

Fall 2025

A semi-annual newsletter from Journey Health System's affiliates:

Beacon Light Adult Residential Services | Beacon Light Behavioral Health System | Deerfield Behavioral Health
Dickinson Center, Inc. | Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association | Stairways Behavioral Health

Dickinson Center Celebrating the new St. Marys' building, staff, board and donors.

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Stairways Behavioral Health Erie Gives 2025 results are in and SBH board & donors are recognized in Erie.

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#### Beacon Light

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#### Deerfield & FWMWA

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- Fun at Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association.

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# A Message from our President and CEO



It has been a decade since Journey Health System (JHS) was established. Today, JHS proudly serves seven affiliate organizations, reflecting a commitment to enhancing behavioral health services.

In the past year, new strategic plans for all JHS affiliates were written, driving operational efficiency. Through effective bulk purchasing power, contract negotiations and leveraging economy-of-scale advantages, JHS has saved our affiliates millions of dollars. As a result, the organization concluded its fiscal year with a strong financial performance.

Moreover, JHS has earned recognition as a Certified "Amazing Workplace," emphasizing its dedication to creating a supportive and innovative work environment. The formation of an internal AI committee marks another significant step forward; initial findings suggest that AI excels at planning clinical activities for clients, with other tools currently under evaluation.

Looking ahead, JHS developed comprehensive marketing materials to attract new affiliates and we have entered an agreement with RCPA to help find additional Pennsylvania-based behavioral health agencies to partner with. Thanks to the support of our staff, Board, donors, clients and their families, our future looks promising for JHS as we continue our mission to enhance behavioral health outcomes across the region!

Sincerely,

Luy C. Lignor Guy Signor

## JHS Marks 10 Years at Annual Meeting

On October 10, Journey Health System (JHS) and affiliates held their annual Board meeting at JHS headquarters in Bradford. The theme "A Decade of Partnerships & Progress", celebrated the 10th anniversary of JHS.

Approximately 40 individuals from each agency's board and executive team gathered remotely and in-person to review the fiscal year and operational updates.

JHS President and CEO Guy Signor welcomed attendees prior to presentations

regarding last year's results by JHS Board Chair Joe Yaros, along with each affiliate's executive director.

Board elections and appointments were lead by Yaros as well.

For more information about JHS and to view the 2025 annual report, please visit www.journeyhealth.org /about.



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#### IN CELEBRATION

# **DCI Honors Board & Donors**

### St. Marys Building Opens



Dickinson Center, Inc. (DCI) held an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony at their new facility located at 28 Railroad Street in St. Marys on July 24, 2025. Over 75 community members, local representatives and employees gathered to celebrate this significant milestone in enhancing mental health and support services in the community.

The new state-of-the-art two story building spans 12,000-square-feet and it consolidates all of DCI's programs, previously located across St. Mary's, under one roof. The strategic move is designed to improve service accessibility while fostering greater aid and organizational effectiveness. The facility is poised to serve as a catalyst for positive transformation within downtown St. Marys, allowing for enhance collaboration between employees and consumers.

The DCI leadership team is grateful for the funding received through a combination of state and federal grants, foundation grants, DCI operating funds, bank financing and generous contributions from business, industry and individuals in the community.



From the left: Guy Signor, JHS President & CEO; Bob Ordiway 2025 LEGACY Award Recipient with Jim Prosper, DCI Executive Director

Dickinson Center, Inc. (DCI) held an annual board and donor appreciation dinner with approximately 80 people on September 10 at the Dream View in St. Marys. Agency leaders thanked board members for volunteering and the donors in the community for providing philanthropic support toward the agency's mission.

DCI Executive Director Jim Prosper, recognized the leadership team for their support and all of the current DCI board members for their years of service. A special gift was presented for each of the following board members: Isaac Gradl, Joe Jacob, Joseph Haines, Ron Hammersley, Theresa Hinton, Bob Ordiway, John Schlimm, Kara Vollmer and Cindy Zembryki.

In addition, the 2025 L.E.G.A.C.Y. Award was presented to Bob Ordiway, a Board member at DCI for seven years. L.E.G.A.C.Y. stands for "Leadership, Excellence, Generosity, Advocacy, Compassion and Years of Service". Each year, the award recognizes those whose dedication and impact have created lasting, positive change for the individuals we serve and the community.

The evening closed with a client's testimonial and an appreciation video about the new St. Marys building. Both heartfelt messages were examples of the appreciation for the work done by the staff and programs at DCI.

For more information visit www.dickinsoncenter.org.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors and the DCI community, I want to thank Bob Ordiway for his dedication and unwavering support of Dickinson Center, which allows us to fulfill our mission and serve the community.

--Jim Prosper, DCI Executive Director

### **National Disability Employment Awareness**

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), so Dickinson Center's (DCI) Employment Support Services is joining the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) to encourage businesses and organizations across the country to participate. Held annually, NDEAM educates about disability employment topics and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

Please look for articles and DCI Facebook posts that highlight our consumers and community employers during this month-long celebration. DCI also celebrated 80 years of NDEAM with an event on October 21, 2025 at DCI's main office in Ridgway, PA.

For more information about Employment Support Services, visit <a href="www.dickinsoncenter.org/ess">www.dickinsoncenter.org/ess</a> or call 814-776-2655.



#### **Erie Gives 2025 Success**



Stairways Behavioral Health (SBH) is proud to announce the results of the August 12, 2025 Erie Gives day. Gifts from 91 donors totalled \$28,623 to support the mission and work at Stairways.

SBH is extremely grateful for this support. It enables us to provide our most at-risk consumers the treatment and rehabilitation services they require; resulting in a significant and positive difference in maintaining a healthy community.

Mark your calendars for the next Erie Gives Day on August 11, 2026.

For more information about giving opportunities, visit <u>www.givetostairwaysbh.org</u>.

#### WITH GRATITUDE

## **Annual Board & Donor Event Held**



From the left: Guy Signor, JHS President & CEO; Melanie Hake, SBH Executive Director; 2025 STEP Award Recipient Dr. Kristine Nelson with Brian Hennessy, Esg., SBH Board Chair

Stairways Behavioral Health (SBH) held an annual board and donor appreciation dinner with approximately 75 people on August 21 at the Warner Theatre in Erie. Agency leaders thanked board members for volunteering and the donors in the community for providing philanthropic support toward the agency's mission.

The program commenced with a prayer by Father Leo Gallina, followed by a welcome message from Guy Signor, JHS President & CEO and introductions by SBH Board Chair Brian Hennessy, Esq.

SBH Executive Director Melanie Hake, recognized the leadership team for their support and all of the current SBH board members for their years of service. A special gift was presented for each of the following board members: Rosmari Graham, Craig Hartburg, Brian Hennessy, Esq., Kurt Hersch, Gregory LaRocca, Celene McIntyre, Dr. Kristine Nelson, Kristie Nosich, Brandon Sieber, Dr. Anthony Snow, Thomas Tredway and Joe Yaros

In addition, the 2025 S.T.E.P. Award was presented to Dr. Kristine Nelson, a Board member at Stairways Behavioral Health for 22 years. S.T.E.P. stands for "Service Through Empowering People" and is awarded each year to an individual who exemplifies leadership and service at Stairways Behavioral Health.

The evening closed with a historical talk by Bob Gage and a Gage House client's testimonial. Both heartfelt messages are examples of the amazing work done by the staff and programs at SBH.

# West Millcreek & Fairview Living Magazine Editorial

In October, I am particularly drawn to the fact that it marks National Bullying Prevention Month, and the 10th was World Mental Health Day. As a mental health professional, I can't help but acknowledge how these very important topics are very closely related. For our kids, the impact of bullying - for both the person doing the bullying as well as the person being bullied - can be extremely life-impacting. Some kids may never be able to overcome the emotional impact of being a victim of bullying, and could forever have their self-confidence and self-value diminished. This could lead to more risk for experimenting with alcohol or drugs, which could easily develop into a medical addiction, and have

horrible health consequences, as well as difficulties in establishing & maintaining healthy relationships and productive employment. For people who have been the bully, there often is true regret and remorse in adulthood for having been so hurtful to others.

Sometimes after a person has experienced their own hardships, as we humans certainly will, the realization of harm we have ourselves inflicted can be awful. Other times, the person who may have been a bully, who appears to have everything, including a group of peers who reinforce them and protect them from social isolation, growing up and moving into the "real world" can be disastrous as well.

The most common mental health difficulties are either related to surviving traumatic and/ or abusive experiences, or depression and/ or anxiety, which often include many of the elements I mention above (lack of confidence, poor self-image). If we as parents can help our kids to instil patience, respectful discord, and a desire to reach out to the kids who are bullied, isolated, or alone, we are not only helping to improve the lives of those other children, but of our own child's future life as well. We can help teach our children these characteristics by role-modeling how we talk about or treat others, which, when done in a positive, respectful and collaborative way, can have a positive impact on our own mental health as well. I'm wishing you all positive mental health in October and beyond.

--By Rebecca Clark, LCSW, SBH Administrative Director of Treatment Services & New Opportunities Employee Assistance Program



#### **New Van Grant Helps BLARS**



The Beacon Light Adult Residential Services (BLARS) Community Stabilization and Reintegration Unit in McClure received a \$65,000 grant from The Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust to purchase a wheelchair-accessible van, enhancing safe, independent transportation for individuals with complex behavioral health and developmental needs.

For more information about BLARS, visit <u>www.beacon-light.org</u>/<u>residential-programs-for-adults</u>.

### **New Bradford Outpatient Clinic**



Beacon Light Behavioral Health System (BLBHS) recently opened a new outpatient clinic at 23 Kennedy Street inside Bradford's Old City Hall building.

Joshua Halbauer, MD (pictured) is accepting new patients.

Dr. Halbauer has over 26 years of experience, specializing in psyciatric care for kids, middle-age, and elderly clients. He graduated from the University of Pécs located in Hungary and completed a residency at Loma Linda University Medical Center in California. He also did a fellowship in Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Southern California & Children's Hospital, Los Angeles.

For appointments or referrals, call 814-723-1832.

## **Announcing COGNITIONS**

Building skills for life.



COGNITIONS is Beacon Light Behavioral Health System's new Psychiatric Rehabilitation program located at 23 Kennedy Street, Suite 102 in Bradford. It assists individuals living with mental illness identify and pursue the goals they have for their life.

For details, call 814-406-8901 or visit www.beacon-light.org.

#### RAISING AWARENESS

# **Community Involvement**

Several programs at Beacon Light Behavioral Health System (BLBHS) joined community events and activities during the summer and fall. From booths with information about their helpful services and resources, to donning special colors or decorations to help build awareness about mental health, the staff always enjoys being part of fun tasks for an important cause.





BLBHS Children's Community Programs at 58 Derrick Road won Bradford's "Most Hometown Pride Business" during the3rd annual 'Paint the Town' event



BLBHS Community Services participated in the YWCA Purple Pumpkin Project for October Domestic Violence Awareness Month



#### Chalk the Walk 2025

On World Suicide Prevention Day (9/10), the Beacon Light Behavioral Health System's #YouMatter Committee asked all employees to "Chalk the Walk" on their site's sidewalk/pavement.

Over 50 affiliate-wide photos of the uplifting and encouraging messages were received. They spanned across all of our communities to support suicide prevention awareness.

See the full video collage at <a href="https://youtu.be/2VRlkdDf2IU">https://youtu.be/2VRlkdDf2IU</a> .



## Recognizing Staff Reaching Service Milestones

Celebrations were recently held for employees who reached major milestones this year. Thank you all!



Call 1.800.345.1780

Interested in joining our team? Visit www.beacon-light.org



## Friendship House Fun



Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association's (FWMWA) Friendship House plans many activities each month for clients. For example, they recently held the first competition of American Idol "Friendship Housestyle". The winner was Kelly Wolfe (Left photo, pictured on the right) with our 1st runner up is Rhailee Briggs. A surprise visit from "Elvis" (our own Shawn Albaugh), was a hit when he sang "Jailhouse Rock".

Additionally, it was Kathy's Kraft Korner day on October 6 at the Friendship House and clients had so much spooky fun crafting sassy spiders and playful pumpkins. For a little extra "Falloween" everyone enjoyed apple cider and cookies.

For more information, call 814-584-1126 or visit www.fwmwa.org.



# Deerfield Behavioral Health in Warren Relocates



Deerfield Behavioral Health (DBH) and Deerfield Centers for Addictions Treatment (DCAT) recently moved their Warren office in to the plaza located at 1885 Market Street in Warren, Pennsylvania.

Renovations to the one-story, 3,200-square-foot office suite were completed on September 15. DBH and DCAT offer a blend of psychiatric diagnostic, therapeutic, and substance abuse treatments at several counties across Pennsylvania.

For more information, visit www.deerfieldbehavioralhealth.org.

# DEERFIELD SOLUTIONS

Deerfield Solutions provides online access to the LOCUS/CALOCUS level of care assessment tools in over 35 U.S. states and several provinces in Canada. For more information about Deerfield Solutions, visit www.deerfieldsolutions.com.

# Helpful Instruments for Behavioral Health Teams







**LOCUS EHR Integrations** 



**LOCUS API** 



**LOCUS Training** 

For more information or news, please visit any of our affiliates' websites or follow them on social media!



# ARE YOU SEEKING A CAREER THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE?

Our affiliates are now hiring part-time & full-time staff to care for children & adults with mental health needs and/or disabilities. Positions are open across Pennsylvania!

SEE CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES & APPLY AT: beacon-light.org | journeyhealth.org dickinsoncenter.org | stairwaysbh.org deerfieldbehavioralhealth.org | fwmwa.org

# Who we serve



8.5K

ADULT

MENTAL HEALTH

CLIENTS



72 PROGRAMS AVAILABLE



975
EMPLOYEES
AGENCY-WIDE



3K
CHILD
MENTAL HEALTH
CLIENTS



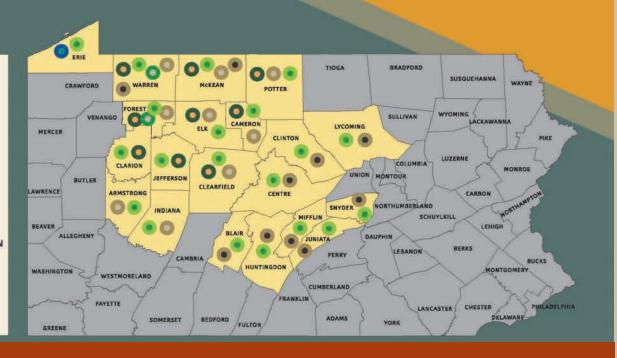
**83**FACILITIES ACROSS PA



\$311K UNCOMPENSATED (CHARITY) CARE PROVIDED

20 COUNTIES SERVED

- BEACON LIGHT
  ADULT
  RESIDENTIAL
  SERVICES
- BEACON LIGHT
  BEHAVIORAL
  HEALTH SYSTEM
- DEERFIELD
  BEHAVIORAL
  HEALTH
- O DICKINSON CENTER, INC.
- FOREST/WARREN
  MENTAL
  WELLNESS
  ASSOCIATION
- STAIRWAYS
  BEHAVIORAL
  HEALTH





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# Join Us in Realizing Our Vision for the Future.

# Ways you can help:

#### **DONATE BY MAIL:**

- Submit a gift payable to any of our affiliates.
- Make a check payable to any of our affiliates & mail it to:

Journey Health System
Attn: Institutional Advancement Office
47 Beacon Light Way
Bradford, PA 16701

#### DONATE ONLINE:

www.givetobeaconlight.org www.givetodickinson.org www.givetostairways.org www.fwmwa.org www.deerfieldbehavioralhealth.org

# INVEST IN OUR MISSION:

Remember one of our affiliates in your overall estate or financial plans (visit the websites above and call 814-776-0254 for details)

#### **DONATE BY PHONE:**

Call 814-776-0254

# FOLLOW US AND SHARE:

Stay updated on Facebook and share our news with friends.

#### GET INVOLVED:

Volunteer or intern with us by contacting info@journeyhealth.org.

\*100% of gifts are used exclusively at the designated affiliate organization.

To help us save paper, you can receive this newsletter via email two (2) times a year instead of in the mail, please email <u>communications@journeyhealth.org</u> & provide us a valid email address. Thank you!