids in the Mon Valley and everywhere in Allegheny

If passed, the Allegheny County Children's Fund will be established through a 0.25 millage rate increase to property taxes - an estimated \$30 increase per year per household. For many Mon Valley home owners, it would be between \$6 and \$12 per year. County-wide, this would generate approximately \$18 million annually in revenue for the fund – for kids

You can help change the futures for our kids – take a minute to sign the petition at the Human Services Center Corporation (519 Penn Avenue in Turtle Creek) every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., and every Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., from now through August 7. Our kids are counting on you!

We believe it's time to change the way we care for our kids. That change can start with your signature. Visit our kids our commitment.org for more information.

# We believe it's time to make history.



Join us to support the programs proven to work for all our kids in Allegheny County; early learning, after school and good munition. Sign the petition to get the Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative on the November hallor. Find a signing event outkidsourcommitment.org/events.

Our kids. Our commitment. Allegheny County Children's Fund Initiative

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.hscc-mvpc.org.





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

#### 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.
- second Saturday of the month. Call 412-816-1686. • Alcoholics Anonymous (AA): AA has a support group at the Center

• Turtle Creek Valley Historical Society: The Society meets on the

- 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 selfsufficiency 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

412-349-4156

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

#### **Ready for a Summer Adventure?**

Family Resources

Family Resources Out-of-School-Time program, BJWL, offers children a safe and caring place to have fun when school is out. Every weekday from 9 am - 4 pm this summer, kids can participate in summer adventures and creative activities! BJWL provides free breakfast and lunch, and each week of summer camp has its own theme. Some of the exciting theme weeks this year are Mad Science, Super Hero, and the BJWL Olympics! There are also two field trips yet to come, including one to Sandcastle Water Park! BJWL Summer Camp concludes with a Back to School Bash the week of August 27. After that, when school starts again in the fall, BJWL returns to the normal school year schedule with healthy snacks, dinner, sports and crafts, and homework help.

BJWL has sixteen sites across the Greater Pittsburgh area available to children and teens ages 5-17. In the Mon Valley area, BJWL has sites at Hawkins Village, Millvue Acres, Orchard Park, and Prospect Terrace. To enroll your child in BJWL, call Jamayia Moore at (412) 363-1702 ext. 1104. Enrollment and participation are free, and there is no enrollment deadline!

## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

The Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC) is now recruiting volunteers for a fun and rewarding Winter/ Spring program!

Volunteers are needed to assist at the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site at the HSCC. VITA volunteers provide free federal, state, and local income tax preparation assistance to individuals who are on a limited or fixed income. Other volunteers are needed to greet taxpayers when they arrive at the site. No prior experience is necessary!

TRAINING IS PROVIDED!

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:

Dave Coplan, Director

Elizabeth Fries, Program Assistant

## in the MVPC: The Steering Committee

Laura Zinski, Chairperson, Mon Valley Initiative Darla Poole, Vice Chairperson, Auberle

**Eric Ewell**, Penn State Greater Allegheny **Devon Goetze**, Auberle

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

Charlene Newkirk, CCAC South

Lisa Scales, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Bob Sukolsky, Forbes Family Medicine/Allegheny Health Network

Nancy Osterhus, Ex-Officio Member

## Leadership

Kelleigh Boland, Jefferson Regional Foundation

Carol Gross, Mon Yough Community Services Tiffanee Heywood, Goodwill of Southwestern PA

Paula McWilliams, Heritage Community Initiatives

**Jim Phillips**, TCV Community Services

**Lynn Tatala**, Project ELECT - AIU

#### 2018 Membership Listing for the MVPC

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

Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Project ELECT

Allies for Health + Wellbeing Auberle

Center for Victims Century Heritage Federal Credit Union

Adagio Health

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC - Family Care Connection at

Braddock/Rankin Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of

Family Care Connection at Turtle CADA Programs

Clairton Family Center Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County

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 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 Literacy Pittsburgh Macedonia FACE, Inc. McKeesport Family Center McKeesport First Steps Parenting Program McKeesport Hospital Foundation Mon Valley Circles Inc. Mon Valley Initiative Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce

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

Communities

served by the MVPC

Braddock

• Chalfant

• Clairton

Dravosburg

Forest Hills

Glassport

Liberty

• Lincoln

Munhall

Penn Hills

• Pitcairn

Port Vue

Swissvale

Versailles

Wall

Turtle Creek

• West Elizabeth

West Mifflin

Whitaker

• White 0ak

Wilmerding

Wilkins

West Homestead

• Rankin

McKeesport

Monroeville

North Braddock

North Versailles

South Versailles

Homestead

• Jefferson Hills

East McKeesport

• East Pittsburgh

Elizabeth Borough

Elizabeth Township

Forward Township

• Duquesne

Braddock Hills

University of Pittsburgh - School of Social Work **UPMC** McKeesport Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh -

**Hunger Services** Veterans Leadership Program Wesley Family Services Wilkinsburg Family Center

YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh --Wilmerding & McKeesport **Branches** 

YouthPlaces YWCA Greater Pittsburgh

#### **Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed**

Mon Yough Community Services, Inc.

Eastern Area Adult Services

The Turtle Creek Senior Center of Eastern Area Adult Services provides Meals on Wheels to fifteen local communities. These communities include Turtle Creek, Forest Hills, Swissvale, Braddock, and North Versailles. There are nine routes with a combined total of over 200 people being delivered meals three days a week. Older adults receiving meals are at nutritional risk and are unable to obtain food or prepare meals

and have no one available to prepare meals for them.

In the effort to serve these 200 plus homebound seniors, volunteers are recruited through friends, family, and the community.

Businesses in these communities can help deliver the meals by adopting a route for two hours one day a month on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. Meals are picked up at the Turtle Creek Senior Center at 519 Penn Avenue in Turtle Creek around 10:00 am.

If your business is interested in taking part in this volunteer opportunity or have questions, please contact the Turtle Creek Senior Center at 412-824-6880.

Individuals can also help deliver meals. The volunteer time commitment is at least two hours per month. Please contact the Turtle Creek Senior Center at 412-824-6880.



#### **Human Services** Center Corporation

#### **Job Opening Working with Children**

**Human Services Center** 

Are you looking for a position to supplement your income while making a difference in your community? Do you want a job working with fantastic coworkers? This position may be right for you!

The Human Services Center Corporation (HSCC) in Turtle Creek (minutes from Monroeville) is looking to fill a part-time temporary position as an Education Associate in its awarding-winning Youth LIFE After-School Program for first-fifth

grade students from mid-September -beginning of May. Candidates must possess current Act 33/34 and FBI clearances or at least start applying for them to be considered for an interview. The ideal candidate must at least be a high school graduate and has experience working with youth preferably in a group setting.

Responsibilities of the position include overseeing a classroom of diverse youth, implementing an internet-based curriculum, carrying out other supplemental activities, assisting with homework assignments, and more. Work hours are generally Monday through Friday, from approximately 3:45PM-6:45PM (start and end times may be able to be changed based on candidates schedule). The pay is \$12/hour. For more information or to ap-

ply please email at loreilly@hsccmvpc.org. Cover letters and resumes MUST be emailed.