

### **F.A.C.E.S. Community Partners and Available Programming**

The F.A.C.E.S. Initiative partners with many community agencies that provide various programs and mentoring opportunities for our students. We routinely meet with all community partners to discuss our mission statement and continued emphasis on developing safer school climates, particularly in regards to addressing diversity and sensitivity. Following is a list of those programs:

#### **Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bridge**

P.O. Box 1285

Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701

(570) 824-8756

<http://www.bbbsnepa.com/wilkes-barre>

*Big Brother/Big Sisters*-this program provides group and individual mentoring to students.

*kNOw Bull*- Small group sessions were held at Kistler Elementary working to empower children to be leaders in their schools, identify bullying, and provide them with strategies to address and alleviate bullying in their school. In the future the program is hoping to expand to other district elementary schools.

#### **The Bridge Youth Services**

33 E. Northampton Street

Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701

(570) 824-5766

<http://www.bbbsnepa.com/wilkes-barre>

*The Bridge Project Mom*- This program works with female students in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades to help coordinate child care, provide parenting skills, encourage high school graduation and college enrollment.

*Truancy Intervention Program*- For students in 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade, ages 12-16. This program is designed to operate as a preventive step before legal and/or child welfare system involvement. They conduct comprehensive family assessments, collaborate with the school and other programs, and enhance strengths and develop skills for positive communication, develop personal and vocational goals, and encourage positive extracurricular activities.

**Commission on Economic Opportunity**

165 Amber Lane

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705

(570) 826-0510

<http://www.ceopeoplehelpingpeople.org/>

*Food Pantry*-The Food Pantry is a traveling vehicle that provides groceries for our school district families. The food pantry was set up after school at Kistler Elementary during the 2013/2014 school year. This upcoming school year the food pantry is aiming to be located at Dan Flood Elementary.

*Kid's Café*- For students in Kindergarten -6th grade at the elementary school level. Trained staff assist students with homework, provide age appropriate activities, and meals for students. The Kids Cafe now operates year-round. In the summer, when there is no school, children from Heights and Dodson participate in a day program that focuses on physical activity, gardening, and healthy eating. Children receive breakfast and lunch as part of the summer program. During the school year Kid's Café provides after school tutoring and snacks for students.

**Catholic Youth Center (CYC)**

36 South Washington Street

Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701

(570) 823-0175

<http://www.wyomingvalleycyc.org/>

*24-Hour Child Care*- Providing care for children before and after school, on holidays and days off of school, and extended hours available. The program includes transportation to and from school provided at all of the Wilkes-Barre Area and Parochial Schools. Students are provided with meals, snacks, homework assistance, arts and crafts, and other activities.

*Aquatics Programs and Basketball Leagues*- For nearly sixty years the Wyoming Valley Catholic Youth Center has provided a solid foundation for the youth of our area. The CYC has developed the personalities, skills and future goals of thousands of young men and women. They offer various programs at their state of the art Aquatic Center, gymnasium, and basketball courts.

**Domestic Violence Service Center**

PO Box 2177

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

(570) 823-7312

<http://www.domesticviolenceservice.org/>

*24 hour Hotline*- at 570-823-7312 or 1-800-424-5600. Women and their children can stay at DVSC's Emergency Shelter where they will be safe and Counselor/Advocates can help with information and referrals for financial assistance, housing and other agencies and community resources.

**Family Services Association**

31 W. Market Street

18702

(570) 824-3841

<http://www.fsawv.org/>

*Making Changes*- is a voluntary 12 week pre-adjudication diversion program. Making Changes provides competency development in the form of 8 psycho-education and anger management treatment sessions and participation in a 4 week community project for youth who would otherwise face formal processing in the Luzerne County Court System. Through participation in a community service project, youth offenders are encouraged to acknowledge their responsibility in concrete ways and understand the impact their behavior has on their community. The goal of Making Changes is to create opportunities for competency. They believe that allowing youth offenders the opportunity to build connections and relationships to their community will in turn deter youth from re-offending, thus keeping our community safe. The Making Changes Program is open to 15-18 year old youth residing in Luzerne County. Making Changes is meant to provide alternatives for youth have not yet entered the system. It is geared toward first time, non-violent offenders.

*The Outreach Prevention Program*- provides intensive in-home counseling, case management, and is based on the evidenced based practiced of intergrading Solution Focused Therapy and Targeted Case Management. Structured interventions which promote life skills development, parenting skills, children's academic success, and family unification, and stabilization of mental health symptoms. This program is available to youth ages 10-18 that are residents of Luzerne County. Determine Your Goals and Develop a Plan Based On Your Strengths.

**Girl Scouts of America**

1444 East Lackawanna Avenue, Suite 222

Olyphant, PA 18447

Contact Christine Kilmer, Membership Recruiter at [ckilmer@gshpa.org](mailto:ckilmer@gshpa.org)

(570) 352-2804

<http://www.gshpa.org>

*Defy the Odds*- this program is for girls in grades 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>. The program focuses on topics such as self-esteem, communication, conflict resolution, bullying, goal setting, making healthy choices, and more. It includes after school fun, playing games, meeting new friends, a Girl Scout membership, and scout patch. This program was held in the spring of 2014 at Solomon Elementary. In the future the program is hoping to expand to other district elementary schools.

\*Form attached

*Girl Scouts*- Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Offering fun ways to participate through camps, events, series to explore interest, travel, local troop, and interact virtually.

\*Form attached

**King's College**

133 North River Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711  
(570) 208-5900  
[www.kings.edu](http://www.kings.edu)

*Juvenile Justice Mentoring Program*- For students in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, ages 12-17. This is an innovative peer mentoring program for Luzerne County juveniles who are first time non-violent offenders, have truancy issues, or other students who may be taking part in high risk behaviors. College students under the supervision of College faculty provide one-on-one mentoring on homework and provide opportunities for the juveniles to be exposed to a variety of educational, vocational, and community based activities.

\*Form attached

*King's College Hispanic Outreach*-This is an academic tutoring program that focuses on ESL students. Brother George and King's College students work with students in Kindergarten through 6 grade to provide them with tutoring services.

*Parenting Skills Workshops*- Dr. Butler provided parenting sessions to the parents of children district wide. This program began in January 2013 at Kistler Elementary, and a second run of the program began in October 2014 at Solomon Elementary.

**Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18**

368 Tioga Avenue  
Kingston, PA 18704  
(570) 287-9681  
<http://www.liu18.org/>

*Project Mom and Father's Program* – For students in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. This program provides parental and career counseling, day-care services and referral services for students who are expecting a child. Aside from meeting with students twice a month, the program directors also help find colleges or training programs if the students want to continue their education.

**MHMR of Luzerne County**

111 N. Pennsylvania Ave #200  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701  
(570) 825-9441  
<http://www.mhdsllw.org/>

MHMR provides a full range of mental health and intellectual disability services responsive to individual and community needs. To promote opportunities for persons with mental and intellectual disabilities to be a part of and participate in the same valued experiences and life events as do other citizens. Please refer to website for full list of services.

*Early Intervention Services:* Early Intervention is services and supports designed to help families with children with developmental delays. The supports and services should enhance children's developmental and educational growth to interact more independently throughout daily routines at home and in the community such as physical, occupational and speech therapy, special instruction, audiology and vision services.

*Student Assistance Program:* Staff participates as part of Student Assistance Teams in Junior, Senior high schools in school districts throughout Luzerne and Wyoming Counties to provide prevention, early intervention, assessment, referral and case management services.

### **Office of Vocational Rehabilitation**

300 G. Laird Street

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

(570) 826-2021

[http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/vocational\\_rehabilitation/10356](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/vocational_rehabilitation/10356)

*Early Reach Initiative* -In order to assist youth with disabilities be better prepared for their transition into the world of work and independence, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) has started a new initiative called the Early Reach Initiative. The Early Reach Coordinator is available to offer student presentations, parent programs, and in-service training for professionals working with youth with disabilities on “What is OVR” and topics related to self-advocacy, self-determination, and career exploration strategies.

### **Northeast Rainbow Alliance**

LGBT Center of NEPA

Fox Ridge Plaza

1174 Highway 315

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

(570) 972-2523

<http://www.gaynepa.com/>

*Out at School*-brings together gay-straight alliances and ALLY support groups from colleges, universities, and high schools across NEPA. The network meets once a semester to build collaboration between schools and engage students in the work of NEPA Rainbow Alliance.

*Out Families*- is a discussion group and mentoring program for LGBT parents. The group meets two to four times a year and stays in contact via web discussion forum, e-mail, and telephone.

*The NEPA Rainbow Line*- is a joint partnership between the Rainbow Alliance and *Help Line* designed to assist those searching for LGBT resources find answers to their questions via telephone call in to 570-972-2523. Resources and information are also available on **GayNEPA.com** on traditional and mobile web.

*SafeZone Youth Discussion Group*- provides a supportive environment for LGBTQ youth and their allies to talk about issues around coming out, bullying, finding supportive resources and allies, and self-awareness. The **SafeZone Youth Network** provides social and recreational activities for LGBTQ youth and their friends to meet and interact in a safe, supportive space. (The Youth Discussion Group is provided by Family Service Association of NEPA, Inc.)

**Valley Santa Inc.**

P.O. Box 5276  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

*Letter to Valley Santa*- Write a letter to Valley Santa, P.O. Box 5268, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703, explaining the need that exists in as much detail as possible. Include your name, the names, ages and genders of your children, your address, zip code and telephone number. The letter must be co-signed by a clergy member or case/social worker and must include their address and evening telephone number for confirmation. Requests will be considered for children ages 12 and younger.

**Veteran's Affairs**

1111 East End Blvd.  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711  
(570) 824-3521  
[www.wilkes-barre.pa.gov](http://www.wilkes-barre.pa.gov)

*Other Services Include:* Medication management and outpatient therapy services, Group therapy/ family/marriage therapy, Suicide Prevention, Symboxin Program- opiate withdrawal Outpatient, SAARTP- sub abuse and rehabilitation treatment program

*Trauma Related Recovery*- for those suffering with PTSD, Military Sexual Trauma

**Victims Resource Center**

71 North Franklin Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa 187  
18701  
(570) 823-0765  
[www.vrcnepa.org/](http://www.vrcnepa.org/)

Educational Programs- VRC offers a variety of personal safety educational programs for young children, adolescents, young adults, adults and the elderly. We also present educational programs targeted to professional groups and the community at large. To schedule presentations or for more information, contact the Victims Resource Center Education Department at 1-866-206-9050 or **education@vrcnepa.org**.

*Acquaintance Rape Awareness: (Grades 8 – 12)* - Focuses on what is date rape and statutory rape. Participants will be given information on what to do if they

are assaulted.

*Building Healthy Relationships: (Kindergarten - Grade 12)* - Provides age-appropriate crime prevention and healthy relationship-building activities.

*Child Safety Program: (Pre-Kindergarten - 2nd Grade)* - Focuses on the concepts of good touch/bad touch and who to go to for help.

*Child Sexual Abuse Awareness: (Parents and Teachers)* - Again, designed for in-service training sessions and PTO meetings, this program explains the incidence, cause, indicators and psychological effects of child sexual abuse.

*Dating Violence Awareness: (Grade 8 – College)* - Focuses on healthy relationships, this program points out possible warning signs of dating violence and ways to be safe.

*Internet Safety: (Grades 4 – 8)* - Teaches students how to recognize potentially dangerous online situations and possible solutions.

*Internet Safety: (Parents and Teachers)* - Designed for teacher in-service training programs and PTO meetings. Discusses the risk of child exploitation on the Internet and ways to protect privacy online.

*The Red Zone: College-bound (High School Seniors)* - Offers personal safety information. The Red Zone refers to the early weeks of the fall semester when the risk of sexual victimization is high for new college students.

*Sexual Assault Prevention for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities: (Adolescent – Adult)* - Focuses on the concepts of good touch/bad touch.

*Sexual Harassment: (Grades 9 – 12)* - Discusses the kinds of sexual harassment and what steps to take if it's already happening.

### **Volunteers of America (VOA)**

25 N. River St.  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18702  
(570) 825-5261  
[www.voa.org/](http://www.voa.org/)

*Learning Works-* Learning Works is an after-school and in-home program run by Volunteers of America for students in Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grades. The program serves low-income middle school students identified by the Wilkes-Barre School District as being at-risk for school failure. More than 100 Wilkes-Barre Area School District students get weekly tutoring and mentoring in the home as part of the family visits by VOA staff. This innovative program is designed to teach

skills that lead to school success, present a variety of career paths, provide a “hands-on” work opportunity, and help families prepare their children for high school and beyond.

*Magnolia Project-* For at-risk female students in 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. The objective of this program is to empower young women as they navigate their high school years and cope with academic and non-academic challenges. This program includes individual and small group therapy sessions targeting: avoiding high risk behaviors, combating low self-esteem, building healthy relationships, researching pathways to college, and finding professional role models.

\*Form attached

**Wyoming Valley Drug & Alcohol Services, INC**

437 North Main Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18705-1613  
(570) 820-8888 x313  
[www.wvasdinc.com](http://www.wvasdinc.com)

*Dennis Bonvie Drug Free Fan Club- Affiliation and Partnership with Dennis Bonvie, Former National Hockey League and American Hockey League Icon-* Dennis Bonvie, former American Hockey League icon and National Hockey League player, is part of the prevention/education team. Dennis will visit schools and community events and will present drug and alcohol messages to children and youth. Additionally, “Bonvie’s Brigade”, a drug and alcohol free fan club, has been initiated and will challenge youth to make a pledge to be drug and alcohol free. The signed card will entitle them to rewards throughout the community.

*Individual Counseling-* is available for students/families who are at-risk or currently struggling with drug and alcohol use/abuse.

*School Based Prevention/Education Services-WVADS, Inc.* has a unique relationship with school districts that is different than any other across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We assign a full-time trained Prevention/Education Specialist to a total of 11 school districts in Luzerne, Wyoming, and Carbon Counties. **Topics Addressed In Prevention/Education School-Based Programs:** Refusal Skills, Decision Making, Problem Solving, Coping Skills, Selecting Healthy Peers, Conflict Resolution, Peer Mediation, Self-Esteem Building, Risk vs. Protective Factors Role of Supportive Networks.

*Weapons Deterrent Program for Youth-* At the request of Luzerne County Juvenile Judge, Tina Polachek Gartley, the agency is developing a weapons deterrence program to work with juveniles that are court ordered to undergo a 4-6 hour program. These youngsters that will be referred have already violated weapons laws and/or have a fixation or are enamored with gun possession and use. The agency is working with the Luzerne County District Attorney, area weapons experts, Pennsylvania State Police, Wilkes-Barre Police, Luzerne County Sheriff’s Department, etc. to craft a program that will provide these young people with an intensive educational experience designed to reduce or eliminate their fascination with weapons. The



agency has also solicited input from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Judges Commission.

*Youth: Drugs, Alcohol, and Suicide*-WVADS, Inc. has developed and produced a new booklet entitled, **“Youth; Drugs, Alcohol, and Suicide”**, which continues to be widely distributed throughout Luzerne and Wyoming Counties. Both the clinical and prevention/education staff have undergone extensive training on this subject. Local school districts, in responding to 4 completed suicides in a one-week period of 2012, solicited the assistance of the agency in responding to these emergencies. Consultation, recommendations, and information for schools and community were developed.

#### **YMCA**

40 W. Northampton Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701  
823-2191

<http://www.wbymca.org/>

*Aquatics, Wellness, Child Care, Gymnastics, and Adult and Youth Programing*-The Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA promotes healthy lifestyles, strong families, develops leadership in youth, builds international understanding, assists in community development and is flexible to community change. They offer various programs including Aquatics, Wellness, Child Care, Gymnastics, and Adult and Youth Programing.

*Food and Fun at the Park*-The YMCA provides free lunches and snacks to students over the summer break Mondays- Fridays from June 17<sup>th</sup>- August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Organized activities are also scheduled.