“Spring is a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.” As the birds begin to chirp and the flowers start to blossom, an indication that Spring is just around the corner, we would like to reflect on what has been going on at the Drop-In Center for the past two months.

In observation of the New Year, the Drop-In Center was closed on the first of January. During the week of January 6th-10th, the Friends had the opportunity to vote for their peers for our Drop-In Center Superlatives. Some categories that the Friends voted on were “Most Likely to Make Me Laugh,” “Friendliest,” etc… As pet therapy with Archie is held every 2nd and 4th Thursday and Christine’s emotional support animal, Sadie, visits periodically, we thought our furry Friends should be rewarded for their hard work too! So our Friends started baking dog treats once a month to thank them for their service. The Drop-In Center was closed on January 20th in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, but on January 21st, the Friends packed up some soup and our group and headed over to the Easton Drop-In Center. The Friends enjoyed our Coordinator’s seafood gumbo as well as our Drop-In Center greeter’s Kielbasa Soup. Other activities enjoyed in January were BINGO, Pizza night, and our monthly birthday party.

As Valentine’s Day soon approached in February, the Drop-In Center was decorated with flowers and red and pink hearts. The Friends had an opportunity to ask a panel of staff members from various programs questions during our Ask-A-Basket Guided Discussion group on February 6th. The Friends also started a Valentine’s Dance Committee to plan the Valentine’s Dance that was held on February 14th from 3-6p. Amidst the dancing, music, and laughter, it was clear that love was present in the room. So, with that, I’ll close with this quote,: 

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”
Community Outreach

Thank you to Ken and Barry from Weis Markets on 5580 Crawford Drive in Bethlehem, PA for their continued support of our program. They have offered affordable solutions and exemplary customer service in providing beverages for our Friends and Drop-In Center Program.

Staff Corner

And The Votes Are In...Here are your 2020 Staff Superlatives!

AS VOTED ON BY THE DROP-IN CENTER FRIENDS

- Most Helpful: Christine, Amanda, Kristen, Mike & Beth
- Most Understanding: Christine, Amanda & Beth
- Most Creative: Amanda, Christine & Kristen
- Most Reliable: Kristen, Amanda, Christine, Angie, Beth & Mike B.
- Most Likely To Make Me Laugh: Angie, Amanda, Christine & Beth
- Easiest To Approach: Amanda & Christine
- Easiest To Get Along With: Amanda, Angie, Christine, Kristen, Mike & Beth
- Best Cook: Amanda
- Best Taster: Mike B.
- Unsung Hero: Mike B & Amanda
- Best Behaved: Beth
- Funniest: Amanda
- "Most Fragrant": Christine
- Most Caring: Kristen
- Most Inventive: Kristen & Christine
- Kindest: Kristen
- Best Dancer: Amanda
- Wisest: Christine & Amanda
- Best Dressed: Angie
- Most Athletic: Kristen
- Friendliest: Amanda
- Most Loveable: Amanda & Beth
- Most Talkative: Amanda
- Happiest: Beth
- Most Popular: Christine
- Most Artistic: Christine
- Most Musical: Angie & Kristen
- Best Shopper: Christine
- Best Laugh: Amanda
- Most Giving: Christine & Angie
- Best Dancer: Amanda
This Newsletter’s featured Friend is: Jennifer Rupp

Can you tell me a little about yourself?
I have 2 sisters and a brother. I am close to my older sister. I talk to her every day. I love to eat Spanish food. I am looking for my own apartment so I can cook and have an emotional support dog. I am a very caring, helpful person and love to be around people.

What is one of your hidden talents?
I love to crochet. I like making blankets and scarves for people.

If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be and why?
Florida so I can go see Disney World!

What do you look for in a friend?
A person that does not take street drugs. A person to do things with me that will not hurt me. A friend that is true.

What is your favorite food?
Spanish and Chinese food

Why do you like to attend the Drop-In Center?
To make new friends and keep myself busy. It also helps me to not be depressed.
**Friends’ Corner**

**A Note From a Friend**

This newsletter’s Friend corner is brought to us by Megan Waksmunski:

I am so blessed to finally have the job that I have. I get to help people at my work. People say hi to me when I am on my break and when I come in. My job coach gave me a job that is so much better than the last. My work family loves me so much that I “light up the place.” It’s awesome to have a work family.

- Megan W.

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**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

On behalf of the Northampton County Drop-In Center, we would like to recognize the following Friends for achieving perfect attendance for the month of January 2020:

- James Hartnett
- Mike King
- Megan Waksmunski

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**Calendar Updates**

- Breakfast for Lunch with Amanda @ 1p on Wednesday, 3/18 will be rescheduled for Tuesday, 3/24 @ 1p. We will be baking dog treats on 3/18.

- NAMI will be joining us as scheduled on the calendar on the 3rd Thursday of every month (starting 3/19 @ 1p) to hold their Lunch and Learn program. Suggestions for topics of interest are welcome and we very much look forward to seeing you!

- **REGISTRATION FOR THE 2020 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WALK IS NOW OPEN!** Any Friend wanting to register or volunteer can utilize the computers in the Drop-In Center to register online. Staff will be available for support.
Hours of Operation

*NEW HOURS*

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

We’re on the Web!

www.recoverypartnership.us

Welcome Friends!

We offer a Wii gaming system, Arts & Crafts, games, cards, and snacks.

See You There!

“This project is funded, in part, under a contract with the Northampton County Department of Human Services through funds provided by the County of Northampton and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Department of Aging, Department of Health and/or Department of Human Services)”

Northampton County
Drop-In Center
70 W. North Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

**If any of the Friends of the Drop-In Center would like to submit an article for the newsletter please see any of the Drop – In Center Staff **