The Mon Valley Providers Council

Presents

The Communicator

January-March 2021

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Employment Assistance Available Virtually through PA CareerLink®

PA CareerLink

Pennsylvania CareerLink® offices provide free employment and training services to the community. The recent health concerns caused the PA CareerLink® office of Allegheny East to temporarily close their physical doors to the public, however, services remain available to those who can connect virtually! Connect with the PA CareerLink® by phone, email or through the website to access these virtual services.

Please note: We offer Priority of Service to veterans and eligible spouses. The first step is to identify yourself as a veteran or a spouse to a team member. Priority service means first opportunity to register for events and individual appointments to discuss employment needs, as well as respectful and friendly services from our team when discussing your personal information. Additionally, we have staff dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible spouses by offering case management and referral services.

Job seekers can learn about opportunities across all industries and gain access to assistance to connect with employers. Career Advisors are available to help job seekers navigate the current market. Speaking directly with a career advisor provides an opportunity to learn about training programs or other educational opportunities tailored to specific career goals. Virtual job fairs will be occurring on a regular basis so employers and job seekers have opportunities to connect and learn from each other.

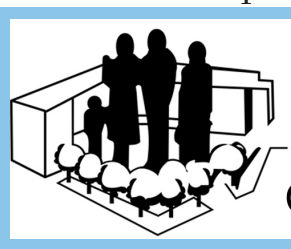
Training opportunities are a great way to increase a job seeker's chance of obtaining the job they want. Participate in digital workshops and webinars to assist with resume writing or practicing interview skills. While some workshops occur in real time, many have been pre-recorded, so they are accessible at any time for further learning.

Business Services are available to local employers who required assistance growing their workforce. Find qualified candidates for open positions or find out about funding opportunities to help train new hires. Connecting with an Account Manager will provide a business with access to candidate who can help grow an efficient workforce.

Keeping customers connected to updates and new information is made easier with a new Bi-Weekly Newsletter "Link by Link". Job seekers can stay informed and up to date regarding the CareerLink office status, new job opportunities, upcoming events, links to resources and more. The staff at PA CareerLink® Allegheny East is also available to connect individuals with other essential resources such as food access, housing assistance, childcare services, translation services for non-English speaking individuals and more. An updated list of available resources is included in each issue of the "Link by Link" newsletter.

Sign up for the email list! Visit the website to search for local job opportunities, see upcoming events, access our newsletter and get updates about the reopening of the PA CareerLink® Allegheny East office. Reach the PA CareerLink® by phone or email to take advantage of all these resources 412-436-2225 info.allegheny@careerlinkpittsburgh.org.

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.



Human Services Center Corporation

United Way IMPACT FUND AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania

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.hscc-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.

Free Job Training Available for Ages 17-24

Goodwill of Southwestern PA

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is currently seeking young adults for its new IMPACT program. IMPACT prepares young adults for success in the workplace and provides real world work experience by offering two distinct training tracks: Job Search and Vocational Training.

Young adults considering college or starting a job search may choose the IMPACT Job Search track, which connects them with a premier job readiness curriculum, mobile case management, and assistance with resumes, mock interviews, and job search planning.

Young adults looking to go straight into a career but who need work experience may choose the IMPACT Vocational Training track, which offers training programs in environmental skills/housekeeping and retail skills. Young adults in the Vocational Training tract also receive assistance with obtaining their GED if they need it.

All IMPACT participants receive help with transportation, a dedicated case worker, and access to employment services and financial literacy.

Those interested must be ages 17-24. Participants must be out of school, but do not need a high school diploma.

Visit www.goodwillswpa.org/impact for more information. If you or someone you know could benefit from IMPACT, contact

Tiffanee Heywood at 412-632-1742 or

tiffanee.heywood@goodwillswpa.org.

Online GED Classes at Goodwill

Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania offers free online GED classes to help students improve their education from the comfort and safety of their own home.

Goodwill's classes prepare students to take a high school equivalency test (GED® or HiSET) so they can earn their Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma.

All classes incorporate reading comprehension and math computation, help students build and master academic language and reasoning within the subject areas on the Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies tests.

To find out how to get started, call 1-877-499-3526 or visit www.goodwillswpa.org/ged.

LifeLaunch: Ignite Offers Second Chances to Young Adults

Goodwill of Southwestern PA

Looking for a fresh start? Start your next chapter today. If you are between 18 and 24, have been involved with the criminal justice system, and want to work toward a better future, Goodwill can help. Get free employment training and job placement in a variety of local industries.

The LifeLaunch: Ignite program is all about second chances. It can be hard to find a job when you have had a difficult past. Goodwill partners with local businesses that see people for the value they can bring and are willing to give them a second chance. Goodwill can provide training and employment assistance to prepare you for a good job so you can enjoy a bright future.

Here's what to expect when you contact Goodwill:

- An initial assessment to determine if the program is a good fit.
- An evaluation of your skills and interests.
- Job training to help you become ready for employment.
- Job seeking and support services to help you earn a good job.
- A host of services to meet your unique needs, such as counseling, housing, clothing, and transportation.

When you complete your training, you may:

- Begin an apprenticeship in your chosen field.
- Go back to school to earn certificates or a degree.
- Get a good job and start earning a paycheck.

More information is available at www.goodwillswpa.org/ignite, or contact Whitney Miles at 412-632-1742 or e-mail: whitney.miles@goodwillswpa.org.

The Goodwill LifeLaunch: Ignite Reentry Program is made possible with a $4.5 million grant award from the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, covering 93 percent of operating costs. Goodwill Industries International and the four local Goodwill organizations included in this grant are contributing leveraged funding valued at $324,762 to cover the remaining seven percent of operational costs.

Auberle Career Pipeline Program

Auberle

Are you between the ages of 18-24 and seeking a new career? Want to make at least $13/hour? Auberle is now recruiting for the new Career Pipeline Program! Through Career Pipeline, participants can take advantage of paid vocational training programs that lead to career-track employment, earn certifications in a variety of industries, have access to a GED program, receive career counseling, and access other supports at Auberle such as transportation and counseling.

Career tracks include:

- Environmental Remediation: Auberle's Environmental Jobs Training Program
- Construction: Builder's Guild of Western Pennsylvania's Intro to the Trades Program
- Healthcare: Allegheny Health Network's Nursing Aide Training Program
- Automotive: #1 Cochran Lube Technician Training Program
- Healthcare: Quest Diagnostics Specimen Processor Training Program

To be eligible participants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age and not older than 24 years of age
- Be a resident of Allegheny County and low-income
- Current or past involvement with the Juvenile and/or Adult Justice System(s)

To enroll or refer a participant, please call or email Abby at 412-673-5856 ext 1317/abbyw@auberle.org. Do not let past involvement in the justice system stand between you or your clients' career!

New Year, New YOU!

Rainbow Kitchen Community Services Personal Paths Program is NOW RECURITING Individuals who want to make a fresh start or sort out the chaos in their life! If this is you and you are ready to make positive changes give Renee a call at (412) 464-1892.

Some of the things Renee can help with: making a goal plan, connecting with appropriate community resources that can help you with needed supports, submitting SNAP, TANF, Medical Assistance, LIHEAP & Rent Rebate applications & renewals, strengthening your financial stability with budgeting & reviewing your credit report, finding employment or better employment opportunities, training for employment, finding housing, applying for disability benefits AND providing the support and guidance needed for you to reach your goals.

What are you waiting for? Call Renee TODAY at (412)464-1892 or email renee.conte@rainbowkitchen.org to talk about enrolling!

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Free GED Prep and Job Search

A collaboration of Literacy Pittsburgh and Jewish Family and Community Services, the Career Accelerator program prepares adults to take the high school equivalency exam while offering careercounseling, job search advice, and resume help. The class is designed for individuals with at least aninth grade education and the determination to rapidly advance to a high school diploma. Sessions are held online on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Computer lending is availableas well as scholarships to cover the GED test fee. The next session begins February 1 and another is scheduled for May. Call 412-393-7600 or email dlampmann@literacypittsburgh.org to register or findout more.

Pennsylvania CareerLink℠

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter® network

PA CAREERLINK® IS STILL HERE TO HELP!

VIRTUAL SERVICES AVAILABLE

There are many resources you can access remotely while our offices remain closed. Explore the options below and learn ways to stay connected to valuable assistance.

JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE
Find out which industries are currently hiring.

VETERANS SERVICES
We provide priority service to our veterans.

REGISTER WITH CAREERLINK®
Gain free access to many career resources and services.

CONNECT TO RESOURCES
Food, housing, childcare and other assistance programs.

REMOTE WORKSHOPS
Learn how to improve your resume and interview skills.

BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
Read about updates to our programs.

CAREER ADVISING
Speak to an advisor about your career goals.

ADDITIONAL UC INFO
Learn how to connect with the UC office.

WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER

If you are in need of supportive services we can help connect you to organizations ready to help.
https://forms.gle/oLPavVn7MgtmkLUT6
Complete this referral form and indicate "Human Service Center Coporation"

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request. Requesting accommodations in advance helps to ensure that reasonable accommodations are available at the time service is provided. Phone 866-317-5627; TTY 877-889-5621; www.careerlinkpittsburgh.com, click on “Reasonable Accommodations.” 11.13.20 CD

Get your TAXES done for FREE!

Our IRS-certified tax preparers will help you get the refund you deserve. No hidden fees or charges.

The Human Services Center Corporation is pleased to provide:

FREE TAX PREPARATION

January 25th - April 14th
Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00AM - 7:00PM
413 Penn Avenue Turtle Creek, PA 15145

You may qualify if your 2020 total household income was less than $57,000.

Visit the Get Your Refund website after January 25 to get started with your virtual tax preparation experience: www.getyourrefund.org/HSCC

If you do not have access to a computer or tablet, call 2-1-1 to schedule a drop-off appointment.

PENNSYLVANIA 2-1-1 Southwest Powered by United Way

GetYourRefund

Human Services Center Corporation

United Way

FREE TAX PREP

TCV Community Services

TCV Community Services continues to provide services for clients via Telehealth services, and in person for a small percentage of clients (medication injections). TCV Community Services is adhering to the CDC, PA Department of Health, and other guidelines. Staff are on site at least one day a week at the Turtle Creek location.
If you have any questions about outpatient mental health services, you may call outpatient director, Candace Ross, LCSW, MAC at 412-824-8510.

Join the Human Services Center and Fund My Future for this free webinar series on saving!

- **Everyone can benefit from the three-part series**, whether they are already saving for their children or haven't gotten started yet.
- **Attending all three sessions is most beneficial** for providing families with the basic fundamentals of saving for both parent and child.
- **Families may choose to attend one, two, or all three sessions,** depending on their interests and needs.

1 ALL ABOUT FUND MY FUTURE

Learn everything there is about how fun it can be to save for your child's future. Already saving for your child? Then this is for you. New to saving for your child? Then this is for you too. Would you like a chance to win $1000 a month? Then we hope to see you! If you're a grandparent, aunt or uncle, you too can have fun while saving and get monthly chances to win. Learn the three steps to PLEDGE, SAVE, WIN and we'll help you sign up. Simply attend the "All About Fund My Future" savings session and you'll be glad you took the time to do it.

Thursday, Feb 4th
1pm – 2pm
Register here

2 INTRODUCTION TO SAVINGS

Attend this session with representatives from various financial institutions who will showcase their children's savings products. Learn the difference between credit unions and banks. Learn what a PA529 College and Career Savings Plan is and how you can claim your child's $100 starter deposit from PA Treasury's Keystone Scholars. Then decide which product is best for you and start your child on their road to saving.

Thursday, Feb 11th
1pm – 2pm
Register here

3 CONTINUING YOUR SAVINGS JOURNEY

Do you have personal saving goals? Would like to build your credit? Fund My Future will work closely to connect you with the right resources to better assist you with saving for you and your child's future. We will explore all options so you can pick what best fits your situation. Meet a financial counselor from the Financial Empowerment Center and learn about their free, one-on-one services.
Better SAVE than Sorry.

Tuesday, Feb 16th
1pm – 2pm
Register here

Upon Completion, families will receive the "Better Save than Sorry" Certificate of Completion.

Part 1: All About Fund My Future - Register HERE

Part 2: Introduction to Savings - Register HERE

Part 3: Continuing Your Savings Journey - Register HERE

Thank you to those who have funded HSCC's and MVPC's work in 2020!

$2,500 and above

Allegheny County Department of Human Services
Anonymous Contributors
Christ United Methodist Church
Citizens Bank
Eden Hall Foundation
G.C. Murphy Company Foundation
The Grable Foundation
The Heinz Endowments
Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield
Kennywood
McElhattan Foundation
McKeesport Healthier Communities
PartnerSHIP
McKeesport Hospital Foundation
Richard King Mellon Foundation
Opportunity Fund
Partner4Work
Pennsylvania 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 Pennsylvania
UPMC Health Plan
Robert and Mary Weisbrod Foundation

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

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Donna Little
Marie Linebaugh
Stephen MacIsaac
Erica Maloney
McKeesport Hospital Foundation
Cindy McMahon
Bonnie McLain
Paula McWilliams
Dr. Tony Mitchell
Robert Mitnik
Mon Valley Initiative
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Hannah Newhall
Dr. Charlene Newkirk
Taylor Nichols
Leah O'Reilly
Nancy Osterhus
Jim Phillips
Mark Plassmeyer
Joan Polesnak
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Lisa Scales
Shealer Chiropractic
Shane Siciliano
Ellen Skakalski
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Tracy Soska
Laura Stephany
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Lynn Tatala
Ryan Thomas
Dr. John Tomko
TCV Community Services
Kathryn Vargas
Dick Wallace
Douglas Wampler
John Wehler
Damion Wilson
Jake Yeager
Luke Zappa
Chris Zellefrow
Laura Zinski
Kevin Zwick

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. Schedules may vary due to COVID-19.

- **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.
- **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 Nutrition Services
412-925-0650

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

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 MVPC will promote agendas and develop resources for collective action.

Who We Are: The 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, Outreach Coordinator

Leadership in the MVPC: Steering Committee

Darla Poole, Chairperson, Auberle • **Eric Ewell**, Vice Chairperson, Penn State Greater Allegheny • **Kelleigh Boland**, Jefferson Regional Foundation • **Elli Dragisic**, McKeesport Hospital Foundation • **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 • **Paula McWilliams**, Heritage Community Initiatives • **Charlene Newkirk**, CCAC Southeast Campuses • **James Phillips**, TCV Community Services • **Lisa Scales**, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank •**Bob Sukolsky**, AHN-Forbes Family Medicine • **Lynn Tatala**, AIU Project ELECT • **Laura Zinski**, Immediate Past Chair, Mon Valley Initiative • **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

2021 Membership Listing for the MVPC

Adagio Health
AHN – Forbes Family Medicine
Allegheny County Health Department
Allegheny Family Network
Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Community School East
Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Head Starts
Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Project ELECT
Allies for Health + Wellbeing
Auberle
CADAprograms
Century Heritage Federal Credit Union
Clairton Family Center
CCAC – Boyce Campus
CCAC – South Campus
Communities in Schools of Pittsburgh & Allegheny County
Discovery House
Duquesne Family Center
Duquesne Family Support Center
East Allegheny Family Center
Eastern Area Adult Services
Every Child, Inc.
Family and Immigrant Connections Program
Family Resources
Forbes Hospital
Fund My Future
Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Gwen's Girls
Healthy Start, Inc.
Heritage Community Initiatives
Highlands Family Center
Human Services Center Corporation
Jefferson Hospital
Jefferson Regional Foundation
Just Harvest
Lincoln Park Family Center
Literacy Pittsburgh
Macedonia FACE
McKeesport Family Center
McKeesport Hospital Foundation
Mental Health America of Southwestern PA
Mon Valley Initiative
Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce
Mon Yough Community Services, Inc.
Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs
Penn State Greater Allegheny
PA CareerLink Allegheny East
Port Authority of Allegheny County
Rainbow Kitchen Community Services
Rankin Christian Center
Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh
State Senator Jim Brewster
State Senator Jay Costa
Steel Valley Family Center
Sto-Rox Family Center
Touching Families, Inc.
TCV Community Services
UnitedHealthcare
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Family Care Connection in Braddock/Rankin/Turtle Creek
UPMC McKeesport
Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania
Wesley Family Services
Wilkinsburg Family Center
Women for a Healthy Environment
YWCA Greater Pittsburgh