Montgomery County, PA
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
While being goal-driven and forward-moving is important, it's equally important to stop and take time to reflect. Taking stock of the things we've accomplished, reminds us of our strengths as individuals and as a team and provides needed fortification for those times when the work we do is particularly challenging. It can also serve as a motivator to continue to learn and improve.

So much of the work of HHS is ensuring that people can meet basic needs, but it is also about innovation. In 2022, we were able to help 193 individuals and families exit homelessness, connect our county's senior population to over 300,000 meals delivered to their homes, and holistically address mental health, food education, nutrition, and spirituality to promote overall health and wellness. Our hard-working OCY team increased the number of foster homes available to children at a time when many child welfare agencies across the country struggle to do so AND 65% of new resource homes were kinship care which means that children are able to remain with extended family.

2022 also marked a year of being recognized for implementing best practices and other exciting beginnings. Our Office of Community Connections established new partnerships with three community stakeholders creating more visibility for the services offered by the Department to reach more people in need. A collaboration between the Offices of Mental Health, Senior Services and Veterans Affairs and law enforcement officers yielded the creation of a Veterans Response Team, the first of its kind in Pennsylvania, while the Office of Senior Services implemented a program to address depression in older adults. Both of these are considered model programs. My appointment as the Director of HHS in November 2022, also marked a new beginning. I am so pleased to be part of the Montgomery County team and at the helm of this health and human services organization that enriches the lives of county residents.
CHILDREN AND YOUTH

8,664 families benefited from diversionary services.

7% decrease in foster care placements

3% re-entry rate, which is lower than the national average.

14%

Increase in the number of resource (foster) homes compared to 2021. In 2022, 65% of the new OCY resource homes were kinship homes.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

No wrong door approach

Received 865 referrals from HHS offices.

11,500

# of screenings conducted with residents

2,316

# of new residents

Created 3 new partnerships with community organizations to help increase the office’s presence in the community.

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**COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND EDUCATION**

**Car Seat Check Events**
- **11** In-person
- **13** Virtual

Checked 77 seats, corrected 78 misuses, and educated 83 caregivers.

Collaborated with the Montgomery County Planning Commission, the Division of Parks, Trails and Historic Sites, and two local art organizations to create community art at the Trail Junction Center.

Presented with Eisenhower Science and Technology Leadership Academy’s STEM Director at the Action for Healthy Kids National Conference.

Expanded HHS social media presence by piloting TikTok.

- 🎥 41,000+ views in 6 months
- 🐓 132 followers
- 👍 1,028 likes

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL**

Launched a nine-year integrated strategic prevention plan.

Created online dynamic data dashboards housing PA Youth Survey Data, Needs Assessment data, and program evaluation data.

Collected data to report the progress made towards the goals in the integrated strategic prevention plan.
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Finance team began testing data driven reports to identify trends with Cost Centers.

Provided funding to enhance operations, support child care staff, and assist child care providers in recruiting new staff.

Participated in the Keystone Kids Go! program to improve children's nutrition and physical activity.

 Participated in professional development training - Trauma Informed Care, Mindfulness training, Racial Equity training, HHS Emerging Leaders program and HHS Supervisor Training.

HHS Human Resources transitioned to a new platform, NeoGov.

Information and Technology Solutions migrated all HHS users to SharePoint and OneDrive.
**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**Making Homelessness**
- RARE
  - 7,050
  - Number of renter households that received financial assistance, totaling $78.9 million dollars.
  - (March 2021 – November 2022)

**Making Homelessness**
- BRIEF
  - 193
  - Number of households that exited homelessness to a permanent, stable housing destination.

**Making Homelessness**
- ONE-TIME-ONLY
  - 92%
  - Percent of households who were housed did not return to homelessness within 6 months.

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**INTEGRATIVE SERVICES**

Successfully coordinated the Hurricane Ida Emergency Non-Congregate Shelter program.

Assisted in coordinating the transition of the Montgomery County MultiFaith Coalition to reside under Access Service’s Intersect Program.

In partnership with ACCESS services, developed and conducted the workshop series “Better Together: How Faith Communities, Mental Health Providers, and Government Can Collaborate to Promote Wellness.”
MANAGED CARE SOLUTIONS

Successfully implemented reinvestment plans - expansion of Child/Adolescent behavioral health outpatient services; relocation of programs from the Norristown State Hospital grounds; and funding to support telehealth and technology enhancements for behavioral health providers.

Awarded more than $13 million to providers within the Montgomery County behavioral health network to address workforce stabilization.

Paired nutrition and food education from a community-based organization with mental health services through a behavioral health provider.

MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES/EARLY INTERVENTION

Awarded $5 million in American Recovery Program Act (ARPA) grant funding to develop school-based behavioral health programming.

Awarded $5 million ARPA grant to acquire and develop physical space for a crisis diversion center.

Increased access to information, education, and resources by developing training for Development Disabilities providers.
PERFORMANCE AND PLANNING

 Increased capacity for oversight of Health and Human Services contracted entities to include the development of scopes of works for three program offices. Completed 240 contracted entity monitorings.

 Developed and implemented a standardized approach to vendor monitoring and service verification to ensure appropriate utilization of county and state funds.

 Implemented data integrity protocols for several offices within Health and Human Services to ensure high quality and valid reporting of information.

PUBLIC HEALTH

“Project ACE-IT” - provided free rapid COVID-19 antigen tests to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 within schools.

Six hundred (600) Medical Reserve Corps volunteers served 2,123 hours assisting in providing 9,746 COVID vaccinations saving the County $90,796.85.

6,166 inspections and/or investigations performed at 3,967 licensed food facilities.
Created Mindmatters – “The Road to Happiness” to address depression in the older adult population. The program is being shared as a model program for Senior Centers.

Number of home delivered meals given to seniors.

1,799

Number of Protective Services investigations completed.

2,549

Number of Requests of Need responded to.

68

Number of veterans who received benefits through provider collaboration and the Office of Housing & Community Development (a Continuum of Care Governing Board Member).

Collaborated with the Offices of Mental Health and Senior Services and the Coatesville Medical Center to stand up a Veteran Response Team (VRT), the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.