

April 2024 Spotlight

U.D.T.J. Community Center

Presenter: Kyle T. McIntyre, Director of Operations

U.D.T.J. (Understanding. Devotion. Take Action. Justice) is an organization that fights for equality and justice based on race, gender identity, sexual orientation, and across all intersectional identities.

Thank you to our presenter, Kyle T. McIntyre, for sharing about all the wonderful and important work happening at the U.D.T.J. Community Center located in Upper Darby. We encourage you to visit their website to learn more about U.D.T.J.'s programs, services, and upcoming events - including June's Delaware County Pride Festival!

Learn more

A Piece of Pennsylvania LGBTQIA+ History



- In 1974, Governor Milton Shapp formed a task force to address issues faced by the commonwealth's gay and lesbian constituents.
- Months later, on April 23, 1975, Governor Shapp signed an executive order to end discrimination of LGBTQ+ employees in state government. Pennsylvania was the first state in the nation issue such protections for LGBTQ+ people.
- In 1976, the task force was formally recognized as the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities and lasted for about 10 years. This was another national milestone, as the council was the first governmental body in the United States to change state policy to better protect LGBTQ+ people and address HIV/AIDS.



Group portrait of some members of the PA Council for Sexual Minorities, ca. 1976. Source: Pennsylvania State Archives.

Source: PA State Historic Preservation Office

During the April CTC meeting, we asked the following trivia question:

Q: According to a 2023 Gallup poll, what percentage of Gen Z (born between 1997-2012) identifies as LGBTQIA+?

A: 22.3%

Congratulations to our April CTC trivia winner, Regina Rothe from Widener University.



DELAWARE COUNTY CTC NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENTS APRIL 2024

April 2024

Chester Education Foundation

Summer is right around the corner and our two summer programs - STEP and Blueprint for Success - will begin accepting applications in May (see fliers below for more information). If you or someone you know is interested in either program, reach out ASAP - these spots fill up quickly!



BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS PROGRAM (beginning July 2024)

(beginning July 2024)

Need a job? This program is for you!





Resume Prep & Interview Coaching!



Paid Internship!



Job Placement!

Scan this QR code for more information

Are you a high school graduate and need help finding a good job?



Are you between 18-24 years old and reside in Delaware County, PA?

Chester Education Foundation would love to help you create a Blueprint for Your Success! Contact us now to get started!





egreene@chestereducation.org



(610) 364-1212



419 Ave of the States, Suite 700 Chester, PA 19013

Equal Opportunity Program / Employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For Equal Opportunity concerns, please contact Tatiana Moskatova, EO Compliance Officer at moskatovat@co.delaware.pa.us or 610-359-5020[TTY]. Language Assistance Services are available free of cost. This program is supported by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award from the Delaware County Workforce Development Board totaling \$440,958 with \$77,813 (18%) state, local and/or non-governmental funds.

A proud partner of the American Job Center network



STEP Program

(Success Training & Employment Program)

Summer Program

(16-18 years old)

July 8-August 15, 2024





College & Career Counseling!



Resume & Interview Prep!



Paid Work Experience!

Scan this QR code for more information



EARN AS YOU LEARN!

The Summer **STEP program** offers assistance with college or job applications, financial literacy workshops, tutoring, writing resumes, preparing for interviews, & more!

If you are 16-18 years old and reside in Chester, PA, **Chester Education Foundation** would love to help you take the next **STEP**towards your future. Contact us now to get started!





egreene@chestereducation.org



(610) 364-1212



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A proud partner of the American Job Center network

April 2024

Child and Family Focus



STRONG AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILIES

A Fun, Evidence-Based, Family-Strengthening Program for Black or African American Youth Ages 10-14 and Caregivers

TUESDAY NIGHTS @ 5:30-8:00PM APRIL 30 - JUNE 11, 2024

Chester Education Foundation CEF Chester 419 Avenue of the States, Chester, PA

Scan the QR Code to Register Now!

Questions? Email prevention@childandfamilyfocus.org



Funded by the Delaware County Department of Human Services, Division of Drug and Alcohol

LifeSkills Training (LST) PARENT PROGRAM

CHILD & FAMILY FOCUS PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAM









The award-winning Botvin LifeSkills
Training Parent Program is
designed to help caregivers
strengthen communication with
their children and prevent them
from using drugs. This program
contains materials and exercises
that help caregivers teach their
children the skills that help them
resist the threats of tobacco,
drugs, and violence. These tools
help parents prepare their children
for a successful transition from
adolescence to early adulthood.



www.ChildAndFamilyFocus.org

Free & Supportive Programming!

The LST Parent Program helps to strengthen parenting skills over seven sessions in these areas:

- Preventing adolescent drug use
- Being a good role model
- Communicating effectively within the family
- Parental monitoring
- Helping children develop personal self-management and social skills.

Meant for parents and caregivers, ideally with youth grades 6-9.

Self-reports from parents and caregivers that participated in LST Parents illustrate significant increases relative to controls in appropriate role modeling, disciplinary practices, family communication, and parental monitoring skills.



LEARN MORE

Email Prevention@childandfamilyfocus.org



 $\label{prop:control} \textit{Funded by the Delaware County Department of Human Services, Division of Drug and Alcohol}$



Prizes Raffled Each Week!

UNITY

An Evidence-Based Support Group for LGBTQIA2S+ High School Youth Ages 14-18 that Celebrates Unique Lived Experiences & Counteracts Racial & Social Forces That Impede Growth



VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM *DELAWARE COUNTY, PA

Scan the QR Code to Register Now!

Questions? Email prevention@childandfamilyfocus.org



Funded by the Delaware County Department of Human Services, Division of Drug and Alcohol



CAREGIVERS, DO YOU NEED A BREAK?!

Child and Family Focus

CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
RESPITE
PROGRAM

EMAIL: RESPITE@CHILDANDFAMILYFOCUS.ORG

CALL: 610-732-8682

VISIT: WWW.CHILDANDFAMILYFOCUS.ORG

FIND OUT IF YOUR FAMILY IS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE RESPITE CHILD CARE:

Children ages 3-21 with a mental health diagnosis, and mental health services, residing in Bucks, Chester, or Delaware Counties may be eligible.





PARENTS CONNECT

Win Prizes and Connect with Other Parents During This LifeSkills Training Program!

THURSDAY EVENINGS
APRIL 18TH- MAY 30TH TH, 2024 @ 5:30-7:00PM
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Scan the QR Code to Register Now!

Questions? Email prevention@childandfamilyfocus.org



Funded by the Delaware County Department of Human Services, Division of Drug and Alcohol



April 2024

Latino Connection



Register

YOUR CHILD IS VAPING. **NOW WHAT?**

Tips For Parents & Caregivers



Vaping and nicotine are not safe. It's not just water vapor.

Nicotine impacts the development of young brains. Use of nicotine can lead to addiction and put your child at risk for developing other addictive behaviors (e.g. social media addiction, gambling, alcohol, and other drugs). Vaping can also impact academic performance, sleep, and mental health.

Vape aerosol also contains heavy metals (lead, nickel, cadmium, tin), cancer causing agents (acetaldehyde and formaldehyde), food additives not meant for inhalation (flavorings, propylene glycol, vegetable glycerin), and other substances that inflammation and lung damage (acrolein, diacetyl, diethylene glycol). Empower yourself and your child to protect their health and well-being.



- Frequent visits to the bathroom.
- Persistent different scents in their bedroom or the use of air fresheners to mask smells.
- Keeping the bedroom door locked.
- Reluctance to let you touch their belongings.
- Odd devices or plastic parts laying around.
- Unusual coughing.
- Mood swings without a specific reason.
- · Sudden changes in the amount of spending money.



- Choose a calm and non-confrontational setting.
- Be open and non-judgmental.
- Ask open-ended questions to encourage communication.
- Share your concerns and observations.
- Listen actively to your child's perspective.
- · Understand that this is a common situation and stay calm.
- Be willing to offer and find professional help.

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April 2024

Delaware County Tobacco-Free Coalition





Who We Are The Delaware County Tobacco-Free Coalition (DCTFC), formed in 1997, is a group of individuals and organizations protecting the health of our communities by reducing the harms related to tobacco.

What We Do

DCTFC creates awareness and media campaigns, participates in community events, and provides resources to help people quit smoking and nicotine products, including vaping. Our Coalition also advocates for smoke and vape-free parks, playgrounds, housing, and workplaces. We partner with government, other community organizations, public health, health care, and social services agencies.



Who Can Join

Anyone who has a passion for reducing the harms associated with tobacco and nicotine products. We are always seeking students, parents, professionals, organizations, and community leaders to join our cause.

If you are interested in joining or have questions, please contact delcopatobaccofree@gmail.com

How to Get Involved

Our Coalition meets, virtually, monthly (every first Tuesday of the month from 9:00am - 10:30am).

- Attend our meetings, learn about our work, share your ideas.
- Represent the coalition at community events.
- Distribute tobacco and vaping prevention and quitting resources.
- Organize and collaborate with other groups and organizations.
- Website design and maintenance.
- Create new campaigns and community involvement programs (e.g., Great American Smoke-Out, Lung Cancer Awareness Day, Meme Contest).
- · Advocate for smoke and vape-free policies.
- Volunteer and community service hours.

Examples of Our Work

- Take Down Tobacco Day Student Video Contest
- COVID-19 Quit Smoking Campaign
- · Great American Smoke Out essay contest
- Partnered with local government and PA Department of Health on the Young Lungs at Play (smoke and vape-free playgrounds and parks) Project

April 2024

CeaseFire PA



Tuesday, May 7, 2024
PA State Capitol Harrisburg





End Gun Violence Advocacy Day

Last year, 500 Pennsylvanians descended on Harrisburg, demanding an end to gun violence. Soon after, the first bipartisan policies in years passed the PA House. Join us on Tuesday, May 7th as we continue our life-saving work.

DATE: Tuesday, May 7, 2024

9:00 - 9:30 AM: Arrive in Harrisburg, Check-In

10:00 - 11:45 AM: Advocacy Meetings & Drop-Bys with Legislative Offices (meetings scheduled on your behalf)

12:00 - 1:00 PM: End Gun Violence Rally/Press Event on the Front Steps of the Capitol (tentative timing)

3:30 PM: Buses Depart

RSVP

April 2024

Chester ExChange



MATH FUN FAIR!

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES

Learn the importance of math in everyday life and that math can be fun!

A CHESTER EXCHANGE NETWORK EVENT

Saturday, April 20th 10:30-1:30 p.m. Chester City Hall -Community Room

Find out how people from all walks of life use math every day.





Resources for Parents and Caregivers

Tips to help your child improve their math skills.

Tutors available

FREE FOOD!

PRIZES, RAFFLES, GIVE-AWAYS

Scan the QR Code to Register



April 2024

Widener University

WIDENER UNIVERSITY

BSW FIELD EDUCATION INFORMATION

College of Health & Human Services

CENTER FOR SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Click to view brochure

WIDENER UNIVERSITY

MSW FIELD EDUCATION INFORMATION

College of Health & Human Services

CENTER FOR SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Click to view brochure

April 2024

Neighbor to Neighbor



April 2024

The Children Children's Chorus



THE CHESTER CHILDREN'S CHORUS



Saturday, April 27, 2024

11.00 AM - 12.00 PM: 3rd-5th grades

3:00 - 4:30 PM: 6th-11th grades

Chester children in grades 3-11 are eligible to audition for our **free**, year-round music & math education program.

No prior music training is required. Round-trip transportation provided upon acceptance.

715 Harvard Ave., Swarthmore, PA 19081 (Swarthmore College campus)



REGISTER: CHESTERCHILDRENSCHORUS.ORG/AUDITION | CALL/TEXT: 610-348-8234 | EMAIL: BSLATE1@SWARTHMORE.EDU

THE CHESTER CHILDREN'S CHORUS



LANG MUSIC BUILDING | SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
WATCH SATURDAY'S SHOW LIVE ON FACEBOOK & YOUTUBE
FREE ADMISSION!



CHESTERCHILDRENSCHORUS.ORG



April 2024

City of Chester



For questions, please contact:

Becca Yurkovich, Sustainability and Resilience Manager
Yurkovichr@co.delaware.pa.us
or Lisa Gaffney, Deputy Executive Director of CEDA
Irg@ceda.cc











April 2024

Penn State Extension



ENJOY HEALTHY EATING ON A TIGHT BUDGET

NUTRITION LINKS

FREE ONLINE LESSONS ON NUTRITION FROM PENN STATE EXPERTS

Join this free program and work with Penn State Extension nutrition education advisers (NEAs) to complete online lessons featuring healthy eating tips on smart shopping, food preparation, and delicious recipes, as well as a food safety lesson by phone or Zoom. NEAs are available for check-ins throughout the program. Receive a certificate when you complete all the lessons.



For more information, visit extension.psu.edu/nutrition-links or call toll-free 1-888-778-3535.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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This publication is available in alternative media on request

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TOPICS INCLUDE:

- · Portion Sizes
- + Moving More
- + Smart Drink Choices
- # Meal Planning
- Shopping on a Budget
- * Adding Fruits and Vegetables
- + Preparing Food Safely

WHO QUALIFIES FOR THIS PROGRAM?

- + Parent or caregiver of a child 19 years or under who qualifies for free or reduced school lunch or WIC
- + Adults who qualify for SNAP Benefits, Food Pantry Boxes/Bags, Pennsylvania Farmers Market Vouchers

¡CLASES DISPONIBLES EN ESPANOL!



April 2024

ACCESS Community Center

Join us for ESL ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

- Enhance vocabulary
- ✓ Polish speaking skills
- ✓ Improve pronouncuation
- **✓ Excellent Teaching**

Registration is now open for classes starting in FEBRUARY 2024.

Classes will be offered during the week and there will be morning and afternoon sessions. You MUST sign up at the FRONT OFFICE.



ACCESS Community Center
701 Booth Street
Chester, PA. 19013
Maggie Gannon, osf

It's Never Too Late to Get Your College Degree!

Whether you are just graduating high school or always wanted to get your degree (or finish your degree) the ACE program is perfect for you!



The Achieve College Education (ACE) program is a collaboration developed by I-LEAD, Inc. that brings together community-based organizations and Harcum College to provide associate degree programs for traditionally under-served students. Since 2005, more than 1,500 working adults have earned an associate degree. With full accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, graduates can transfer credits to bachelor's degree programs.

I-LEAD designed the ACE college program to address the primary barriers underserved working adults face: time, cost, preparedness, and lack of familiarity with higher education systems. ACE offers affordable tuition, an accelerated format, and evening courses which meet twice a week online in real-time with a live instructor and classmates. Most importantly, the ACE partners work together to support student success from application through to graduation, including navigation of the financial aid process and college administration.

For more information, contact Nolan Fontaine: nolan.fontaine@i-leadusa.org

Foster Youth Can Attend College for Free!

Did You Know....
That Youth Who Entered Foster Care
Before Age 16 Can Attend College For Free?

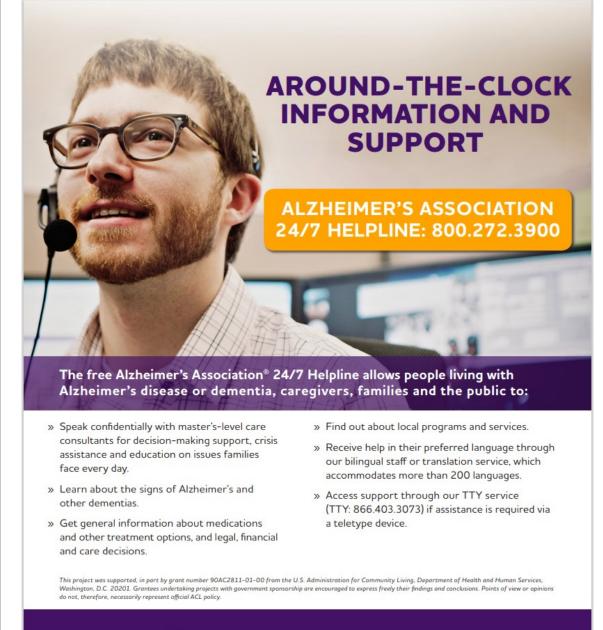


I-LEAD, a non-profit that has helped more than 1,500 working adults earn an associate degree, helps foster youth and resource parents find the right college that fits your needs. Our College Coach will help you complete the financial aid forms, apply for scholarships that will allow youth to remain on campus over holidays and breaks, connect with an on-campus advisor, and so much more!

Want to learn more? Contact Cynda Clyde: cclyde@i-leadusa.org

April 2024

Alzheimer Association



alzheimer's % association

800.272.3900 | alz.org®

alz.org/delval

April 2024

Ruth Bennett Community Farm

Join Jose Spellman-Lopez for a hands-on workshop to learn how to efficiently set up basic orchard irrigation systems to support your orchard during dry periods. Learn how to install basic orchard tubing, drip irrigation and set up irrigation that pinpoints specific plants.

RSVP

Youth Development United

Increasing access to cycling can have a meaningful positive effect on a community. Cycling is a life sport for all ages, providing ongoing health benefits as well as serving as an environmentally friendly transportation option. A recent Urban Institute report finds that equitable access to quality and reliable transportation is key to advancing racial equity.

It is Youth Development United's intention to continue increasing access to cycling for the children and families of Chester, Eddystone and Upland. To date, we have tuned and given away over 250 donated bicycles, helped create three Bike Libraries and hosted three Bike Rodeos.

Volunteer

Donate or Sponsor

April 2024

Delco Gives Day and Delco Gives, Chester Creates Block Party

Delco Gives Day is a 24-hour county-wide day of giving/community celebration, where people will make a donation to their favorite nonprofits (or peruse new ones) on the delcogives.org site. Each donation is eligible for bonus money provided by the Foundation, and there will be cash prizes sponsored by local businesses given out throughout the day. The inaugural Delco Gives Day will be held May 8 - 9, 2024 (7:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

Online activity will be accompanied by a number of celebrations held throughout the county that bring together nonprofits, donors, businesses, and volunteers to showcase the power of collective action and community giving. Delco Gives Day is more than just a fundraising event; it's a celebration of the Delco generosity and community spirit.

Making a Change Group has joined the Foundation for Delaware County organizing team to coordinate one of the launch events: the DELCO GIVES, CHESTER CREATES BLOCK PARTY!

When: Wednesday, May 8th (4:00PM - 8:00PM)

Where: 400 and 500 block of Avenue of the States in Chester (Chester City Hall should serve as your point of reference) What to Expect: A day of fun with entertainment for youth and families!

We are Bringing Community Together: People, nonprofits, youth sports organizations, artists/galleries, small businesses, etc. for an event where families/residents of Chester can have fun AND learn about resources available to them.

Register

April 2024

The Foundation for Delaware County: Fatherhood Program

The Fatherhood Program is just for Dads & partners or parents-to-be! Programming

includes casual gatherings, support groups, special events, and one-on-one sessions with the foundation's fatherhood coordinator.

Our goal is to make sure that fathers and partners have access to useful resources, information and supports, in the same way that mothers or pregnant individuals do! Through our fatherhood program, partners of the moms-to-be have an opportunity to build connections with program staff. When expecting fathers complete specialized screening tools they are then referred to appropriate community-based resources. Parents will learn more about the experiences of fathers to optimize their involvement during the pregnancy process, the child's birth and after the baby is born. Fathers have access to an exclusive mobile-accessible app that shares consistent messaging to support the parenthood journey. In partnership with Daddy University, the Doulas 4 Dads program can provide a male postpartum doula who can support Dad around the delivery, birth and bringing home of a child. Fathers and partners are also encouraged to participate in the monthly Fatherhood Engagement Committee to build community and develop resources to strengthen the system of care in Delaware County for fathers.

Contact Dr. Onaje Muid to learn more.

Contact

April 2024

The Foundation for Delaware County

Healthy Start is a federally funded program serving pregnant people, expectant fathers, the family, and children up to 18-months. For over 20 years, Healthy Start has reduced the infant mortality rate and improved birth outcomes in the target area of Chester, Upland, Eddystone, Woodlyn, Parkside, Chester Township, Marcus Hook, Trainer, and Linwood.

Services include:

- Intensive outreach, engagement, and recruitment of pregnant people;
- Tiered care coordination and case management based on assessed need and home visiting;
- Education that focuses on health, pregnancy, parenting, early childhood development, life skills, financial literacy, and management;
- · Civil legal information and representation; and
- Permanent housing support services and resources.

More than 700 participants benefit from Healthy Start each year. People can enroll during their pregnancy and after delivery and can remain in the program until the child is eighteen-months-old.

Healthy Start is one of the foundation's two home-visiting programs, in addition to Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP). These programs work in collaboration with our other public health initiatives to give families the full complement of services and support to thoroughly prepare them for welcoming a new baby and parenting toddlers. When you are enrolled in both programs, Healthy Start case managers and Nurse-Family Partnership nurses are a team, with your case manager connecting you to eligible services and benefits, and your nurse emphasizing parenting.

Obtén esta información en Español.

Swarthmore Civic Scholars

Linking academics with action empowers students to tap into the rich body of knowledge, experience, and passion that fuels them, while providing communities with students trained to contribute to their social change efforts. We call this "Engaged Scholarship." The Civic Scholar program seeks to open new pathways for communities and campus to engage with each other, enhance networks (social capital) of students and community members beyond Swarthmore College, and increase capacity of both students and communities to achieve their civic and social responsibility goals. To that end, this program provides students with mentoring, education, training, and funding over two (possible three) years. Swarthmore Civic Scholars is a program of the Lang Center and the Richard Rubin Mentoring Program.

If anyone is interested in a Swarthmore College student intern with your Chester organization during the summer or academic year, please reach out to ahenry1@swarthmore.edu

Contact

April 2024

Keystone First Wellness and Opportunity Center

Keystone First will offer resources for improving overall health and well-being. We will connect you to programs for mind, body, and spirit. These programs may include:

- · Art classes.
- Music performances and classes.
- Exercise and fitness classes.
- Educational opportunities.
- Job training and employment readiness.
- Access to computers and printing.
- · GED classes.
- Cooking demonstrations.
- · Weekly food pantry.
- Caregiver support.
- · Loss and bereavement groups.
- Help with understanding plan benefits and services.
- Health education and screenings.
- Community resource information.

Regular hours

Monday through Friday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Please call the center at 1-610-245-9847 for information on special programming.

Please join us for the next CTC meeting: Thursday, June 13th at 9:00AM.

ZOOM INFORMATION FOR MEETING Zoom ID: 854 7467 3879

Passcode: 073715

Join Zoom Meeting

https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/85474673879? pwd=9kSmJuqaBaA8v4xoFmIhSI3jKsbg9v.1



Visit CEF's website





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