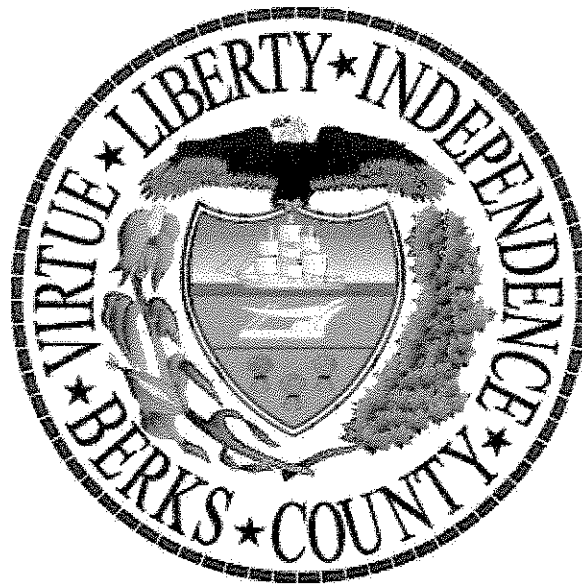


Berks County Human Services Plan



Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair

Kevin S. Barnhardt, Commissioner

Mark C. Scott, Esq., Commissioner

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

On September 10, 2012, a public meeting was held by the Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Program (MH/DD) regarding the Human Services Block Grant. There were 40 participants.

On September 27, 2012, a public meeting was held by Children and Youth Services (CYS) regarding the Human Services Block Grant. There were 15 participants.

On October 9, 2012, a public meeting was held by the Single County Authority (SCA), Council On Chemical Abuse (Berks SCA) regarding the Human Services Block Grant. There were 18 participants.

On October 16, 2012, a public meeting was held by BERKS SCA regarding the Human Services Block Grant. There were 11 participants.

On October 25, 2012, a public meeting was held by the County Commissioners regarding the Human Services Block Grant. There were 54 participants.

WAIVER

Berks County will not be requesting a waiver beyond the 20% flexibility that is included within the Human Services Block Grant Plan. The 10% reduction in funding has resulted in a decrease of \$1,389,047 which must be calculated into service delivery by the County. This is based on a reduction of \$1,233,760 in MH/DD funding, \$19,711 in Human Services Development Funding (HSDF), \$50,652 in Homeless Assistance Program (HAP), \$45,142 in Behavioral Health Services Initiative (BHSI), \$39,782 in Act 152 funding.

COUNTY PLANNING TEAM AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

In conjunction with the Board of Commissioners, the following Department Heads have been involved in the appointment of the Planning Team: Dr. Edward B. Michalik (MH/DD), Robert N. Williams, Juvenile Probation Office (JPO), George M. Kovarie (CYS), George J. Vogel Jr. (SCA-Berks SCA), and Mary L. Henry-Moss (Human Services Coordinator).

The Planning Team consists of Wolf Hrabyk (MH/DD-Adults), Michele Ruano-Weber (MH/DD-Children), Sheila Arnold (MH/DD Fiscal Officer), Sheila Bressler, Child and Adolescent Service System Program, (CASSP), Tiffany Bachert (MH/DD Fiscal Manager), Jeffrey Gregro (JPO), Wendy Seidel (CYS), Michele Fronheiser (CYS Fiscal Operations Officer), Stan Papademetriou (Berks SCA), Kathleen Noll (Berks SCA), Jennifer Wang (Berks SCA Fiscal Manager), and Mary Henry-Moss (Human Services Coordinator).

Many of these same members worked together during the Integrated Children's Services Plan process. This group will act diligently to identify additional participants based upon the constituency of each organization.

HUMAN SERVICES NARRATIVE

BERKS COUNTY INTEGRATED PROJECTS

Student Assistance Program (SAP) Assessments—Berks County was awarded a Mental Illness Substance Abuse (MISA) Project in the mid 2000's. As a result, the County MH/DD Program has the SCA manage the SAP money related to mental health. Providers are expected to be dually licensed in an effort to provide non-duplicated services to families and youth.

Project Search—Berks County has participated with The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Berks County Intermediate Unit regarding the implementation of a Project Search Program. The local Project Search is housed within a local manufacturing company. This program allows students with disabilities in their last year of high school to receive training and work experience in a variety of functions within the manufacturing setting with hopes that by graduation they will have gained work skills that give them a competitive edge in the market.

Disaster Crisis Outreach Team—Berks County has a cross discipline team with representatives from Aging, CYS, MH and the District Attorney's Victim Witness Program as members of this mental health response team. Training on Psychological First Aid and Death Notification was offered to the First Responders.

Outpatient Mental Health Satellite Programs—Berks County has partnered with a total of 7 school districts that encompass 33 school buildings to bring mental health treatment to children and their families in the school setting. In addition, a partnership with JPO has resulted in an outpatient satellite at the Detention Center in an effort to divert youth with mental illness from the Juvenile Justice System into the Mental Health System.

Project Lifesaver—This is a collaborative effort between the Berks County MH/DD, the Berks County Sheriff's Office, and the Greater Reading Mental Health Alliance. The project, which trains local law enforcement, uses electronic equipment to locate missing persons. The target population is individuals with Intellectual Development Disabilities including Autism.

Berks Early Care and Education Council (BECEC)—This is a community based organization made up of parents, local agencies, businesses, and individuals interested in the field of early intervention. It is the Advisory Group that provided input into the planning and implementing of early childhood services at the local level.

Mental Health Forensic Diversion Services—Berks County seeks to prevent or reduce the number of unnecessary incarcerations of mentally ill individuals who pose no risk to the community. Meeting this goal requires a significant amount of collaboration with the criminal justice system including District Judges, District Attorney, Public Defender, Adult Parole/Probation, Law Enforcement and Judges. Options other than incarceration are offered that include support services such as housing as well as treatment. There have been more than 400 diversions since the implementation of this program in January of 2012.

Treatment Court—Treatment Court was developed to address the needs of both substance abusers and/or mentally ill defendants. This service allows consumers to remain in the community and obtain needed services including clinical care. The court has taken a

therapeutic approach and makes certain that the consumer follows through with recommendations made by the treatment court team that includes the clinical provider as well as case management.

Law Enforcement Training-Berks County MH/DD provides yearly training to Berks County Law Enforcement Agencies on issues pertaining to the mentally ill consumer. Topics range from understanding mental illness to de-escalation techniques. It may be noted that the MH/DD Program sits on the Board of the Criminal Justice Advisory Board which allows us to assess the needs of the criminal justice system in Berks County.

Community Reentry Program-The Community Reentry Program is another service that was developed and implemented through collaborative efforts of the criminal justice system (including The Berks County Jail System, Judges, and Adult Probation/Parole), the County Commissioners, Berks SCA and the MH/DD Program. The goal of the program is to work with individuals by providing them with needed services such as treatment, job training, and housing resources prior to their release from prison. It is believed that providing the necessary care and preparation will result in a successful transition back to the community.

Aging Liaison-Berks County MH/DD continues to work collaboratively with the Area Agency on Aging in serving the elderly population suffering from mental illness. A liaison exists between our respective programs in addressing service needs of elderly consumers. Our systems are also designed to provide joint home visits to assess service needs or to perform outreach/crisis services.

Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)-FGDM was implemented in Berks County in 2008. We have been successful in implementing this practice for families involved in multiple systems including CYS, JPO, and MH/DD and other social service offices have provided educational information during conferences as well. This evidenced based program continues to be offered to all human service systems with which CYS interfaces.

The Children's Alliance Center (CAC)-The CAC was established in 2004 through Opportunity House to provide services to abused children and their families. They provide forensic interviews, forensic medical examinations and case management services. The Center partners with Berks County CYS, the PA State Police, the Berks County District Attorney's Office, Mental Health Professionals, and members of the Medical Community to provide these services. Due to this collaboration, children who have been abused or neglected receive all needed services in one centralized location. In addition, HSDF provides funding for a forensic interviewer position at the CAC.

Be Wise About Human Services" Training Event – This event is made possible through collaboration between the Public Utility Commission, First Energy, UGI and numerous local human service providers. This free, one day training provides an opportunity for networking as well as information to county case workers about local human services and utility education. Last year the event drew 230 case workers from approximately 28 different human service agencies. The estimated portion to HSDF for this project is \$1,300 for fiscal year 2012/13.

Child Welfare Conference-HSDF provides funding to Berks County CYS for their annual "Operation Safe Kids" training conference for case workers, parents, educators and police members. Speakers include Clinical Counselors, Legal Coordinators, Mental Health Counselors and local Criminal Investigators. The event draws approximately 150

participants from Berks and surrounding counties. The estimated portion to HSDF for this project is \$200 for fiscal year 2012/13.

Integrated Data Management System – Through funding from the Integrated Children’s Services Plan as well as other sources, the County has created an integrated data management system that extracts data on a weekly basis from the following County Departments: MH/DD, HealthChoices, CYS, JPO, Adult Probation Office, Area Agency on Aging, and the Jail. A user of this system can use this data for client specific information or aggregate reports.

2-1-1 - Through funding from the Integrated Children’s Services Plan, Berks County United Way and the Berks County Community Foundation, Berks County residents now have an easy to remember phone number that can connect them to necessary health and human services. Certified call specialists at United Way of Lancaster LINC information and referral service serves as our regional call center.

CYS/DD Transition Age Youth Meetings – Twice a year, case management staff from MH/DD and CYS meet along with the CASSP Coordinator to review the youth who are identified as having a developmental disability and under the care of the court. Current services and transition plans are reviewed and discussed which helps to improve communication and coordination between agencies.

Family Advisory Committee – The purpose of the Berks County Family Advisory Committee is to advise the Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) Departments (MH/DD, CYS, JPO, and Berks SCA) on the development and implementation of integrated services for children and families. This committee is comprised solely of family members, meets every other month, and is supported by all the CASSP Departments.

CASSP Coordinator position – The CASSP Coordinator is funded and supported by the MH/DD, CYS, JPO and the Berks SCA. The CASSP Coordinator represents all these County Departments and provides neutral coordination services to youth and families.

Human Services Training – Provided on a quarterly basis, this training is for new county employees as well as community agencies and family members. Thirteen (13) different Court and County human service departments present a brief overview of the services they provide, highlighting how all the entities coordinate and work together. 1100 people have attended the training since it began in 2003.

Parent Partner Coordinator – The Parent Partner Coordinator is a parent who has personal experience with services and agencies that serve children. The Coordinator serves as a mentor for parents, provides referral and resource information, assists parents in building a support system for themselves and their children and serves as a bridge between child serving systems and families. The position is supported by MH/DD, Berks SCA and Community Care Behavioral Health.

Berks County Transition Coordinating Council - The Berks County Transition Coordinating Council (BCTCC) is a partnership of consumers, students and their families, educators, service providers, employers, post-secondary institutions and the Berks County community. BCTCC meets bi-monthly during the school year. The mission of BCTCC is to plan and facilitate the successful movement of students with disabilities from school programs to adult life. The goal of BCTCC is for each student with a disability to achieve his/her maximum potential for inclusion in all aspects of adult life.

Berks Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc. – The Coalition is a public and private partnership that prevents, reduces, and ends homelessness through a comprehensive coordination of innovative solutions and quality programs. Over 60 agencies, businesses, County Departments and individuals all work together toward preventing, reducing, and ending homelessness in Berks County. The Coalition has been designated by Housing and Urban Development as the Collaborative Applicant and lead agency for our local Continuum of Care Grant funding.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative – Started as a focus of prevention through the Integrated Children’s Services Plan process, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative has continued to assess the resources and needs in Berks County. The workgroup is comprised of representatives from the education system, community and county agencies, and consumers.

School Based Probation Services- Juvenile Probation officers are assigned to Reading, Exeter, Wilson, Governor Mifflin and Muhlenberg High Schools, where they spend approximately 80% of their workweek. On average, these probation officers supervise 120-140 offenders. This program is a long standing collaboration between the Berks JPO and local school districts. The goals of this unit are to improve school attendance and academic performance and decrease disciplinary referrals.

Shared Case Responsibility- Shared case responsibility is collaboration between Berks CYC and Berks County JPO. This program is in place to assist children and families who exhibit both dependent and delinquent characteristics. The two agencies have designed a protocol to “share” cases identified, through assessment, as needing services from both agencies.

Evening Reporting Center- Both Creating Lasting Family Connections (CLFC) and Project Toward No Drugs (PTND) are provided at the Berks County JPO’s Evening Reporting Center through collaboration with the Berks SCA. A grant was received by BERKS SCA to deliver both services to this high risk/need population. CLFC is intended to improve family relationships and PTND is a Blueprint for Violence Prevention Program targeting adolescents. The goal is to discourage and reduce the use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

Twin Peaks – This program is a 10 year collaboration between the Berks SCA and MH/DD. This specialized program provides 8 beds for homeless, adult men with a co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorder. Twin Peaks offers a safe, supportive living environment and is staffed by trained professionals who possess knowledge and understanding of both mental health and drug and alcohol disorders. The program assists participants in reaching core goals, including obtaining stable housing, securing a source of income and maintaining a recovery lifestyle.

SAM/TASC Co-location – For over a decade, Service Access and Management, Inc. (SAM), the Berks County Mental Health Base Service Unit, and Treatment Access and Services Center (TASC), the Berks County Drug and Alcohol Central Intake Unit have been located in the same building in center city Reading. This co-location allows individuals with both mental health and substance abuse diagnosis to receive appropriate assessment and referral services to integrated care.

Berks County Jail – For over twenty years the Berks Single County Authority has funded drug and alcohol services at the Berks County Jail. Currently these services include: screening all inmates to determine need for services; addiction awareness intervention

discussion groups, outpatient treatment services, early recovery support services and comprehensive drug and alcohol assessments for the Berks County Court. All services are provided by a community-based treatment provider licensed by the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Program (MH/DD) uses the state allocations to offer an array of services to consumers ranging from clinical care to 24/7 crisis services for children and adults.

Adults: Berks County MH/DD has a total of 62 beds available at Wernersville State Hospital for individuals requiring this level of care. Due to efforts made by our system to divert individuals from requiring long term inpatient care at the state hospital, over half of the individuals in acute care inpatient settings who require state hospitalization per hospital treatment team, are diverted and returned to the community with proper supports and follow up treatment. Berks County MH/DD consistently has a small waiting list for admission to Wernersville.

A formal discharge process exists for all Wernersville State Hospital consumers who are returning to the community. Planning involves a team approach consisting of the hospital treatment team, MH/DD's hospital liaison, and providers offering services such as transitional housing. The goal is to provide the necessary services to meet the needs of an individual so that transition proves to be a positive experience.

Services that are available to all consumers including individuals from Wernersville State Hospital include the following:

- Mosaic House – Club House Model offering vocational/social supports
- The Drop In Center offering social as well as daily living skills
- Housing Services
- Blended Case management if applicable
- A choice of more than 14 providers offering an array of clinical services
- Vocational and Employment Services
- Crisis Services available 24/7

There are 47 consumers who participate in the CHIPP Program (Community Hospital Integration Project Program). A continuum of care is offered to these individuals ranging from independent living to receiving supports in a community home. For information regarding Forensic Projects for Adults, refer to the Berks County Integrated Projects Section of this Plan.

Berks County MH/DD provides an array of forensic services to consumers including Treatment Court and Forensic Diversion. We also provide training and consultation to court personnel as well as law enforcement. We have a forensic case management team in place that monitors mentally ill consumers at the Berks County Jail. One essential task of the forensic case managers is to ensure proper planning prior to the consumer's release from prison. Discharge planning involves working with the consumer, prison officials, adult parole (if applicable), community

treatment providers, public assistance and others to make sure that services are or will be in place when discharge occurs.

Berks County MH/DD noted in the Human Services Narrative that we implemented a Diversion Program to reduce and/or prevent unnecessary incarcerations of mentally ill consumers. This project was implemented in collaboration with the Berks Connections/Pretrial Services (BCPS) formerly known as the Prison Society. MH/DD is funding a mental health professional position that is directly employed by BCPS and mutually supervised by both BCPS and MH/DD.

Another program that is currently in the implementation phase is a transitional housing resource for individuals who have come in contact with law enforcement and/or district judges. Diversion is often considered if the individual has a place to stay. This has also held true for individuals in jail who could be released as long as housing supports are available. A local provider with experience in dealing with forensic consumers is currently working on establishing a 3 to 4 bed capacity house.

Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Program obtains information and data from a variety of sources to determine consumer needs. MH/DD collects information on a regular basis that captures a wide range of information including hospitalizations, number of intakes, the number of individuals utilizing crisis services, and the number of consumers in the county jail. Having that information provides us with which services are utilized, to what extent, and what services require an increase in funding in order to meet demand. MH/DD also obtains information from other sources as well including:

- Other departments within the county system such as the criminal justice system and children services
- The provider network (MH/DD has ongoing meetings with the providers)
- Advocacy agencies including the Greater Reading Mental Health Alliance (formerly known as the Mental Health Association) and the Association for Retarded Citizens.
- Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (OMHSAS) also provides information and feedback about Best Practices. In fact, OMHSAS has encouraged counties to implement Competitive Employment as a service for consumers. Berks County MH/DD did implement a competitive employment program last February and will continue the program this fiscal year. To date 6 consumers have obtained employment. The target for this year is 20 new referrals as well as those individuals who are already receiving job coaching or are working competitively. MH/DD will review this program for its cost effectiveness by February of 2013.

The program anticipates an average of 584 individuals that will need targeted case management support that is not covered by Medical Assistance.

Children-Berks County offers a comprehensive array of behavioral health services and supports to children and their families. A portion of these services are funded under the HealthChoices Program. The remaining services are funded directly from the Human Services Block Grant base funding.

Berks County has been a long time advocate of respite for families often requesting and receiving additional funding from the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

(OMHSAS). This is in addition to a HealthChoices respite plan for children as well as adults. In total, there were 81 children served between the two funding streams.

The Parent Partner Advocacy Program served a total of 44 parent/family members. A majority of these families needed assistance with navigating the Special Education System for their child.

Currently, there are a total of 60 children in Residential Treatment (RTF) and 19 in Individualized Residential Treatment (IRT). Given the fact that most of these children meet the criteria for Serious Mental Illness (SMI), HealthChoices will cover their treatment expenses. In addition, there is an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team that works specifically with youth/young adults, age 16-26.

Coordination with the Adult Mental Health system is critical for youth aging out of the system. Efforts are made with Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation as stated in the Berks County Integrated Projects section of this plan.

Monies in this category of funding also include Student Assistance Programming for the 18 school districts within the County. Refer to the Berks County Integrated Projects section of this plan for further detail.

Psychosocial groups for Latino Youth are delivered in the local school district for children considered at risk for developing mental health concerns.

Outpatient evaluations and treatment of youth detained are covered as an effort to divert youth from the criminal justice system. Refer to the Berks County Integrated Projects section of this plan for further detail. A total of 297 youth received treatment through this outpatient satellite site.

In addition, money is set aside to cover Administrative Management, Blended Case Management, Out-Patient and Family Based Services for children who do not qualify for Medical Assistance funding.

The total duplicated count for this section is 7,286 and the total expenditures anticipated is \$9,984,134.

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICES

The Intellectual Disabilities Services in Berks County serves approximately 1,685 individuals as of this writing. A majority of these individuals receive multiple services resulting in an estimated duplicated count of individuals served in 2012-2013 of 2,975 (See Appendix B). There are a significant number of individuals that qualify for the Prioritization of Urgency of Needs for Services (PUNS) Category of Critical (223) as well as the PUNS Category of Emergency (157). Of those 157 with Emergency PUNS status, 30 individuals reside with an Aging Caregiver which is categorized as someone over the age of 60. Recent high school graduates who are currently not served or underserved total 29.

All of the base funds will be devoted to the individuals delineated in the prior paragraph to provide emergency residential services (if necessary), respite, in-home supports, vocational

programming, community supports, and accessibility adaptations. In addition, there are a total of 3 individuals that have Person/Family Direct Support Waiver (PFDWS), but the families are over the financial cap. It becomes necessary to supplement services with base monies to continue to ensure the health and safety needs of those individuals.

Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Age Out total for this fiscal year is 1 individual. Semi-annual meetings are sponsored by the County CASSP Coordinator related to any child who will be aging out of the child welfare system. The purpose of these meetings is to coordinate services for the children adjudicated dependent prior to the child's discharge from Children and Youth placement. There are no identified children scheduled to leave care during this fiscal year.

The Program is actively seeking providers for 6 individuals slated to leave State Centers. Of those, 2 individuals were to leave last fiscal year (11-12). However, there were no providers that had the capability to serve those individuals safely. The current census at the Hamburg State Center for Berks County is 15. In addition, there is 1 individual at White Haven.

Berks County does not manage a Health Care Quality Unit (HCQU). There are a total of 155 Independent Monitoring for Quality IM4Q surveys that are expected to be completed this year.

Berks County has actively worked with its Managed Care Organization and the HCQU to provide trainings and Competency Development related to the dually diagnosed MH/DD population. Consultation occurred between the in-patient hospital and the MCO and the next step will be to train outpatient providers on a variety of topics based on a survey that was completed by those providers. The HCQU has successfully provided a 12 module training session for all residential direct care staff regarding mental illness for each provider organization including the SCO.

At the end of 2011, Berks County served 72 people in Lifesharing services, (previously known as Family Living services). In efforts to promote Lifesharing services in Berks County, several steps were planned as part of the Developmental Disabilities Quality Management Plan for the year. The objective for the year is to increase the number of people who receive Lifesharing services by 2 additional people.

At the end of 2011, 82% of the people who had requested Employment services had a referral to the PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) completed within 1 month. To date, 85% of the people who desire Employment services have been referred for OVR Employment services within 1 month of their request for services. Refer to the Berks County Integrated Projects section of this plan for further detail regarding Project Search, an employment project.

The County Program actively remains the Administrative Entity for the waiver programming that occurs. Weekly meetings are scheduled with all staff that has a role in the AE monitoring process. Topics discussed include: SCO Updates, Capacity Management, Risk Management/Positive Practices, Quality Management, Incident Management, IM4Q, Waiver Management, Transfers, and Fair Hearings.

The total duplicated count for this section is 2,975 and the total expenditures anticipated is \$3,488,898.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

RENTAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENT

The Berks Community Action Program, Inc. (BCAP) acts as the sub-grantee for the County of Berks and administers the Housing Assistance Program in accordance with the grant requirements issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. Clients contact BCAP directly or are referred by shelter providers or other social service agencies.

HAP Budget Counselors provide budget counseling and client referrals to other local agencies, as appropriate. Eligibility determination and budget counseling are the primary responsibilities of the HAP budget counselors. It is anticipated to allocate \$206,165 for rental assistance for FY12/13 to serve 800 clients.

Client Outcomes

During fiscal year 2010/11, approximately 50 households were approved for rental assistance to obtain or maintain housing. Of those households roughly 40 or 80% were able to maintain their housing.

HOMELESS CASE MANAGEMENT

Case Management is an all encompassing coordinating service that ensures a client access to needed services. Our service agencies provide budget counseling and client referrals to other local agencies, as appropriate, such as chemical dependency and mental health counseling, parenting skill development, life skills groups, AIDS education and counseling, job search skill development, child care, and most importantly, the ability to provide the client with the necessary linkages to community resources. The key component of the program will be to ensure linkages for the clients with needed services such as job training, educational programs to acquiring GED and coordination with the school district for the children of homeless families. Approximately \$95,629 is allocated for the Case Management portion of HAP for FY12/13 to serve 1,180 clients.

The Aftercare and Follow-up Program facilitates weekly therapy groups, provides individual counseling, and monitors and records client progress after discharge from the YMCA housing programs. All discharged clients, regardless of participation in the counseling component of Aftercare and Follow-up, are contacted at 3 days, 60 days, 6 months and 1 year after they have left the YMCA programs. Support and assistance are offered throughout this period. The individual counseling and weekly therapy groups focus on issues that are of significance to individuals and families in recovery and the challenges of maintaining independence.

The Homeless Teen Mediation program or U-Turn is the only program within the Continuum of Care that addresses the needs of homeless or unaccompanied youth within the ages of 16-24, who are in school and have lost their housing. Housing is secured for teens through mediation with family and host homes as needed. Intensive Case Management is provided to assist a homeless teen in crisis. If funding is not secured to continue this vital service, there are no other alternatives unless a teen has a mental health or drug and alcohol diagnosis. Family Promise is the only point of contact for the 18 school districts within Berks County. They work closely with each school's homeless liaison and the Berks County Intermediate Unit. According to the BCIU

Homeless Student Program, there is at least one homeless student in every district in Berks County.

Client outcomes

Of the clients served, all received budget counseling and approximately 82% were able to maintain current rent payments for at least 90 days. Providers currently utilize the standardized BASIS-32 Outcome Evaluation Tool which includes assessment, education, one on one support, and follow up contact. It is estimated 26 adults and 16 children served for FY 10/11, 100% of those in the program longer than 6 months received entitlement benefits; 84% attended nutrition classes; 86% attended parenting classes; and 97% of those in the program for one year obtained employment or received financial benefits.

The Aftercare Program served a total of 285 clients during FY 11/12. Of those clients, 175 or 61% completed the Aftercare Orientation and are eligible to enroll in the Aftercare Program for individual support sessions. Of that number, 93 clients were involved in the aftercare services with a total of 110 including friends and family members being served.

BRIDGE HOUSING COMPONENT

Bridge Housing is a transitional service that allows clients who are in temporary housing to move to supportive long-term living arrangements while preparing to live independently. Our bridge housing programs offer “safe” affordable transitional housing for those re-entering the community from rehabilitation centers, jail, etc., combined with rehabilitative services. The programs are designed to house individuals from 3 to 9 months with the average length of stay to be approximately 4 months. There is a house manager who is housed on-site and is responsible to maintain the functioning of the house. Additionally, the house has a case manager who is responsible to assess the clients’ life stress problems (especially those which affect their independent living ability) and network the residents with the appropriate services.

The Family Bridge Housing program provides safe and temporary living arrangements for adults with children. They also provide case management and assistance in employment searches, transportation issues, budgeting and tax preparation, finding subsidized child care, and securing housing for adults with children. Families are counseled in life skills and are connected with appropriate social service agencies in the area. They also offer the Berks County Housing Authority’s Next Step Program to families when they leave the program. The Next Step Program offers rental assistance for up to two years provided the family continues their case management with the program for that time period. Approximately \$108,500 is allocated for Bridge Housing for FY12/13 to serve 160 clients.

Client Outcomes

Easy Does It served 19 clients during FY 10/11. Of these clients, approximately 80% achieved the goals of maintaining abstinence, move on to a more stable living environment including transitional and permanent housing as well as finding suitable employment toward greater stability and independence.

The Family Bridge Housing Program in the fiscal year 10/11 graduated 15 families from the program. Follow up at one year, all or 100% achieved the goal of securing safe, stable and affordable, independent housing post graduation.

Men's Bridge Housing Program during FY 10/11 served 37 clients, of which 97% of the participants who completed the intake process received substance abuse treatment. Upon discharge, 79% of the participants had no relapse into chemical use. Nineteen of the participants who successfully completed the program were due for 12 month follow-up during FY 10/11. Berks SCA was able to contact 3 of these participants and all of them or 100% were sober 12 months post-discharge. Upon discharge, 68% upon discharge were employed or receiving other income benefits and of the 19 clients successful participants, 3 were contacted at 12 month follow-up and all were employed post-discharged; 54% of those participants served had increased their income.

CHILD WELFARE

Berks County Children and Youth will continue to provide an array of services to improve the permanency, safety and well-being of children. Our community and the city of Reading, is distinguished as the fourth poorest city in America, up from number 32 ten years ago; 44% of the 88,000 residents live below the poverty line. Just 8% of its residents have a bachelor's degree, far below the national average of 28%. Only about 63% of Reading's residents have a high school diploma, compared with more than 85% nationally. These demographics have caused unique challenges in our county but we continue to partner with other Berks County agencies and community resources to enhance the lives of our residents. Berks is enthusiastic about utilizing the flexibility of this block grant to further enhance our collaboration with other County services.

Family Group Decision Making

Berks CYC has provided Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) since January 2008. In total, 310 conferences have been held in order to assist families in finding safe means to resolve issues which have brought them to our attention. FGDM has been utilized to resolve issues allowing children to remain at home with their families as well as to develop plans to reunite them with family following an out of home placement. FGDM has been utilized by not only the Child Welfare Office but also by the Juvenile Probation Office and by the MH/DD office. We will continue to offer this evidenced based service to other community partners as we feel it is beneficial to Berks County residents in general. In FY 12/13, Berks CYC intends to service approximately 250 families with this service exhausting our allocation of \$281,160.

Multisystemic Therapy (MST)

Berks County is seeking a continuation of our MST Special Grant consistent with our tentative allocation of \$270,000. We anticipate we will serve 95 families during FY 12/13, an increase over last Fiscal Year and almost double the number of families served in FY 10/11. The expected outcomes for families receiving MST services for both CYC and JPO are the same as previous years. We expect 80% of the cases would not require a residential placement, 80% would not be adjudicated delinquent for a criminal offense, and 80% would either be enrolled in school or working at the time of discharge. For FY 2011/2012 the outcomes improved over the previous

year. For cases that completed treatment 92.2% were living at home, 88.2% were either in school or working, and 92.2% had no new arrest. The number of cases completing treatment was at an all time high and percent of cases discharged due to lack of engagement was well below the national MST average. Outcomes will be reviewed and individual cases will be discussed during monthly meetings on a County level with the local provider. Quarterly data around the intended outcomes is also gathered and reviewed with the provider. It is through these meetings and discussions that the percent of cases funded by MA, during some period during the service, has steadily increased over the last few fiscal years and the time it takes for a non-MA referred case to receive Medical Assistance funding has decreased.

Alternatives to Truancy

In January of 2012, Berks County contracted with Service Access Management (SAM) to provide a truancy remediation program. Berks County utilized a County wide collaborative effort to develop and implement this program. Schools, Magisterial District Justices (MDJ), Commissioners, Judges, and CYS and JPO staff worked collectively to identify issues regarding truancy within Berks and continue to meet regularly to modify and monitor the program. Referrals come directly from school and MDJ offices to SAM for assessment. If any child abuse/neglect issues arise, or if the truancy issue cannot be resolved, the cases are returned to CYS for ongoing intervention.

Initially, older teens (15-16) were being referred for this program. However, it our hope that continued efforts on educating referral sources will lead to earlier identification of truant behaviors as research shows that intervention with this population is most beneficial and effective when the children are elementary age. The collective effort of those invested in the education of Berks County's youth has truly shown the collaborative nature of this County. It is anticipated that for Fiscal Year 12/13 we will exhaust our allocation of \$206,100 by servicing 226 children ages 6-18.

Housing

Berks has asked for and received \$7,650 to assist our client families with housing needs. These funds are often used to pay rent, security deposits, and utility bills or to purchase other necessary services which, if left unpaid, would result in removal of children from their homes. These funds typically are able to service approximately 15 families throughout the year. This is a growing area of need in Berks given our high level of poverty, and poor housing conditions resulting from out of state landlords who have no investment in our city. Drugs, gangs, and crime have also led to substandard living conditions for many residents. Berks does partner with the Berks County Community Foundation to help assist families with these same types of issues once our funding is exhausted. Housing for transition age youth is also an area that Berks may look to expand as many of our children age out of the foster care system with no permanent place to reside once they leave care.

Community Data and Indicators

Berks provides for family input into decision making in a variety of ways. Children and Adults are provided opportunities for input into their Family Service Plans or Permanency Plans at least every 6 months. They are afforded opportunities to present information to the Juvenile Court. Planning conferences are held for older adolescents who have been residing in out of home

placements prior to their exiting care in order for a team approach to helping them plan their future. The Agency's annual public hearing (held every July) is advertised and open to the public for input. The Agency also participated in the Integrated Children's Services Plan which developed and maintains a family advisory committee.

Berks CYS provides a continuum of care to families in need. We offer a multitude of services to assist families in remediating issues that brought them to our attention. We offer referrals to community services for those cases which do not meet our criteria for agency intervention. We are able to provide intensive in-home services as a reasonable effort to avoid out of home placements and continue to provide a broad array of services to families in an effort to reunify a child(ren) with the parent(s) in a timely manner. We provide aftercare services to families whose child(ren) has been returned home in order to prevent re-entry into the foster care system. Timely reunification and re-entry are statistically monitored by Hornsby-Zeller Associates which provides information to the County annually prior to our Budget submission. This process would continue as would internal monitoring of statistical information pertinent to these indicators.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES

The Council on Chemical Abuse (Berks SCA) is a private, non-profit organization and is Berks County's designated Single County Authority (Berks SCA) for drug and alcohol services. The Berks SCA was incorporated in 1973 and is governed by a board of directors, appointed by the Berks County Board of Commissioners. Berks SCA serves as an umbrella organization for the planning, monitoring and coordinating of publically funded addiction related services. In that role, Berks SCA also is positioned to identify areas of need for additional services not being met by existing community programs. The Berks SCA supports a full continuum of drug and alcohol prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support services through service provider contracts and its own prevention unit.

Funding from the Department of Public Welfare, the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), the Berks County Commissioners as well as an array of other grant funding is used to provide a full continuum of drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services to the people of Berks County. This continuum is comprised of; Inpatient Hospital services including detoxification and residential treatment, Inpatient Non-Hospital services including detoxification, residential treatment and halfway housing, Partial Hospitalization, Intensive Outpatient, Outpatient, Case Management, Medication Assisted Treatment and Recovery Housing. Specialty services within these levels of care focus on adolescents, individuals involved in the criminal justice system, women and the dually diagnosed. All treatment services are provided by DDAP licensed facilities via contracts. The Berks SCA monitors local contracted facilities at least once annually and/or as the need occurs.

For Fiscal Year 2012/2013, Department of Public Welfare categorical funds comprise about 25% of the Berks SCA's funding for treatment and recovery services. These categorical funds include an Act 152 allocation of \$357,930, a Behavioral Health Special Initiative (BHSI) allocation of \$842,788, and Human Services Development Fund monies specified for drug and alcohol of \$47,400 totaling \$1,248,118 which includes \$157,358 of Administrative Costs.

A review of Berks SCA data for this current Fiscal Year indicates that as of 10/5/12, over 75% of BHSI funds have been encumbered for treatment services with the majority budgeted for Inpatient Non-Hospital Treatment. Additionally, only 14% of Act 152 funds have been encumbered for Inpatient Non-Hospital Treatment Services. The vast difference between BHSI and Act 152 expenditures is due to the fact that Act 152 funds can only be authorized for those individuals meeting specific criteria (i.e. eligible for Medical Assistance and needing inpatient non-hospital treatment). While Act 152 funds require individuals to complete the Medical Assistance application process, BHSI funds allow individuals immediate access to an array of clinically appropriate treatment and supportive services. Additionally BHSI funds can be authorized for the full continuum of treatment, case management and recovery services for those individuals who are poor, but not eligible for Medical Assistance. Individuals funded through BHSI, receive drug and alcohol services and in doing so reduce the likelihood of the need for Medicaid funded services in the future.

Current expenditure patterns for treatment demonstrate that Berks County has a need for increased BHSI funding for drug and alcohol services. Therefore for Fiscal Year 2012/2013, twenty percent (\$71,586) of the Act 152 allocation will be transferred to BHSI.

Inpatient Non Hospital

- BHSI Funds - \$634,258 serving 296 individuals.
- Act 152 - \$239,184 serving 112 eligible individuals.

Inpatient Hospital

- BHSI Funds - \$11,000 serving 5 individuals.

Partial Hospitalization

- BHSI Funds - \$49,217 serving 43 individuals.

Outpatient/IOP

- BHSI Funds - \$89,332 serving 160 individuals.
- HSDF Funds (Drug & Alcohol) - \$47,400 serving 121 individuals.

Medication Assisted Therapy

- BHSI Funds - \$20,369 serving 22 individuals.

Total BHSI funding in FY 12-13 is \$804,176.

HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND/HUMAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

ADULT SERVICES

Clients served under the Adult Services cost center are between the ages of 18 and 59 years of age and are receiving services including transportation, service planning and case management,

homemaker and home-delivered meals. Approximately 660 clients are anticipated to be served during fiscal year 2012/13 with an allocation of \$64,440.

AGING SERVICES

Clients served under the Aging Services cost center are aged 60 years and over. The cost center utilized for this population is the Information and Referral Services. Clients will receive assistance with all aspects relating to the senior population including but not limited to social security, Medicare, food and housing assistance, personal care, socialization and recreation services. The allocation of \$40,000 will serve approximately 2,600 clients by HSDF for FY 2012/13.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES

Clients served under the Specialized Services cost center include those services which are outside of the Adult or Aging guidelines or is defined as a new service or combination of services designed to meet the unique needs of a client population that are unmet by the current categorical programs.

Services to be included for FY 2012/13 include the Wellness Program for seniors and disabled adults at six of the low-income housing units in the City of Reading, funding for the Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviewer at the Children's Alliance Center, Youth Prevention Programs held at many County school districts, Life Skills Training through the Community Prevention Partnership Program and Service Planning and Case Management for consumers with two or more service definitions such as drug & alcohol, mental health, children & youth and aging.

The anticipated number of clients served under Specialized Services is 2,311 for Fiscal Year 2012/13 will an allocation of \$136,777.

BLOCK GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Berks County will be requesting administrative costs totaling \$235, 172. Details of the administrative costs are as follows;

- D/A Funding-\$157,358
- HAP-\$45,579
- HSDF-\$32,235

HUMAN SERVICES PROPOSED BUDGET AND SERVICE RECIPIENTS

Refer to Appendix B of the plan for allocated Human Services Fund expenditures and proposed numbers of individuals to be served in each of the eligible categories.

APPENDIX A

Fiscal Year 2012-2013

COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES PLAN

ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE

COUNTY OF BERKS

The County assures that services will be managed and delivered in accordance with the County Human Services Plan submitted herewith,

The County assures, in compliance with Act 80, that the pre-Expenditure Plan submitted herewith has been developed based upon the County officials' determination of County need, formulated after an opportunity for public comment in the County.

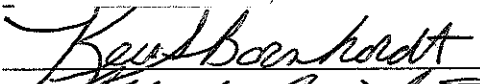
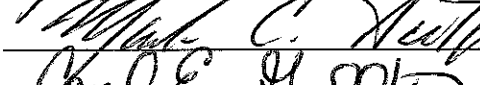
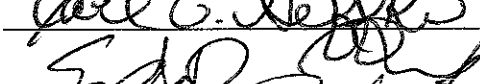
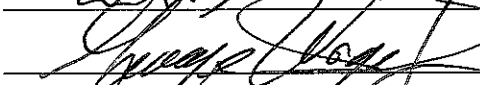
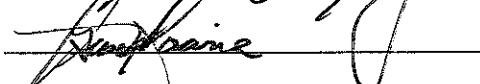

The County and/or its providers assures that it will maintain the necessary eligibility records and other records necessary to support the expenditure reports submitted to the Department of Public Welfare.

The County hereby expressly, and as a condition precedent to the receipt of state and federal funds, assures that in compliance with Title VI of the civil rights act of 1964; Section 504 of the federal rehabilitation act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of 1955, as amended/ and 16 PA Code, Chapter 49 (Contract Compliance regulations):

The County does not and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, origin, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or handicap in providing services or employment, or in its relationship with other providers; or in providing access to services and employment for handicapped individuals.

The County will comply with all regulations promulgated to enforce the statutory provisions against discrimination.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS/COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Signatures	Printed Name	Date
<u>Not Present at meeting</u> Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner	Christian Y. Leinbach	
	Kevin S. Barnhardt	10/25/12
	Mark C. Scott	10/25/12
	Carl E. Geffken	10/25/12
	Dr. Edward B. Michalik	10/25/12
	George J. Vogel	11-31-12
	George M. Kovarie	10/26/2012

Berks County Human Services Plan 2012-2013

Signatures

Robert N. Williams

Printed Name

Robert N. Williams

Date

10/31/12

Mary L. Henry-Moss

Mary L. Henry-Moss

APPENDIX B
HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROPOSED BUDGET AND SERVICE
RECIPIENTS

APPENDIX B

HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROPOSED BUDGET AND SERVICE RECIPIENTS

Updated DRAFT - 10-22-12

County: BERKS	ESTIMATED CLIENTS	PLANNED EXPENDITURES
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MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

ACT and CTT	0	\$0
Administrator's Office	0	\$572,838
Administrative Management	3,501	\$1,077,472
Adult Developmental Training	1	\$6,998
Children's Evidence Based Practices	0	\$0
Children's Psychosocial Rehab	0	\$0
Community Employment	13	\$120,479
Community Residential Services	44	\$449,001
Community Services	0	\$1,561,740
Consumer Driven Services	0	\$0
Crisis Intervention	1,384	\$932,212
Emergency Services	593	\$612,641
Facility Based Vocational Rehab	15	\$89,040
Family Based Services	3	\$28,816
Family Support Services	0	\$0
Housing Support	65	\$175,355
Other	57	\$2,820,661
Outpatient	705	\$263,003
Partial Hospitalization	12	\$31,500
Peer Support	0	\$0
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospitalization	0	\$0
Psychiatric Rehabilitation	0	\$0
Social Rehab Services	205	\$395,560
Targeted Case Management	688	\$846,818
Transitional and Community Integration	0	\$0
TOTAL MH SERVICES	7,286	9,984,134

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES SERVICES

Admin Office	0	\$1,249,089
Case Management	2,051	\$375,894
Community Residential Services	386	\$775,234
Community Based Services	476	\$1,005,561
Other	62	\$83,120
TOTAL ID SERVICES	2,975	3,488,898

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Bridge Housing	160	108,500
Case Management	1,180	95,629
Rental Assistance	800	206,165

APPENDIX B

HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROPOSED BUDGET AND SERVICE RECIPIENTS

Updated DRAFT - 10-22-12

County: BERKS	ESTIMATED CLIENTS	PLANNED EXPENDITURES
Emergency Shelter	0	0
Other Housing Supports	0	0
TOTAL HAP SERVICES	2,140	410,294

CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

Evidence Based Services	345	551,160
Promising Practice	0	0
Alternatives to Truancy	226	206,100
Housing	15	7,650
TOTAL C & Y SERVICES	586	764,910

DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES

Inpatient non hospital	408	873,442
Inpatient Hospital	5	11,000
Partial Hospitalization	43	49,217
Outpatient/IOP	281	136,732
Shelter/Transitional Living	0	0
Client Related Services (Care and Case Management)	0	0
Medication Assisted Therapy	22	20,369
Recovery Support Services	0	0
TOTAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES	759	1,090,760

HUMAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Adult Services	660	64,440
Aging Services	2,600	40,000
Specialized Services	2,311	136,777
Interagency Coordination	0	1,500
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES AND SUPPORTS	5,571	242,717

COUNTY BLOCK GRANT ADMINISTRATION		235,172
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TOTAL COUNTY BLOCK GRANT	19,317	16,216,885
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Note (A)

Coca Admin - 157,358

HSDf Admin - 77,814

PROOF OF PUBLICATION NOTICES

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of Berks } ss:

Lynn Schittler, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading, County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle

Thursday, August 30, 2012, A.D.

Effective July 1, 2002 Reading Times Ceased Publication. The Reading Eagle will be a daily morning and Sunday edition.

Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice of Publication

Legal Classified

Due public notice is hereby given that the September meeting of the Berks County Children & Youth Services Citizens' Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 at noon, at which time elements of the County's application for a Human Services Block Grant will be discussed. Opportunity for public input as to Berks County Children & Youth Services' participation will be provided. The meeting will be held in the public conference room on the 9th floor of the Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601.

ATTEST: Maryjo Gibson,
Chief Clerk

Lynn Schittler
Lynn Schittler

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of August, 2012

Theresa M. Sassaman

Notary

Statement of Advertising Costs

SEPTEMBER MTG

BERKS CO. COMMISSIONERS
BERKS CO SVC. CENT., PURCHASIN
633 COURT ST, 13TH FL
READING, PA 19601

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
NOTARIAL SEAL
THERESA M SASSAMAN, NOTARY PUBLIC
CITY OF READING, BERKS COUNTY
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 23, 2014

To READING EAGLE, DR.:

For publishing the notice of publication attached hereto on the above stated dates	\$66.35
Probating same	\$5.00
Total	\$71.35

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of Berks } ss:

David Geschwindt, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading, County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle Sunday, October 7, 2012, A.D.
Reading Eagle Monday, October 8, 2012, A.D.

Effective July 1, 2002 Reading Times Ceased Publication. The Reading Eagle will be a daily morning and Sunday edition.

Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice of Publication

**PUBLIC NOTICE
COUNCIL ON
CHEMICAL ABUSE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**

The Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors' meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, at the Council on Chemical Abuse, 601 Penn Street, Suite 600, Reading, PA. At this meeting the Department of Public Welfare's Block Grant initiative will be discussed. The public is invited to attend.

David Geschwindt

David Geschwindt

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of October, 2012

Ann L. Liptak

Notary

Statement of Advertising Costs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNCIL ON CHEMICAL ABUSE INC
601 PENN ST., SUITE 600
READING, PA 19601

**NOTARIAL SEAL
ANN L. LIPTAK, NOTARY PUBLIC
CITY OF READING, BERKS COUNTY
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 2, 2016**

To READING EAGLE, DR.:

For publishing the notice of publication attached hereto on the above stated dates	\$107.60
Probating same	\$5.00
Total	\$112.60

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of Berks } ss:

Lynn Schittler, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle Wednesday, August 22, 2012, A.D.
Reading Eagle Friday, August 31, 2012, A.D.

Effective July 1, 2002 Reading Times Ceased Publication. The Reading Eagle will be a daily morning and Sunday edition. Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice of Publication

Legal Classified.

Due public notice is given that the Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities will conduct a Public Meeting concerning the Human Services Block Grant, Tuesday, September 10, 2012, during the regular-scheduled MH/DD Advisory Board Meeting, commencing at 12:00m on the 9th Floor, Children and Youth Services Board Room, Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601. RSVP by September 7, 2012 to Anne Marie Kline, MH/DD Administrative Assistant, 610-478-3271, ext. 6580.

If you are unable to attend but wish to comment, please direct correspondence to Edward B. Michalik, Psy.D., MH/DD Program Administrator, 633 Court Street, 15th Floor, Reading PA 19601.

ATTEST: Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk

Lynn Schittler
Lynn Schittler

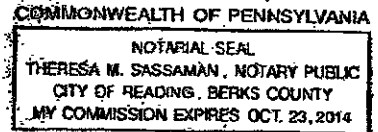
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of August, 2012

Theresa M. Sassaman
Notary

Statement of Advertising Costs

MH/DD ADVISORY BRD MTG

BERKS CO. COMMISSIONERS
BERKS CO SVC. CENT., PURCHASIN
633 COURT ST, 13TH FL
READING, PA 19601



To READING EAGLE, DR.:

For publishing the notice of publication attached hereto on the above stated dates	\$175.60
Probatng same	\$5.00
Total	\$180.60

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of Berks } ss:

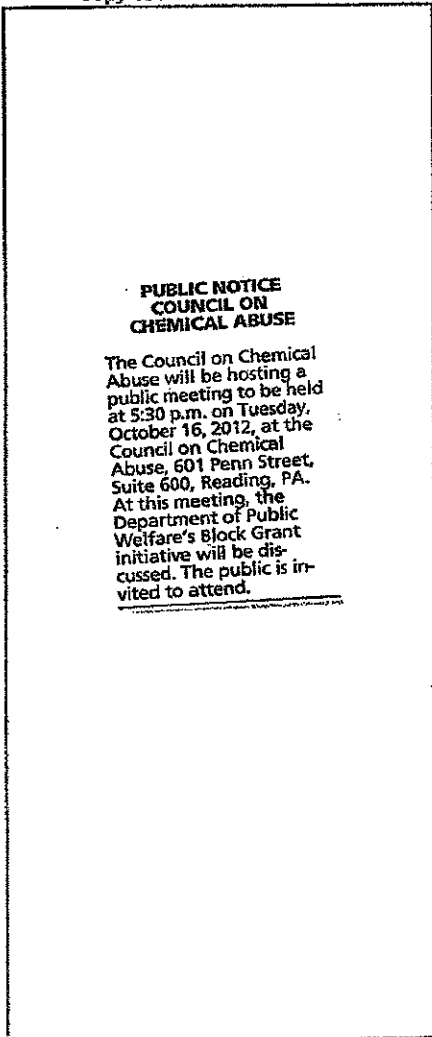
Lynn Schittler, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading, County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle Sunday, October 14, 2012, A.D.
Reading Eagle Monday, October 15, 2012, A.D.

Effective July 1, 2002 Reading Times Ceased Publication. The Reading Eagle will be a daily morning and Sunday edition.

Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice of Publication



Lynn Schittler
Lynn Schittler

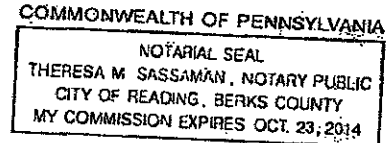
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of October, 2012

Theresa M. Sassaman
Notary

Statement of Advertising Costs

PUBLIC MEETING

COUNCIL ON CHEMICAL ABUSE INC
601 PENN ST., SUITE 600
READING, PA 19601



PUBLIC NOTICE COUNCIL ON CHEMICAL ABUSE

The Council on Chemical Abuse will be hosting a public meeting to be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16, 2012, at the Council on Chemical Abuse, 601 Penn Street, Suite 600, Reading, PA. At this meeting, the Department of Public Welfare's Block Grant initiative will be discussed. The public is invited to attend.

To READING EAGLE, DR.:

For publishing the notice of publication attached hereto on the above stated dates	\$96.50
Probating same	\$5.00
Total	\$101.50

Proof of Publication of Notice in Reading Eagle

Under Act No. 587, Approved May 16, 1929.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
County of Berks

} ss:

Lynn Schittler, Assistant Secretary, READING EAGLE COMPANY, of the County and Commonwealth aforesaid, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the READING EAGLE established January 28, 1868 is a newspaper of general circulation published at 345 Penn Street, City of Reading, County and State aforesaid, and that the printed notice or publication attached hereto is exactly the same as printed and published in the regular edition and issues of the said READING EAGLE on the following dates, viz.:

Reading Eagle

Wednesday, August 29, 2012, A.D.

Effective July 1, 2002 Reading Times Ceased Publication. The Reading Eagle will be a daily morning and Sunday edition.

Affiant further deposes that this person is duly authorized by READING EAGLE COMPANY, a corporation, publisher of said READING EAGLE, a newspaper of general circulation, to verify the foregoing statement under oath, and affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the aforesaid notice or advertisement, and that all allegations in the foregoing statements as to time, place, character of publication are true.

Copy of Notice of Publication

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETINGS

Effective Tuesday, September 25, 2012 the Workshop Meetings held every Tuesday at 10:30 AM will be eliminated. **Effective Thursday, September 27, 2012**, the Commissioners' Board Meetings will be held every Thursday at 10:00 AM, in the Boardroom, 13th Floor, Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, Pennsylvania, and will be televised.

Effective Thursday, September 27, 2012 Salary Board will be held Thursday at 8:00 AM on an as-needed basis, Records Improvement Committee will be held the third Thursday at 9:00 AM, and Retirement Board will be held the third Thursday at 9:30 AM in November and December.

All other public meetings previously advertised will remain unchanged.

NOTE: Individuals having disabilities requiring special services or auxiliary aids attending any of these meetings should submit a written request for such assistance to the County Commissioners' Office. If a County Holiday is celebrated on a scheduled meeting date, that meeting will be cancelled unless otherwise noted.

ATTEST: Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk

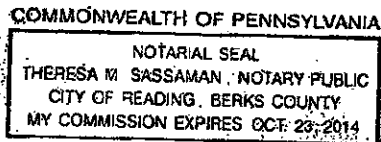
Lynn Schittler
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of August, 2012
Theresa M. Sassaman

Notary

Statement of Advertising Costs

MEETING CHANGES

BERKS CO. COMMISSIONERS
BERKS CO SVC. CENT., PURCHASIN
633 COURT ST, 13TH FL
READING, PA 19601



To READING EAGLE, DR.:

For publishing the notice of publication attached hereto on the above stated dates	\$138.95
Probating same	\$5.00
Total	\$143.95



Archives

Public Hearing Dates for Block Grant Pilot Counties October 19, 2012

As reported in the September 26 PCPA Legislative Alert, Block Grant Pilot Counties Announced participation in the Human Services Block Grant Pilot Program was limited to 20 counties. The following counties were approved: Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Bucks, Butler, Centre, Chester, Crawford, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Lancaster, Lehigh, Luzerne, Tioga, Venango, and Wayne. These counties are required to submit detailed plans to the Department of Public Welfare regarding how block grant funds will be allocated.

Counties are required to hold two public hearings prior to submission of the plan. Many counties have scheduled those. PCPA urges members to attend the hearings and, if possible, provide input. It is essential that pilot counties be held accountable to maintain access to crucial safety net services. Scheduled dates are below. The location and other details should be available on individual county web sites.

Block Grant Pilot County Public Hearing Dates

County	Public Meeting 1	Public Meeting 2
Allegheny	October 19, 3:00 p.m.	October 22, 10:00 a.m.
Beaver	TBD	TBD
Berks	October 25, 10:00 a.m.	TBD
Bucks	October 18, 1:30 p.m.	October 24, 2:00 p.m.
Butler	October 15, 10:00 a.m.	October 23, 6:00 p.m.
Centre	October 24, 6:00 p.m.	October 25, 9:00 a.m.
Chester	October 22, 1:30 p.m.	October 23, 4:30 p.m.
Crawford	October 12, 12:00 p.m.	October 26, 12:00 p.m.
Dauphin	October 16, 2:00 p.m.	October 24, 10:00 a.m.
Delaware	October 15, 4:00 p.m.	October 17, 4:00 p.m.
Erie	October 19, 1:00 p.m.	October 30, 3:30 p.m.
Franklin	October 23, Time TBD	October 30, Time TBD
Fulton	October 16, 1:30 p.m.	TBD
Greene	October 16, 11:30 a.m.	October 25, 11:00 a.m.
Lancaster	October 23, 11:00 a.m.	October 31, 9:15 a.m.
Lehigh	September 10	September 17
Luzerne	October 16, 9:30 a.m.	October 16, 2:30 p.m.
Tioga	September 20	October 10
Venango	October 9	October 19, 10:00 a.m.
Wayne	October 18, 2:00 p.m.	October 25, 2:00 p.m.

PCPA is working in coalition with other concerned organizations to ensure that impact of the pilots is determined, particularly on access to behavioral health and intellectual disability services. It is important to ensure stakeholder input as implementation moves forward. Questions may be addressed to Anne Leisure (anne@paproviders.org).

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Block Grant Pilot County Public Hearings

Counties chosen to participate in the human services block grant pilot program are required to hold two public hearings detailing their plan. The attached document contains those meeting dates.

Attachments

CountyHearingDatesBG.pdf



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Block Grant Pilot Public Hearing Schedule

County	Public Meeting 1	Public Meeting 2
Allegheny	Oct. 19, 2012 at 3pm	Oct. 22, 2012 at 10am
Beaver	Oct. 22, 2012 at 1pm	Oct. 24, 2012 at 1pm
Berks	Sept. 10, 2012	Oct. 25, 2012 at 10am (Berks chose to hold three additional meetings addressing the pilot)
Bucks	Oct. 18, 2012 at 1:30pm	Oct. 24, 2012 at 2pm
Butler	Oct. 15, 2012 at 10am	Oct. 23, 2012 at 6pm
Centre	Oct. 24, 2012 at 6pm	Oct. 25, 2012 at 9am
Chester	Oct. 22, 2012 at 1:30pm	Oct. 23, 2012 at 4:30pm
Crawford	Oct. 12, 2012 at 12pm	Oct. 26, 2012 at 12pm
Dauphin	Oct. 16, 2012 at 2pm	Oct. 24, 2012 at 10am
Delaware	Oct. 15, 2012 at 4pm	Oct. 17, 2012 at 4pm
Erie	Oct. 19, 2012 at 1pm	Oct. 30, 2012 at 3:30pm
Franklin	Oct. 23, 2012 at 10am	Oct. 30, 2012 at 10am
Fulton	Oct. 16, 2012 at 1:30pm	Oct. 23, 2012 at 7pm
Greene	Oct. 16, 2012 at 11:30am	Oct. 25, 2012 at 11am
Lancaster	Oct. 23, 2012 at 11am	Oct. 31, 2012 at 9:15am
Lehigh	Sept. 10, 2012	Sept. 17, 2012
Luzerne	Oct. 16, 2012 at 9:30am	Oct. 16, 2012 2:30pm
Tioga	Sept. 20, 2012	Oct. 10, 2012
Venango	Oct. 9, 2012	Oct. 19, 2012 at 10am
Wayne	Oct. 18, 2012 at 2pm	Oct. 25, 2012 at 2pm