

**Carbon-Monroe-Pike MH/DS
Developmental Services Status Report
March 2019**

Early Intervention:

The Department of Human Services, as well as the Departments of Health and Drug and Alcohol have partnered to plan work sessions for county leaders who will be responsible for developing and implementing policies and procedures regarding the development of Plans of Safe Care for children under one year of age. The work group will focus on infants in this age group that are affected by substance use or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. EI Leaders Ellen Erb and Linda Migneco, along with System of Care Coordinator Larissa Kimmel, participated in the initial multi-disciplinary meetings during the two day Governor's Institute held March 4-5th at Kalahari Resort. Further plans are now underway to develop protocol, connect with additional team players and determine timelines for this initiative.

Developmental Services:

Carbon-Monroe-Pike Developmental Services has created a Regional Collaborative that works with other community partners to discover and implement strategies, practices and policies that support individuals and families to facilitate the achievement of self-determination, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. The Collaborative is planning an event on April 25th at Northampton County Community College. Local agencies that have confirmed their participation include Advocacy Alliance, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, PA Family Network, Safe Haven, Salvation Army, Special Needs Ministry, Meals on Wheels, Challenger Club, ASERT, Pocono Autism Society and Special Olympics. We continue to reach out to other local community resources and encourage them to participate.

A Pike County Reverse Job Fair will be held on April 16, 2019, 10am to 4pm at the Best Western in Matamoras, PA. The job seekers are the ones behind the table supporting their employment goals and positioning themselves to showcase their skills, personality, and ambition to prospective employers. Employers visit the Reverse Job Fair with an understanding around what skill sets will be highlighted and how these job seekers might best meet their business needs.

The Administrative Entity team is in the process of developing a provider risk screening process in order to proactively monitor providers and address any concerns that may develop. A risk screening tool is being developed which will include areas that may identify potential systemic issues that may place the health and welfare of participants at risk. Areas reviewed will include red flag incidents, fatal four incidents, billing issues, loss of MA for the participant, loss of waiver for the participant, complaints related to the provider, change in staffing ratio or high staff turnover. Any indication of patterns in the risk screening areas will cause further review and possible intervention if necessary to prevent a crisis.

Respectfully,



Kim Chern
Deputy DS Administrator