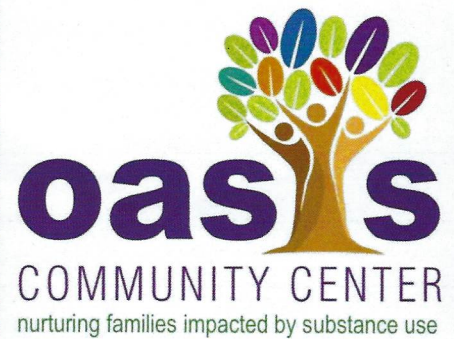


# OASIS COMMUNITY CENTER

*Making a Difference in the Lehigh Valley*



Stepping into the Oasis Community Center in Bethlehem along the Monocacy Creek is like entering a peaceful and welcoming home.

The 220-year-old renovated historic mansion retains much of its historical charm with original architectural details, and is furnished comfortably with a gathering room and library (both with a cozy fireplace), a calming spa-like room, lounges for group meetings, activities areas, offices, a functional kitchen, a sprawling front porch, and a picnic grove. What happens in this home, however, is one-of-a-kind in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Oasis Community Center provides education, support, comfort, and healing to people who have experienced a substance-related loss as well as families and friends impacted by a loved one's active substance use. They do this with the understanding that the effects of a loved one's substance abuse causes trauma. At Oasis, the staff adheres to confidentiality and practices a trauma-informed care (TIC) approach which emphasizes safety, collaboration, and compassion.

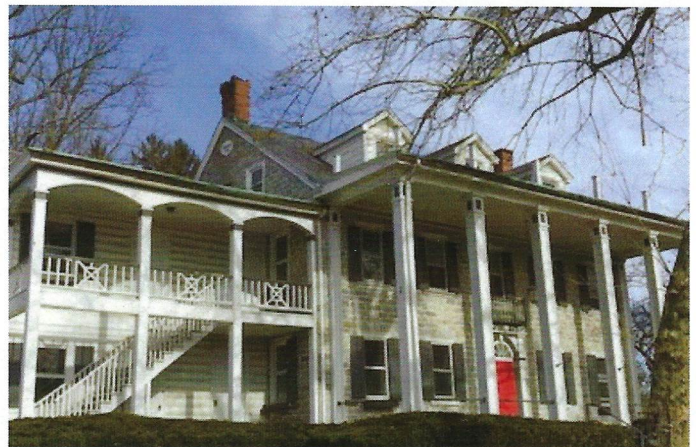
All services are free and open to anyone who comes through the door. Each month, there are activities directed at wellness of the whole person - mind, body, and spirit. Along with group family counseling and grief support meetings, there are social activities like creekside walks, gardening, yoga

classes, dinners, family fun nights, and more.

Each staff member working with families is a certified and trained professional who has dealt with a loved one's addiction firsthand. The organization is founded and led by Rhonda Miller, who began the parent organization, Speak Up for Ben, named after her son.

"We are in a scary crisis of drug addiction only complicated by the fact that most street drugs are laced with fentanyl which is often fatal. The use of smart phones has created easy access to obtaining illegal substances. Private messaging and social media apps are often used with encrypted emoticons to communicate with drug dealers. This is a grave concern given youth can unknowingly access fake pills, typically laced with fentanyl, and which are often deadly."

Living with someone suffering from substance abuse can take a toll on their family and friends. Oasis helps families help themselves first. They follow the airplane oxygen mask analogy for self care: "put on your own mask first before helping others." If you are mentally, emotionally, and spiritually strong, you can start understanding and helping your loved ones better; this is the foundation of the Oasis philosophy.



*Oasis Community Center*

Anyone is welcome to visit Rhonda and her staff Monday-Friday 10am-5pm or by appointment. Their calendar of events can also be found online. The organization is always open to volunteers and community support. Oasis Community Center is operated by SPEAK UP for BEN, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Learn more about their nonprofit at: <https://speakupforben.org>.

Oasis Community Center is funded in part by the Northampton County Department of Human Services Drug & Alcohol Division.

**Oasis Community Center**  
3410 Bath Pike  
Bethlehem, PA 18017

484-747-6825  
<https://oasisbethlehem.org>



*We welcome all to enjoy our Oasis!*



*Rhonda Miller, Founder/Director (center) with staff Alice Sikorski (left) and Tina Thomas (right).*



*Gathering Room reception and meeting area.*



*Library for meetings and conferences.*



*Serenity Room for relaxation.*



*New friendships are formed.*



*Guided walks offered along Oasis' creekside trails.*



*Musical entertainment, dinners, and social events offered.*



*Volunteers help with events.*



*Remembrance events, including Butterfly Release, held annually.*



*Cooking classes and art classes enjoyed.*