

JUNE/JULY 2018

Volume 1, Issue 2



# FCFC NEWSLETTER

## FAYETTE COUNTY FAMILY COUNCIL

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6/2 CONNELLSVILLE COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE, YOUGH RIVER PARK 6P-9P
- 6/2 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, 3RD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 425 UNION ST, UNIONTOWN 3P-7P
- 6/4-6/8 UNIONTOWN LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM 11A-8P
- 6/9 CONNELLSVILLE SUMMER CELEBRATION CONCERT, WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 6P-8:30P
- 6/11 LION'S FEST, BUD MURPHY'S BANQUET CENTER, 5P-9P
- 6/15 SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS NIGHT AT PNC PARK, TICKETS ARE \$42-23 EA, 7P COUPON CODE:STOPSUICIDE

## DADS MATTER

With Father's Day coming up this June 17th. We should take a moment and thank all the hardworking, dedicated and compassionate fathers in our wonderful community.

What better way than to shine a light on a wonderful service offered by the Private Industry Council just for fathers.

DADS MATTER is geared to help all fathers who are under and unemployed. They receive not only professional skills, job placement and on the job training; but life skills, communica-

tion skills, parenting skills and money management skills.

DADS MATTER is also creating a support system of men who understand the many issues within our community that they are faced with daily. Their motto is *"Every dad is a good dad, we are trying to make you better."*

There are no income restrictions or barriers for dad's to enter this program. Only that your youngest child be no older than 24 years old. Father

figures (granddads, uncles, step-fathers, mentors) are also encouraged to join.

Sessions are held in Monessen, Greensburg, Uniontown and Connellsville. Participants are paid for each session they attend and transportation can be provided free of charge through FACT Transportation.

For more information please contact Doug McDonough or Dana Bacha at: DADS MATTER, 112 Commonwealth Dr., Lemont Furnace, PA 15456

## Summer Time Schedule

The Fayette County Family Council meeting times have changed due to the summer break.

There will be no June meeting for both family councils. Meetings will regroup in July.

Meeting times for Fayette County Family Council are as follows:

Uniontown FCFC held at 1:00pm-2:00pm the East

End United Community Center, 150 Coolspring St, Uniontown Pa on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Connellsville FCFC are held at 11am-12pm at the Carnegie Free Library, 299 S Pittsburgh St, Connellsville PA on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

If you would like to have a Family Council come to your area or would like to attend at a later time. Please

contact us. We truly believe in meeting families where they are.

For families who can not attend our meeting please join us in our Facebook group.

We want to hear your feedback and help support you through whatever you may be going through. Your voice does truly make a difference. Let it be heard at our next meeting.

Light refreshments are served at each meeting.

## FAYETTE COUNTY FAMILY COUNCIL

### 20TH CHILDREN'S INTERAGENCY CONFERENCE

"DON'T BE ASHAMED  
OF YOUR STORY. IT  
WILL INSPIRE OTHERS"

#### "WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER"

The 20th Children's Inter-agency Conference "We are Better Together" was held at the Penn Stater Conference Hotel on April 30-May 3, 2018.

Services, organizations and families from all over the state came together to learn and share their experiences, to improve upon services by continuing to partner together to improve outcomes within systems of care.

Keynote speakers, presenters and workshops touched on hundreds of topics from childhood trauma, family empowerment, youth suicide prevention, homelessness among youth, advocacy and bullying prevention to name a few.

Families in attendance participated in discussions, trainings, activities and also presented.

Fayette County presented "Fayette County Transformation = Family and Systems Working Together". Faith Sible, System of Care Coordinator and Advocate Specialist of Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration, Tim Truckenmiller, Senior Supervisor of Adelphoi Village, Roxanne Johnson, System of



Mark VanBibber, Alice Coleman, Tim Truckenmiller receiving the Family Leadership Award

Care- Family Advocate and Adrienne Russell, System of Care -Family Advocate were presenters for Fayette County.

During the presentation the timeline of Fayette County, statistics on poverty and ways families and systems are working together to improve services to create better outcomes for families.

They also told their own personal stories of advocating for their own children and how the

County Leadership Team and the Family Council work together to make sure that families voices are being heard. Great progress has been made by the county having family driven systems of care.

One highlight at the event was that Fayette County's own High Fidelity Wraparound Team, was recognized and awarded the Family Leadership Award.

Kellie Gavran, Program Manager of Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration saw her dream come to light as this team led and coached by Tim Truckenmiller of Adelphoi Village, received the recognition they so well deserved.

The HI-FI team serves families in Fayette County under the direction of FCBHA.

Alice Coleman, Facilitator II, Maryann Smith-Facilitator II, Mark VanBibber-Family Support Partner II and Erica Johnson-Youth Support Partner I have been empowering families and youth throughout the county by helping them achieve the goals the families set forth and by supporting them as they plan for a future with positive outcomes.



- 6/16 TEAMHUMANITY GAMES, BROWNSVILLE, 8A-5P
- 6/17 FATHER'S DAY
- 6/18-6/22 DUNBAR COMMUNITY LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM
- 6/23 AMERICAN CANCER SOC. RELAY 4 LIFE VENDON-CRAFT SHOW, PENN-STATE -FAYETTE CAMPUS 10A-3P
- 6/26 POWER OF PARENTS-PARENT WORKSHOP, MHA BUILDING 2:30P
- FARMER'S MARKET DISTRIBUTION DAY, COMMUNITY ACTION, 9A-
- 4P6/15 SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS NIGHT AT PNC PARK, TICKETS ARE \$42-23 EA, 7P
- 7/4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
- 7/6 CHRISTMAS IN JULY, UNIONTOWN YMCA, \$15 A TICKET, 2PM
- 7/26-31 FAYETTE CO FAIR, FAYETTE CO FAIR GROUNDS

FAYETTE COUNTY FAMILY COUNCIL

## Fayette County Youth Commission

### Volunteers Needed

“The Fayette County Youth Commission, sponsored by the Fayette County Juvenile Probation Office is seeking new volunteers.

The Youth Commission is a group of volunteers whose purpose is to assist the Juvenile Court in processing, disposition, and supervision of children between 10 and 18 years of age who have been referred to the Juvenile Court for the commission of first time, minor offenses.

This program is to assist the youth to learn from their



mistakes and reduce the stigma of being on probation.

Volunteer requirements are as follows: Supervise low-level offenders, maintain accurate records, maintain attendance at trainings and meetings, agree to a six month commitment to

Youth Commission, 21 years of age, obtain a criminal, child abuse and FBI clearance (they will be reimbursed).

This is a great opportunity for criminal justice majors, building upon your resume and anyone looking to make a positive impact on our community's youth.

For more information please contact Janine King at 724-430-1223 ext. 424”

Source: “*Volunteers Needed*” Fayette County Youth Commission.2018

“BELIEVE YOU CAN AND YOU’RE HALFWAY THERE”  
—T. ROOSEVELT

## Fayette County Leadership Team Updates

“The goal of the Fayette County Leadership Team (CLT) is to gather youth, families and system partners to work together toward effective service intervention for youth and families in our community.”

At the May 10, 2018 CLT meeting, guest speaker Shannon Branthoover, Certified Youth Peer Specialist of SPHS, spoke on her role as a youth peer specialist within the county. Shannon has also agreed to have her voice heard on the CLT as a Youth Partner.

Tri-Chair nominations and voting were held at this time.

*“The purpose of the Tri-Chair position is to support the activities of the Fayette County Leadership Team in order to implement the mission and vision of the PA System Of Care Partnership.”*

The CLT’s newly elected Tri-Chair 2018-2019: Melissa Hunter (System Partner), Adrienne Russell (Family Partner), and Rachael Schiefelbein/ Erica Johnson (Shared role- Youth Partner) . Congratulations ladies.

There will be no meetings in June or August.

The next CLT meeting will be

held July 12, 2018 from 11:30am-1:00pm at the Fayette Health Center.



**KEYWORD OF THE DAY**

**Extended School Year Program (ESY)- An IEP developed for the summer months in order to help a child keep up with the progress he or she has made during the school year.**

## FAYETTE COUNTY FAMILY COUNCIL

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Join us in our  
Facebook Group!

YOUR VOICE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

*We are a group of families sharing our concerns and experiences with county services. These county services may include...*

- Behavioral Health
- Juvenile Probation
- Drug & Alcohol
- Education
- Children and Youth Services
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Or any other Fayette County Child Serving System

*The FCFC works together with county professionals to improve and achieve positive outcomes in system services. We do this by...*

- Supporting each other
- Sharing our stories and experiences
- Participating in trainings and outreach events
- Advocating for families
- Using our voices to make a difference



## Featured Council Member -Mrs. Betty Saunders

Mrs. Betty Saunders is a Fayette County Family Council Uniontown member, County Leadership Team-Family Partner, advocating for herself, grandchildren and families in the community.



Mrs. Betty Saunders, family council member, CLT Family Partner, grandmother and advocate.

**Question.** Have you always been an advocate in the community?

**Answer.** Yes, I have because as a senior I feel it is my duty to be concerned about the young adults and to offer support and understanding for what they are going through as young adults.

**Question.** How has the FCFC helped your voice bring about change in your community?

**Answer.** I learned about many different services that agencies can provide that I wasn't aware of. I can pass that information on to other families with different problems.

**Question.** Can you tell us how your experience within the CLT and FCFC has helped not only yourself but others?

**Answer.** My experience has been that the meetings have allowed me to have a voice with county and other partners. I found out that we may be from different communities, but we all have the same problems.

**Question.** What have you learned while working with the County Leadership Team?

**Answer.** I learned what each agency does and not to be afraid to ask questions. I have gotten to know people personally in the agencies and now I can put a face with the name.

**Question.** Do you have any encouraging words for new families coming to the Fayette County Family Council meetings?

**Answer.** Absolutely! If you don't attend the meetings you will never know what is going on in the county. And also the services and knowledge that are available to improve your family. You can give that knowledge to families and grandchildren. I am happy to be apart of the Family Council and County Leadership Team.