

# The Mon Valley Providers Council Presents The Communicator January - March 2020

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## Free Tax Preparation Available

Human Services Center Corp.

The Human Services Center offers a free tax preparation site to individuals who are on a limited or fixed income. To qualify for this site, individuals must make less than \$30,000 and families less than \$55,00.

This year's free tax preparation will begin on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, and run through Thursday, April 9, 2020. The site will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 3:00PM and 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The Turtle Creek site will also offer Friday hours, 10:00AM to 2:00PM. In addition to the HSCC's tax site in Turtle Creek, tax clinics are also offered in Homestead, on designated Fridays 10:00AM to 2:00PM.

To register for an appointment, please call 2-1-1, the United Way Helpline, after January 9, 2020. The HSCC's Turtle Creek site is by appointment only, with no walk-ins or drop-offs.

If you have any questions regarding the site, please call 412-829-7112.



## Free Financial Aid Seminars

Senator Brewster

The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) 2020-21 State Grant application deadline is May 1.

"The application deadline applies to all first-time degree program and renewal applicants, so it is important that all students act now to ensure they are considered for grant funding," Brewster said. If you plan to enroll in a community college, trade or technical school, or a hospital school of nursing, the deadline for State Grant Applications is August 1, 2020.

To qualify for consideration for a State Grant award, applicants must have completed the 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Senator Jim Brewster and the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) are hosting Financial Aid Seminars in McKeesport and West Mifflin. "Now is the time that many junior and senior high school students are exploring options for continuing their education," Brewster said. "These seminars will help attendees learn how to apply

for financial aid and how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid."

Participants will also be briefed on Pennsylvania-specific aid programs, as well as the importance of minimizing student loan debt and applying for grants and scholarships to help pay for education costs.

The dates of the Free Financial Aid Seminars are as follows:

Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at Penn State Greater Allegheny, Student Community Center, Ostermayer Room (400 University Drive, McKeesport, PA 15132) from 6:00PM-8:00PM. RSVP by January 10.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at CCAC South, Auditorium (1750 Clairton Road, West Mifflin, PA 15122) from 6:00PM-8:00PM. RSVP by January 24.

Registration for the free seminar is required. Please contact Kathy Jo Osman in Senator Brewster's office at 412.664.5200 or Kathy. Osman@pasenate.com with questions or to register for the event.



## MAKE CREDIT WORK FOR YOU

Join us for a FREE Credit Workshop to help you understand your credit score and learn some skills for debt management.

**Wednesday, February 5**  
12-2pm  
Human Services Center  
519 Penn Avenue  
Turtle Creek, PA 15145  
Classroom A

Free lunch!  
And a chance  
to win door  
prizes!

RSVP by February 3rd to Elizabeth Fries at:  
efries@hsc-mvpc.org or 412-829-7112



## SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR 2020 EVENTS!

30TH ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO VETERANS  
May 23, 2020  
Rivers Casino

22ND ANNUAL VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST  
November 11, 2020  
Duquesne University

335 MILES FOR VETERANS  
June 30- July 4, 2020  
Pittsburgh to Washington D.C.



THE CRUCIBLE HIKE  
September 2020  
Laurel Highlands Trails

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, CONTACT US TODAY!  
VETERANSLEADERSHIPPROGRAM.ORG (412) 481-8200  
2934 SMALLMAN STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15201

## World AIDS Day

Human Services Center Corp.

On December 4th 2019, members from the Human Services Center Corporation's HIV/AIDS Working Group took part in World AIDS Day at the McKeesport Family Center. World AIDS Day is the first-ever global health holiday to support those living in our community with HIV/AIDS, to commemorate those who have lost the battle, and to work to reduce the associated stigma. In Allegheny County, though the number of people diagnosed has dropped from 127 in 2014 to 85 in 2018, it is still important to celebrate this day in hopes of finding a cure. The event provided: free confidential HIV testing

on-site, free literature about HIV/AIDS prevention and management, red ribbons to wear in solidarity, and meaningful conversations with the community over free hot dogs. The HIV/AIDS Working Group would like to thank the McKeesport Family Center for hosting the event and Allies for Health and Wellbeing for proving the HIV testing. If you are interested in taking part in our other important community events or joining our HIV/AIDS Working Group, please reach out to Abbie Godollei at agodollei@hsc-mvpc.org.

## In Brief

Job Fairs at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) take place between September and March each year. These fairs provide an opportunity for members of the community, as well as current CCAC students and alumni, to connect with company recruiters to learn about a company's recruitment needs now or in the future. An RSVP is not required, however

professional attire and a resume are strongly encouraged. For more information, go to <https://ccac.edu/job-placement/job-fairs.php>. Westinghouse SURE (Service Uniting Retired Employees, a nonprofit, all-volunteer retirees group, supported Eastern Area Adult Services' Meals on Wheels Program with a donation in November.

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](http://www.hsc-mvpc.org).



519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145  
412-829-7112 · 412-829-4363 (fax) · [www.hsc-mvpc.org](http://www.hsc-mvpc.org)  
[facebook.com/humanservicescenterturtlecreek](https://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.

- **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 Thursday 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 for more information.

- **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** 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. 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.

- **Free Tax Preparation** is available for individuals with low income. 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

**Early Learning Resource Center**  
412-350-3577

**Eastern Area Adult Services**  
412-824-6880

**Healthy Start**  
412-247-4009

**Human Services Center Corporation**  
412-829-7112

**Learn "N" Play Development Center**  
412-829-0240

**Literacy Pittsburgh**  
412-969-8486

**Mon Valley Providers Council**  
412-829-7112

**Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs**  
412-824-0006

**TCV Community Services**  
412-824-8510

## 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  
**Katie Gascoine**, 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  
**Christine Zellefrow**, Mon Yough Community Services  
**Tiffanee Heywood**, Goodwill of Southwestern PA  
**Shari Holland**, UPMC McKeesport/Latterman Health Clinic  
**Dean Jolin**, CCAC South  
**Elli Latterman**, McKeesport Hospital Foundation  
**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

## Communities served by the MVPC

- Braddock
- Braddock Hills
- Chalfant
- Clairton
- Dravosburg
- Duquesne
- East McKeesport
- East Pittsburgh
- Elizabeth Borough
- Elizabeth Township
- Forest Hills
- Forward Township
- Glassport
- Homestead
- Jefferson Hills
- Liberty
- Lincoln
- McKeesport
- Monroeville
- Munhall
- North Braddock
- North Versailles
- Penn Hills
- Pitcairn
- Port Vue
- Rankin
- South Versailles
- Swissvale
- Turtle Creek
- Versailles
- Wall
- West Elizabeth
- West Homestead
- West Mifflin
- Whitaker
- White Oak
- Wilkins
- Wilmerding

## 2020 Membership Listing for the MVPC

Adagio Health	Family Resources	Rainbow Kitchen Community Services
AHN - Forbes Family Medicine	Forbes Hospital	Rankin Christian Center
Allegheny County Health Department	Fund My Future	Resbuilding Together Pittsburgh
Allegheny County Juvenile Probation	Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania	State Senator Jay Costa
Allegheny Family Network	Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank	State Senator Jim Brewster
Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Community School East	Gwen's Girls	Steel Valley Family Center
Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Head Start	Healthy Start, Inc.	Sto-Rox Family Center
Allegheny Intermediate Unit - Project ELECT	Heritage Community Initiatives	TCV Community Services
Allies for Health + Wellbeing Auberle	Highlands Family Center	The Cornerstone Residence
C-clear Empowerment, Inc.	Human Services Center Corporation	Touching Families
CAD A programs	Jefferson Hospital	UnitedHealthcare
Center for Victims	Jefferson Regional Foundation	University of Pittsburgh - School of Social Work
Century Heritage Federal Credit Union	Just Harvest	UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh - Family Care Connection at Braddock/Rankin
Clairton Family Center	Latino Family Center	UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh - Family Care Connection at Turtle Creek
Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County	Lincoln Park Family Center	UPMC McKeesport
Community College of Allegheny County - Boyce Campus	Literacy Pittsburgh	Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh - Hunger Services
Community College of Allegheny College - South Campus	Macedonia FACE, Inc.	Veterans Leadership Program
Discovery House	MAYA Organization	Wesley Family Services
Duquesne Family Center	McKeesport Family Center	Wilkinsburg Family Center
Duquesne Family Support Center	McKeesport Hospital Foundation	Women for a Healthy Environment
East Allegheny Family Center	Mon Valley Initiative	YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh
Eastern Area Adult Services	Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce	YouthPlaces
Every Child, Inc.	Mon Yough Community Services, Inc.	YWCA Greater Pittsburgh
	MUSA	
	PA CareerLink at Allegheny East	
	Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs	
	Penn State Greater Allegheny	

## Resources for Seniors

Eastern Area Adult Services

Located at 519 Penn Avenue, the Turtle Creek Center is a great place to go during these cold winter months. Enjoy Tai Chi on Wednesdays at 10:00 am or Silver Sneakers/Exercise on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:00 am or 10:00 am. There is chair yoga on Monday at 10:00 am and chair exercise on Fridays at 10:00 am. Stop by the Center or call at 412-824-6880 to learn more and have your questions answered. Information on additional programs can also be found on the agency website, [www.eaas.net](http://www.eaas.net). The Turtle Creek 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 also available on helpful services including transportation, meals on wheels, rent rebates, and PACE.

### \$2,500 and above

Allegheny County Dept. of Human Services  
American Eagle Outfitters Foundation  
Anonymous Contributors  
BNY Mellon Foundation of SW PA  
Citizens Bank  
Eden Hall Foundation  
G.C. Murphy Company Foundation  
The Grable Foundation  
The Heinz Endowments  
Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield  
Mary Hillman Jennings Foundation  
John M. and Sue E. Jackson Charitable Trust  
Jefferson Regional Foundation  
Kennywood  
Massey Charitable Trust  
McKeesport Healthier Communities PartnerSHIP  
McKeesport Hospital Foundation  
Howard and Nell E. Miller Foundation  
NexTier Bank  
Opportunity Fund  
Partner4Work  
PA Department of Community & Economic Development  
The Pittsburgh Foundation  
PNC Foundation  
PNC Charitable Trust  
Sandcastle  
Steel Dynamics  
The Techs, a Division of Steel Dynamics  
United Way of Southwestern PA  
UPMC Health Plan  
Robert and Mary Weisbrod Foundation

## 2019 Funder Recognition HSCC & MVPC

### Up to \$2,499 (Including Pittsburgh GIVES and United Way Contributor Choice Donors)

Aerion Abney  
James Anderson  
Anonymous Contributors  
Auberle  
Fairleigh Barnes  
Stephanie and Joe Bechel  
Mark Bezilla  
Kelleigh Boland  
Charlie Borowicz  
Lauren Brown  
Shannon Burkett  
Keith Caldwell  
Century Heritage Federal Credit Union  
Vin Cerasuolo  
Mallory Clark  
Compass Federal Savings Bank  
Christine and Dave Coplan  
Jeff Davenport  
Jo DeBolt  
Teresa DePace  
Ashley DiGregorio  
Dollar Bank Foundation  
Joe Dombrosky  
Marina and Mike Duane  
Vanessa Dunn  
EMP Sales Associates  
Enscoe Long Employees  
Ursula Escalante  
Stephanie Eson  
Eric Ewell  
Lauri Fink  
Bill and Helen Flannery  
Dr. Mike Freedman  
Elizabeth Fries  
Tony Gacek

Gregory Galford  
Katie Gascoine  
Cody Gilbert  
Abbie Godollei  
Devon Goetze  
Iris Grilho  
Carol Gross  
Tiffanee Heywood  
Kaelynn Hillegass  
The Hillman Company  
Shari Holland  
Anna Hudson  
Dr. James Huguley  
Maura Jacob  
Wayne and Brenda Jones  
Mary Ann Kandala  
Dr. Kevin Kearns  
Penny and Bryan Kern  
Lyn Krynski  
Beth Lackner  
Eliana Latterman  
Donna Little  
Marie Linebaugh  
Margie Manno  
Stephen MacIsaac  
Erica Maloney  
McKeesport Hospital Foundation  
Cindy McMahan  
Bonnie McLain  
Paula McWilliams  
Judy Meyers  
Dr. Tony Mitchell  
Robert Mitnik  
Mon Valley Initiative  
Michael Nardozi  
Hannah Newhall  
Dr. Charlene Newkirk  
Taylor Nichols  
Leah O'Reilly  
Nancy Osterhus  
Meg Papa

Kiara Parker  
Jim Phillips  
Mark Plassmeyer  
Joan Polesnak  
Darla Poole  
Melanie Porach  
Dave Priselac  
Raechel Richter  
Mary Richter  
Hannah Saturley  
Taylor Savala  
Lisa Scales  
Shealer Chiropractic  
Shane Siciliano  
Kathy Simon  
Ellen Skakalski  
Rose Smeltzer  
Michelle Smith  
Ruth and Ron Smith  
Tracy Soska  
Laura Stephany  
Bob Sukolsky  
Deanna Supancic  
Erica Szewczyk  
Lynn Tatala  
Ryan Thomas  
Holley Tillman  
Dr. John Tomko  
TCV Community Services  
Kathryn Vargas  
Dick Wallace  
Douglas Wampler  
John Wehler  
Damion Wilson  
Jake Yeager  
Andrew Yalenich  
Luke Zappa  
Chis Zellefrow  
Laura Zinski  
Kevin Zwick