Connections Contact List

Agency: Advocacy Alliance

About Advocacy Alliance: Our mission is to promote mental well-being, and support Recovery for adults who have a mental illness; Resiliency for children and adolescents who have emotional/behavioral disorders; Everyday Lives for individuals who have developmental disabilities; and Independence for older adults and individuals with physical disabilities, by providing advocacy and services.

Name: Steve Elks
Contact: se@theadvocacyalliance.org

Name: Kaylin Lindquist
Contact: kaylinhope@echoes.net

Name: Cheryl Ohara
Contact: rohora@aol.com

Name: Joan Peterson
Contact: jp@theadvocacyalliance.org

Name: Frank Trovato
Contact: franktrovato@yahoo.com

Agency: Allied Services

About Allied Services: Allied Services is the leading provider of healthcare and human services for northeastern Pennsylvanians with disabilities and chronic illness. As a not-for-profit corporation, we work to advance the health, independence and life quality of our consumers and of the people of our region

Name: Amy Anderson
Contact: aander@allied-services.org

Name: Miki Drutchal
Contact: mdrutch@allied-services.org

Name: Lisa Labarr
Contact: llabar@allied-services.org

Name: Robert McAllister
Contact: rmcall@allied-services.org

Name: Karen Roberto
Contact: krober@allied-services.org

Name: Nicole Skutack
Contact: nskuta@allied-services.org

Name: Krystal Thompson
Contact: kthomp@allied-services.org

Agency: Boys & Girls Club

About Boys & Girls Club: To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Our programs include; character, leadership, health, life skills, education, the arts program, sports, fitness and recreation, and specialized programs.

Name: Laura Gentile
Contact: lgentile@bgcnepa.org

Name: Rich Kasavage
Contact: rkasavage@bgcnepa.org

Agency: Center for Independent Living

About Independent Living:

Name: Lori Chaffers
Contact: ChaffersL@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Kim Hess
Contact: HessK@lackawannacounty.org

Agency: Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley

About Children's Service Center: SWAN Provider – Older child matching initiative, locating permanent homes for children older than 10 years old, primarily adoptive, some Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodianship

Name: Michelle Mushock
Contact: Mmushock@e-csc.org

Agency: Community Care Behavioral Health

About Community Care Behavioral Health:
Community Care assists its members across all ages, and their families, to access services and supports for mental health conditions and alcohol and/or drug problems.
Name: Rosanna Liberty
Contact: libertyrr@ccbh.com

Agency: Concern

About Concern: Concern offers a growing array of adoption, counseling, foster care, and residential programs.

Name: MaryLou Cantafio
Contact: mcantafio@concern4kids.org

Name: Cathy Sheridan
Contact: csheridan@concern4kids.org

Agency: Devereux Pocono

About Devereux Pocono: Devereux has been an innovative leader in helping children and adults with intellectual, behavioral and emotional challenges accomplish their dreams by discovering their strengths and realizing personal fulfillment.

Name: John Gething
Contact: jgething@devereux.org

Name: Tina Skoda
Contact: tskoda@devereux.org

Agency: Diakon

About Diakon: Diakon Family Life Services has met the mental-health needs of people throughout central and eastern Pennsylvania through quality, compassionate counseling, family-based mental-health services, and related programming including a service specifically designed to assist children and youths who have sexually acted out. In addition, dependent on location, Diakon Family Life Services also offers certified addictions counseling, school-based services, and specialized training for school personnel in meeting the mental-health needs of students.

Name: Marian Kolcun
Contact: kolcunm@diakon.org

Name: Marian Kolcun
Contact: kolcunm@diakon.org; http://www.diakon.org/family-life-services/

Agency: Dunmore High School

About Dunmore High School:

Name: Margo Aulisio
Contact: aulisiom@dunmoreschooldistrict.net

Name: Timothy Hopkins
Contact: hopkinst@dunmoreschooldistrict.net

Name: Jeanne Massaro
Contact: massaroj@dunmoreschooldistrict.net

Agency: Educational Opportunity Center

About Educational Opportunity Center: Educational Opportunity Centers, Inc. (EOC) is a TRIO program under the Department of Education that assists low-income, first-generation college students with advancing their education and careers. The EOC office in Scranton is located in the 7th Avenue Center, 431 N. 7th Avenue, Scranton. EOC academic specialists assist with completing college applications, financial aid applications, assist with the decision making process by administering interest inventories, as well as provide support all through the college process; including advocacy for issues. All EOC services are free and open to all. Workshops are conducted monthly in the Careerlinks and Rehab Centers to dislocated workers. Workshop topics include: Financial aid, Career Decision Making with O'Net, Career Exploration in Health Careers; Career Exploration in Logistics & Manufacturing (which includes Skilled Trades), and Career Exploration in Business; special workshops can be developed for specific populations that include topics on Study Skills, Overcoming Barriers to Education, The College Application Process, to name a few.

Name: Robyn Hoban
Contact: robyn@eocinc.org

Agency: Employment Opportunity and Training Center

About EOTC: EOTC offers a wide array of services for individuals and families. Two of the services that stand out as connections for transitioning youth are: FRIENDS

Mentoring Program- A mentoring program located in a low income housing development for children ages first grade and up. FRIENDS meets each Tuesday with homework for the first hour and either Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts or working with a local artist developing skills and talents for the second hour of the program. (Elaine Donly- 348-6484). Job Search Group – This state-funded program provides weekly job search support via a walk-in Job Search Group, which meets every Tuesday from 10a.m.- Noon. Job seekers can obtain help with resumes, cover letters, mock interviews & other job search skills. (Contact Paul Vecerkauskas at 348-6484).

Name: Micheline McConnon
Contact: mmcconnon@eotcworks.org

Name: Nina Olmedo
Contact: nolmedo@eotcworks.org

Agency: Family Care for Children and Youth

About Family Care for Children and Youth: Family Care for Children & Youth is a private, nonprofit social service Agency providing children of all ages with specialized, community-based foster care services. Programs provided by FCCY's six Pennsylvania locations include Family-Based Services, Family Reunification/Family-Based Services, Kinship Care/Family-Based Services, Kinship Care Home Studies, Adoption Services, Independent Living, Emergency Shelter, and Respite Care.

Name: Shari Menichello
Contact: smenic@fccy.org

Agency: Fell Charter School

About Fell Charter School:

Name: Jill Kennedy
Contact: JKennedy@fellcharter.com

Agency: Forest City School District

About Forest City School District:

Name: Joan Borosky
Contact: jborosky@fcrsd.org

Name: Sandy Morahan
Contact: smorahan@fcrsd.org

Name: Bridget Morhan
Contact: bmoran@fcrsd.org

Agency: Goodwill Industries

About Goodwill Industries: provides services to adults, children and elderly who are intellectually and/or developmentally challenged. All programs are run under the direction of very caring and compassionate full and part-time staff. We have numerous services that are unique to the area and are specifically designed and developed to meet the direct needs and wants of our clients and their families.
Name: Vince Budzyn
Contact: vincentBgoodwill@aol.com

Name: Kerin Koza
Contact: goodwillprograms@gmail.com

Name: Mallory Matylewicz
Contact: goodwillprograms@gmail.com

Name: Debby Mendicino
Contact: dmendicino@goodwillnepa.com

Agency: Goodwill Keystone Area

About Goodwill Keystone Area: To support persons with disabilities and other barriers to independence in achieving their fullest potential as workers and as members of the broader community. Goodwill helps persons with disabilities as well as people who are at an economic disadvantage, or may lack education or work experience. Additionally, we provide job skill training to youth and seniors.

Name: Adele Bond
Contact: abond@yourgoodwill.org

Agency: Keystone Community Resources

About Keystone Community Resources: Our mission is to provide people with developmental disabilities diverse opportunities to lead fulfilling lives. We will provide innovative programs to meet the needs of people of all ages.

Name: Stephanie Chunca
Contact: pennavedp@keystonecommres.com

Agency: Lackawanna Careerlink

About Lackawanna Careerlink:

Name Joel Hunsicker
Contact: junsick@pa.gov

Name: Wayne Marianelli
Contact: c-wmariane@pa.gov

Agency: Lackawanna County CASA

About Lackawanna County Casa: to prevent abused, neglected, and abandoned children from becoming lost in the Juvenile Dependency system and working to find them safe, permanent homes as soon as possible. We work carefully to match a CASA volunteer with a child to ensure that the child's best interest is served.

Name: Kathy Elkins
Contract: wetpaint@nep.net

Agency: Lackawana County Drug & Alcohol Case Management

About Lackawana County Drug & Alcohol Case Management: Its primary mission is to prevent the onset of substance abuse and addiction whenever possible and where it does exist to mitigate its deleterious effects on individuals, families, and the community as a whole. Screening & assessing clients with drug/alcohol dependency. Locate proper LOC based on assessment.

Name: Jennifer Hameza
Contact: hamezaj@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Maura Hennigan
Contact: HenniganM@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Peg Kuhar
Contact: KuharM@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Angela Paciotti
Contact: Paciottia@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Michele Smith
Contact: SmithM@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Jude Villano
Contact: VillanoJ@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Sara Wargo
Contact: WargoS@lackawannacounty.org

Agency: Lackawanna and Susquehanna Behavioral Health Intellectual Disabilities Early Intervention Program

About Lackawanna and Susquehanna Behavioral Health Intellectual Disabilities Early Intervention Program: The program's primary goal is to facilitate the inclusion and full participation of all persons with behavioral health in their local community. It organizes itself to proactively address the planning, development, procurement, management, and evaluation of services, thereby enhancing consumer satisfaction and positive personal outcomes. And finally, the BHIDEI program assumes a leadership role in collaboration with consumers, families, advocates, providers and local government to ensure full participation of persons in their communities

Name: Jessica Chelik
Contact: Chelikj@lsbhidei.org

Agency: Lackawanna County Head Start

About Lackawanna County Head Start

Name: Stephanie Pivovarnik
Contact:spivovarnik@headstartslhda.org

Agency: Lackawanna County Office of Youth & Family Services

About Lackawanna County Office of Youth & Family Services:
Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services Will ensure child safety and family stability while respecting the rights and dignity of the family group

Name: Janette Altenhain
Contact:altenhainJ.lackawannacounty.org

Name: Trina Bohenek

Contact: hoppelt@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Pete Cady
Contact: cadyp@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Lori Chaffers
Contact: chaffersl@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Jen Carroll
Contact: carrollj@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Lisa Gruszewski
Contact: gruzewskil@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Amy Helcoski
Contact:helcoskia@lackawannacounty.org

Name : Lisa Herie
Contact:

Name: Kim Hess
Contact: HessK@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Sarah Holden
Contact: sarahd@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Nancy Johnson
Contact: johnsonN@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Jason Kavulich
Contact: kavulichi@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Heather Macarchick
Contact: OBrienH@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Debbie Marichak
Contact: marichakD@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Katie Munley
Contact: MunleyKa@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Mary Kay Pivovarnik
Contact: pivovarnikm@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Tammy Reiprich
Contact: reipricht@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Kathy Snyder
Contact: snyderk@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Lisa Sohara
Contact: soharal@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Lou Strazzeri
Contact: strazzeril@lackawannacounty.org

Name: Cristen Wormuth
Contact: wormuthc@lackawannacounty.org

Agency: Lakeland School District

Name: Larissa Valonis
Contact: lvanonis@lakeland.org

Agency: Loftus-Vergari & Associates

About Loftus-Vergari & Associates: a private **Agency** providing Counseling, Foster Care, Adoption and Family Group Decision Making services throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. Our staff members are highly skilled, experienced professionals who provide services in a private, comfortable, relaxed environment.

Name: Sharon DiPietri
Contact: Sharon@loftus-vergari.com

Name: Denise Jensen
Contact: dj@loftus-vergari.com

Name: Cindy Loftus-Vergari
Contact: mclv@loftus-vergari.com

Agency: Luzerne County Children and Youth Services

About Luzerne County Children and Youth Services: To assure that children are protected, live free from abuse and neglect and are given the opportunity to grow and develop to their fullest potential.

Name: Charli Kenosky
Contact: Charli.Kenosky@luzernecounty.org

Name: Peggy O'Connor
Contact: peggy.oconnor@luzernecounty.org

Name: Janice Reindel
Contact: Janice.reindel@luzernecounty.org

Name: Anna Ruggere
Contact: Anna.ruggere@luzernecounty.org

Name: Maureen Taroli
Contact: Maureen.thompson@luzernecounty.org

Agency: Marywood University ABLE Program

About Marywood University Able Program: The Adult Basic Literacy and Education program(ABLE) at Marywood serves both ESL and GED students. We provide beginning and intermediate to advanced levels of ESL classes for those students who request them and fit within our program guidelines. We also offer GED preparation classes for those students who apply, meet our guidelines for entry into class and then enter and complete the orientation process. Once these students assess to an appropriate level to pass the GED exam, they are encourage to register for and take this test at a testing center.

Name: Melinda Arcuri
Contact: arcuri@marywood.edu

Name: Selina Shrestha
Contact: sshrestha@marywood.edu

Agency: Marywood University

Name: Kimberly Chernesky
Contact: chernesky@marywood.edu

Name: Lea Dougherty
Contact: Leadougherty@comcast.net

Agency: Maternal & Family Health Services

About Maternal & Family Health Services:

Name: Nicholas Surfinko
Contact: Nicholas@mfhs.org

Agency: Mid Valley High School

Name: Debra Demming
Contact: demmingd@mvsd.us

Name: Sandra Liparulo
Contact: heils@mvsd.us

Name: Alida Nemeth
Contact: nemetha@mvsd.ud

Agency: NEIU Riverside School District

Name: Maryanne Merli
Contact: mmeril@riversidesd.com

Agency: NEIU Victory Village

Name: Joan Murphy
Contact: jmurphy@iu19.org

Agency: NHS Human Services

About NHS Human Services: NHS provides innovative solutions to support the unique needs of the individuals we serve by striving to create a caring and responsive environment that promotes the highest standards of integrity and quality.

Name: Cindy Boyles
Contact: cboyles@nhsonline.org

Name: Madge Dombrosky
Contact: mdombrosky@nhsonline.org

Name: Denise Stoneroad
Contact: dstoneroad@nhsonline.org

Agency: Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit

About NEIU: serves the school communities of Lackawanna, Wayne, and Susquehanna counties. The Intermediate Unit serves as a link between member school districts and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
Through the NEIU mission, our organization supplements and supports local schools in their efforts to educate all students through education, collaboration, and innovation.

Name: Kristin Samsel
Contact: ksamsel@iu19.org

Agency: North Penn Legal Services

About North Penn Legal Services: Attorneys Andrew Lazar and Pam Janus represent children who are involved in the dependency system in Lackawanna County as Guardian's Ad Litem. We also represent the children involved in the delinquency system in the County**.**

Name: Pam Janus
Contact: pjanus@northpennlegal.org

Agency: North Pocono

Name: Marie Merkel
Contact: Mmerkel3@gmail.com

Agency: Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

About Office of Vocational Rehabilitation: OVR serves individuals with disabilities (physical, mental, emotional) that present a substantial impediment to employment. Our services are provided to individuals to gain or maintain employment. Eligibility is based on whether a person A) Has a disability B) The disability causes substantial problems in preparing for, obtaining, or maintaining a career, and C) The person wants to work. OVR offers numerous different services depending on individual needs and their goals, including: diagnostic services, vocational evaluations, counseling services, restoration services, training, and placement services. The Early Reach Initiative provides group and individual

outreach to youth beginning at age 14, prior to a referral to the OVR Counselor. From a transition standpoint, OVR can assist youth in transition beginning at age 14, in preparing for and planning transition from school work to the world of work. OVR can assist them in seeking and obtaining employment, postsecondary education, information and referral, and the overall transition process.

Name: Shawna Perry-Rinaldi
Contact: sperry-rin@pa.gov

Name: Maryjane Saras
Contact: msaras@pa.gov

Name: Mindy Farley
Contact: mifarley@pa.gov

Agency: Old Forge School District

Name: Ann Giglio
Contact: ann.giglio@ofsd.cc

Agency: PA Treatment & Healing

About PA Treatment & Healing: An Intensive Day Treatment Program, which is Medical Assistance approved, Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth, Licensed Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment for youth and adults, which is Medical Assistance approved, Relationship-based Cognitive Behavioral Theory of Counseling to work on the root causes of family issues, Specialized Foster Care, Inpatient Non-Hospital Residential Substance Abuse Treatment. The Original After School Evening Day Treatment Program.

Name: Andrea Brancati
Contact: andreab@pathochange.org

Name: Elizabeth Ciaravino
Contact: drliz727@verizon.net

Name: Scott Constantini
Contact: scottc@pathochange.org

Name: Megan Kamosky
Contact: Megank@pathochange.org

Agency: Regional Children, Youth & Families

About Regional Children, Youth & Families:

Name: Marcia Barnes
Contact: mgosciewski@pa.gov

Agency: Scranton Counseling Center

About Scranton Counseling Center: It is an integrated Behavioral Healthcare Delivery System providing services to people of all ages.

Name: Courtney Clark
Contact: Cclark0826@gmail.com

Name: Meredith Congelio
Contact: Meredith.congelio@scrantonscc.org

Name: Tanya Cwnar
Contact: Tanya.cwynar@scrantonscc.org

Name: Danielle Frascella
Contact: Danielle. Frascella@scrantonscc.org

Name: Tammy Gregorowicz
Contact: Tammy.gregorowicz@walden.edu

Name: Daniella Lebres
Contact: lebreselz@gmail.com

Name: Doug Patella
Contact: Doug.patella@scrantonscc.org

Name: Denise Reilly
Contact: Denise.reilly@scrantonscc.org

Name: Larissa Schwass
Contact: Larissa.schwass@scrantonscc.org

Agency: Scranton High School

Name: Adrienne Borgia
Contact: Adrienne.borgia@scrsd.org

Name: Cathy Opshinsky
Contact: Cathy.opshinsky@scrsd.org

Name: Dave Genovese
Contact: David.genovese@scrsd.org

Agency: Special Kids Network

About Special Kids Network: helps children and youth with special health care needs and disabilities get the services and support they require in order to thrive in their community and develop to their full potential.

Name: Lori DeVoe
Contact: ldevoe@paelkshomeservice.org

Agency: South Scranton Intermediate

Name: Maria Calvert
Contact: Maria.calvert@scrsd.org

Name: Diane D'Angelo
Contact: Diane.dangelo@scrsd.org

Name: Kristen D'Angelo
Contact: Kristen.dangelo@scrsd.org

Name: Cheryl Spager
Contact: Cheryl.spager@scrsd.org

Agency: St. Joseph's Center

About St. Joseph Center: Through pregnancy, family and adoption services; outpatient therapy; and extensive residential and community-based programs for children and adults diagnosed with intellectual disability, St. Joseph's serves hundreds of people throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania on a daily basis.

Name: Danielle Bulzoni
Contact: dbulzoni@stjosephscenter.org

Name: Jessica Dickinson
Contact: jdickinson@stjosephscenter.org

Name: Tara Fuller
Contact: tfuller@stjosephscenter.org

Name: Tamara Hall
Contact: thall@stjosephscenter.org

Name: Stephanie Nichols
Contact: snichols@stjosephscenter.org

Name: Joanne Stephens
Contact: jstephens@stjosephscenter.org

Agency: Step by Step

About Step by Step: staff members are collaborating with community partners, consumers and family members to provide rich programming, vocational, residential and counseling services to hundreds of those in need, assisting people with intellectual disabilities, mental health challenges and autism spectrum disorders in living life to the fullest.

Name: Fran Granahan
Contact: fgranahan@stepbystepusa.com
Name: Brianna Pollock
Contact: bpollock@stepbystepusa.com

Agency: United Neighborhood Center

About United Neighborhood Center: Transitional housing for post foster care support – aging out of foster care; support and life skills, preparation for work and education, and ultimately, permanent housing.

Name: Pam Berg
Contact: pberg@uncnepa.org

Name: Erica Chaplin
Contact: echaplin@m.marywood.edu

Name: Melissa Siracusa
Contact: msiracusa@uncnepa.org

Name: Jill White
Contact: jwhite@uncnepa.org

Agency: University of Scranton

Name: Gerianne Barber

Contact: Gerianne.barber@scranton.edu

Agency: Valley View School District

Name: Chris Burak
Contact: cburak@valleyviewsd.org

Name: Donna Carey
Contact: dcarey@valleyview.org

Agency: Wayne County Children and Youth Services

About Wayne County Children and Youth Services: promotes the well-being of children from birth to 18 years of age and their families through protective services, foster home services, adoption services, family preservation programs, and assessment of reports of child abuse and neglect.

Name: Cindy Batzel
Contact: cbatzel@co.wayne.pa.us

Name: Luke Ruseskas
Contact: Lruseskas@georgejuniorrepublic.org

Agency: WEPA Center for Independent Living

Name: Sharon Quinn
Contact: squinn@mycil.org

Agency: West Scranton Intermediate

Name: Tim Wolff
Contact: Tim.wolff@scrsd.org

Agency: West Scranton High School

Name: Shannon Sheets
Contact: Shannon.sheets@scrsd.org

Agency: Western Wayne High School

Name: Becky Swingle
Contact: RStewart@westernwayne.org

Agency: Western Wayne School District

Name: Renee Chernin
Contact: rchernin@westernwayne.org

Agency: Women's Resource Center

About Women's Resource Center: WRC provides services to adult and child survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. Services are available to significant others who are supportive the survivor's right to live a life free from violence and oppression. Services are free and confidential and available regardless of income, race, gender, age, marital, social or economic status, cultural or religious beliefs, sexual orientation or physical abilities.

Name: Kelsi Curran
Contact: kelsic@wrcnepa.org