



EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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Operation Sticker Shock



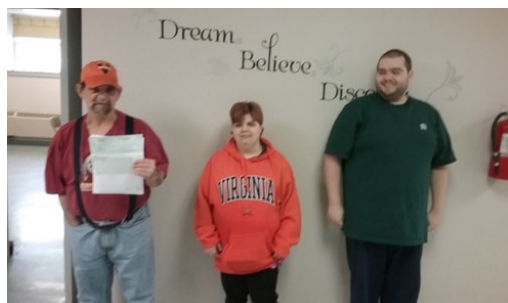
Allegheny Highlands Community Services, Allegheny Highlands Healthy Youth Coalition and Allegheny County Sheriff's Office have partnered to implement a Project Sticker Shock in our community. The event began at the Exxon on South Durant Road in Covington, VA. Sticker Shock, is a youth led prevention program. It is designed to support existing, and encourage new community activism, cooperative efforts, and community capacity building to combat underage drinking and its related problems, specifically adults providing alcohol to minors.

"Project Sticker Shock" seeks to reach those persons 21 years of age or older who might illegally purchase alcohol and provide it to minors. Youth will visit participating retailers accompanied by the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, members from the Allegheny Highlands Healthy Youth Coalition and Allegheny Highlands Community Services. They will place prevention stickers on multi-packs of beer, wine coolers and other alcohol products that might appeal to underage drinkers. The stickers display a warning message about the penalties for purchasing or providing alcohol to minors.

The project represents a partnership between youth, licensed establishments, parents and community members, prevention professionals, and law enforcement with the goal of educating persons 21 and older of the underage law and raising public awareness about underage drinking.

Retail partners participating included Petticoat Junction, One Stop Mart - Clifton Forge, The Rusty Hinge - Iron Gate, The Snak Shak, BP Fast Break - Clifton Forge, Whitey's One Stop and Stop In Exxon (Excerpt from Highlands Media Group's Facebook page).

Lifeskills Recycles



Life Skills has been recycling aluminum cans. The group took the cans to the Recycling Center for the first time. They saved 76 pounds of aluminum from going into the landfill and received reimbursement that will go toward community events.

Meet the Faces:

Merryfield

Kadie Charles

DS Case Management

Teresa Ayers

In-Home

Kristen Pauley

Lifeskills

Vanessa Phillips

Peer Support

Rick Martin

Friendship

Linda Nadirashvili

Skillbuilding

Betty Cash



Jennifer Jarvis

Jennifer has worked diligently to arrange, coordinate and negotiate opportunities, activities and discounts for the individuals we serve. One of the best ones has been attending free movies! Jennifer's creativity and dedication is appreciated. She is always looking for ways to enhance the individual's experience and puts forth great time and care when doing so.

Teresa Ayers

Teresa recently spent several days during the Easter holiday weekend coordinating and supporting an individual that needed extra assistance. We know that all of our Case Managers jump in when needs arise and this was a great example of going above and beyond to be there for the individual when the needs arose outside of typical work schedules.

Gloria Humphries & Wanda Nugent

Gloria and Wanda spent time recently completing an organization overhaul at the Admin Office. Both of them worked hard to disseminate items to other areas in the Agency that may be able to use them and helped the office become more efficient. There are always areas that collect things that we are hoping to get cleaned up and organized, but they made it happen! Thanks ladies!

Clubhouse News



April and May were eventful months with all the beautiful weather we have been enjoying. In April, Clubhouse enjoyed a picnic at Douthat State Park. On a Saturday program in April, five members and Clubhouse Supervisor Robbie Lawson attended a fishing outing at Odd Fellows Fishing Club. Each member was given a free pole and caught 6 fish each. The members of the fishing club cleaned all of the fish so everyone could take them home to fry them up for dinner. Soapy Club car wash is going great and more and more members are participating. We have almost completed round 1 of washing all the vehicles in the Agency. If any of the other program vehicles are in need of a good cleaning just give us a call at the Clubhouse! In May Clubhouse enjoyed watching a Salem Red Sox baseball game. Mugsy, the mascot, came and met many of our members. Clubhouse also attended a Picnic at AET in which members enjoyed a whiffle ball game, corn hole, a friendly game of family feud and some good fried chicken. Clubhouse is also excited to announce one of our members had artwork chosen to be on display at a gallery in Northern Virginia as part of the Art of Recovery exhibit. Congratulations to her with her beautiful drawing "Sitting Fox" (pictured left). Coming up in June and July Clubhouse has two picnics and a putt-putt outing planned. If you know of anyone who could benefit from our services, send them on down!



Alcohol Awareness Month

On April 18th, 2019, Allegheny Highlands Community Services and Allegheny Highlands Healthy Youth Coalition partnered together to host an Alcohol Awareness Month Event. The event was held at Covington High School and included three presenters, information booths from community partners (pictured left), and interactive stations.

Hope Hugus, one of the presenters, delivered a tear jerking recall of her life altering encounter with a drunk driver. Hope was involved in an accident where the driver of the vehicle she was riding in was intoxicated. Hope sustained severe injuries and underwent months long rehab and suffers from memory loss today. Tracey Heidleberg, our second presenter, spoke about her time in recovery, how Allegheny Highlands Community Services has helped her, and her journey to becoming a Peer Specialist. Lindsey Livesay, our final presenter, offered information about what services the CSB offers and how to get help.

Overall, the event was a huge success! The Virginian Review was able to do an article about the event that made the front page of the local newspaper. Six community partners set up information booths. The State Police brought their DUI simulator. Drunk goggles were available, and the program Intox-o'clock, which shows you the effects of drinking and BAC level, was available to the community.



Developmental Services partnered with REACH of the Western Region to host a training titled "Traumatic Brain Injuries and Co-occurring Intellectual Disabilities". Dr. Adam Kaul, (MD) and Katie Howell, (MSW) shared a wealth of information to help support individuals with traumatic brain injuries.

From the Executive Director

As we approach the close of another fiscal year, I cannot help but let you know how proud I am of this agency. We have worked tirelessly and continue to do so on Department of Behavioral Health initiatives such as CIT, Step-VA, DOJ, Virginia Waiver Management System WaMS, Timekeeping, etc. As I reflect on the past fiscal year, we have had meetings, deadlines, and more meetings to ensure that we meet the requirements and guidelines that have been placed on our teams. I just want to personally thank **all** of our employees for **all** that you do to make AHCS a success. A special thank you our administrative team for your continued support and for your diligence in managing and protecting the agency's resources, even when challenged, your efforts are of immeasurable value.

Ingrid

Calendar

June

- 4 - CPR/First Aid (Full)
- 7 - TOVA (Refresher)
- 10 - Mental Health First Aid
- 13 - CPR/First Aid (Blended)
- 13 - VALIC Meetings
- 15 - Pay Day
- 20 - VRS Hybrid Seminar
- 26 - New Hire Orientation
- 28 - 15 Passenger Defensive Driving
- 28 - Pay Day

July

- 1 - TOVA (New Hire)
- 4 - Independence Day (Agency Closed)
- 5 - Pay Day
- 8 - TOVA (Refresher)
- 16 - CPR/First Aid (Full)
- 19 - Pay Day
- 25 - CPR/First Aid (Blended)
- 31 - New Hire Orientation

August

- 2 - Pay Day
- 2 - TOVA (Refresher)
- 9 - Mental Health First Aid
- 16 - Pay Day
- 20 - TOVA (New Hire)
- 28 - New Hire Orientation
- 30 - Pay Day

MAY YOU BE PROUD
OF THE WORK YOU DO
THE PERSON YOU ARE
AND THE DIFFERENCE
YOU MAKE