

What Connects Us

Allegheny County Department of Human Services



3/24/2022

Provider Briefing

Agenda



4:30 – 4:45 PM: Policy & Legislative Update / Solicitations

4:45 – 4:50 PM: Announcements

- Welcome to Shannah Tharp Gilliam, Deputy Director, Aging Services
- Local Tax Preparation Resources
- Child Tax Credit
- Local Innovations in Vaccine Equity in Pennsylvania project (LIVE PA)
- Pittsburgh Health Corp
- 2022 Health Equity Summit: Momentum to Action
- Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association / PA Association of Community Health Centers Forum
- Free Covid-19 Test Kits
- Women's History Month
- Laptops and Wi-Fi Hotspots for DHS Clients
- Inclusive Hiring Practices for Second Chance Employment

4:50 – 5:10 PM: Homelessness in Allegheny County

5:10 – 5:30 PM: COVID-19 Update – Dr. Debra Bogen



Join the DHS Team!

<https://alleghenycounty.bamboohr.com/jobs/>



Policy and Legislative Update

Federal Funding



Congress enacted a \$1.5 trillion spending bill with new levels of funding for Federal government programs for the remainder of the current federal fiscal year (ending Sept 30) with overall increases.

Department of Health and Human Services - \$108.3 billion total, a 11.65% increase from last year

- Administration for Community Living (ACL) receiving \$2.3b total, a 2.6% increase
- Administration for Children and Families (ACF) receiving \$29.9b total of annual appropriations, a 17% increase
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) receiving \$8.9b total, a 18.8% increase
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) receiving \$6.4b total, a 9% increase
Notable increase: Community Mental Health Services Block Grant funded at \$857.6m, a 13.2% increase

Department of Housing and Urban Development - \$53.7 billion total, 8.05% increase from last year

- Community Development Block Grant funded at \$3.3b, a 4% decrease
- Homeless Assistance Grants funded at \$3.2b, a 7% increase
- Project-Based Rental Assistance funded at \$13.9b, a 3.5% increase
- Section 8 Housing Vouchers funded at \$27.4b, a 6.5% increase

Department of Labor - \$13.2 billion total, 5.20% increase from last year

- Employment and Training Administration receiving \$9.8b, a 4% increase, with a notable increase of 27% for Registered Apprenticeships, funded at \$235m

Federal Legislation – Notable Provisions



- \$10m for ACF/HHS to establish a **diaper distribution pilot grant program** for non-profit organizations.
- \$5m for grants that place **early childhood education experts** in pediatrician offices serving Medicaid and CHIP patients.
- Congress urges CDC to develop and **implement national goals and a national strategy to improve adolescent mental well-being and advance equity**.
- Congress encourages CMS to identify **Autism treatment and services** most beneficial to people with Autism and to review existing coverage policies for these services.
- Funding to **improve maternal health**, including grants for Medicaid providers to provide integrated services to pregnant and postpartum women.
- An additional \$30m for the recently created NIH initiative, **Implementing a Maternal Health and Pregnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone (IMPROVE)**, to improve maternal health outcomes and reduce disparities.
- **Strengthening of the Violence Against Women Act** with grant funding for state and local services.

Federal Legislation – Notable Provisions



- \$20m for HHS to expand research on the **impact of the pandemic on mental health**.
- **Medicare telehealth service extension and expansion** for five months once the COVID-19 public health emergency ends.
- \$12.5m for CDC's **firearm injury and mortality prevention research** to study underlying causes and evidence-based methods of prevention of injury, including crime prevention.
- Increased funding for CDC's **suicide prevention** work and direction to:
 - implement and evaluate an evidence-based **public health approach to suicide prevention** with attention to high-risk, vulnerable populations; and
 - expand and enhance its **emergency department surveillance** on suicidal behavior and nonfatal suicide-related outcomes to provide data on suicidal ideation and attempts, disaggregated by demographics, to inform community-based suicide prevention efforts.
- Funding for HHS' National Institute on Drug Abuse to continue trials to expeditiously develop an FDA-approved **medication for methamphetamine** addiction.
- \$3.8m for the **U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness** which works to prevent and end homelessness.
- \$166m for NeighborhoodWorks to **expand affordable housing options and strengthen economic development**.

Federal Legislation – Notable Provisions



- Congress urges the Department of Education to work with HHS to **expand access to mental health services for children and adolescents**, including through school-based health centers, and work with regional research centers on positive behavioral interventions.
- Funding for SAMHSA’s Project AWARE for **school-and campus-based mental health services and support**, with \$12.5m for grants to support efforts in high-crime, high-poverty areas, and \$7m to increase student access to evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma support services and mental health care.
- \$5m for new Project Prevent awards to increase the capacity of school districts to **serve students exposed to community violence**.
- An additional \$45m for **school-based mental health services professional demonstration grant program**.
- \$1 billion in launch the **Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)** to accelerate the speed of scientific breakthroughs for diseases such as cancer, diabetes, ALS and Alzheimer’s.
- \$2.5 million for a **White House conference on food, nutrition, hunger and health** in 2022 to develop a roadmap to end hunger and improve nutrition by 2030.
- Funding to increase the maximum **Pell Grant** award by \$400 in academic year 2022 – 2023.

Federal – “Community Project Funding”



This year’s appropriation process brought back this member directed funding, also known as “earmarks.”

Locally, Representatives Doyle and Lamb and Senator Casey were successful in getting the following projects funded (highlighting ones most relevant to human services):

- POWER: \$1.5m for facilities and equipment
- Literacy Pittsburgh: \$675k for workforce development program
- New Sun Rising: \$1m for workforce development centers & \$548k for Millvale EcoDistrict Clean Energy Initiative
- Goodwill of SWPA: \$525k for Northside Common Ministries Rehabilitation
- Greater Valley Community Services: \$1m for Braddock Community Builders
- Action Housing: \$2m for Flats on Forward
- Pittsburgh Community Services: \$250k community services and workforce development in the Hill District
- URA: \$2m for Avenues of Hope, Centre Ave Revitalization

Medicaid & CHIP Coverage



- During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), certain Medicaid and CHIP requirements were waived, preventing people from losing coverage during the pandemic. HealthChoices membership is over 20% higher today than in January 2020.
- The PHE is expected to end this spring or summer, triggering an “unwinding” that will require states to resume conducting MA and CHIP coverage renewals.
- We’ll need everyone’s partnership to support participants with completing their renewals!
- **Key messages for participants:**
 - 1) **Update contact information** – Make sure COMPASS/CAO has current mailing address, phone number, email, or other contact information.
 - 2) **Check your mail** – PA DHS will mail letters about Medicaid or CHIP coverage. This letter will let people know if they need to complete a renewal form to see if they still qualify.
 - 3) **Complete your renewal form (if you get one)** – Fill out the form and return it right away to help avoid a gap in Medicaid or CHIP coverage.

State – Healthcare



- **Pennsylvanians with an annual household income at or below 150% of the federal poverty level can enroll in health insurance through Pennie at any time.**
 - Pennie has **added** this new qualifying life event for low-income Pennsylvanians.
 - Financial assistance is available.
 - About 90% of Pennie customers receive financial assistance that reduce monthly health insurance premiums.
 - 13% of Pennie customers have health insurance premiums of \$1/month.
 - Average financial assistance is \$500/month.
 - Pennsylvanians enrolling during 2022 can benefit from the increased subsidies provided by the American Rescue Plan.

State Updates



- **House and Senate Budget hearings by the Appropriations Committees have concluded, leaving Budget negotiations to begin and continue into June.**
 - Lawmakers have until June 30th, when the current fiscal year ends, to finalize the budget for next fiscal year, 2022-2023.
- **The makeup of the General Assembly next year will be impacted by redistricting and this year's election cycle for US Senate and PA Governor.**
 - 23 General Assembly members are not seeking re-election, while 13 are running for higher offices.
 - Allegheny County will elect two new House members even before 2023 with the special elections this spring to fill seats held by Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey and his Chief of Staff, former State Representative Jake Wheatley.



Active Solicitations

Active Solicitations



[DHS Solicitations Webpage](#)

RFP for Language Assistance Services

- Proposal Due Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2022

RFP for Community Violence Reduction Plans for High-Priority Areas

- Proposal Due Date: Friday, May 6, 2022

RFI for a Racial Equity Training and Support Directory

- Due Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022



Announcements



DHS welcomes

**Shannah Tharp Gilliam, Ph.D.,
Deputy Director, Aging Services**



It's Tax Time!



- There are additional reasons to file taxes this year:
 - Expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
 - Third stimulus payment for eligible taxpayers who didn't receive it in 2021
- *Reminder for folks to file as soon as possible to claim these credits and before the **April 18th tax deadline!***
- Tax filing assistance is available through Just Harvest and the PA Department of Revenue.

Just Harvest's Tax Prep Help



- Just Harvest's **virtual tax site** provides tax preparation assistance without an appointment.
 - Sign up at [GetYourRefund.org/JustHarvest](https://www.getyourrefund.org/justharvest), and a Just Harvest tax preparer with call to help complete a tax return or answer questions.
 - For help creating a GetYourRefund account, go to [guide to using GetYourRefund](#).
- For **in-person appointments** at Just Harvest's tax sites, call 2-1-1 or visit pa211sw.org to schedule.
- Questions about filing or eligibility for certain tax credits? Contact taxhelp@justharvest.org for answers to all tax questions.
- Visit the Just Harvest [website](#) for more information about free tax filing services and the expanded 2021 tax credits.

PA Dept of Revenue's Tax Prep Help




- The [PA Dept of Revenue](#) offers free tax preparation services at the following local sites, open 9am to 3pm unless otherwise stated:
 - **Body & Soul Health and Wellness Center** (209 13th St., Sharpsburg)
 - March 29; April 5 & 12
 - **Highland Senior Center** (704 East Second Ave., Tarentum)
 - March 30; April 6 & 13
 - **Turtle Creek Center** (519 Penn Ave., Turtle Creek)
 - March 31; April 7 & 14
- And at the Dept of Revenue's local offices. Appointments strongly recommended.
 - **Pittsburgh – Downtown** (411 7th Avenue, Room 420)
Phone: 412-565-7540
Email: RA-RV-BET-PGH-TA-EM@pa.gov
 - **Pittsburgh – Greentree** (11 Parkway Center Drive, Suite 175)
Phone: 412-929-0614
Email: RA-RV-BET-GTR-DO-EM@pa.gov

Tax Resource Hub



- National organizations have launched an [Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit Information and Resource Hub](#)
- Outreach toolkits are available to assist with efforts to raise awareness about these important tax credits.



GET YOUR CHILD'S CASH BENEFITS

Cover what your family needs - Parents are eligible to receive up to \$3600 per child for gas, groceries, and more.

[GetYourRefund.org/Kids](https://www.getyourrefund.org/kids) | 860-590-8910



GET YOUR CHILD'S CASH BENEFITS

If your child has a Social Security number, even if you do not, you may be eligible to receive federal Child Tax Credit benefits with an ITIN number.

[GetYourRefund.org/Kids](https://www.getyourrefund.org/kids) | 860-590-8910

Key Facts about CTC



- **Eligibility**

- Most families, even those with little to no income, can receive the full amount.
- Single parents making less than \$112,500 or a married couple making less than \$150,000—and have children under age 18 who will live with you for more than half of 2021— are likely eligible for the full benefit.

- **CTC is a cash benefit, not income. The CTC will NOT count as cash against other federal benefits (SNAP, Child Care, housing voucher).**

- **Anyone, including grandparents, who are legal guardians may be eligible for the Child Tax Credit cash benefit.**

- **File taxes to receive the full CTC**

- Families who received part of their Child Tax Credit as monthly payments in 2021 can get their remaining CTC and other cash benefits by filing a tax return by the April 18th deadline
- If parents did not receive monthly Child Tax Credit payments, they can receive the full cash benefits by filing a tax return.

- **EITC cash benefits available too**

- Filing taxes will mean many families who are eligible for the Child Tax Credit will also get cash through the Earned Income Tax Credit and/or any missed American Rescue Plan stimulus payments.

Child Tax Credit



Where children are at risk of missing out on the expanded CTC

“Children at risk of missing the CTC” is defined on this map as children with a Social Security number who appeared on health insurance forms but not on tax returns in 2019 or 2020.

[Link to map from Tax Policy Center](#)

Children at risk of missing the CTC in a given zip code

<235 235 – 400 >400



Announcements



Covid-19 Local Innovations in Vaccine Equity in Pennsylvania Grant

The Wolf Administration and United Way of Pennsylvania launched the Local Innovations in Vaccine Equity in Pennsylvania project (LIVE PA) to administer \$4 million in mini-grants to local non-profit organizations and \$630,000 for faith-based organizations aimed to reduce vaccine hesitancy and ensuring an equitable vaccine distribution throughout the commonwealth. **This money is available on a rolling basis until the end of June 2022.**

LIVE Grant Link: <https://www.uwp.org/programs/live-grant/>

Announcements – Pittsburgh Health Corp



Since 1994, the Allegheny County Health Department has run the Pittsburgh Health Corp (PHC), one of four AmeriCorps National Direct programs funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

PHC's mission is to **foster healthy communities** today and tomorrow by **developing compassionate health leaders** dedicated to providing **health and wellness services** to those who need it most.

Case management, access to care, health education, health screenings, nutrition and fitness,



Pittsburgh Health Corp, Continued



- Participants receive a generous living allowance (\$16,530), health insurance, an education award, other benefits and a chance to make a positive, life-changing difference in people's lives.
- If you would like to become a host site OR know anyone who wants to help make the community better as a member, contact:

Jake Reed

AmeriCorps Program Director

Allegheny County Health Department

jake.reed@alleghenycounty.us

443-497-0249

2022 Health Equity Summit



[Registration for the Health Equity Summit 2022 is now open!](#) Here are the details you will not want to miss.

Location and Time

April 6
University of Pittsburgh
Program begins at 2pm (EST)

April 7
Wyndham Grand Hotel
8:30am-5:00pm (EST)



Purpose and Goal of Health Equity Summit



- increase awareness of health disparities in Pennsylvania
- educate participants on innovative approaches to reducing health disparities and addressing health equity
- develop action steps to reduce/ eliminate health inequalities in underserved, marginalized, oppressed communities by 2030.

Presentation Topics

- Pathways to Prevention
- Addressing SDoH/PDoH
- Rural Health Equity
- Youth-Led Initiatives
- Pediatric Health Equity
- Mental Health
- Food Insecurity
- Disability Equity
- Environmental Justice

Summit Takeaways

- explore how social determinants of health and equity impact individual and population health
- discover innovative solutions used nationally and in Pennsylvania to reduce health inequalities in both rural and urban settings
- determine and commit to steps organizations, communities, and individuals can take to increase health equity and eliminate health disparities

Featured Speakers:

*Justine "Justice" Shorter,
National Disaster
Protection Advisor
Kevin M. Ressler, M.Div.
President and CEO,
United Way of Lancaster
County*



The role of the Office of Health Equity is to provide leadership to increase public awareness of health disparities in Pennsylvania and advocate for the development of programs to address health disparities by working with policy makers, insurers, healthcare providers, and communities.

Office of Health Equity, Pennsylvania Department of Health
625 Forster Street Harrisburg, PA
717-547-3315

Announcements



- The Rehabilitation & Community Providers Association (RCPA) and the Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers (PACHC) are hosting a **telehealth forum** to bring providers, stakeholders and consumers together to shape policy development, especially looking for people with first-hand experience.
- The discussion will guide advocacy in developing regulations, bulletins and practices that ensure equity and access to services for all communities.
- Date: Wednesday, March 30th from 9-11am

[Registration link](#)

Announcements



- All households can now order **two** free covid-19 testing kits through the federal government (each order contains 4 tests regardless of household size)
- All that's needed is to enter name and mailing address

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>

Announcements

Women's History Month

"Providing Healing, Promoting Hope"

Please join us in honoring women and femmes in your organization whose ceaseless actions provided healing and promoted hope during the on-going pandemic, whether as frontline workers or devoted caregivers.

It's quick and easy. Just log onto the [DHS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH KudoBoard](#), and add a note of praise and an optional photo or graphic.

Then, check back throughout March to see all the ways women have been beacons in our community throughout the past two years.



Announcements



Laptops and Wi-Fi Hotspots for DHS Clients

- Available to any Allegheny County resident who has received services from any DHS-affiliated provider in the past 6 months
- Chromebooks and T-Mobile hotspots are currently available within about 2 weeks.
- DHS pays the monthly bill for the hotspots, which are active for one year.
- To request a laptop or Wi-Fi hotspot:
https://alleghenycounty.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eInE3Uh0xKP6y3P.
- After you submit the form, you will receive an email from DHS-Covid19Supplies@alleghenycounty.us about the status of the request and distribution details.

Announcements

Inclusive Hiring Practices for Second Chance Employment

PRESENTED BY ALLEGHENY COUNTY REENTRY COALITION (ACAR)

APRIL 20 FROM 1:00 - 2:00PM EST



Join us for a webinar featuring Chidi Umez-Rowley of the Council of State Governments Justice Center, a national expert in inclusive policies and practices to remove barriers to employment for people with records.

Contact ACAReentry@gmail.com with questions



Housing & Homeless Services

Quick overview of what the Homeless System in Allegheny County looks like today & a glimpse of what the future holds



Allegheny County Homeless System Capacity



Services range from homeless prevention (rental assistance) to street outreach and shelter services to permanent housing programs

| System Bed Capacity* | Number of Year-Round Units |
|------------------------------|--|
| Emergency Shelter | 388 units (547 beds) + 128 winter beds |
| Transitional/Bridge Housing | 138 units |
| Rapid Rehousing | 578 units |
| Permanent Supportive Housing | 1428 units* |

People Served



In 2021, approximately 8,400 persons were served system wide*

- Homeless prevention: 900 people
 - An additional ~13,000 households were served in Allegheny County's ERAP program in 2021
- Street Outreach: 500 people
- Shelter: 3,400 people
- *Bridge/Transitional Housing*: 240 people
- *RRH & PSH*: 3,600 people

* *Some persons served in multiple service types*

Trends & Observations



Homelessness should be *rare, brief and non-recurring*.

Rare:

- Newly Homeless
 - The percentage of persons entering homelessness programs who are considered “newly homeless” (not served in homeless programs in previous 2 years) has been trending down, from 86% in 2019 to 84% in 2020 to 71% in 2021.

Brief:

- Length of time in shelters
 - The median length of time persons stayed in shelters decreased in 2021 to 37 days, down from 52 days in 2020, but still higher than 2019 (28 days).

Non-recurring:

- Exits to permanent and stable housing
 - 49% of people exiting shelter/bridge/RRH in 2021 exited to permanent and stable housing destinations, down from 56% in 2020 and 2019.
 - 98% of persons served in PSH programs in 2021 remained in the program or exited to permanent and stable housing destinations, up slightly from 87% in 2020 and 2019.
- Return to homelessness
 - The percentage of persons who exited homeless programs to permanent stable housing destinations and returned to the homeless system within 6 months was 10% in 2021, an increase from 6% in 2020 and 3% in 2019.

What the Future Holds



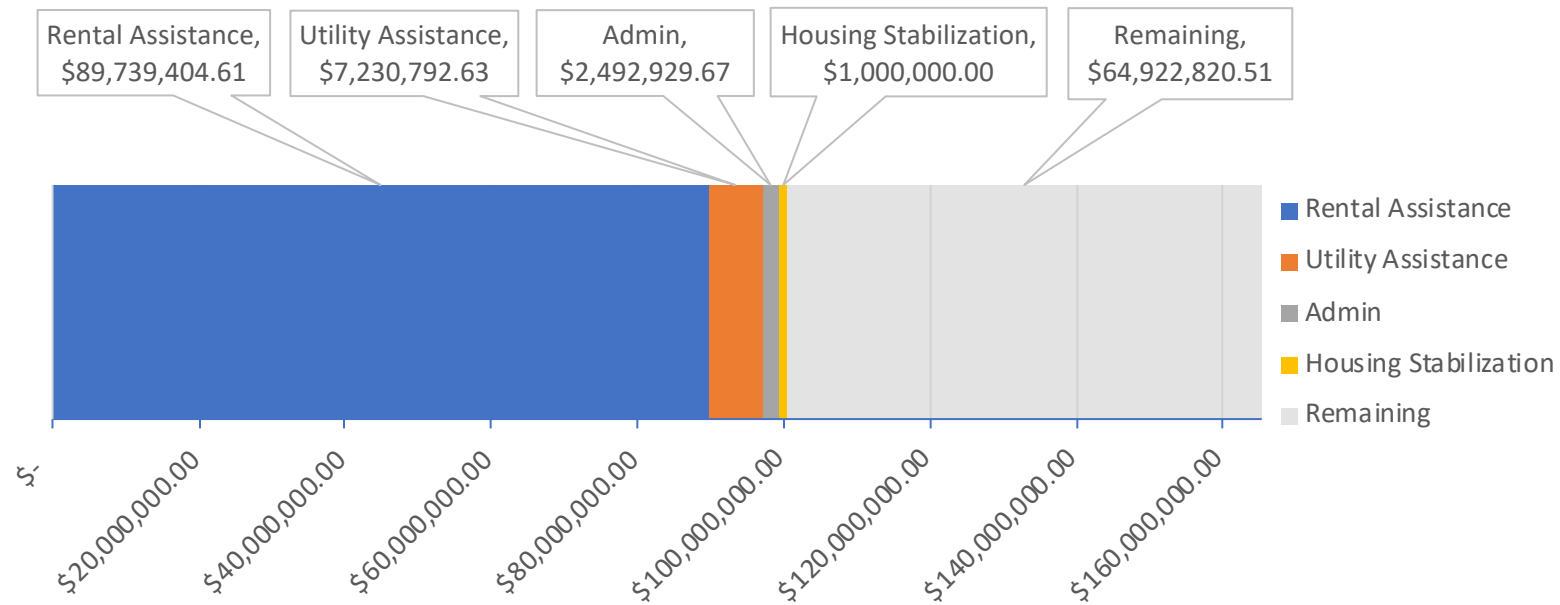
- **ERAP is winding down**
- **The Safe Haven Hotel is downsizing**
- **Second Avenue Commons is coming**
- **Connecting Homeless Services to more Behavioral Health Services is top priority**

Allegheny County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Winding Down



One year milestone for ERAP

- More than 30,000 applications submitted to the program
- More than 15,000 households have received rent and/or utility assistance
- More than \$95 million disbursed in rent and utility payments



What are the Changes to Rent & Utility Assistance?



Stop forward utility payments starting March 31 to be able to pay more in rent

Other programs are available to fill this need for applicants who qualify

Back rent up to 15 months still paid as initial payment

No new applications accepted after 3/31/22

No rental payments made for any months after May 31, 2022

This limits the number of forward rent applicants can receive

We will continue to process the backlog of applications for as long as funding lasts

What You Can Do



Contact ACTION-Housing at rentalassistance@actionhousing.org or 412-248-0021. They've hired more staff for six week so they can help more people. Email is still the quickest way to get a response. Please:

- Have your T-number ready when you email or call
 - Set up your voicemail and ensure it is not full
 - Let us know ASAP if your phone number has changed since you applied
 - Check the email account you used to set up your application and respond to us
-
- Keep checking your application online here: <https://acdhsccrp.alleghenycounty.us/CITIZEN/Security/Disclaimer>. If more information or documents are required from you, you'll be able to see it.
 - If you're a renter, communicate with your landlord.
 - If you're a landlord, respond to your tenant.

Help if You're Being Evicted



- If there is a threat of eviction, but no legal action, call or text **RentHelpPGH** at 412-534-6660 (English) or 412-530-5244 (Español).
- If there is threat of eviction and you've received notice of a pre-filing, contact **Just Mediation Pittsburgh** at 412-228-0730. This requires the participation of your landlord.
- If there has been an eviction action filed, Contact **Neighborhood Legal Services** at 412-255-6700.
- Stop by the **Housing Stabilization Center** at 415 Seventh Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh. Drop-in hours are Mon-Fri from 8:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

We appreciate your patience as we work to wind this program down.

Isolation & Quarantine for COVID



We partnered with CHS to open the Safe Haven Hotel in April 2020.

- It has been serving as the County's Isolation and Quarantine space ever since.
- It also provided space for highly vulnerable individuals to move out of congregate or unsheltered settings to avoid COVID.
- We had access to over 100 rooms.

Our journey with COVID is not over, but we're in a very different place now with vaccines, lower rates and fewer hospitalizations.

- The Safe Haven is moving to a new location and downsizing.

The Referral Process for someone who needs I&Q is UNCHANGED:

[Please click here for the referral form.](#)



SECOND
AVENUE

— COMMONS —

HOUSING • HEALTH • HOPE

Second Avenue Commons



All services will be aligned with the principles of the Commons which include dignity, personal control, safety and privacy, harm reduction, trauma informed care, and flexibility.

- **24/7 Access Shelter:** 95+ beds (with 40 additional overflow for winter) in group sleeping rooms with dedicated personal hygiene facilities, space for pets, and storage facilities. Smithfield Winter Shelter will no longer operate.
- **Day Drop-in Center:** These services and space will be available to shelter and SRO residents as well as individuals experiencing homelessness that do not reside in Second Avenue Commons. The Drop-in Center will create a warm, welcoming environment that encourages individuals to become more deeply connected to available supports and services. It will include:
 - Personal hygiene and laundry facilities;
 - Space to relax, have a snack, charge a phone, create community; and
 - Rooms to meet with trained outreach staff and other case management services.
- **A Medical Clinic** for physical and behavioral health services.
- **Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Apartments:** 43 units open to any low-income person (30 - 50% AMI). Will also be an option for individuals with PSH or vouchers.

EXTERIOR | IMAGE AND CHARACTER



PROJECT CARES PITTSBURGH
DESIGN DEVELOPMENT FINAL REVIEW
SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

Addressing Behavioral Health Needs in the Homeless System



Challenge

- Significant proportion of individuals in the homeless system have behavioral health needs.
- Individuals are often high utilizers of crisis services.
- Most homeless shelters lack competencies to address behavioral health crises or to connect individuals to mainstream services.
- BH services are often disrupted or discontinued due to the specific barriers people experiencing homelessness face.

Planned Responses

- DHS is exploring ways to integrate the front door to Homeless and BH Housing programs so clients are referred to the best housing option for their needs.
- FQHC Community Health Workers (CHW) with BH training to partner with shelters.
 - Northside Christian Health Center and Light of Life. One-year with private funds that support CHWs.
 - Potential to expand through ACHD CHW funding.
- Shelter-based BH specialist (one-year pilot)
 - Identify those already utilizing mainstream BH supports and ensure stable connection to services.
 - Engage individuals who have had BH services within past year, understand why services stopped and support reengagement.
 - Engage individuals who are at risk of termination from shelter due to behavioral presentation by identifying strategies to support their time in shelter.

Sustainability

- Collaboration between homeless services, OBH and Community Care Behavioral Health (MCO) to expand BH specialists -- Acute Service Coordination (ASC) -- to be based in shelters.
 - ASC services would be eligible for Medicaid billing.

Opportunities to Be Part of the Conversation



- Daily email on Shelter Vacancies for single individuals
- Bi-weekly Call for Coordinated Entry & BHS Office Hours to answer any questions (plus Ask a Question (AAQ) online form)
- Weekly or Bi-weekly Case Conferencing Meetings: Unsheltered Individuals; Young Adults; Veterans
- Monthly Provider Meeting where DHS staff provide updates on policies, procedures, contracts and fiscal issues.
- DAL process
- Bi-monthly Continuum of Care (CoC)/Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) meeting – open to the public
- Monthly HAB Committee Meetings:
 - Homeless Outreach Coordinating Committee (HOCC)
 - Provider Committee
 - CoC Analysis and Planning Committee (CoCAPC)
 - Communication and Education Committee (CES)
- Monthly Allegheny County Local Housing Options Team (LHOT) meeting
- Bi-monthly Employment and Training Advisory Board (ETAB)
- Quarterly Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) Committee meetings
- Quarterly Housing and Healthcare (H2) meeting

And of course, those experiencing homelessness should call The Allegheny Link: 1-866-730-2368

COVID-19: An Update



Dr. Debra Bogen
Allegheny County Health Department



Next Meeting

4/28/22

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Meeting notices and reminders will come from the staff of the Office of Equity and Engagement.

Here is the link to sign up to receive those notices:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/Uvw6IMX/ProviderBriefings>

Or email us at DHS-OEE@AlleghenyCounty.us

Key Contacts



Questions for the Allegheny County Health Department

- <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment/index.aspx>

Questions for DHS about Covid-19 or to Request a Lock Box for a Client

- DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us
- Use the subject field to indicate the category of your question (e.g., child welfare vaccine requirements, behavioral health masking policy, lock box request).

Key DHS staff

- Payment inquiries: Dan Evancho Dan.Evancho@alleghenycounty.us
- Contract inquiries: Jennifer.Wernert@alleghenycounty.us or Laura.Brigido@alleghenycounty.us

United Way 2-1-1

- For basic needs assistance or general COVID-19 inquiries call the 24/7 COVID19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774. Language services available.