In Touch with CSP

Newslette

of the Community Support Program of Bucks County

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 FALL 2014

The Voting Issue

By: Nancy Scheible

Tuesday Nov 4th 2014 is election day. Are you ready for it? If you can answer yes to the following questions then you are ready.
- Are you registered to vote?
- Do you know who is running and what they stand for?
- Do you know where you need to go to vote?
- Do you have a way to get to the polls to vote?

Do you know how to get an absentee ballot if you are going to be away during the election?
If you can’t answer yes to all of the above questions then this issue of the CSP newsletter can help you get the answers you need to be able to actively participate in this years election. On the inside pages there is information on resources to help find out if you are registered, find your polling place or make application for an absentee ballot. Also is a listing of the office races and candidates so you can familiarize yourself with who is running. We also have information about where you can turn to find more information about the candidates. There is also a website that provides a video demonstration of how to use the voting machine so you can be well prepared for election day.

Are you Registered?

To vote, you must be registered. To vote in this year’s election on Nov 4th you needed to be registered by October 6th 2014.

To register to vote, you must meet these requirements:
- Be 18 years old by election day
- Be a US citizen for at least one month before the election
- Have lived in your election district for at least 30 days before the election day
- Submit registration form 30 days before the election

Ways to Register: by mail or in person . . .

Mail-in Forms
Voter registration forms are available in many places: libraries, colleges, state stores, post offices, and most state offices. Just fill in the form and mail it to the Bucks County Board of Elections! A Voter Identification Card will be mailed to you.

In-person Registration
- You may register at the Bucks County Elections Office in Doylestown from 8am to 5pm at 55 E. Court Street, Doylestown PA.
- Lower Bucks County Government Services Center at 7321 New Falls Road, Bristol Township between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.
- Upper Bucks County Government Services Center at 261 California Road, Richland between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.
- Armed Forces Recruitment Centers.

At these state offices, employees may help an applicant fill out the form but they cannot influence political party preference or display partisan allegiance.

So, what are you waiting for? Use the resources on page 2 to find out if you are registered. And if you missed the deadline for this election, register now anyway so you are ready for the May primary election.

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On this page are various voter information and services resources. Please take advantage of them to help you get ready to vote in the upcoming election on Nov 4th. These resources are also available year round and can help you find out who your elected officials are and their contact information if you need or want to contact your legislator.

**The Bucks County Board of Elections & Registration:**

- Contact for questions related to elections such as finding your polling place, when or where an election will be held and other election-related information.
- Contact for voter information such as to confirm if you are registered to vote, how to register and other questions related to voter registration.

55 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA 18901  
ph: 215-348-6163 / email: dkdean@co.bucks.pa.us  
web: www.buckscounty.org/government/communityservices/boardofelections

**League of Women Voters of Bucks County:**

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. The league produces a nonpartisan Voter’s Guide for each election, hosts candidate forums and also compiles an Elected Officials Guide.

100 Doyle Street, Doylestown PA 18901  
Ph: 215-230-9986 / email: lwvbuckspa@gmail.com / web: www.lwvbucks.org

**Web Only Resources**

**Votes PA:**  www.votespa.com

Votes PA is a one stop shop website for any information you may need regarding voting.  
- You can get general educational information about elections including the difference between a primary election and a general election  
- Find out if you are registered to vote  
- Find your polling place  
- Resource center that has every form you could need from voter registration forms to absentee ballot requests.  
- See a video demonstration of the voting process

**PA General Assembly Legislative Website:**  www.legis.state.pa.us/  
This is the website for the PA House of Representatives and the PA Senate. Use this site to find out who your existing legislators are and their contact information. When your legislators information comes up, it will also identify which legislative district they cover, helping you figure out what race to look at on the next page where the candidates are listed.
Getting to the Polls

If you do not have transportation to get to your voter polling place but live close to public transportation, you can use SEPTA’s online trip planner to find out which buses you can use to get to your destination. You will have to put in the address you are starting from and the address of your polling place, the time you want start your trip or the time you want to arrive at your destination. The trip planner will then provide you with options for getting to your destination—it even shows the places in which you would have to travel by foot from one stop to the next. Try it out at www.septa.org.

If you are not close to public transportation and you are registered as a democrat or republican you can contact your county party committee. Many times the party committees will have volunteers who help provide transportation to the polls for folks who would not otherwise be able to get there.

Bucks County Republican Committee can be contacted at 215-345-6811 or info@bucksgop.org.

Bucks County Democratic Committee can be contacted at 215-348-2140 or info@bucksdemocrats.org.

Does my Vote Really Count?

Yes it does. But before we get to that, did you know that Bucks County has had dismal turnout of voters of late. In the primary this past May, just 11% of Republicans and 20% percent of Democrats took part in voting. Those numbers are very disheartening indeed.

While many people get energized to go to the polls on election day during presidential elections, the elections in between, called mid-term elections, while far less attended to, are really no less important. Some may argue they are even more important as it is your local township, county, state and federal representatives and senators who make the most impact in your community and your daily life.

It is the state and federal legislators who every day introduce bills and vote on bills that turn into the laws that we all must abide by.

The slate for this November 4th election includes office of governor & lieutenant governor for Pennsylvania, and numerous federal and state lawmakers.

Now back to our question, “Does My Vote Really Count?” Well here are some stories to get you thinking about races that were decided by some really small margins.

In the US presidential race of 2000 between Al Gore and George Bush, the state of Florida was considered a “swing” state. In the end, after much controversy and recounts, George Bush won the state by a margin of only 537 votes out of almost 6 million votes cast that day. It believe the folks in Florida think their vote counts.

When the rural area votes starting coming in there was renewed hope for the suffrage movement.

The slate for this November 4th election includes office of governor & lieutenant governor for Pennsylvania, and numerous federal and state lawmakers.

In the end, a margin of just 3,587 votes out of 246,487 cast—or about one vote per each of the state’s 3,121 precincts—made California the sixth equal-suffrage state, effectively doubling the number of women voters in the U.S.

Or perhaps you will resonate with the story of the 1960 presidential election. John F. Kennedy’s margin of victory over Nixon in 1960 was less than one vote per precinct.

Yes these are examples of elections long ago, but they are examples of something that’s as true today as it was on those election days—individual efforts can make the difference between an exhilarating victory and a devastating defeat.

Most important to remember—your vote can’t count unless you actually go to the polls.

Our quote to the right says it all... “Every election is determined by the people who show up.”

Larry J. Sabato, Pendulum Swing
List of Races and Candidates for Bucks County

See page 2 for resources on how to locate the district you live in so you can figure which race you will be voting in and then you can read the article on the next page about how to find out more about the candidates. Use those resources to get educated on which candidate you would like to have represent you.

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<td>8TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>Mike Fitzpatrick (R) (incumbent)</td>
<td><a href="https://www.fitzpatrickforcongress.com">https://www.fitzpatrickforcongress.com</a></td>
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<td>Kevin Strouse (D)</td>
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<td>STATE OFFICES</td>
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<td>Governor</td>
<td>Tom Corbett (r) (incumbent)</td>
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<td>Tom Wolf (D)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wolfforpa.com/">http://www.wolfforpa.com/</a></td>
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<td>Senate</td>
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<td>6TH DISTRICT</td>
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<td>Kimberly Rose (D)</td>
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<td>10TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>Charles McIlhinney (R) (incumbent)</td>
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<td>Steve Cikay (D) c</td>
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<td>12TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>Stewart Greenleaf (R) (incumbent)</td>
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<td>Ruth Damsker (D)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.voterruth.com/">http://www.voterruth.com/</a></td>
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<td>24TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>Bob Mensch (R) (incumbent)</td>
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<td>18TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>Gene DiGirolamo (R) (incumbent)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.genediggirolamo.com/">http://www.genediggirolamo.com/</a></td>
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<td>29TH DISTRICT</td>
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<td>31ST DISTRICT</td>
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<td>David Gibbon (R)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dgibbon.com/">http://www.dgibbon.com/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>140TH DISTRICT</td>
<td>John Galloway (D) (incumbent)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pahouse.com/galloway/">http://www.pahouse.com/galloway/</a></td>
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Getting Information on the Candidates

The League of Women voters publishes a Voter’s Guide which comes out about 2 weeks prior to the election. The Voter’s Guide has a listing of the candidates and candidates information such as: current position/experience, education, office they are running for. With local candidates, they are asked to answer a common question about an important issue and where they stand on that issue. The League also sponsors candidate forums throughout the county—see the table below for the forums that are being held in October.

Where to Get the Voter’s Guide
In your local library - ask a librarian where it can be found.
The Bucks County Herald newspaper will publish the guide on October 30th, 2014. You can access the newspaper online at:

Other Ways to Find out About Candidates
The Bucks County Courier Times, serving Lower Bucks, and The Intelligencer, which serves the Central/Upper Bucks region, develop their own voter’s guide which is published 1 week prior to the election (Tues Oct 28th 2014).
You can access their guides by purchasing a paper on the publication date or via the web at:
www.buckscountycouriertimes
www.theintell.com
Of course you can visit any of the newspaper sites and do a search on the candidates names to see recent news articles about them which will give you clues about where they stand on issues.
For incumbents, folks who are already in an elected office and are running again, you can use the PA legislative website to find out and how they voted on bills and what bills they are sponsoring. You can also visit candidates websites or call their offices to ask about their positions on topics that are important to you.
The committee of 70 has several informative articles about major issues related to the Governor’s race. Including school funding, job creation, marijuana and fracking. They were written for the primary election but remain relevant. Go to:

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| Thursday, October 16, 2014 7-8:30pm | Attleboro Community  
290 East Winchester Avenue  
Langhorne, PA 19047 | 6th Senatorial District — A Candidate Forum will held with Robert Tomlinson: Republican and Kimberly Rose: Democrat. |
| Monday, October 20, 2014 7-8:30pm | Quakertown Library  
401 West Mill Street  
Quakertown, Pa 18951 | 145th Legislative District — A Candidate forum will be held with Craig Staats: Republican and Karen Chellew: Democrat. |
| Thursday, October 23, 2014 7-8:30pm | Central Bucks Senior Center  
700 Shady Retreat Road  
Doylestown, PA 18901 | 10th Pennsylvania Senatorial District — A Candidate forum will be held with Chuck McIlhinney: Republican and Steve Cickay, Democrat. |
| Friday, October 24, 2014 8-9:30am | Waterwheel Restaurant  
4424 Old Easton Rd  
Doylestown, PA 18902 | 8th Congressional District — The League of Women Voters of Bucks County will be co-sponsoring with the Chamber of Commerce a candidate forum for the 8th Congressional District. |
Polling Place Changes in Bucks County

Per the Buck County Courier Times, on Wednesday, Oct 1st, “...the Bucks County commissioners voted to approve four new polling places for the Nov. 4 election. Two more polling place changes are under consideration, affecting thousands of voters.” While more polling places benefits voters as it would mean less waiting in line to vote and probably some polling places being closer to citizens neighborhoods. However, making such changes so close to an election means less time to figure out who goes where to vote.

So, make sure you check your polling place by using one of the online resources on page two or calling the board of elections, whose phone number is also on page 2.

So, What are the Legislators Working On Anyway?

Since this newsletter is all about voting people into office who make the laws for our state and country, it seems appropriate to take a look at those who are already in office and what they are working on.

There are two major pieces of federal legislation which would have a major impact on mental health services, which are identified in the article below. On the next page, there are snippets of PA legislation that you may want to learn more about since they also have an effect on folks dealing with mental illnesses.

Now we know reading about legislation is not the most exciting activity, however, not knowing what legislators are working on means you can’t communicate with them about how what they are working on would impact you positively or negatively. The legislators are your representatives and they need to hear from you, ideally more than just at election time.

So go get a cup of joe, or tea or oj, find a comfy chair, grab your reading glasses and dive into reading up on legislation—it won’t kill you, we promise.

Federal Legislative Watch

There are two major pieces of federal legislation that would have a significant impact on the mental health community.

HR 3717 - Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2013. This bill was introduced in Dec of 2013 by Tim Murphy (R-PA).

HR 4574 - Strengthening Mental Health in Our Communities Act Introduced in May 2014 by Ron Barber (D - AZ).

These bills address issues related to withholding funding to states that do not use involuntary outpatient commitment programs, easing HIPPA/privacy laws, cutting funding to protection and advocacy programs which help ensure consumer rights, changing the oversight of mental health policy from SAMHSA to newly created federal administrator and giving congressional committees oversight of mental health, increasing funding for certain inpatient treatment facilities and a variety of other programs related to suicide prevention, criminal justice training and veterans programs. Obviously both of these bills require closer inspection to figure out how they might impact you and your recovery.

How to get more information about these bills:
To read the full bill you can go to www.congress.gov and in the search box at the top of the page type in the legislation letters and number (ie: HR3717 or HR4574).

Continued on pg. 7
Below is a summary of some bills of interest to the mental health / disability community from the 2013-2014 session. For more information about these or any other state bills, go to www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/session.cfm. At the top of the page is a box labeled, “Legislation Quick Search”. Enter the bill number and click on “Search”. The site contains lots of useful information. So take a few minutes and check it out.

HR = House Resolution  HB= House Bill

HR 1018. Introduce by Representative Thomas Murt (R-Montgomery). This resolution directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a comprehensive study and make a report on the impact of the 10% reduction in funding for county managed community mental health services implemented during fiscal year 2013 on the availability of mental health treatment and services and establishing and advisory committee. It was voted out of committee on Sept 24, 2014 and now is waiting to be put on the agenda so it can be introduced to the full house and then voted on.

HB 1218. Introduced by Representative Stanley Saylor (R-York). The bill amends the Landlord and Tenant Act of 1951, to, among other things, provide for early termination of leases by individuals with disabilities when they need to move into a facility or a family member’s house to receive care. The bill passed the House on May 6, 2014 and was referred to the Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee, May 16, 2014.

HB 1474. Introduced by Representative John Sabatina (D-Philadelphia). The bill would stop the practice of denying a needed transplant solely on the basis of having a mental or physical disability. It was introduced and referred to the House Judiciary Committee on June 17, 2014.

HB 1702. Introduced by Representative Chris Ross (R-Chester). The bill empowers the Department of Aging to license and inspect community adult respite service providers. It passed the House on March 19, 2014. It has been voted out of the Senate Aging and Youth Committee, given first consideration by the full Senate and referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

HR 697. Introduced by Representative Daniel L. Miller (D-Allegheny). This resolution urges Congress to pass and the President to sign the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2013 (ABLE Act– S. 313/H.R. 647) to provide an improved quality of life for individuals with disabilities through tax-exempt savings accounts. The resolution was reported out of the House Human Services Committee on June 25, 2014.

HB 2405. Introduced by Representative Thomas P. Murt (R-Montgomery). The bill is called “Turning High School Graduates with Disabilities into Taxpayers Act.” It would require the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) to develop connections between local education agencies and private employers needed for successful transition from high school to competitive employment. The program would be paid for by providing enough state match to pull down all available federal VR funds. It was introduced and referred to the House Labor and Industry Committee on July 1, 2014.

This information was reprinted with permission from: www.paddc.org/slice_of_pie/volume-15-issue-2/

Federal legislative watch, continued from page 6

There is a NY Times article that nicely covers the views of advocates both for and against the Murphy Bill. You can read that article by going to: www.nytimes.com/2014/04/03/health/mental-health-groups-split-on-bill-to-revamp-care.html

The NY Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services has developed a side by side comparison of the major areas of both bills which you can access via their website at: www.nyaprs.org/public-policy/federal-policy

Many consumer advocates have identified areas of Murphy’s Bill that they believe would have significant negative impact for persons in recovery. To find out what consumer advocates are concerned about check out any or all of the following resources: The Mental Health Association of Southeastern PA has a 1 hr webinar you can watch which focuses on the Murphy Bill highlighting the parts of the Bill they view as having a negative impact for consumers. They also briefly go through some aspects of the Barber Bill which they believe is more recovery focused.

To watch the webinar go to: www.drive.google.com/file/d/0BwPijUSvMVPrOGxkMEVjYWM4R0E/edit?usp=sharing

Another source for information on advocates is The Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, which is a national legal-advocacy organization representing people with mental disabilities. Their website has a page detailing their concerns about the Murphy Bill. To read it go to: www.bazelon.org/News-Publications/Press-Releases/12-12-13-Murphy-PR

“Governing a great nation is like cooking a small fish. Too much handling will spoil it.”

Lao Tzu
Ancient Chinese Philosopher & Poet
Open Enrollment for Health Insurance Market Place begins in November

Open Enrollment is the time when you can apply for a 2015 Marketplace plan, keep your current plan, or pick a new one.

Are you ready for the next Health Insurance Marketplace Open Enrollment Period?

Here are the 4 key dates you should know:

**November 15, 2014.** Open Enrollment begins. Apply for, keep, or change your coverage.

**December 15, 2014.** Enroll by the 15th if you want new coverage that begins on January 1, 2015. If your plan is changing or you want to change plans, enroll by the 15th to avoid a lapse in coverage.

**December 31, 2014.** Coverage ends for 2014 plans. Coverage for 2015 plans can start as soon as January 1st.

**February 15, 2015.** This is the last day you can apply for 2015 coverage before the end of Open Enrollment.

To buy Marketplace insurance outside of the Open Enrollment period, you must qualify for a Special Enrollment Period due to a qualifying life event like marriage, birth or adoption of a child, or loss of other health coverage.

During the enrollment period go to www.healthcare.gov to find out if you qualify for coverage through the market place or you can call the Mental Health Association of Southeastern PA for help at 267-507-3894.

This information is brought to you by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

**HEALTHCARE NUMBERS TO PONDER**

**1.3 MILLION**
The number of Pennsylvanians without healthcare prior to implementation of the affordable care act last year.

**318,000**
The number of PA residents who enrolled for insurance through the Affordable care act as of 4/18/14.

**42,000**
The number of people in PA, who were found eligible for Medicaid when they applied for insurance through the Affordable Care Act.

**What the CSP Committees are Working On**

All three CSP committees have some pretty big projects they are working on this year. The Lower Bucks Committee has 2 workgroups: one focusing on homelessness, which is developing a homelessness survival guide and one focusing on advocacy which organized a legislative advocacy training last year and this year is organizing a self advocacy training event which will take place in Nov 5th. They are working on forming a third subcommittee to focus on bringing an awesome public art / anti stigma campaign to Bucks County called “Faces of Mental Health Recovery”.

The Central Bucks Committee is working on developing a story telling training program with the hopes of inspiring more individuals with lived experience of mental illness to use the story of their illness and recovery journey for public education/speaking and legislative advocacy efforts to help eradicate stigma in the community and bring the message of hope and recovery to individuals. The Housing Issues subcommittee is hosting a Roommate Matching Event which will occur on Oct 13th. Since they hope to do more throughout the year, they are submitting a seed grant request to the regional CSP committee to see if they can get more funding to support additional events. The Advocacy Subcommittee is also sponsoring/hosting a Self-Advocacy Training which is scheduled for Oct 21st.

The Upper Bucks CSP is once again running a community connections grant program which helps consumers connect to resources in their community through small grants. They are also sponsoring/hosting a Self-Advocacy Training day which will be held on Nov 18th. After watching a movie called “Of Two Minds” and being moved by its message, they are developing a community education/anti-stigma campaign using the movie as a starting point for community building conversations following the movie.

The College Plus Peer Support Initiative offers Bucks County residents with mental illness or a co-occurring disorder the opportunity to attend college. We fund the first 3-credit course while providing group and individual peer support. We also help navigate all aspects of college: obtaining financial aide, finding resources for tutoring, developing and sustaining college and career goals.

RSVP BY FRIDAY, 10/3/2014 to: Caren Noonan @ 215-442-1599 or collegeplus@voiceandvision.org

ROOMMATE MATCHING PARTY—Monday Oct 13, 2014. 11 Am to 2 PM at Lenape Valley Foundation, 500 N. Wets Street Doylestown, PA 18901, downstairs conference room. This is a CSP sponsored & run event. Come meet other folks with mental health challenges who are looking for roommates to help share expenses. We will provide some educational information on the topic of how to choose a compatible roommate and then fun activities to get to know the other folks who are there and we will then share a lunch with our newly made friends. Event is free, RSVP by Fri 10/10 to nscheible@penndelmhc.org or 267-269-7882.

Co-occurring Forum—Tues Oct 14, 2014 from 8:30 to 12 PM at Spring Mill Manor, 171 Jacksonville Road, Ivyland, PA 18974. FREE event and breakfast will be served. This forum will address issue of integrating care for individuals who experience mental health challenges along with addiction/substance use disorders.

Registration Required. To register, go to the following Survey Monkey link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CODForumOct14

If you have questions about this forum, please contact Elaine Bailiff at embailiff@magellanhealth.com, or 215-504-3908.

2014 Pennsylvania Suicide Prevention Conference “Making a Difference Together”, October 15-16, at the Ramada Inn, State College, 1450 South Atherton Street, State College, PA 16801

A forum for those who share an interest in preventing suicide across the life span, including physicians, psychologists, nurses, social workers, clinicians, educators, and clergy, crisis center staff and volunteers, as well as those who have lost a loved one to suicide or had their own suicidal experiences to meet and share information about suicide, suicidal persons, and the repercussions of suicide.

Costs: Registration $150 plus hotel accommodations at $74 per night plus taxes

To register go to: www.preventsuicidepa.org/annual-conference

Employment Resource Fair- Thursday October 23, 2014 from 12:00pm until 4:00pm in Penn Foundation's Univelst conference room, Penn Foundation 807 Lawn Ave, Sellersville, PA 18960.

Various vendors to provide resource information re: obtaining employment, employment supports, employment benefits counseling, furthering education, volunteering, accessing transportation, and more.

Sponsored by: Bucks County Department MH/DP and the Bucks County Mental Health Employment Workgroup

For further information and questions, or if special accommodations are needed, please contact Debbie Liebenow at 215-257-2114.

Connections –Thursday, October 23rd, 2014 - 1:00 - 4:00pm at Penndel Borough Town Hall, 300 Bellevue Ave., Penndel, PA 19047

This is a meeting to bring together a network of local agencies that focus on mental health and alcohol and other drug addictions. Sponsored by: ReachOut Foundation - for information call 215-970-5462

Suicide Talk – Thursday October 23rd, 6 - 8 PM at Penndel Mental Health Center, 205 Cabot Blvd West, Suite 100, Langhorne, PA 19047. This is a FREE community oriented education program exploring issues and attitudes in suicide prevention.

Sponsored by: Youth & Young Adult Subcommittee of the Bucks County Suicide Task Force. Space Limited: RSVP to Emily Ferris Eferris@magellanhealth.com or 215-504-3960 by October 17.

The Loss Project: Sunday October 26, 2014, 1-2 pm, Roosevelt Memorial Park in section R8 by bench & big stone, 2701 Old Lincoln Highway, Trevose, PA 19053. Refreshments following at ReachOut Foundation, 152 Monroe Avenue, Penndel, PA 19047

A memorial ceremony for anyone who has experienced any kind of loss. Individuals may submit a name or thing that they have lost for inclusion in the written program, which will then be read during the ceremony - rofbucks@gmail.com or 215-970-5462.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Health Care Marketplace Town Hall Mtg – Monday Nov 3rd 3-5 pm, at Hopeworx, 1210 Stanbridge St., Suite 600, Norristown, PA. Free event

We want to talk with people who used the Healthcare Marketplace Enrollment process and would be interested in sharing their personal experiences. A survey will be available. Results of the Town Halls and surveys will be shared with policy makers in an effort to make the next enrollment period even more successful for all users of the Marketplace.

Online Survey- Can’t attend the Town Hall? Let your voice be heard: Take the online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/69R65K7

Questions: Contact - Lynn Keltz, Pat Madigan or Ellen Schellenberger at 717 564 4930 or 800 887 6422.

Nov 6th 2014 - 10am to 1pm. Strategic plan stakeholder feedback forum with Dennis Marion, Deputy Secretary of Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) Hopeworx, 1210 Stanbridge Street, Norristown, PA 1940. For info call Penny Johnson at 610-270-3685.


To register: www.surveymonkey.com/s/BucksOpiateUseinTAYNov19

Questions: Elaine Bailiff embailiff@magellanhealth.com or 215-504-3908

PA Veterans Forum: Community and Connections, November 18–19, 2014 at Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey, 604 Station Road, Grantville, PA 17028. Fee: $50 per person However, the first 50 veterans will be allowed to attend free of charge.

For links to event brochure and registration information for to : http://www.drexelmed.edu/Home/OtherPrograms/BehavioralHealthcareEducation/Conferences.aspx

If you have any questions regarding the forum, please call our registrar at 877.243.3033.

DECEMBER EVENTS

PA Forensic Rights and Treatment Conference, December 2–4, 2014 at Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey, 604 Station Road Grantville, PA 17028. Fee: $290 per person.

For links to event brochure and registration information for to : http://www.drexelmed.edu/Home/OtherPrograms/BehavioralHealthcareEducation/Conferences.aspx

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please call our registrar at 877.243.3033.
Southeast Regional CSP

Representatives from the CSP committees from the five southeastern counties of PA (Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware, Philadelphia, and Chester) come together once a month to exchange ideas, and develop CSP goals/projects for the five county region.

All are encouraged and welcome to come:
First Monday of each month from 3 PM - 5 PM
(on the second Monday when the first Monday is a holiday)
Hopeworx, Inc.
1210 Stanbridge Street, Suite 600, Norristown, PA 19401

Resource Highlight

www.OverdoseFreePA.pitt.edu

Bucks County was one of seven Single County Authorities (SCAs) selected to participate in this Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency funded, and Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs supported, grant to develop a website of educational resources regarding overdose. The project is coordinated by the University of Pittsburgh, Program Evaluation and Research Unit-PERU. Allegheny, Blair, Bucks, Butler, Dauphin, Delaware and Westmoreland Single County Authorities (SCAs) partnered on this statewide effort, called OverdoseFreePA.

The overall goals of this project are to reduce overdose and overdose death through increasing community and professional awareness and knowledge. OverdoseFreePA features a speakers bureau, up to date coroner-provided overdose data by county, crisis resources on where to turn in an emergency, and evidence based educational presentation materials.

Inspiration

You've only got three choices in life . . .
Give In
Give Up
Or Give it All You Got

BACK TALK

We want to hear from YOU!

Do you . . . . . . .
♦ have a thought about an article you read in this issue
♦ have an idea about a topic you would like us to cover in the future
♦ have a resource you think we should highlight
♦ want to contribute an article

Then we can’t wait to hear from you. Use our contact info on the back page and tell us your thoughts and ideas.
The community support program is a coalition of all people who are stakeholders of the mental health system. A stakeholder could be a person in treatment and support, their family members, a provider of behavioral health care or any interested community member.

We have monthly meetings where we come together to exchange information and ideas about how to promote recovery and excellence in the delivery of community-based mental health services.

**CSP Vision**

Every person with behavioral health challenges will enjoy the highest quality of life. Quality of life consists of inclusion in community, easy access to and choice of comprehensive treatment services and supports and multiple opportunities to enhance personal growth and recovery.

In order to achieve this vision CSP utilizes guiding principles that identify the way mental health services should be designed, developed and delivered. We use these principles at our meetings as we discuss and evaluate different elements of the community mental health system. We then set goals for the CSP committee in terms of making recommendations/advocating for changes that will positively impact the lives of those with mental health challenges.

**CSP Principles:**

Person Centered/Person Empowered
Culturally Competent
Designed to Meet Special Needs
Community Based/Use Natural Supports
Flexible
Coordinated
Accountable
Strengths Based

Wherever you live you are not too far away from a CSP meeting.

**Upper Bucks CSP Meetings**

2nd Friday each month 10:30 AM - 12 PM
Penn Foundation—Univest Conf Room
807 Lawn Avenue, Sellersville, PA 18960
A.J. Derro 215-869-4722
derroaj444@gmail.com

**Central Bucks CSP Meetings**

1st Wednesday every month 11AM-12:30PM
Lenape Valley Foundation
500 N. West Street, Doylestown, PA 18901
Phil Braun 215-893-5282
philip.braun@lenapevf.org

**Lower Bucks CSP Meetings**

2nd Thursday every month 3-5 PM
Penndel MH Center - Community Room
1517 Durham Rd, Penndel PA 19047
Nancy Scheible 267-269-7882
nscheible@penndelmhc.org

Join our mail/email list

We send out reminders of the CSP meetings, advocacy alerts when there is legislation on mental health issues and info about conferences and trainings.

Send us a letter or email with your information to the address below:

**CSP of Bucks County**

Nancy L. Scheible
CSP Coordinator
2005 Cabot Blvd West, Suite 100
Langhorne, PA 19047
Phone: 267-269-7882   Fax: 267-587-2305
Email: nscheible@penndelmhc.org