



VENANGO COUNTY  
BLOCK GRANT

Venango HS has utilized the flexibility of the Block Grant to implement or enhance numerous programs and initiatives since 2013. Here are some:

HOUSING MANAGER AND HOUSING CASEMANAGER POSITIONS  
CLINICAL MANAGER  
RECRUITMENT & RETENTION INITIATIVE  
SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS (SOS & CAST)  
MH WARMLINE AND COMMUNITY CAFÉ AT MH DROP IN CENTER  
PERSONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNITS  
HOME DELIVERED MEALS FOR UNDER 60  
THE LISTEN SKILLS BUILDING PROGRAM IN JAIL  
OVERDOSE TASKFORCE  
SUICIDE PREVENTION TASKFORCE  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
BRIDGE HOUSING  
CAFÉ AT HUMAN SERVICES COMPLEX

# Spotlight on Bridge Housing

- Building in down town Franklin , owned by Emmeus Haven, a local church based group. 1<sup>st</sup> apartment opened 1/10/17.
- 1<sup>st</sup> floor storefront, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor apartments, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Bridge Housing program operated by HS.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 3 (2) bedroom apartments. Shared living areas for each apartment with separate locking bedrooms.
- Pay 30% of income for rent (if they have income). Money given back to them when they locate housing.

# Bridge Housing Statistics

- 31 total people have been served including the 6 that are currently in the apartment.
- 21 male – 10 female - Average age entering the BH – 36 yrs.
- Life stage break down – 9 Emerging adults, 21 Adults, 1 Older Adult
- Average time per person in BH for all 31 individuals as of 6/5/18 – 76 days
- 18/25 (72%) that have been through the BH Program moved into permanent housing.

# The Ride Program

- Volunteers transport using county cars
- Contracted agency provides drivers to transport
  - *Primarily used for after hours rides to employment*
    - 2 month limit

# Other Special Programs to date

- Purchase of 22 PERS units for OA. Lend to OA for use, they are to return when no longer needed. Can be refurbished inexpensively, then used again.
- Funding for Hoarding team to attend specialized training.
- Funding for 2 staff members to attend ASIST Train-the-Trainer

# BG 18/19

## Step 1 Needs Assessment

- Online HS staff surveys
- 211 data for Venango County
- Focus groups with emerging adults, older adults, transportation stakeholders, mh providers, and id providers.
- MH/DS, CYS, SA Advisory Boards
- System of Care Advisory Board

# TOP THREE(for 5 years running)

- Transportation
- Housing
- Utilities—Tied with employment this time



# New Needs Identified

- Employment: MH provider group, emerging adult group
- Parenting: ID provider group, emerging adult group
- Home supports: Older adult group
  
- Other needs identified by staff: additional supports targeted at substance use disorder and parenting. CYs numbers skyrocketing due to parental substance use. Venango County identified as 4<sup>th</sup> highest county in state for NAS.

# 18/19 Priorities by Life Stage

## Children and Families:

- Funding for .5 Nurse for Effective Safe Parenting Program (social worker, parent educator, and nurse working with families affected by SUD). Majority of funding from CYS

## ■ Emerging Adults

- .5 Triple P staff member—Enable non-CYS involved families to access program
- Driver's training—Trainer from Erie to provide driver's ed hours plus testing for license

# 18/19 by Life Stage (continued)

## Adults:

- Warming Center at local drop in center. Will provide employment for drop in center members in addition to providing shelter
- Crossroads Cognitive group at jail
- Employment Creation Initiative. Local Fairweather Lodges to provide cleaning for county cars.

## Older Adults:

- 5 personal care slots.

# Comments/Questions