



Annual

2024 Report



*Providing a hand up
...Not a hand out*



Executive Directors Statement

Jason Nesbitt

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Reflecting on this past year, I am deeply inspired by the progress we have made together and the unwavering support from our community. The Center for Family Services has continued to grow and adapt, addressing the evolving needs of those we serve while staying true to our vision of creating a stronger, healthier, and more resilient community.

This year, we have taken significant steps toward making our vision a reality, from expanding essential programs to purchasing a new office building that we hope to soon call home. These milestones would not have been possible without the dedication of our incredible staff, the generosity of our donors, and the invaluable partnerships with local organizations. Together, we are not just meeting immediate needs but also building a foundation for lasting, transformative change.

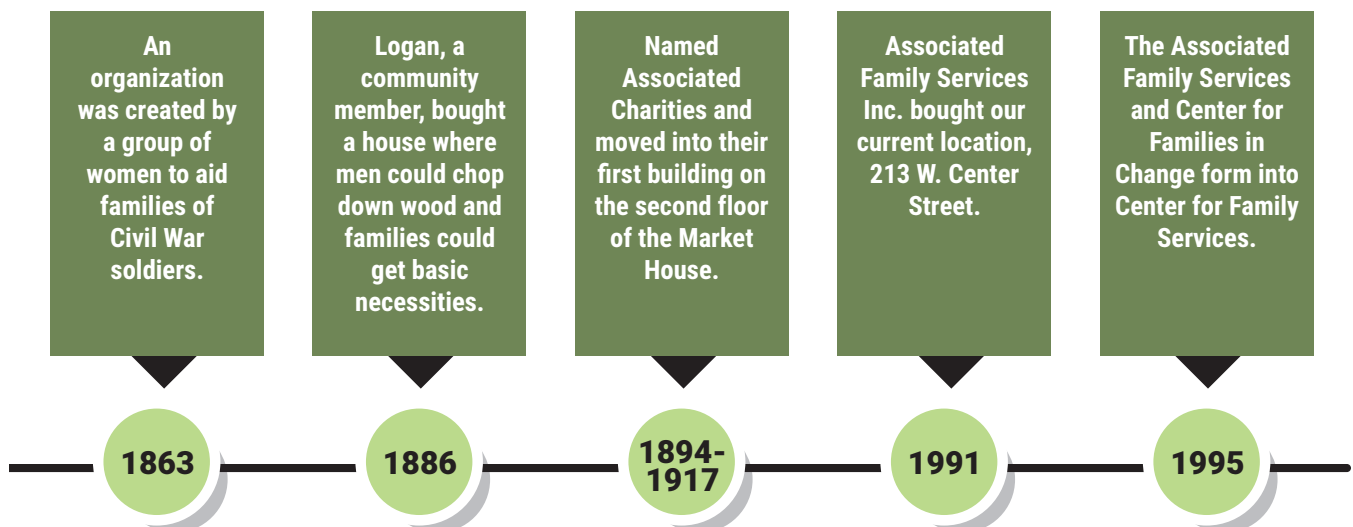
As we look ahead, I am filled with hope and excitement for what the future holds. Thank you for being a part of this journey, for believing in our work, and for joining us in our mission to assist, support, and strengthen the individuals and families of our community. Your continued support truly makes a difference, and we are deeply grateful.

- With heartfelt appreciation

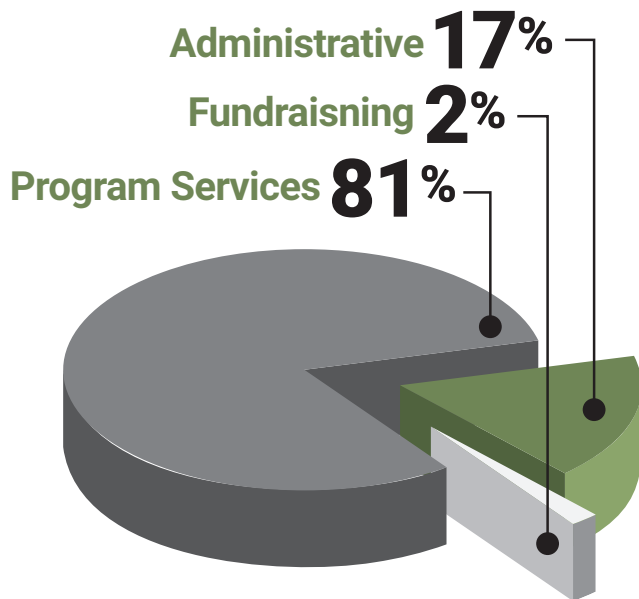


Agency History

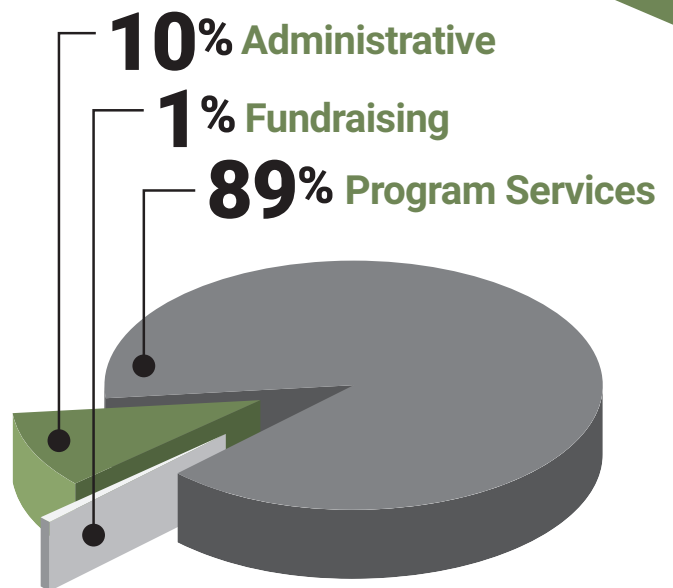
The Center for Family Services, Inc. is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian agency providing multiple services to our local community. The Center for Family Services was founded in 1995 as a result of a merger between Associated Family Services, Inc. and the Center for Families in Change. Their combined history dates back to 1863 with the formation of an organization to aid families of Civil War soldiers.



Financials



Operating Expenses = \$1,419,741



Total Revenue = \$1,548,703

Mission Statement



VISION FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Center for Family Services envisions a community that is safe, secure, and stable. A community healthy enough to sustain opportunities and strong enough to generate positive, permanent change.

CORE VALUES



Trust

An organization was created by a group of women to aid families of Civil War soldiers.



Respect

Center for Family Services honors diversity and recognizes the worth and dignity of every individual. We are non-judgmental and treat each individual the way we expect to be treated.



Integrity

Center for Family Services is guided by a strong code of ethics. This agency strives to lead by example. Center for Family Services will conduct business at the highest standards at all times.



Collaboration

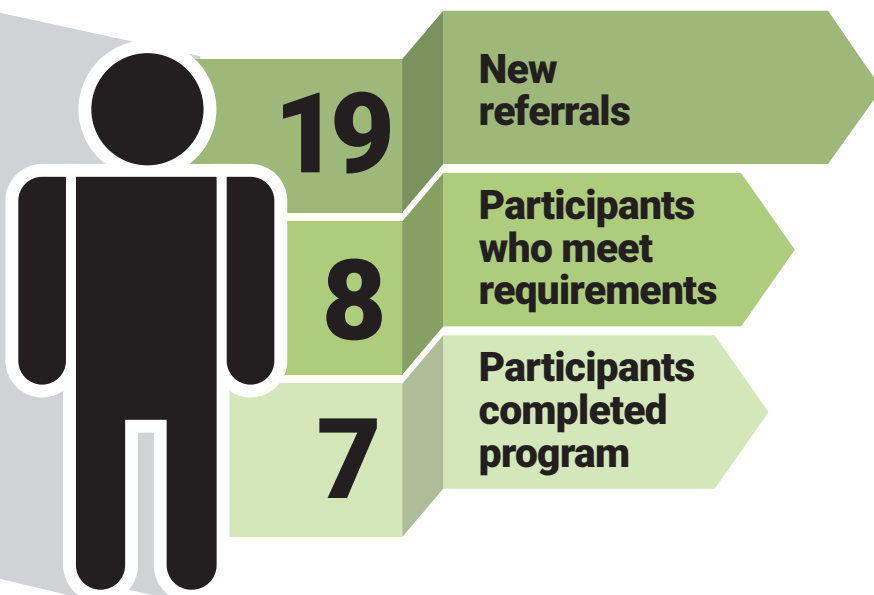
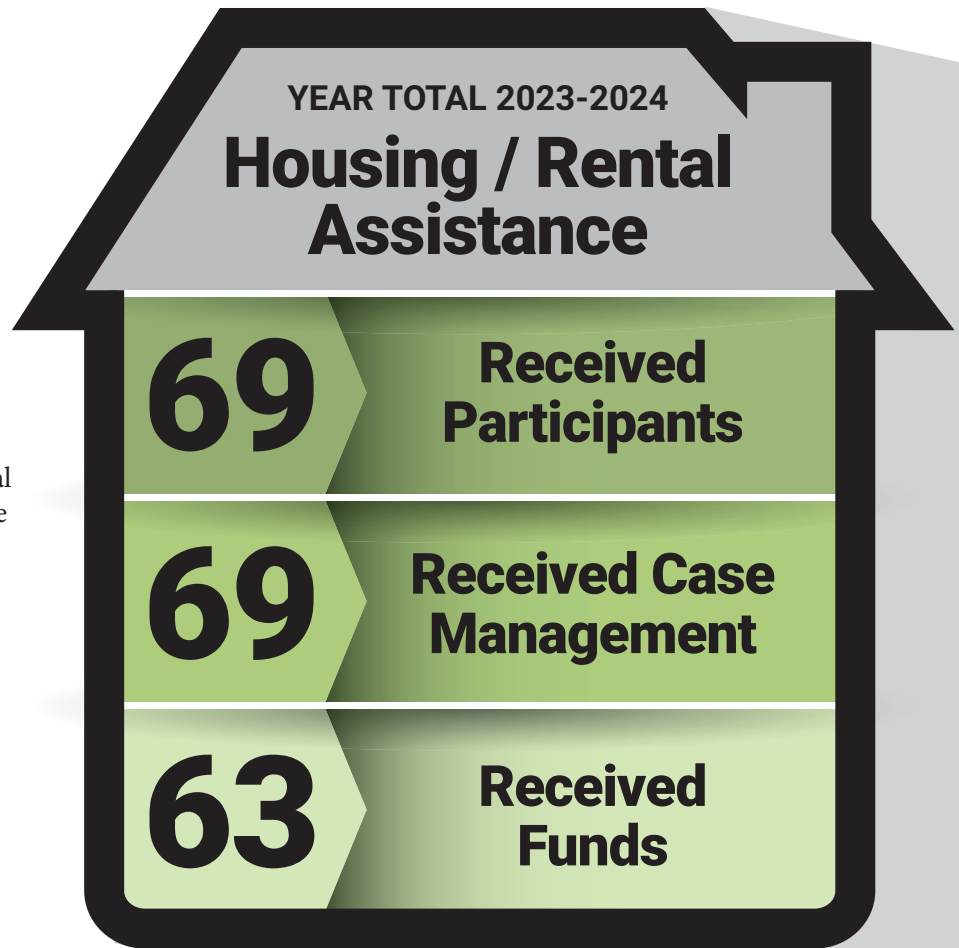
Center for Family Services is community minded and all inclusive. We believe that teamwork is the best way to accomplish shared goals and working together is the best way to achieve our desired outcome.



Housing Department

We offer budgeting, credit counseling, pre/post-purchase counseling for home buyers, rental assistance and much more. We are the only HUD certified agency in Crawford County.

Rental Assistance is funded through HAP (Homeless Assistance Program) and is subject to this fund's guidelines.



Assisted Re-entry for Maximum Success (ARMS)

The Assisted Re-entry Program for Crawford County targets individuals often overlooked and under-served: Those leaving prison with few supports which increases the potential to commit another crime. Addressing housing needs and providing concurrent wrap-around services, this program creates a seamless, holistic approach to a historically under-served population.



Foreclosure Intervention



29

New Referrals



24

Participants able to resolve delinquency and stay in their homes



86%

Participants resolved delinquency and stayed in their homes



96%

Satisfaction rate

Pre-Purchase Homebuyer Counseling

3

New Referrals

3

Participants qualified for home loan

100%

Satisfaction Rate

Credit Counseling / Budgeting

100% Satisfaction Rate

9

Households

2

Denied rental housing based on credit score

7

Denied housing loan based on credit score

7

Households increased credit score

5

Households qualified for a loan





Essential Services

3,762 Participants



Emergency Assistance

The Emergency Assistance program is designed to offer caring advocacy and financial support during times of need. We understand that unexpected challenges can create financial strains, and the Center for Family Services prides itself on providing a hand up, not a hand out. Our goal is to offer non-judgmental assistance, helping individuals and families navigate difficult situations with dignity and respect.



Household / Clothing Vouchers

539 Clothing
Vouchers

HELPING

1,160 People

\$17,160

Provided through our clothing voucher program. (This is at the discounted price and includes 50% off)

89 Household
Vouchers

HELPING

238 People

\$5,734

Worth of household items donated through the voucher program

The Center for Family Services is the only local Thrift Store that provides free clothing to low income adults and children. These services are made possible through community donations of clothing and our wonderful store volunteers.



Utility Assistance

282

Participants

MEMBER TO MEMBER
PROGRAM:

Eligible consumers must have a referral from the Northwestern Rural Electric Cooperative and is open to REC customers only.

47

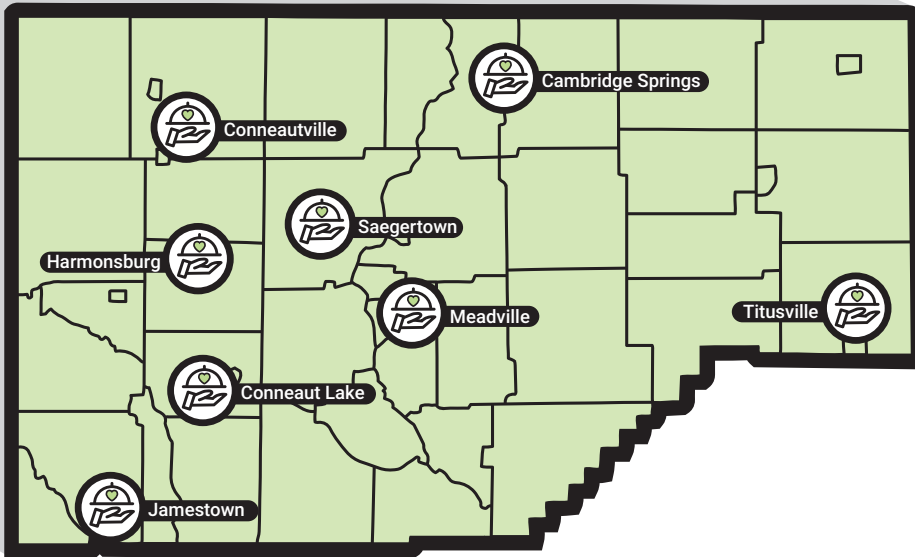
Participants

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR
PROGRAM:

This National Fuel program targets persons within the following criteria:

- Aged 55 or older
- Receiving a disability income
- Receiving Unemployment Compensation
- Experiencing a medical emergency (accompanied by verification from a physician)

Essential Services



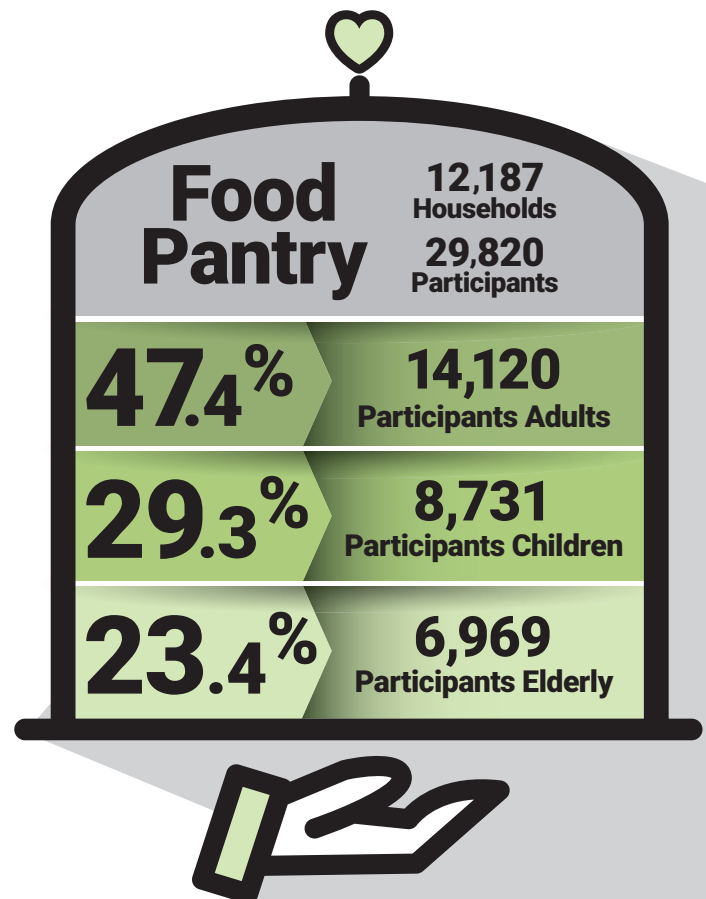
12,184 lb.
of Food Donated
to the Pantry

88,394 lb.
of Rescued and
Redistributed Food

Rescued food refers to high-quality, surplus food that would otherwise go to waste but is instead collected and redistributed to those in need. This includes items from grocery stores, restaurants, and farms that are still safe and nutritious but may be unsellable due to reasons like excess supply or approaching expiration dates. By incorporating rescued food into our food pantries, we not only help reduce food waste but also provide essential nourishment to families facing food insecurity.

Food Pantry Locations:

- ✓ **Meadville Area Food Pantry**
* This is our main agency pantry.
1099 Morgan Village Road, Meadville, PA 16335
- ✓ **Cambridge Springs Area Food Pantry**
201 Carringer Street, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403
- ✓ **Conneaut Lake Area Food Pantry – Samaritans of Conneaut Lake**
Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church,
155 S. Ninth Street, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316
- ✓ **Conneautville / Springboro Area Food Pantry**
Valley Church United Methodist, 1118 Main Street,
Conneautville, PA 16406
- ✓ **Harmonsburg Food Pantry**
14182 First Street, Harmonsburg, PA 16422
- ✓ **Jamestown Food Pantry**
St. Margaret's Church, 701 Denver Street,
Jamestown, PA 16134
- ✓ **Saegertown Food Pantry**
Twelve Apostles Lutheran Church,
363 Erie St., P.O. Box 640 Saegertown, PA 16433
- ✓ **Titusville Area Food Pantry/ Eastern Crawford County**
Associated Charities, 409 E. Central Avenue,
Titusville, PA 16354





Family

Education

Crawford County

263 Participants

These services are provided to households receiving a referral from Crawford County Children and Youth Services



Parenting Education:

Our Parenting Education program offers tailored support to parents, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to nurture healthy family dynamics. Using hands-on guidance and evidence-based practices, parents learn effective communication, positive discipline, and strategies to promote their children's emotional and developmental well-being.



Homemaking:

Our Homemaking services assist families in creating safe, organized, and nurturing home environments. We provide practical support in household management, such as addressing hoarding tendencies that may create unhealthy living conditions for children.



In-Home Counseling:

Our In-Home Counseling program delivers personalized, compassionate support directly in the family's living environment or at a location that best suits the family's needs. Our trained professionals address emotional and behavioral challenges, provide acute crisis intervention, and work collaboratively with families to develop coping strategies and strengthen relationships.



Anger Management:

This program helps individuals, particularly those with a mental health diagnosis, learn to regulate their emotions, understand their triggers, and improve conflict resolution skills. The program also explores the fight, flight, or freeze response as it relates to trauma-induced anger.

Special Outreach Services (S.O.S.)

Our Special Outreach Services (S.O.S.) offer preventative programs designed to support individuals and families dealing with mental health challenges.

Parenting Program:

Provides preventative education for individuals with a mental health diagnosis who are facing parenting challenges.

One-on-One Anger Management Counseling Program:

Assists individuals, particularly those with a mental health diagnosis, in regulating emotions, understanding triggers, and improving conflict resolution skills. The program also addresses trauma-induced anger through the concepts of fight, flight, or freeze.

Self-Pay Supervised Visitation Services

The Center for Family Services (CFS) offers Self-Pay Supervised Visitation Services, providing a neutral and safe environment for parents to visit with their children. These services are designed to support parents involved in custodial mediation or those with an agreed visitation schedule, ensuring quality parenting time under professional supervision.



Service Provider of the Year Award

Caitlin Stewart

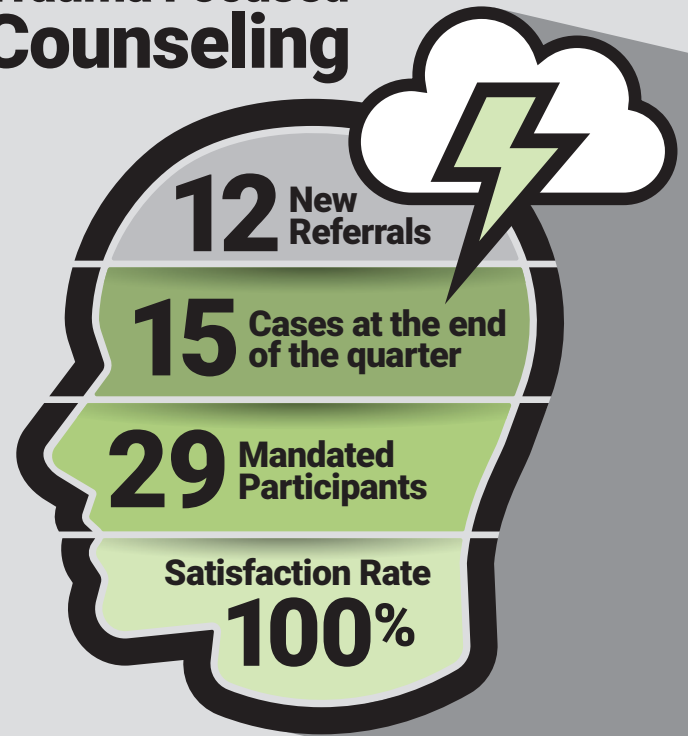
The Center for Family Services (CFS) in Venango County has been honored with the prestigious “Service Provider of the Year” award, a recognition that highlights our unwavering dedication to service and our commitment to supporting the children and families involved with CASA. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our Venango County Supervisor, Caitlin Stewart, whose compassionate and tireless advocacy has profoundly impacted the lives of children facing complex trauma. Caitlin is deeply involved in each case, ensuring that every child receives the support they need to heal and thrive. She meets children where they are, both emotionally and physically, often visiting schools, foster homes, and community settings to provide a sense of stability and comfort. Her dedication extends into the courtroom, where she consistently represents her clients with strength and empathy, ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are addressed. This award is a reflection of Caitlin’s remarkable commitment to making a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families..

Family Education

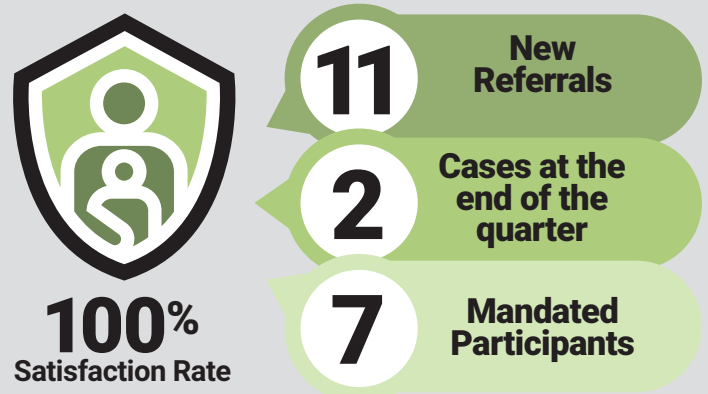


Venango County

Trauma Focused Counseling



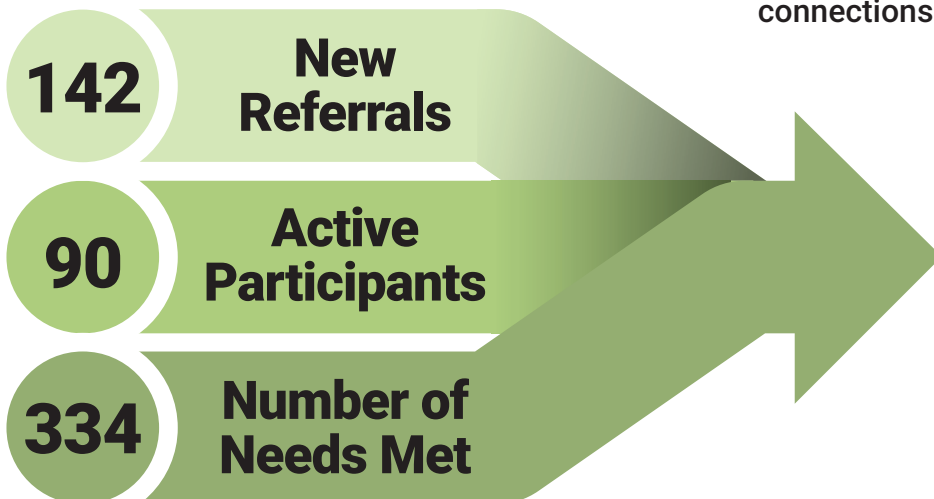
Enhanced Supervised Visitation





Community Health Worker

We improve the quality of life of our community through engagement, assessment, and creating connections to support and services.



- Housing
- Financial Strain
- Utilities
- Employment
- Transportation
- Mental Health
- & So Much More



Our Focus

We provide support in many aspects of life such as:

- Financial Strains
- Homelessness
- Resource Access
- Childcare
- Obtaining IDs



Outcomes

- Getting IDs, Birth Certificates, and or Social Security Cards
- Connecting to public transportation
- Connecting to care management services
- Applying for Medical Assistance and Social Security
- We connect people to resources, information and supports



Referrals can be made by

- Self
- Family Members
- Providers
- Hospitals
- Schools
- Human Services
- Parole / Probation Officers
- Community Members



Adopt-A-Family

Local families are identified throughout the year and adopted during the Holidays. These families are experiencing financial difficulties and have unique situations. The program is unique because it assists the entire family, not only children. Many of our adopters assist with anything from gifts to groceries to utility bills.

13 Families adopted for Christmas in 2023

Sol Stern Shoe Program

In 1908, Samuel and Sol Stern took \$2,500 and created the Sol Stern Shoe program that focuses on providing shoes and socks to children in preschool and K-12. Since that initial trust, the project has been a yearly initiative that supplies over \$12,000 of shoes to children in Meadville each year.

Personal Care Items, Diapers & Formula

Our Personal Care Closet offers items such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, feminine products, and toilet paper. On a case-by-case basis, we assist families with little ones and those facing a serious financial crisis with diapers and formula.

Thrift Store

Our store offers a wonderful opportunity to find unique items at bargain prices. Thanks to the generosity of the community, we're able to provide a wide selection of affordable, one-of-a-kind deals. Reselling and reusing clothing and household goods not only saves money but also promotes environmental responsibility. Items that do not sell or cannot be used in the store are donated to World Mission (Global) or Planet Aid, and metal items and electronics are set aside for recycling. We also reuse plastic, paper, and fabric shopping bags to minimize waste.



Board of Directors

Joe Barnhart - Chairperson

Nancy Mangilo-Bittner - Vice-Chairperson

Gail Kelly - Treasurer

Jenny Tompkins - Secretary

Connie Hiabach

Chad Malinowski

Melissa Newhard

Adam Prenatt

Kim Flynn

Staff

Diann Bolhasky - Housing Department Supervisor

Monica Confer - Housing Department

Shawnel Toomey - Essential Services Supervisor

Bonita Miles - Essential Services

Susan Teed - Thrift Store Manager

Sondra Anderson - Community Health Work Supervisor

Trish Longstreth - Community Health Worker

Parker Bailey - Community Health Worker

Laura Parker - Family Education Department Director

Robin See - Family Education

Jenee Smith - Family Education

Haylei West - Family Education

Courtney Christie - Family Education

Shelby Klingensmith - Family Education

Mary Boepple - Family Education

Caitlin Stewart - Family Education-Venango

Melanie Reynolds - Finance Director

Iris Geer - Finance Department Assistant

Dina Lanagan - Assistant

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