Vote YES on Nov. 6 for kids
All Allegheny County Children’s Fund to impact Mon Valley kids

By Dave Coplan, Executive Director of the Human Services Center

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the Human Services Center Corp. can be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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The Mon Valley Providers Council Presents

November - December 2018

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All Allegheny County Children’s Fund to impact Mon Valley kids

By Dave Coplan, Executive Director of the Human Services Center

In a few short days, Allegheny County residents will have a chance to make a difference for thousands of local kids. By voting “yes” on Nov. 6 to the Allegheny County Children’s Fund, children will gain increased access to early learning opportunities, after school programs and nutritious meals – three proven areas that help youth reach success now and in the future.

Right here in the Mon Valley, there are kids going hungry, with nearly 13,000 children eligible for free and reduced priced meals at school in the five districts served by the Human Services Center Corporation. These are students who do not have access to an early learning opportunity. And too many kids are not attending an engaging after-school program because there are not enough available in the Mon Valley. We know that our communities have higher rates of unemployment and that these are a number of single-parent households here, as well.

“Supporting our kids and setting them up for success is important. We want to see Allegheny County voters head to the polls on Tuesday ready to make an impact on local kids and youth to say ‘yes’ to the Allegheny County Children’s Fund. When kids are set up to achieve greatness, the entire community wins,” said Dave Coplan, Executive Director, Human Services Center Corporation and steering committee member for the Our kids. Our commitment. Allegheny County Children’s Fund Initiative.

The proposed Allegheny County Children’s Fund would expand and increase access to proven programs for kids all across the county. Early learning prepares kids for kindergarten, the workforce, society and life. Kids who participate in after school programs are more likely to graduate from high school with job ready skills, self-esteem and attitudes. One-in-six children is hungry in Allegheny County; hunger impacts a child’s growth, overall health and well-being, and ability to learn.

If passed, the Allegheny County Children’s Fund will be established through a 0.25 millage rate increase to property taxes – an estimated average $50 increase per year per household. For many Mon Valley home owners, it would be between $6 and $12 per year.

County-wide, this would establish a dedicated source of funding to be used to improve the well-being of Allegheny County children through early childhood learning, after school programs, and nutritious meals, generating approximately $18 million annually in revenue for the fund – for kids.

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The Allegheny County Children’s Fund is an investment in our community. Supporting our kids now will pay dividends for our community’s future and set us up for success,” said Coplan. “Over the past couple months, we knocked on doors, engaged in conversations and helped the community make an informed decision. We hope they see and understand the positive vote ‘yes’ will have on our kids.”

The Our kids. Our commitment. initiative encourages Allegheny County to vote ‘yes’ on Nov. 6. To learn more, visit www.alleghenykidsyes.org to read the ballot question and proposed amendment, and to see how the Allegheny County Children’s Fund would work.

18th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk

Human Services Center

The 18th Annual Mon Valley HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk was held on October 6, 2018. Hundreds of walkers and volunteers helped to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in the Mon Valley and connect with current community partners for prevention and educational resources. The Walk is hosted by the HIV/AIDS Working Group, a project of the Human Services Center, and continues to engage and inform the community thanks to strong commitment from agencies and partners in the Mon Valley and other parts of Allegheny County.

This year, the Walk started and ended at Bethel Emmanuel Baptist Church in McKeesport; the Working Group would like to sincerely thank the church for hosting the Walk yet again. The Working Group would also like to acknowledge the support of all the sponsors and participants for making this event a continued success!

The proceeds from the Walk will be put toward additional events and programs hosted by the Working Group – World AIDS Day: National Women and Girls Day; and Working Group – World AIDS Day; and Voting Celebration Day! Monday, November 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Bethel Emmanuel Baptist Church.

This year, the Walk will continue to be a annual event. Please mark your calendars to join us next year on Saturday, October 5, 2019!

Vote YES to this ballot question on November 6.

“Shall the Allegheny County Home Rule Charter be amended to establish the Allegheny County Children’s Fund, funded by Allegheny County levying and collecting an additional 0.25 mills on all taxable real estate, to be used to improve the well-being of children through the provision of services throughout the County including early childhood learning, after school programs, and nutritious meals?”

Voter Celebration Day!
Wednesday, November 7, 2018
8:30 - 9:10 AM
Human Services Center Corporation
519 Penn Avenue East
Cheswick, PA 15107

*FREE Continental Breakfast* *FREE door prizes*

NO RSVP needed
Bring your voter stub for a chance to win great prizes!

Get Connected with CCAC

Job Fairs for the Community at CCAC

Job Fairs at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC), take place between September and March. This is an opportunity for members of the community, as well as current CCAC students and alumni, to connect with company recruiters to learn about a company’s recruitment needs now or in the future. As RSTI is not required, professional attire and a resume are strongly encouraged. More information, go to https://www.ccac.edu/JobsFairs.aspx

College Kickstart Day at CCAC

Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
This is an opportunity for members of the community, including prospective and current students, family members and friends! Whether you think of starting your college career, want to take one or two classes over the summer, or are returning to finish your degree, you can take all the necessary steps to apply and register at this open house event. College Kickstart Day is being held at all CCAC campuses and Centers. RSTI is encouraged, but not required. Contact admissions@ccac.edu or go to https://www.ccac.edu/ for more information.

College Kickstart Day is open to all Mon Valley home owners, it would be between $6 and $12 per year.

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The Communicator is the official newsletter of the Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), an alliance of over 70 human service agencies serving more than 37 communities in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County. The MVPC is a program of the Human Services Center, a United Way Agency.

To learn more about the MVPC, our member agencies, and their services, read this edition and visit our website at www.hssc-mvpc.org.

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The Mon Valley Providers Council (MVPC), a program of the Human Services Center, is an alliance of human service related organizations, which are based in and/or have a substantial presence in the Mon Valley. The MVPC serves as a formal network for information and resource exchange among human service providers in the Mon Valley. The MVPC is comprised of Working Groups which address crucial issues in the Mon Valley of employment and Training, Health, Housing, and Youth. These four Working Groups involve the participation of over 70 department members and over 200 members of those organizations. Through these standing Working Groups, the MVPC promotes cooperation, strategic planning, and collaboration among its member and participating organizations in an effort to fill gaps in human services in the Mon Valley communities.

Staff: The MVPC is staffed through the Human Services Center. Current MVPC Staff are:

- Dave Gopalan, Director
- Elizabeth Fries, Program Assistant


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*Note: This information is current as of December 2018 and is subject to change. For more information, please visit the organization’s website or contact them directly.

### Bibliography

- MVPC website, Mon Valley Providers Council.
- Allegheny County Human Services website.
- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.
- Family Resources website.
- University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work website.
- YWCA Greater Pittsburgh website.

### Contact Information

- **MVPC Staff:**
  - Dave Gopalan, Director (412-829-7112)
  - Elizabeth Fries, Program Assistant (412-829-7112)

- **Human Services Center:**
  - 519 Penn Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145
  - Tel: 412-829-7112
  - Fax: 412-824-0008
  - info@hsc.org

- **MVPC Programs:**
  - Health Insurance (Affordable Care Act), Medicaid, CHIP, Food Stamp Assistance, and PAFF. YWCA Greater Pittsburgh will assist individuals with signing up for many services.
  - Youth Life After-School Program begins in September. Youth Life After School Program serves 300 youth going into first through fifth grade. For more information, contact: 412-829-7112.

- **COVID-19 Summer Program (CSP):** is open to all young men and women ages 16-24. CSP will provide opportunities to earn income through employment and/or education by providing referrals and guidance. For more information, call 412-829-7112.

- **The BRA: The Greater Mon Valley Development Corporation**
  - 412-829-7112 for hours of operation.

#### Family Resources

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