



Northampton County Drop-In Center

We are now open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.!

Van Service is available Tuesday-Friday for drop off only at this time.

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Recap

“Autumn whispered to the wind, I fall, but always rise again.” During this time as we face many uncertainties, one thing has remained true and steadfast– the dedication of both our Friends and staff of the Northampton County Drop-In Center. Thanks to all of their continued vigilant efforts, the Northampton County Drop-In Center has remained open for five months now. In September and October, as we strived for some sort uniformity at the Drop-In Center, the staff here have provided many activities for the Friends to participate in.

The month of September started off with the weekly check-in group and ask-a-basket, where the Friends had the opportunity to ask various staff members questions. Christine held her M&M group, in which she handed out individually packaged fun size M&M bags and depending on what color they picked, they had to answer a question or make a statement about themselves. The colorful highlight of September though, was by far the tie-dye activity that Kristen facilitated. The Friends enjoyed tie dying various items such as t-shirts, tank tops, and bandanas.

As we move toward the upcoming holiday season, we would like to wish all of our Northampton County Drop-In Center Friends, staff, and their families a safe and happy holidays!

RECOVERY VALUES

- Hope
- Individuality
- Self-Awareness
- Self-Determination
- Meaningful Life
- Respect
- Peer Support
- Community Focus

Community Outreach

Thank you to Ken and the amazing staff 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

CONGRATULATIONS to our Northampton County Drop-In Center Staff celebrating anniversaries:

Amanda: Congratulations on two years of dedicated work and service with our Drop-In Center program!

Angie: Congratulations on one year of dedicated work and service with our Drop-In Center program!

Mike: Congratulations on one year of dedicated work and service with our Drop-In Center program!

The Northampton County Drop-In Center proudly presents for the first time, Mrs. Christine Hamscher! It is often said, “The best things come to those who wait.” In our experience knowing Christine, the best things come to those who wait for it! Although the pandemic caused Christine to wait for it initially, she pulled out all the stops to re-plan what she needed and finally had her special day on 10/10/20. Cheers Mrs. Christine Hamscher! All of your Friends and Drop-In Center family wish you all the luck and happiness as you start this next chapter of your life!

Winter Wonderland

This monster word search includes more than 50 winter words going in every possible direction. Can you find them all?



avalanche
blanket
blizzard
chimney
Christmas
coat
cold
December
 earmuffs
February
fireplace
freeze
freezing rain
frigid

gloves
hail
Hanukkah
heater
hibernate
hockey
holidays
hot chocolate
ice fishing
ice skates
icicles
igloo
Jack Frost
jacket

January
Kwanzaa
lunar new year
melt
migrate
mittens
New Year's Day
quilt
scarf
shovel
skiing
sled
sleet
sleigh

slippery
slush
snowball
snowboard
snowdrift
snowflake
snowman
snowmobile
snowplow
snowstorm
sweater
vacation
Valentine's Day

Friends' Corner

Interviews With Friends

**This Newsletter's featured Friend is:
Mabel Foster**

Can you tell me a little about yourself?

Mabel Foster, age 58, was born and raised in Philadelphia. She has 7 siblings and three are still alive. She has 3 children of her own. She is currently looking for an apartment with her boyfriend, Larry. In the near future, she is looking into getting married.

What is one of your hidden talents?

"I like to dance and play card games. Especially Bingo!" Mabel is our resident card shark.

If you could visit any place in the world, where would it be and why?

"Paris because it is a beautiful place and a romantic one too."

What do you look for in a friend?

"I look for a friend that is honest and friendly."

What is your favorite food?

"Cheese steaks!"

Why do you like to attend the Drop-In Center?

"The people. The Drop--In Center is a safe haven and a home away from home."

The Friends at the DIC would like to wish Mabel the best of luck in her upcoming surgery. We love you, Mabel and look forward to your safe and healthy return.

Friends' Corner

In March 2020, PMHCA contacted the Northampton County Drop-In Center Coordinator and asked to highlight the Northampton County Drop-In Center in their newsletter. Released in the September 2020 PMHCA "Vision" Newsletter. To read the newsletter in its entirety, please visit PMHCA's Quarterly Newsletter, Vision, available online at <https://pmhca.wildapricot.org/Vision-Newsletter/>

The Northampton County Drop-In Center

By: Kristen Bertucci, CPS, CPSS

The Northampton County Drop-In Center is a social rehabilitation program where Northampton county residents 18 years or older who self-identify with a current mental health or dual diagnosis can come to socialize and participate in recreational activities in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Run by Recovery Partnership, the Northampton County Drop-In Center is located in downtown Bethlehem at 70 W. North Street. As part of Recovery Partnership, the Northampton County Drop-In Center is a peer run, peer directed program that supports its participants to increase meaningful community and peer relationships, provide access to recovery support resources, and provide a space where individuals of different abilities can engage in both meaningful activities as well as take a self-directed approach to wellness and recovery. Within the last 18 months, the Friends who attend the Northampton County Drop-In Center created a self-generated petition for the County that outlined their need for and benefits of increasing our hours of operations. In 2017, the Northampton County Drop-In Center hours of operations were Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 3pm-8pm and Tuesday and Thursday 12pm-8pm. By the spring of 2018, the Friends' self-advocacy resulted in our hours of operation being expanded to 12pm-8pm Monday-Friday. By the beginning of the 2019 fiscal year, the Northampton County Drop-In Center hours were again expanded to increase access to the individuals we serve to 9am-8pm Monday-Friday. To promote continued Friend directed programming, the Northampton County Drop-In Center offers monthly activity, newsletter and community meetings where Friends come together to discuss what they feel are beneficial activities, guest speakers, and areas they feel can be adjusted or improved to meet the needs and supports identified as important to our Friends. In addition to a recovery oriented and self-directed approach to programming, the Northampton County Drop-In Center promotes and celebrates our individual Friend's accomplishments such as gaining meaningful employment, perfect program attendance, recovery anniversaries, securing housing, accessing new services, and learning new skills. In celebrating these individual successes, the Northampton County Drop-In Center staff and Friends have built a supportive peer to peer environment where our Friends can also band together in times of crisis and loss. In times that, for any one individual, it may seem an impossible feat to face the challenges of life while living with a mental illness, the Friends at the Northampton County Drop-In Center support each other as a community. Through mutually trusting and respectful day to day interactions, the Friends have built and foster an atmosphere of nonjudgmental support that welcomes others and is truly a place that exists where no one has to be alone. In my two plus years as the Northampton County Drop-In Center coordinator, I have witnessed an unconditional love from our Friends and a level of devotion to both our program as well as to each other that is truly unique. Our Friends often refer to both the Drop-In Center staff and other participating Friends as "Family." So what is the Northampton County Drop-In Center? To me, it is hope. A place that exists where one does not have to be alone, that celebrates an individual's expression of their authentic self, and can provide any individual willing to participate the opportunity to belong.

Northampton County Drop-In Center

70 W. North Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Phone: 610.954.5501

Fax: 610.861.2781

Email:

northamptoncountydic@gmail.com

Hours of Operation

NEW HOURS

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m.—7:00 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

Virtual Drop-In Center is currently running Monday-Friday from 2-4p. Individuals interested in participating can access the meeting at www.recoverypartnership.us and click on the blue link for the Virtual Drop-In Center.

****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 ****