

November 2022

Issue 14

Washington County Department of Human Services



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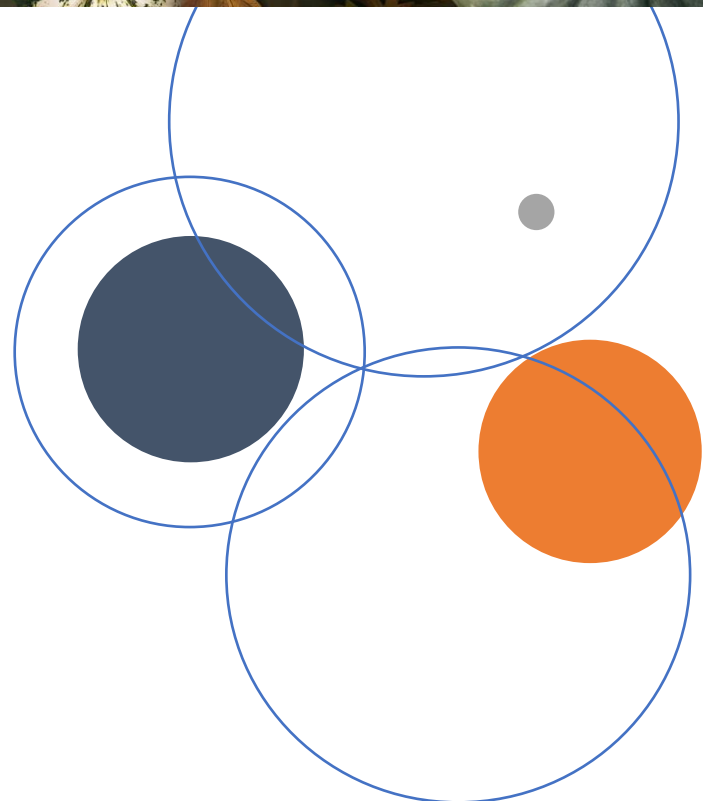
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Upcoming Events



Dates to Remember:

November is:

Adoption Month

Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Week

November 2nd-Pathfinders/Suicide Prevention Task Force Monthly meeting [Click here to join the meeting](#)

November 5th-Community Naloxone (Narcan) Distribution Drive-Thru

November 12th-20th —Hunger and Homelessness Week

November 24th-Happy Thanksgiving

We are now accepting submissions for the December, January, and February newsletter.

Please reach out to Rebecca Salsbury at Rebecca.Salsbury@co.washington.pa.us if you are interested in being a guest columnist or if you know of any upcoming events!



HELPING HANDS
HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE
Benefiting Children & Families
Served by
Washington County
Children & Youth Services

Lend a hand to help a child who has experienced abuse or neglect have a magical holiday!

Gifts needed for children and teens, ages birth to 18 years old.

New rolls of wrapping paper and large gift bags are also needed.

Shop online:

Scan to connect to an Amazon Holiday Wish List to purchase items for a child and ship items directly to the Agency.



Shop in store and drop off new, unwrapped gifts at:

Crossroads Building —
95 W. Beau St.
Collection boxes on the 1st floor
November 1st — December 9th

Washington County
Fairgrounds, Building #4
December 5th 8:30am — 6:30pm

There are many ways to help!

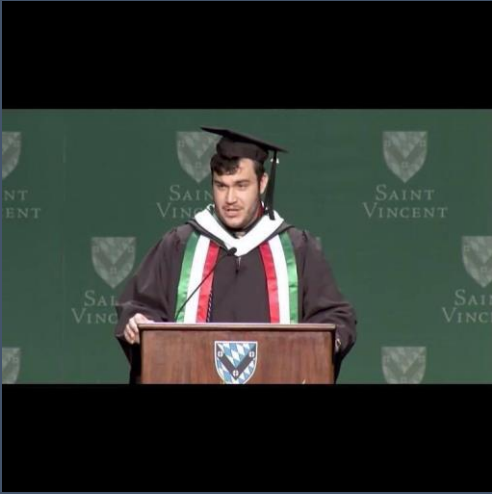
Provide a new gift, host a drive at your office, or coordinate other donations from your family, group, or organization.

Call for more information:

Jane Zupancic: 724-228-6958 or Kate Grant: 724-250-4154

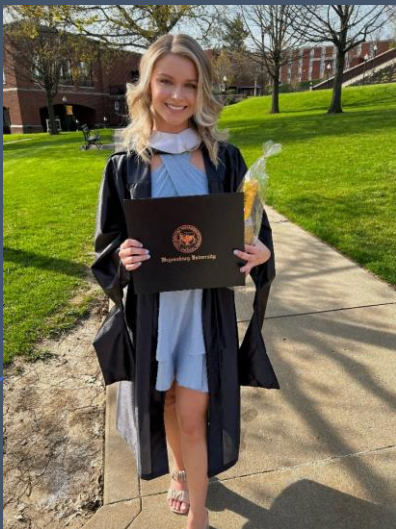
Washington County Children and Youth Services has launched their Helping Hands Holiday Gift Drive benefiting children and families served by Washington County Children & Youth Services. There are many ways to help! Provide a new gift, host a drive at your office, or coordinate donations from your family, group, or organization. For more information contact Jane Zupancic 724-228-6958 or Kate Grant at 724-250-4154

Meet the Faces Behind the Department of Human Services:



Matthew Mascara: Centralized Intake, CIU Director

Matt Mascara started as a human services intake coordinator in June of 2022. In October, he accepted the director position of the centralized intake unit. Matt grew up in the Mon Valley graduating from Belle Vernon Highschool in 2015 and Saint Vincent College in 2019 with a degree in Political Science. Matt has enjoyed being able to play a direct role in assisting residents with needed resources and is excited to continue doing so in his new role. Outside of work he enjoys carrying on his family tradition of wine making and cooking Italian cuisines.



Christine Matson: Care Management Unit, Care Manager

Christine Matson is the Community Based Care Manager focusing on Prevention and Diversion. While she transitioned to the Human Services Department in April of this year, she has worked for Washington County in both the Adult and Juvenile Probation Departments. Her experience will serve her well as she works with those who are under all types of Court Supervision or working on community reentry. While working with these individuals, her goal will be to reduce recidivism, which will in turn help the entire community. Christine grew up in Eighty-Four and graduated from Bentworth High School. She attended Waynesburg University and graduated with her BA in Criminal Justice and Master's in Criminal Investigation. In her free time, Christine loves being outdoors, reading, and spending time with her friends and animals.



Sarah Coss: Care Management Unit, Care Manager

Sarah Coss is a Human Services Community Based Care Manager for Washington County Department of Human Services. Sarah has been with the Care Management Unit since August 2022. Working in the position as a Community Base Care Manager it allows her the opportunity to connect residents to needed services and offer added support with the goal of reducing hospitalizations and improving their overall quality of life. Prior to working for Washington County, Sarah worked at Children's Home Society of West Virginia as a Permanency Social Worker for 4 years. Sarah originally moved to the area from Maryland in August 2013 when she began her undergrad career at Bethany College and later graduated with her Bachelors Degree in Social Work in 2017 while also playing Softball. Following College graduation, Sarah traveled to Africa for a few weeks to participate in Softball games with other collegiate players from the US and to also teach children living in Africa about the game of Softball. When she is not working, Sarah enjoys spending time with family and friends, working out, hiking and traveling.

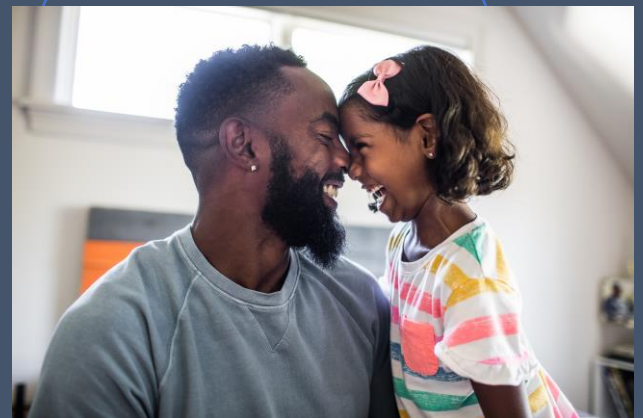
National Adoption Month

Guest Columnist: Kate Grant, Community Engagement Specialist

Our courthouse is beautiful on any given day, but on National Adoption Day it is extra beautiful and filled with so many smiling faces. This year will be no exception as Washington County Children and Youth Services will be celebrating National Adoption Day on November 18, 2022.

The highlight of the event is always the finalizing of adoptions and pictures with the Judge capturing the special day. The families will also enjoy entertainment by a balloon artist and interaction with real life superheroes and Disney Princesses. Refreshments will be served as well as a photo opt area and time to celebrate with everyone that had the privilege of making this day happen.

The families will also have the opportunity to learn of supports and services that are available to families after the finalizing of their adoptions.





Joshua Cendrowski, Senior Clinician



Proud member of the
Partners For Quality
family of agencies

Provider Spotlight Information provided by:

Elizabeth Errickson, LCSW

Director of Family Based Mental Health Services

Allegheny Children's Initiative was established in 1993 by the Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families and Behavioral Health/Office of Intellectual Disabilities Departments to provide case management services for children and adolescents who needed assistance beyond the traditional array of services. Allegheny Children's Initiative teamed up with Citizen Care in March 2000 and expanded its continuum of services and supports to provide interventions to children and families in the home, school and community settings. Allegheny Children's Initiative and Citizen Care are both members of the Partners for Quality family of nonprofit agencies. More information at PFQ.org.

Our goal is to provide children and their families with a renewed sense of hope and value!

In Washington County, Allegheny Children's Initiative provides Family Based Mental Health services that are tailor-made for each child and their family.

Allegheny Children's Initiative is nationally accredited by [The Council on Accreditation](#).

Allegheny Children's Initiative provides behavioral and mental health services to children and adolescents between the ages of 2-21 in Allegheny and Washington Counties. In Allegheny County the array of services consists of Administrative Service Coordination, Blended Service Coordination, Intensive Behavioral Health Services, Family Based Mental Health, Kids' Club and Moms' Empowerment (for women and their children who have experienced intimate partner violence) and Student Assistance Program (in select school districts). In Washington County, Allegheny Children's Initiative provides Family Based Mental Health services.

3402 Washington Road
Suite 203
McMurray, PA 15317

Family Based Mental Health Services (FBMH) are intensive, in-home services for children and adolescents and their families experiencing significant emotional or behavioral issues. The focus of FBMH is to help caregivers care for their children in their homes and prevent out-of-home placement. Services are child-centered, family-focused, and voluntary in nature. Allegheny Children's Initiative's priority is to empower families through a strength-based, systems approach to treatment. FBMH also seeks to extend family and community supports. Services are provided in the home, school, and community.

In 2020 Allegheny Children's Initiative began training our staff in attachment through The Association for Training on Trauma and Attachment in Children (ATTACH). ATTACH is a national and international coalition dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of attachment and its critical importance in human development. Allegheny Children's Initiative staff apply this training to the Family Based Model and incorporate this approach in treatment. This allows us to provide the most comprehensive treatment possible. Our Assistant Director, Susie Brookman, developed the Attachment Training for the Family Based Training Institute in 2021, for the Western Pennsylvania Region. Due to the significance of Attachment Trauma in our families served it has become a fundamental part of all trainings as of 2022; highlighting the importance of how clinicians support relationships within the families served.

Referrals to Family Based Mental Health Services in Washington County are coordinated by Washington County Department of Human Services Behavioral Health and Developmental Services.

For more information about Allegheny Children's Initiative, please contact our Intake Coordinator at 412-431-8006 or aci-intake@PFQ.org

Allegheny Children's Initiative recently participated in Washington County Out of Darkness Community Walk to support and acknowledge ways in which suicide and mental health conditions have touched many lives. As a new Family Based Mental Health provider in Washington County, ACI was excited to be a part of such impactful events.

All leaders throughout Allegheny Children's Initiative will participate in Diversity and Inclusion Awareness training thanks to the efforts of our Family Based Program Supervisor, Auntiko Cook, and Family Based Senior Clinician, Melissa Morris' work with the Partners for Quality Committee for Race, Diversity, and Inclusion.



Sarah Noll, Mental Health Worker



Jenn Johnson, Mental Health Worker

Have a hand
in saving a life!

Community Naloxone (Narcan) Distribution Drive-Thru*

*Instruction on Naloxone Administration will be provided.
*Overdose prevention kits will include Deterra and Dispose Rx (Drug Deactivation Bags), Protective equipment along with additional resources.

Who:

Washington Co. Residents and Concerned Community Members

Location:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
105 Gateshead Drive | McMurray, PA 15317

Date:

Saturday, November 5, 2022

Time:


10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Cost:



FREE!




ADDICTION ISN'T A CHOICE. COMPASSION IS.





TIPPING THE PAIN SCALE




Food Provided by Big Shot Bob's and The Union Grill




REGISTER TODAY! ONLY 65 TICKETS AVAILABLE



SCREENING AT CITY MISSION CHAPEL
84 W WHEELING ST, WASHINGTON, PA 15301
NOVEMBER 7TH STARTING AT 5:30PM FOOD AND
PANEL AT 7:30PM AFTER 15 MINUTE BREAK



DONATE TO CITY MISSION SCAN HERE -->



Community Wellness Fair

Hosted by Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center



Saturday,
November 12



St. Patrick Church
317 West Pike Street
Canonsburg, PA 15317



10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free Health Screenings

- Blood Pressure
- Body Mass Index (BMI)
- Glucose
- Hearing
- Oral
- Skin
- Vision

- Consultations with medical professionals available.
- Free prescription glasses available for order.
- Free hearing aid while time and supplies permit. Must reserve appointment - Call 412-456-6931.

ccpgh.org

