The Mon Valley Providers Council presents:

The Communicator

July - September 2025

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Supports for Success

By Human Services Center Mon Valley

Do you know someone who would benefit from extra support and resources to meet their needs and achieve an education goal, obtain employment or better employment, or improve their financial well-being? Supports for Success, a program of the Human Services Center Mon Valley, may be a good fit! Supports for Success offers a strength-based approach to empower individuals and families with the education, resources, and tools to achieve their goals and improve financial stability. Individuals and families work with a Supports Specialist who provides one-on-one coaching, advocacy, resources and referrals, and ongoing support to help individuals and families achieve their goals. This may include creating a goal and action plan, resume building, finding employment or better employment opportunities, enrolling in college or vocational training, budgeting and credit management counseling, referrals to resources that assist with goal attainment, and more. For more information call or email Iris at igrilho@hscmonvalley.org or 412-829-7112.

Supports for Success is funded in whole or in part under the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Federal Department of Health and Human Services under the administration of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development. Allegheny County Department of Human Services is the local agency which makes the CSBG funding award.

The Communicator is the official newsletter of the Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), an alliance of over 65 human service agencies serving 38 communities in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County. The MVPC is a program of the Human Services Center Mon Valley, 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.hscmonvalley.org.

human services center mon valley
519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
412-829-7112
www.hscmonvalley.org
www.facebook.com/HSCMonValley

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

Eastern Area Adult Services 'Out and About'

By Eastern Area Adult Services

Eastern Area Adult Services is adapting the way they provide older adult Senior Center Services to meet the changing needs and demands of the population they serve.

The Turtle Creek Senior Center at 519 Penn Ave, Turtle Creek, PA 15145 is a Focal Point Senior Center and provides comprehensive services at our location. We are now extending our programming to other locations in the Eastern Suburbs of Allegheny County.

As contracted by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services/Area Agency on Aging, they will be providing Community Programming in various locations in the Turtle Creek Valley and surrounding Area. It is called Eastern Area "Out and About."

If you would like to host space for an activity or sponsor a program, please reach out to Jodi Trovato, Senior Center Manager, at 412-824-6880.

Eastern Area Adult Services
Serving You in Your Community

Mad City Money Financial Simulation

By Mon Valley Providers Council

The MVPC is proud to offer Mad City Money financial simulations to youth-serving programs in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County. This free, 2-hour simulation supports 24-30 high school students (ages 15-18) in developing financial literacy skills for the future. Students will learn skills including:

- Saving and spending money
- Budgeting
- Managing debt
- Credit
- Unplanned expenses

MAD CITY MONEY
A SIMULATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

For more information, contact
Katie Gascoine at kgascoine@hscmonvalley.org.

Age-Friendly Neighborhoods: Celebrating Community, Connection, and Creativity

By Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh

Age-Friendly Neighborhoods are places where we can grow up and grow older - together. In Beechview, McKeesport, and Sharpsburg, community leaders are working hand in hand with Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh to make these neighborhoods even more welcoming for people of all ages. As part of the 2024–2026 Age-Friendly Neighborhoods program, these leaders are hosting intergenerational events and projects that strengthen bonds and ensure older adult voices are heard. The Age-Friendly Neighborhoods work in McKeesport is led by St. Paul AME Church.

A big part of this work is creative storytelling. Through photography, videos, and social media, they are sharing real stories of how people of all ages live and connect in these communities. That's where the Age-Inclusive Photo Bank comes in - a special project within the larger Age-Inclusion Campaign.

Have you ever noticed how images of aging can be either too rosy or too gloomy? Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh is changing that. Their Age-Inclusive Photo Bank showcases authentic images of older adults and intergenerational connections across Western Pennsylvania - like a family meal in McKeesport, a work day in Downtown Pittsburgh, an arts festival in Greensburg, and everything in between. These images, captured by talented local photographers, show life as it really is: side by side with neighbors and loved ones. Best of all, they're free to use in your next article, presentation, or other non-commercial project! Take a look at agefriendlypgh.org/photo-bank.

In McKeesport, these images are making an impact beyond the screen. The agency has installed a dynamic photo display on the street-level windows of the People's Building at Fifth and Walnut. If you're in the area, come check out this vibrant showcase of local lives and stories!

Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh is wrapping it all up this summer with a community block party to celebrate the Age-Inclusive Photo Bank, the Age-Friendly Neighborhoods program, and the energy of neighbors coming together. There will be food, music, interactive art, and good company - everything that makes our neighborhoods feel like home.

Want to join the celebrations? Learn more and RSVP for this free event here: bit.ly/McKeesportAugust16, or call 412-532-7144. Learn more at agefriendlypgh.org or @AgeFriendlyPGH on social media. Let's make this summer a celebration of how we all grow and thrive - together.

A sampling of the photos displayed at the People's building in Downtown McKeesport.

CCAC Recent News

By Community College of Allegheny County

Admissions – Enrollment Services

Classes for the Fall 2025 semester will begin on August 18 and September 2. CCAC is available to assist students through the enrollment process. Join us for a Campus Tour or an Enrollment Express to learn more and complete the enrollment process.

BOTSIQ Combat Robotics Competition

BotsIQ is a workforce development program by the Pittsburgh Chapter National Tooling & Machining Foundation. On March 5, CCAC hosted BotsIQ for about 100 students as they held preliminary competitions to test their bots and battle for seedings at the Finals Competition in April. Teams not only earned points for their arena battles, but they are also evaluated by industry experts on their engineering binder. The team's documentation points weigh heavily in the crowning of the competition's Grand Champion.

M-PowerHouse N.O.W.

The M-PowerHouse N.O.W. (Nurturing Opportunities 4 Workforce) tour of CCAC explored educational and career alignment opportunities. Eighth-grade middle schoolers from University Preparatory School of Milliones received immersive, hands-on experiences in STEM, healthcare, AI, and biomimetics. Students visited each of the four CCAC campuses and the West Hills Center. Activities included interactive workshops on allied health programming, criminal justice labs, mechatronics, aviation, and the skilled trades. The program included a strong focus on connecting these experiences to STEELS standards and PSSA preparation. The experiences aimed to inspire students to explore career pathways in cutting-edge fields, while fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

STEM Summit

On Friday, April 4, CCAC welcomed about 200 students in grades 8-12 to connect with leaders from the innovation sector. Participants had the opportunity to explore hands-on learning experiences at CCAC and then embark on industry tours to delve deeper into the STEM sector. The STEM Summit include a keynote address and exhibit booths presented by various organizations.

The interactive experience of the STEM Summit highlighted how an individual's strengths, interests, and passions can lead to multiple pathways to jobs in the tech industry!

BNY Early College Program

The BNY Early College Program participants visited the BNY offices in Downtown Pittsburgh on July 1 to learn more about BNY and career opportunities available in a multi-faceted organization.

CCAC continued

Pittsburgh Public Schools – Personal Finance Fair
CCAC hosted about 250 9th grade Pittsburgh Public School students on April 9. This dynamic event introduced students to personal finance through engaging activities like:

- Junior Achievement's Finance Park: Budgeting simulations & career speaker series
- CCAC Tours: Exploring post-secondary education workshops including allied health, mechatronics, criminal justice, graphic arts, and understanding college basics

Other partners that made this day a great success included Citizens Bank, Dollar Bank, Junior Achievement, and Pittsburgh Public Schools CTE for helping empower students with real-world money skills that set them on the path to financial independence and future success!

2025 Mon Valley Connections College & Career Fair
Thursday, October 9 from 8:30am to 11:00am

CCAC Enrollment Services will be hosting the Mon Valley Connections College & Career Fair at its South Campus in West Mifflin PA, located just south of Pittsburgh in one of the flagship communities of the historic Mon Valley.

The MVCCCF is designed for high school juniors and seniors from the Mon Valley and surrounding communities. CCAC invites students from the Pittsburgh Public Schools as well as from school districts in Allegheny, Washington, Fayette, Westmoreland, and Greene counties. Students ages 17–24 from job readiness, diploma completion, and GED prep programs are invited to participate as well. The MVCCCF provides students with an opportunity to meet and speak with representatives from a variety of local, regional, and national colleges/universities. Also invited are HBCUs, as well as popular career and technical schools. As a bonus, students gain access to representatives from business, skilled trades, the military, and a host of career and post-secondary focused service agencies. The event will also offer workshops and presentations by CCAC departments as well as the trades, support agencies, HBCU alumni associations, and others. If interested in bringing students to the fair, please email ccaccollegefair@ccac.edu.

Hunger Free Campus Initiative
CCAC offers Campus Cupboards at all four campus locations and at each of our centers. These cupboards are open to students, faculty, administrators, and staff, and provide access to a variety of essential food and household items. Food items available in these cupboards include canned fruits and vegetables, meat, fish, cereal, instant potatoes, rice, and more. We also stock non-food essentials like toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, toothpaste, and dish soap. CCAC received a Hunger Free Grant to support this initiative, allowing them to introduce Grab n' Go and fresh produce options for individuals needing a quick meal during the day.

Resources to help you achieve financial wellness

The Human Services Center Mon Valley conducts a **Financial Education Program** with the goal of increasing the financial knowledge and skills of Mon Valley residents. We want to help you succeed! See our resources below, designed to help you achieve financial wellness.

Read our **Financial Resource Guide** to learn:

- Tips for budgeting and saving.
- About public benefits to increase your income or decrease your expenses.
- About free employment and training programs to improve your skills and prepare for a career.

Download a copy from our website: https://hscmonvalley.org/community-programs/financial-education

Sign up for our **Financial Literacy Email List** to receive periodic emails inviting you to our monthly financial webinars, information on public benefits, and financial tips to help you succeed.

Visit https://bit.ly/hsc-emails to sign up.

Questions? Call 412-436-9537 or email kgascoine@hscmonvalley.org

Join an upcoming **event**!

Topics change each month. Previous classes have covered budgeting, preparing for homeownership, navigating retirement, and saving for your child's future.

To see upcoming topics and register for the webinar, visit: https://hscmonvalley.org/monthly-webinar

Access any of these resources by scanning this QR code:

human services center mon valley

Tenant Agencies at the Human Services Center Mon Valley

Adagio Health Nutrition Services
412-925-0650

Allegheny County Health Dept. - W.I.C. Program
412-350-5801

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

Human Services Center Mon Valley
412-829-7112

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

Mon Valley Providers Council
412-829-7112

North Hills Community Outreach
412-487-6316

Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR)
1-866-363-7273

Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs
412-824-0006

Services at the Human Services Center Mon Valley

The Human Services Center Mon Valley, 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. For more information on the programs below, contact 412-829-7112.

- **Youth LIFE After-School Program** begins in September. Youth LIFE After-School Program serves 85 youth going into first through fifth grade with academic and social enrichment programming.
- **KOOL Summer Program** is a summer academic enrichment program serving 85 youth going into first through fifth grade in the Fall.
- **Emerging Leaders Program (ELP)** is a workforce development and college readiness program for seniors in the East Allegheny, McKeesport Area, Penn Hills, West Mifflin Area, and Woodland Hills High Schools.
- **Supports for Success** offers coaching, referrals, and ongoing support to help individuals and families develop skills and access resources to achieve their goals in employment, education, finances, and more.
- **Free Tax Preparation** is available for individuals with low income. For more information, call 412-437-8229.

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

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 Mon Valley, 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, and Housing. These three Working Groups involve the participation of over 65 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 Mon Valley Communities.

Staff: The MVPC is staffed through the Human Services Center Mon Valley. Current MVPC staff are:
Dave Coplan, Director
Katie Gascoine, Outreach Coordinator

MVPC Steering Committee

Lisa Scales, Chair, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank • **Lynn Tatala**, Vice Chair, AIU Project ELECT • **Kelleigh Boland**, Jefferson Regional Foundation • **Sue Diehl** Community College of Allegheny County • **Heather Emanuele**, AHN Jefferson Hospital •**Tiffanee Heywood**, Goodwill of Southwestern PA • **Shari Holland**, UPMC McKeesport/Latterman Health Clinic • **Tinisha Hunt**, Macedonia FACE • **Amanda Jimcosky**, Women for a Healthy Environment • **Maddie Nagel**, Mon Valley Initiative • **Leah O'Reilly**, Human Services Center Mon Valley • **James Phillips**, TCV Community Services • **Ejetta Roberson**, Goodwill of Southwestern PA • **Alicia Romano**, Community Human Services • **Christine Zellefrow**, UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Mon Yough • **Laura Zinski**, Mon Valley Initiative • **Nancy Osterhus**, Ex-Officio Member

2025 Membership Listing for the MVPC

Adagio Health
Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh
AHN-Forbes Family Medicine
AIU Community School East
AIU Head Start
AIU Project ELECT
Allegheny Children's Initiative
Allegheny County Health Department
Allegheny Family Network
Allies for Health + Wellbeing
Auberle
Braddock Carnegie Library Association
Century Heritage FCU
Clairton Family Center
Community College of Allegheny County
Community Human Services
Duquesne Family Center
East Allegheny Family Center
Eastern Area Adult Services
Family and Immigrant Connections Program
Family Resources
Fund My Future PGH
Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Healthy Start
Heritage Community Initiatives
Highlands Family Center
Human Services Center Mon Valley
Jefferson Hospital
Jefferson Regional Foundation
Just Harvest
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
North Hills Community Outreach
PA CareerLink® Pittsburgh
Pantry Network of Eastern Suburbs
Parenting Connections East
Penn State Greater Allegheny
Pittsburgh Action Against Rape
Pittsburgh Area Community Schools
Pittsburgh Comprehensive Treatment Center
Pittsburgh Regional Transit
Rainbow Kitchen Community Services
Rankin Christian Center
Squirrel Hill Health Center
State Senator Jay Costa
State Senator Nick Pisciottano
Steel Valley Family Center
Sto-Rox Family Center
TCV Community Services
The Blessing Board
Touching Families, Inc.
University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work
UPMC Children's Hospital Family Care Connection
UPMC McKeesport
UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Mon Yough
Veterans Leadership Program
Wesley Family Services
Women for a Healthy Environment
YWCA Greater Pittsburgh