

Community Support Journal

Montgomery County Community Support Program Committee *Newsletter*

January 2023

Volume 16



CSP Logo designed by Chris Ford

New Health and Human Services Director reviews block grant



By: Kathie Mitchell, CSJ Editor

Dr. Tamra Williams, the new Director of Health and Human Services in Montgomery County, recently gave a presentation on the Human Services Block Grant (HSBG) for fiscal year 2022-23.

Williams provided an informative presentation about the Human Services Block Grant. Each year, the County applies for this funding

to support many of the safety net services accessed by residents in need in Montgomery County. These services are the core of many of the services and programs provided.

The county is undertaking a timeline that will culminate in June with a vote by the Montgomery County Commissioners. Agencies will develop their parts of the budget and this will be put together in a draft document. There will be opportunities for public review and comment before this is sent to the Board of Commissioners for approval and submission to the state.

In her presentation, Williams said funds within the HSBG include: Mental Health community base-funded services, Intellectual Disabili-

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Annual Needs Assessment We need your feedback

From the CSP Committee:

CSP and the Office of Mental Health need your feedback.

The Annual CSP Needs Assessment is available and a link to fill out the survey online can be found [here](#).

The Office of Mental Health uses the feedback from this survey to prioritize how to spend the funds allocated to Montgomery County from the PA Office of Mental Health and Sub-

Continued on page 2

CSP Annual Needs Assessment Survey 2022-2023

To give your feedback, use the following options:

<https://www.montcopacsp.org/advocacy>

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YTF6CWR>

Or QR Code



stance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). The survey asks for your feedback on mental health services in Montgomery County and then asks for you to rank each priority. The Office of Mental Health will base their funding plan on the rankings from the survey, so your thoughtful feedback is very important. At the end of the survey, there are several questions about the Social Determinants of Health – these areas are not funded by the Office of Mental Health and so they are not areas that we’re asking you to rank in importance.

The CSP committee is interested in your feedback from these questions to gather data that can be used when CSP is advocating for issues related to people’s whole health, and to help the committee understand what resources are needed for the entire mental health community.

CSP is comprised of people who use mental or behavioral health services, providers, family members, supporters and county staff and their mission is to improve mental and behavioral health services in Montgomery County. By filling out this survey you will enable the CSP, in partnership with the Office of Mental Health, to better voice your thoughts and concerns for future planning. We value everything you have to say and appreciate your input and insight regarding the mental or behavioral health services that are currently being provided to individuals.

Please either follow the link below to fill out the survey online, or print out the survey at [montcopacsp.org](https://www.montcopacsp.org), fill it out and return it via fax, email or mail to the contact information on the survey. All responses need to be received by February 15th.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YTF6CWR>



New HHS Director —continued from page one

ties community base-funded services, Drug & Alcohol Services (D&A), Homeless Assistance Programs (HAP), and Human Services Development Fund (HSDF).

Outcomes Williams said that counties must focus on outcomes that align with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services' strategic focus areas:

- (1) Serving more individuals in the community
- (2) Increasing access to high quality services
- (3) Improving employment opportunities

Priority populations:

- Low-income adults
- Persons experiencing homelessness
- Aging and aged persons
- Persons with drug and/or alcohol addictions
- Persons with mental health problems
- Persons with intellectual disabilities
- Dependent and delinquent children

Counties must provide examples of how the HSBG is used to address strategic areas.

Ongoing Stakeholder Input Williams said that ongoing stakeholder input was necessary via needs assessments, consumer satisfaction surveys, provider meetings, data trends, public meetings and comment periods conducted by HHS offices to gather priorities and needs from stakeholders (MH, OHCD, D&A, DD). Sources to collect input are:

- Office of Mental Health: Consumer Satisfaction Team; Family Satisfaction Team;
- Your Way Home Advisory Council;
- Pro-Act D&A Consumer Satisfaction Surveys;
- Developmental Disabilities Independent Quality Monitoring Team;

Service request data gathered from Community Connections as indicator of need.

For 2022-23 HSBG, a town hall public hearing was held July 20.

Recovery Oriented Systems Transformation Priorities for FY 2022-23 were housing; residential treatment; peer support, wellness tools and prevention, and crisis intervention.

Funding Request highlights included: D&A - Parent education seminars and evidence-based prevention programs in collaboration with school districts • Intervention services for child-welfare involved youth with SUD • MAT expansion and continued funding of non-hospital residential treatment. HSDF - Continued support of Community Connections services, 3,350 residents served in the past year. Homeless Assistant Programs - Case Management (street outreach) • Emergency Shelter

Mental Health Services Funds In 2022-23, Mental Health services received an additional \$239,316 for crisis system planning and \$475,350 for expansion and enhancement of the Student Assistance Program (SAP) from the Governor's state mental health budget.

To view the block grant presentation, click the link [here](#).



Who To Call

When Someone Experiencing Homelessness Needs Help

Dial 610-482-5483 | Street Outreach

- If you see someone experiencing homelessness in need of care

Dial 2-1-1

- Information on housing support and emergency shelter
- Connection with Montgomery County food pantries and meal resources

Dial 855-634-4673 | Mobile Crisis Support

- Available 24/7 for immediate response to mental health crisis situations via telephone and/or in-person support.

Dial 9-8-8

- A direct link for suicide prevention and crisis support

Dial 610-278-3522 | Community Connections Navigate Program

- Unmet social services or mental health needs
- Help finding affordable housing or maintaining housing
- Help searching for affordable legal services
- Supportive services for educational needs like in-school supports, adult literacy, or career development
- Connection to food pantries and soup kitchens in your area and other ways to supplement your family's food/dietary needs

9-1-1 should be used in any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police, the fire department, or an ambulance.





Applications for LIHEAP, the program that provides assistance for home heating bills, remain open! LIHEAP can help families under 150% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines ([see this chart](#)) heat their homes this winter.

[Apply online](#) or fill out a [paper application](#) and return it to your local County Assistance Office.

Thank you for the Coalition Against Hunger for sharing!



NAMI Montgomery County PA

National Alliance on Mental Illness



Walk with NAMI Montgomery County PA in 2023!



The achievement of “Mental Health for All” has never felt this critical yet closer to being realized. It’s not how far we walk at NAMIWalks Montgomery County PA on Saturday, May

6 at Temple University Ambler Campus, but how far we’ve come to make our milestones count. With your support and high spirits, we intend to make an unprecedented impact on mental health in our community.

We promise a fun filled morning with something for all ages: food tables, face painting, motivational speakers, DJ music, sponsor tables, and much more!



SHATTERING STIGMA PODCAST with NAMI Montgomery County PA



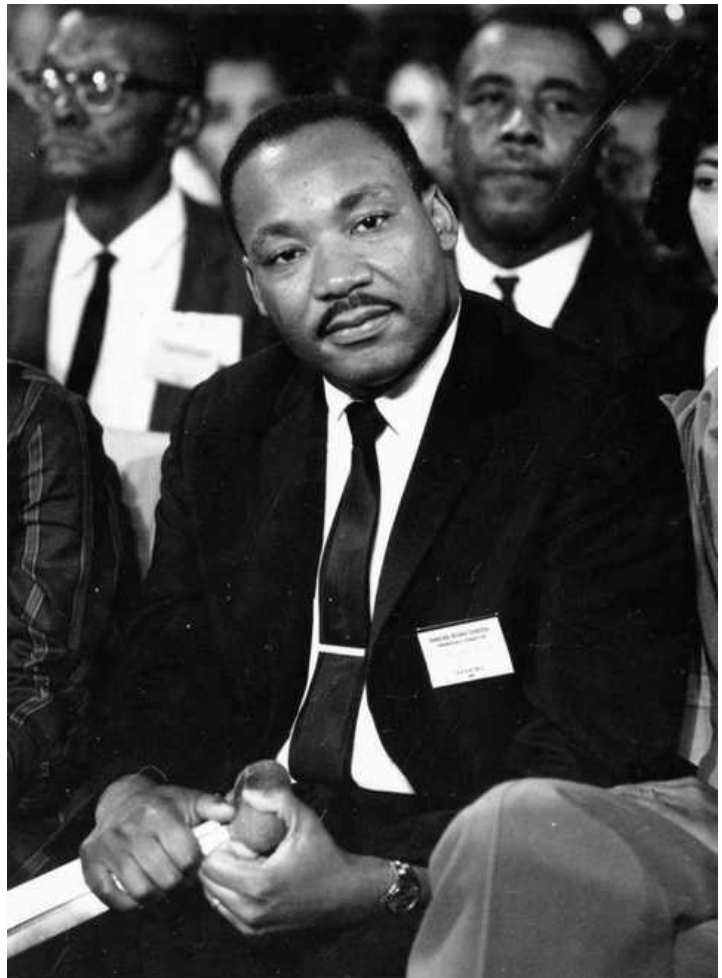
Available on Apple Podcast, Spotify,
Google Podcast, and Amazon
Podcast.



“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

“The time is always right to do what is right.”





SE Regional Mental Health Services and Coordination Office presents:



**Mental Health
FIRST AID**

from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
MENTAL WELLBEING



Adult Mental Health First Aid!

Anyone can join! This is a completely in-person course.

Mental Health First Aid is a course that teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis.

January 21, 2023 9:00-5:00

At Trinity Lutheran Church

1000 West Main Street

Lansdale, PA 19446

Please sign up on our website to get started. There is a new, easier sign up process on our website. Once you are signed up, I will send an email confirmation and instructions to register on the Connect Learning site. You will be asked to fill out a short survey on Connect.

REGISTER AT:

[HTTPS://PMHCC.FORMSTACK.COM/FORMS/](https://pmhcc.formstack.com/forms/)

**Join the PA Health Access Network (PHAN) and Here For Us
Healthcare Reform from 2022
Wednesday January 18th at 12 noon**

Last year, Congress was busy getting some good things done on the healthcare front by passing the *Inflation Reduction Act*. As a result, we have these improvements:

- Insulin for Medicare beneficiaries is now capped at \$35/month.
- Insurance purchased at Pennie.com is less expensive.
- Adult vaccines for Medicare consumers are free - including the shingles vaccine, which is very expensive without coverage.
- Coming soon, Medicare will be allowed to negotiate for lower drug prices for the first time ever. And there's more.

So, how do these reforms impact your community and the people you serve? There is talk in Congress of weakening or even repealing the IRA, which would be catastrophic. **What can we do as advocates to protect *and expand* the gains we've made?**

Please join us via Zoom to hear about the latest positive reforms to our healthcare system and to share your thoughts about how we can let the public know about them.

**WHAT: Discussion of how we can protect and expand the healthcare reforms
in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022**

WHEN: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 12 noon

RSVP: Please click [here](#) to register.



**Here
for Us**
MontCo



CREATING INCREASED CONNECTIONS

VIRTUAL MUTUAL AID GROUPS

Circle of Hope Virtual

Circle of Hope is peer-to-peer led discussion group. Join us for lively conversation about how we are feeling, our successes challenges, our recovery, and how we maintain our wellness. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday's
10:00AM -11:30PM

Zoom Link:
<https://rhd.zoom.us/j/85192424587>

Circle of Hope

Circle of Hope is peer-to-peer led discussion group. Join us for lively conversation about how we are feeling, our successes challenges, our recovery, and how we maintain our wellness. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday's
10:30AM-12:00PM

Hopeworx
1210 Stanbridge St #600,
Norristown, PA 19401

Live Another Day

Live another day groups are non-judgmental confidential spaces where people can share some of their darkest thoughts without being assumed to have an illness or being assessed for involuntary interventions. Support to openly explore these thoughts and the feelings and experiences underneath them is often the key to moving toward something different.

Tuesdays
12:00PM-1:30PM

Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/861>

Women's Identity & Experiences Circle of Hope Group

This group was created for women as a safe environment to voice & openly share our life stories as women & to empower ourselves to find greater meaning & purpose in life.

Wednesday's
3:00PM-4:30PM

Zoom Link:
<https://rhd.zoom.us/j/83638683076>



CREATING INCREASED CONNECTIONS

VIRTUAL MUTUAL AID GROUPS

Young Peoples' Hearing Voices Group

The Young People's Hearing Voices Group is a safe space for teens and young adults who have the experience of hearing, seeing, or sensing things not perceived by others. It is a place to talk and find personal meaning in our experiences.

Tuesday
6:00PM-7:30PM

Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84853101167>

Taking Back Our Power Virtual

Taking Back Our Power hearing voices groups are open to anyone with the experience of hearing voices, or other sensory phenomena not shared by others. We offer a non-clinical, non-judgmental environment and open discussion away from traditional psychiatric treatment.

Monday's 3:00PM- 4:30PM
Tuesday's 3:00PM-4:30PM
Wednesday's 3:00PM-4:30PM

Zoom Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85399542179>

Taking Back Our Power

Taking Back Our Power hearing voices groups are open to anyone with the experience of hearing voices, or other sensory phenomena not shared by others.

We offer a non-clinical, non-judgmental environment and open discussion away from traditional psychiatric treatment.

Tuesday's 3:00PM-4:30PM

625 Montgomery Ave
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

Website

www.CIConnections.org

Questions Contact

Sheila.HallPringleau@RHD.org

215-906-0453

Southeast Regional CSP Committee Report

December 2022

Date: December 5, 2022

Guest speaker: Nikki Holcroft from Genesis Housing Corporation. She presented Part One: Understanding Credit. This is a four-part series about budgeting and finance. The presentations take place during the monthly regional CSP meetings from December 2022 thru March 2023. If individuals want a personal session, she can be reached by email at nikki@genesishousing.org. The meeting will be on Zoom. You don't have to wait until the four classes are over. 2nd one – credit, last two – money management.

Budget: The committee approved a request to use \$2,000 from the budget to cover expenses for the technical assistance work. After discussing some future plans for 2023, the committee decided to put aside some funds for an advocacy outreach in the spring and also a bus trip to Harrisburg for legislative advocacy around the state and county mental health budgets. It was also noted that PMHCA will be holding their annual conference this year in the fall in Dubois, PA.

Recovery Story: Each month, the Regional CSP Committee has asked a volunteer to share a short recovery story to educate and inspire others. In December, Marissa MacKeverican – the Community Support Coordinator for Bucks County—gave an overview of her story which focused on her struggles as a child and youth, losing her parents and living in the foster care system. Members at the meeting were moved



by her courage and ability to overcome the challenges she faced.

Conference Committee Report: The committee is looking at local pools, outside games and a DJ. They also discussed awards and taking nominations from each county. They are looking at programs as well as individuals. The event will be **May 19th from 10-3**. \$10 per person

Advocacy Committee Report: The committee is looking at the end of April for an event. There are two locations being considered. Ideas are for a panel with a teacher, person with lived experience, family member and provider. They discussed The Inquirer article about alleged abuses at the forensic unit at Norristown State Hospital.

Philadelphia County Report: We hosted storytelling. We are looking to adopt families that are struggling for Christmas. A book drive is coming up for Martin Luther King Day. We will start to plan our conference in June.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2023

Montco Commissioner Valerie Arkoosh will lead the state Department of Human Services

Excerpts from Philadelphia The Inquirer
By Abraham Gutman
January 11, 2023

Gov.-elect Josh Shapiro has named Valerie Arkoosh, an anesthesiologist and chair of the Montgomery County Commissioners, as his human services secretary.

Arkoosh led her county's response in the early days of the coronavirus [pandemic, which elevated her to the spotlight](#) for calmly offering information while her county was in the epicenter of the virus' spread.

She is a longtime ally of Shapiro from his days as a Montgomery County commissioner. Arkoosh succeeded him at the [helm of the county board in 2016](#).

"I am deeply honored to be able to continue this fight alongside my friend," Arkoosh said in the announcement.

As human services secretary, Arkoosh will oversee a large department with a sprawling portfolio that includes Pennsylvania's Medicaid program, child welfare services, and social programs such as food stamps. DHS also licenses assisted living and behavioral health treatment facilities.

Originally from Omaha, Neb., Arkoosh came to Philadelphia to complete her residency in anesthesiology at Thomas Jefferson University. Her focus was in assisting with anesthesia in delivery rooms and C-sections. In 2007, Arkoosh earned a master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University.

She was the chair of the anesthesia department at Drexel University, a professor of anesthesia and obstetrics at the University of Pennsylvania, and has been involved in federal health-care reform advocacy.

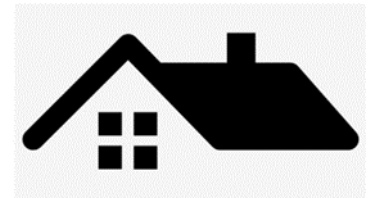
For the complete article, click [here](#).



We're hiring at The Ferns Peer Respite

Be the change that you wish to see in the world!

We have exciting Peer Support employment opportunities as we launch a new venture in Southeastern Pennsylvania, The Ferns Peer Respite. To ensure success as a Peer Respite Peer Support Worker, you will have significant experience with and understanding of advocacy, group facilitation, and peer support, and will be familiar with Intentional Peer Support, Trauma-Informed Practices, and related values and principles. This is a peer role, requiring lived experience. As a peer, you will be someone who has personally experienced crisis, trauma, and/or extreme distress.



The Ferns Peer Respite

a community for learning, healing and growing,
recognizing that distress is a common human experience

We will begin recruiting for Part-Time and Per Diem positions shortly. If you are interested in Part-Time and/or per diem positions at The Ferns, please forward your resume and a cover email to Olivia Bruecks at obruecks@theferns.org. Please be sure to address the following in your cover email:

- Describe why you are interested in the position;
- Confirming that you meet the definition of “peer” as described above;
- Note the days of the week, hours, and/or schedule available to work;
- Whether you are interested in a regularly scheduled Part-Time position or a Per Diem (on-call) position.

Download full Job Description [here](#).



Please feel free to share this flyer with any possible candidates or organizations.



You can find the job description on our website. Click [here](#).

Be the change that you wish to see in the world!

We have exciting Peer Support employment opportunities as we launch a new venture in Southeastern Pennsylvania, The Ferns Peer Respite. To ensure success as a Peer Respite Peer Support Worker, you will have significant experience with and understanding of advocacy, group facilitation, peer support, and will be familiar with Intentional Peer Support, Trauma-Informed Practices, and related values and principles. This is a peer role, requiring lived experience. You will be someone who has personally experienced crisis, trauma, and / or extreme distress.



The Ferns Peer Respite

a community for learning, healing and growing.
recognizing that distress is a common human experience



To see the full job description or apply, please go to:

<https://www.indeed.com/job/peer-support-worker-d5bc3b8f81db77a4>

Who We Are

The Ferns Peer Respite Council is a grass-roots organization evaluating the need for and seeking to establish peer respite in our region. Our members are individuals with lived experience who have experienced crisis, family members of individuals with these experiences, services providers, and community members. For more information about The Ferns Peer Respite, please visit our website at <https://www.hopeworxinc.org/what-we-do/ferns-peer-respite/>

HopeWorx, Inc. is a 501(c)3, established in 1994, and located in Norristown, PA. The mission of HopeWorx is to promote the continued development of a community environment which supports and believes in the expertise and passion of individuals to create and direct their own paths to health and recovery. HopeWorx is the parent company of the Community Satisfaction Team, AdvocacyWorx, CommunityWorx, the Family Satisfaction Team, FamilyWorx, and the fiduciary for The Ferns Peer Respite. the Montgomery County and Southeast Regional CSP committees. For more information about HopeWorx, please visit our website at <https://www.hopeworxinc.org/>

What is Peer Respite?

Peer respite provides a welcoming space for people who feel overwhelmed, to have time, space and relationships that support their self-determination, healing, and growth. We recognize that people are the experts on themselves. Guests stay for one to seven days in a home-like environment. Peer respite staff have learned new responses from our own crises and are ready to compassionately engage as equals with guests, as the guests consider how they want their lives to be different. We offer honest, caring, mutually responsible relationships.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

— **Barack Obama**

Peer respite is different from hospitalization or crisis residential services, and provides an alternative where distress is viewed through the lens of being a common human experience instead of pathology; guests find meaning and growth in the experience.

New Deputy Secretary at the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services January 17, 2023

This message is sent on behalf of Acting Secretary Arkoosh and Dr. Dale Adair:

I'm pleased to announce that Jennifer (Jen) Smith joined the Department of Human Services (DHS) on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, as the Deputy Secretary for the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS). Smith previously served as the Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). As Secretary, she led DDAP's efforts to fulfill its mission of engaging and coordinating the state's efforts to prevent and reduce substance use disorder and problem gambling; and to promote recovery, striving to reduce the human and economic impact of the disease of addiction. Smith was integral in the formation and implementation of PA's first licensure program for drug and alcohol recovery houses. Her achievements in the treatment and recovery fields are examples of her dedication to ensuring that Pennsylvanians are supported through all phases of their recovery journey. As Deputy Secretary, Smith will be an invaluable asset to help enhance and support the work we do here at OMHSAS.

I want to thank Dr. Dale Adair for serving as the Acting Deputy Secretary for OMHSAS over the past several months. His work and leadership have been, and will continue to be, an incredible resource to the OMHSAS team. Dr. Adair will continue to serve as the Chief Psychiatric Officer for OMHSAS.

Please join me in welcoming Deputy Secretary Smith and thanking Dr. Adair for his service!

Thank you,
Kendra

Kendra Snuffer, MPA | Chief of Staff

PRONOUNS: *She/Her/Hers*

Department of Human Services | Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
Commonwealth Tower, 11th Floor, 303 Walnut Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101

717-787-2223 | www.dhs.state.pa.us



If you or someone you know needs support now, **call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org**

Montgomery County 2023 Point-In-Time Count

Tuesday, January 24th, 2023

6pm-10pm

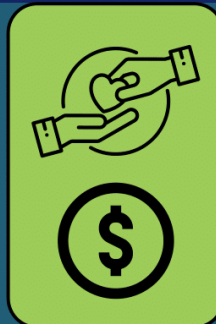
If you are experiencing homelessness, Your Way Home volunteers will be out canvassing the communities of Montgomery County between the hours of 6pm and 10pm on Tuesday, January 24th 2023. All Code Blue Shelters will be open on this night.

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. The PIT Count helps to determine **which services are most needed** in the community and to **secure funding** for homelessness services and programming.

Help Out - Donate!

If you'd like to donate survival items please visit Your Way Home's Amazon Wish List on yourwayhome.org.

Cash donations can be accepted through the Your Way Home Initiative Fund at <https://yourwayhome.org/donate>



For more information
Contact YWH Development and
Communications Manager
Ruth Almy at
ruth.almy@montgomerycountypa.gov



YOUR WAY HOME
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Dial 2-1-1 | Text Your Zip Code to 898-211
Live Chat at www.211sepa.org
for more information visit www.yourwayhome.org



Subcommittee Reports from December 2022

Advocacy Subcommittee: The committee discussed the homeless crisis. We're going to research what other counties and states are doing to tackle this issue. And then we'll have some tactics to write to legislators. The committee talked about contacting new Gov. Josh Shapiro and Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, telling them about some of our advocacy concerns: homeless crisis, affordable housing, mental health services budget funding, transportation. One idea was having vouchers for Uber and Lift especially for elders and people with mobility issues so they don't have to spend all day traveling. We want to nominate the new potential deputy secretary, Jenna. PMHCA is nominating this person. Abby knows her and she has experience with NAMI and CIT. The committee suggested drafting a letter in support of the nomination. Letter should be reviewed by the Advocacy Committee and approved by the Executive Committee, then sent out to whole committee by email.

Community Outreach Subcommittee: A gas card was approved. We discussed how to get our name out. We're revamping applications for grants. A suggestion was to create a CSP Instagram. Some members said they don't know how to use Facebook. Some people aren't aware of the Montgomery County CSP website. It was stated that Montco CSP has a website and Facebook page that is managed by Kathie Mitchell. If people want things posted to Facebook but can't do it or don't have time to do it, they can send the information to Kathie and she will post it to Facebook and the website. Kathie's email address: kathiemitchell8221@gmail.com, and the website address is: www.montcopacsp.org.

Conference Subcommittee: Erin said the event will be May 23rd, during the day. Our goal is to book a venue. Possibly Martha's Community Farm or the Variety Club. If folks have other ideas, please email or connect with me. My email is: mailto:elewis@montcopa.org. We talked about activities and sponsors. Tai Chi and World Drums folks really like. A workshop on Improv. We still have to vote on a theme. If folks have suggestions, please send them to me. There was a question about food. They will be talking about that soon and are asking folks for ideas.

CSP MEETING CALENDER 2022-23

*Meetings are held every third
Thursday, monthly @
Norristown Public Library from
12: 00-2:30pm*

The next meetings will be:

January	19
February	16
March	16
April	20

*Meetings are held in person
and via Zoom.*

Montgomery County CSP Executive Committee

2022/2023 Tri-Chairs

Provider Member: Abby Grasso

Person in Recovery: Danny Kuchler

Family Member: Kathy Laws

2022/2022 Sub-Committee Chairs

Community Outreach: Dion Despaigne

Advocacy: Akilah Williams, Julie Whitmore

Conference: Erin Hewitt, Stacey Volz

2022/2023 Treasurer

Dion Despaigne, CST Specialist

County Liaison - Tracey Riper-Thomas



Fiduciary - HopeWorx, Inc.

1210 Stanbridge Street,
Suite 600
Norristown, PA 19401
610-270-3685

CSP Principles

- * **Consumer Centered/
Consumer Empowered**
- * **Culturally competent**
- * **Able to Meet Special Needs**
- * **Community Based with Natural Supports**
- * **Flexible**
- * **Coordinated**
- * **Accountable**
- * **Strength Based**

Organizations who regularly send representatives to CSP:

Central Behavioral Health, AdvocacyWorx, Community Satisfaction Team of Montgomery County, Magellan Health Services, Montgomery Co. Department of Behavioral Health, Montgomery County Emergency Services (MCES), NAMI Montgomery County, Norristown Vet Center, Resources for Human Development, Salisbury Behavioral Health

Meetings:

12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

3rd Thursday of each month

**Norristown
Public Library
Community Room**

1001 Powell St.

Currently via Zoom

Kathie Mitchell, Newsletter Editor

Join our Mailing list!

We have an email list as well as a regular mailing, to join:

Send an e-mail to:

pjohnson@hopeworxinc.org

Or send your contact info to this mailing address:

1210 Stanbridge St., Suite 600, Norristown, PA 19401

CSP Mission Statement:

Montgomery County's Community Support Program (CSP) brings together individuals that receive mental health services, their family members, providers and the Department of Behavioral Health in an equal partnership to promote recovery and excellence in the delivery of community-based mental health services.

The committee strives to include a balance of people who use services, people who provide services, family members, and interested members of the community at large. The CSP initiatives continue to grow state, regionally and county wide. As the involvement increases CSP has become a place that feedback can truly be given to the county from individuals that receive services and information can be given that suits the needs and requests of those that attend.

CSP Subcommittees:

- * **Advocacy Subcommittee**—Works on legislative, policy, communication, budget, voter education and other issues related to mental health services in the county, statewide and at the federal level when relevant. At the direction of the CSP Committee, the Advocacy Subcommittee gathers information on issues, plans advocacy events and creates a monthly newsletter to provide information to the stakeholder network as well as the community at large about the work of CSP. The newsletter also provides updates on new and changing mental health services provided in Montgomery County. The newsletter editor can be contacted at: kathiemitchell8221@gmail.com.
- * **Community Outreach Subcommittee**—Works on facilitating opportunities for people in the CSP community to be more involved in the Montgomery County community. This includes implementing the Community Connections grants, which provide funding for people to participate in a variety of activities. The committee also implements transportation grants that provide gas cards and SEPTA day passes to CSP community members. The annual CSP Poster Art contest is also organized by this committee.
- * **Conference Subcommittee** – The conference subcommittee will plan and fundraise for the annual Montgomery County CSP Conference.

We invite all peers, family members and providers/professionals to attend.