

What Connects Us

Allegheny County Department of Human Services



10/27/2022

Provider Briefing

Agenda



3:00 – 3:10PM: Welcome / Policy, Legislative and Procurement Updates

3:10 – 3:20PM: Provider Briefings Update

3:20 – 3:55PM: Workforce collaboration to improve recruitment, retention and career mobility



Policy and Legislative Update

Federal Updates



Congress Passed Short-Term Spending Bill to Avoid Government Shutdown at the end of September

Congress passed a continuing resolution on September 30 to extend level funding for the federal government through **December 16**, giving lawmakers additional time to reach an agreement on federal funding for fiscal year 2023 and averting a partial government shutdown.

Medicaid and Public Health Emergency

- During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), certain Medicaid and CHIP requirements were waived, preventing loss of coverage during the pandemic.
- The PHE has been extended through **January 11, 2023**. In a letter to state Governors, the Administration indicated they will give at least 60 days of notice before the PHE ends.

State Update



As of now, lawmakers in Harrisburg only have 4 more session days between both houses between now and mid-November.

- The 2021-2022 legislative session will end at the close of this year, meaning Representatives and Senators will vote on leadership and see turnover in Committee assignments when the new two-year session begins in January 2023.
- Additionally, all legislation must either be passed by the end of this session or reintroduced in the next two-year session beginning in January.

New Birth Certificate Policy for Youth in Foster Care or Juvenile Justice



As of 9/16/2022, Applicant Eligibility for Birth Certificates ruling has been revised to make it easier for youth who are/were involved in foster care, juvenile justice or homelessness systems to apply for their own birth certificate. The revision eliminates a number of barriers previously in play:

- Inability to pay the \$20 fee
- Lack of valid government-issued ID
- Lack of a valid mailing address
- Estrangement from parents or other family members who may be eligible to apply on behalf of the youth.

Birth Certificate Resources



On 10/3/2022, the state Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries began offering an "Application for a Birth Certificate for Foster and Juvenile Justice-Involved Individuals."

- Designed for youth ages 16 through 24
- Waives the fee or allows an agency to pay the fee on behalf of the youth

Resources:

- [Application for a Birth Certificate:](#)
- [Application for a Birth Certificate with Fees Waived for an Individual who is experiencing homelessness](#)
- [Application for a Birth Certificate for an Individual Involved in Foster Care or Juvenile Justice](#)

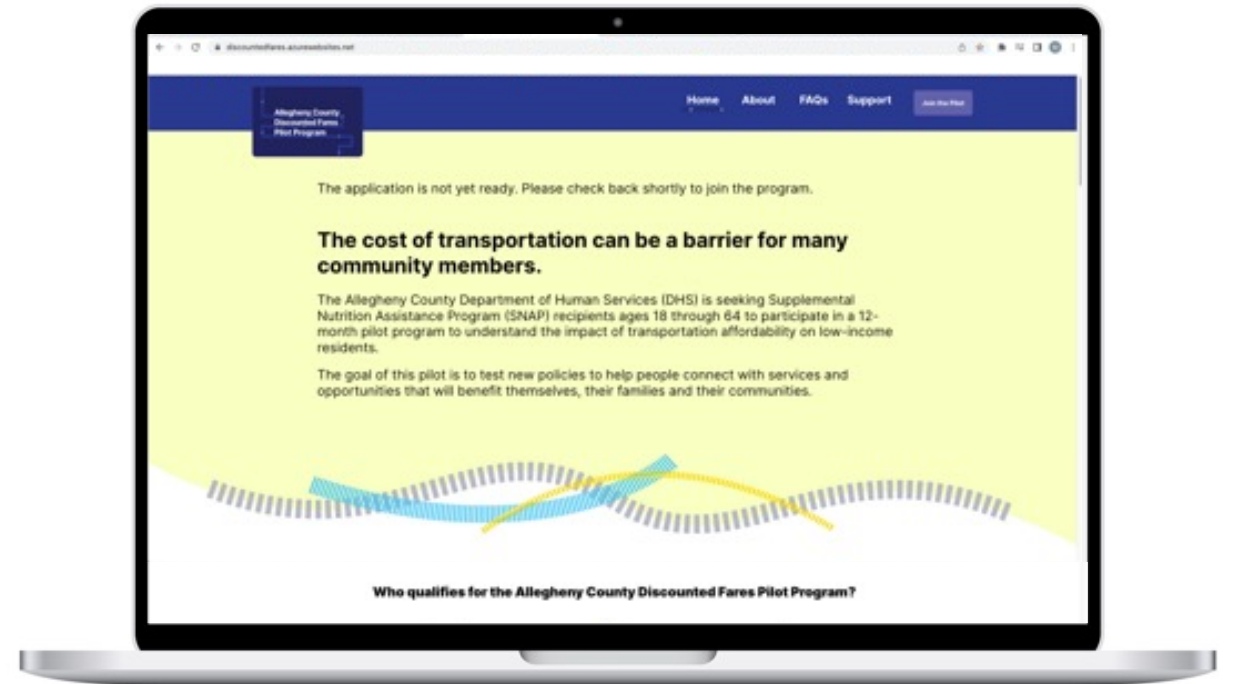


Announcements

Allegheny County Discounted Fares Pilot Program

- Within the next month, we are implementing a pilot through which PRT will provide discounted or free bus passes to about 1,400 individuals ages 18 through 64 who qualify for SNAP.
- Designed to address the barriers that the cost of transportation can pose to accessing jobs, services and other life necessities
- Set up as a pilot to help us understand the impact of transportation affordability on lower-income residents
- An evaluation will be conducted by researchers from CMU and Harvard.

Please refer your clients to the [website](#) to see if they are eligible to participate in the pilot.





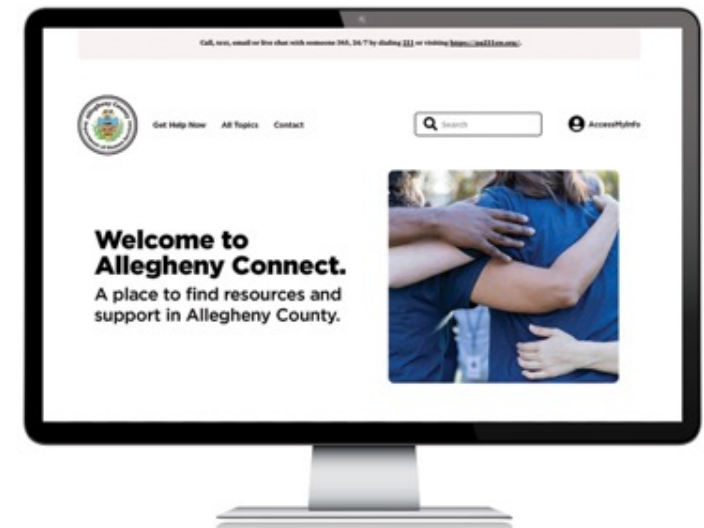
Allegheny Connect is Live!

A new simple, resource-rich website for the community

Acts as a wide-open door to services needed right now

Includes access to nine main service topics, ability to connect with the DAL or 2-1-1 for immediate assistance and the opportunity to browse providers and their accommodations.

[Connect.alleghenycounty.us](https://connect.alleghenycounty.us)



Final Thoughts



It's been a wild 2½ years!

Let's keep the lines of communication open to maintain the successful working partnerships that were strengthened during this time.

Thank you for your extraordinary response to the pandemic and for the work you do every day to serve Allegheny County's most vulnerable residents.



Active Solicitations



[DHS Solicitations Webpage](#)

RFP for Meals and Nutrition Services for Older Adults

- Due Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2022

RFI for a Racial Equity Training and Support Directory

- Due Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022

RFP for a Mobile Competency Restoration and Support Team

- Due Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2022

RFQ for Forensic Psychological and/or Psychiatric Evaluators

- Due Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Panel Presentation



WORKFORCE COLLABORATION: Supporting Recruitment, Retention and Career Mobility

Facilitator: Erin Dalton

Presenters:

Vonjana Knight, *A Second Chance University, A Second Chance Inc.*

Lisa Kuzma, *Behavioral Health Fellows Program, DHS*

Christine Pietryga, *Skillsbridge, Veteran's Leadership Project*

Dr. Anthony (Tony) Mansueto, *Recruiting Internship Program, CCAC*

Talent Attraction and Retention: A Network Approach (Erin Dalton)



Key Elements to Explore Today

- Creating an “industry” for human service professionals
 - DHS and the provider network
 - All positions including client-facing, financial, IT, facilities, human resources, etc.
- Super-charged Recruitment
 - Early introduction to the sector for high school and college students
 - Broad partnerships with recruiting firms and programs
- Aggressive and Compelling Marketing
 - Professional materials with stories of real people excelling in these positions
 - One platform
- Career Ladders within and across the network
 - Joint professional development
 - Networking events

DHS Behavioral Health Fellows (Lisa Kuzma)



- Surveyed providers to identify need
- Researched successful retention strategies
- Why enroll as a BH Fellow?
 - Student Loan Forgiveness after fulfilling a two-year commitment
 - Learning opportunities and professional development
 - Cohort activities supported by the Jewish Healthcare Foundation
 - Competitive salary and benefit packages
- Why support a BH Fellow as a provider?
 - Support for minimum salary levels for all staff in positions identified as high need
 - Access to high quality management training for supervisors
 - Additional support for time fellows and managers spend in training
- Outcomes expected
 - Providing access to mental health services to anyone in Allegheny County with a need
 - Attraction of new staff and retention of existing workforce
 - Increased client encounters
 - Increased claims paid

Demonstration Project with CCAC (Dr. Mansueto)



CCAC, DHS and Provider Organizations will host a highly publicized event (with food!) at which they will present opportunities within the human service sector to Fall 2022 students.

Students who complete the Fall 2022 semester (even freshman) are invited to apply for internship positions at DHS and within the provider network.

This cohort of students will also receive financial aid and career counseling from CCAC.

DHS and participating providers will mentor and build a relationship with each student throughout their academic career.

Expanding the Candidate Pool (Christine Pietryga)



Veteran's Leadership and the Skillsbridge program will work with community partners to identify opportunities to reach individuals who may not have considered a career in the human service sector.

Building on Success (Vonjana Knight)



A Second Chance, Inc. created ASCI University and has demonstrated its ability to foster successful hiring at all skill levels, as well as training, career advancement and world-class diversity, equity and inclusion strategies.

Innovations such as ASCI University provide a model which can be explored throughout the network.

Quick Survey



Please respond to this [survey](#) to let us know if you are interested in participating in this effort with us.



Join the DHS Team!

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