



Our JOURNEY

A semi-annual newsletter from Journey Health System's affiliates: Beacon Light Adult Residential Services | Beacon Light Behavioral Health System | Deerfield Behavioral Health | Dickinson Center, Inc. Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association | Stairways Behavioral Health

Spring / Summer 2026

Dickinson Center's News

New staff, program celebrations & memorials are part of the community.

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Stairways' Activities

Celebrating 65 years of service while holding client & community events.

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Beacon Light Updates

Beacon Light holds 2026 Board & Donor Recognition Event & starts 1st Street building addition.

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Deerfield and FWMWA

- Deerfield Behavioral Health & Deerfield Centers for Addiction Treatment (DCAT) changes.

- Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Assoc. makes the news.

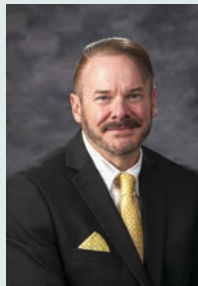
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DCAT's Progress

Free rides available & DDAP visits Warren's office.

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A Message from our President and CEO



At Journey Health System (JHS) and our affiliates, I remain deeply proud of our teams—highly skilled professionals who deliver excellent services and compassionate care every day.

This spring we honored and celebrated National Doctors' Day in March and National Nurses' Week in May. To our providers and nurses: thank you for your unwavering commitment to our consumers and the communities we serve.

After an unusually long winter, this edition arrives full of stories of joy, appreciation and teamwork. During National Mental Health Awareness Month our employees showcased the passion and creativity that drive our mission — we meet people at

their most vulnerable moments and offer help, hope, and a path forward. Those highlights reflect the very best of JHS: clinical excellence, empathy and collaboration.

As we continue working on our long-range strategic goals, the year ahead promises to be robust. We will keep expanding access, strengthening partnerships and supporting our workforce so we can serve more people effectively and equitably. Thank you to every member of the JHS family—staff, partners, and supporters—for all you do for those who rely on us.

Sincerely,

Guy Signor

President & CEO, Journey Health System

Congratulations Dr. Albaugh

Journey Health System is proud to announce the appointment of Psychiatrist Mary Anne Albaugh, MD, as our new Medical Director. Dr. Albaugh, who joined Journey in 2015 at Deerfield Behavioral Health, brings over 40 years of clinical experience and a deep commitment to mental health in northwestern Pennsylvania. She will continue her roles as psychiatrist at Deerfield Behavioral Health and Medical Director of Dickinson Center, Inc., both Journey affiliates. A graduate of Gannon University and Drexel University College of Medicine, Dr. Albaugh is double-board certified in general psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry. We look forward to her leadership in advancing our behavioral health services.



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NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT MONTH Employment Support Services Celebrates Consumers

Coudersport Psychiatric Rehab Manager Named



Lindsey Johnston, CPRP

Dickinson Center, Inc. welcomes Lindsey Johnston, CPRP, as the new manager of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program in Coudersport. This transition marks a significant step forward while the office relocated to its new home at 221 North Main Street in Coudersport, Pennsylvania.

Johnston has a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from Widener University in Chester, Pennsylvania and she holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

DCI's Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program serves residents of Cameron, Elk, McKean and Potter counties with offices in Coudersport and Ridgway.

For more information, call 814-776-2653 or visit www.dickinsoncenter.org.



Dickinson Center's (DCI) Employment Support Services (E.S.S.) hosted their 11th annual National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebration on October 16 with over 50 attendees at their headquarters in Ridgway. The DCI team held the event to build awareness about their consumers that have made strides toward reaching vocational goals.

A special guest appearance was made by SKILLSTORM. She stopped by to spread the word about ESS and the superpower skills we all possess.

Also, as a part of this special month, DCI's E.S.S. recognized local businesses that support hiring disabled individuals. The 2025 Business of the Year award went to Penn Highlands. To learn more about E.S.S., visit www.dickinsoncenter.org.

DCI is proud to work in cooperation with local businesses, especially Penn Highlands Elk, to promote inclusion."

—Marsha Dippold, DCI's Director of ESS

DCI Memorial Trees

Dickinson Center, Inc. (DCI), together with the City of St. Marys Shade Tree Commission, recently hosted a heartfelt tree dedication ceremony along Railroad Street. This event celebrated the planting of four memorial trees, part of the landscaping for DCI's new St. Marys facility. Generous donors honored Elizabeth "Sis" Driscoll Simons, Donald W. Fleming, Alvin Coppolo & Thecla Werner Coppolo, and Jerome & Carmella Ordiway through these living tributes. Each tree symbolizes a lasting legacy, reflecting the community's respect and remembrance. The ceremony not only beautified the area but also strengthened the bond between DCI, the city, and its residents, showcasing the power of nature in commemorating cherished individuals.

Parents as Teachers Blue Ribbon Endorsement

The Dickinson Center, Inc. Parents as Teachers (DCI-PAT) was awarded Blue Ribbon Affiliate status by Parents as Teachers, the largest evidence-based early childhood home visiting program in the United States. The distinction recognizes the organization's highest evidence-based standards for quality and model fidelity, DCI-PAT is one of the top-performing home visiting affiliates within the Parents as Teachers international network. This is the second time the organization has received the award.

Additionally, Elk County Commissioners proclaimed November 8 as National Parents as Teachers Day. The team appreciates the county's continued support and the families who came to celebrate National Parents as Teachers Day!

For more than 20 years, DCI's Children's Center has supported, encouraged and empowered Elk County families with children under age five.

For details about DCI's Children's Center, visit www.dickinsoncenter.org/prevention or follow them on Facebook.



L to R: Commissioners Gregory Gebauer, Matthew Quesenberry & Fritz Lecker with DCI Program Director, Cortney Pahel.



Holiday Fun at SBH



Every year during the holidays, Stairways Behavioral Health programs enjoy heartwarming traditions.

For example, the Gage House program took their clients out for a festive lunch at Golden Corral.

The Residential Treatment Facility team celebrated the season with a holiday luncheon.

Laughter, delicious food & the joyful spirit made for a perfect celebration for clients and staff!

Community Events and Activities



- Stairways Behavioral Health (SBH) showed love on February 14 as a sponsor of the Erie Otters' hockey season again.
- Kelsey Nowosielski, a CRS at SBH, spoke at the First Annual Youth Summit held at Erie County Committee College in December 2025.
- At Mercyhurst University's Wellness Fair, SBH Drug & Alcohol therapists, had a booth for students' well-being and to promote the importance of self-care.
- On February 26, SBH proudly participated in the Erie Recovery Resource Fair, hosted by The Mental Health Association of Northwestern PA.
- SBH was at the Penn West University Health Fair on April 15.



- On Saturday, May 2, SBH employees and family members volunteered for its Annual Spring Penn-DOT Adopt-A-Highway clean-up day.
- On May 7, SBH joined an event hosted in partnership with PurpleOne, Safe Journey, the Gabby Petito Foundation and Looped Solutions. Their collaborative goal is to explore, educate, and strategize on how community members and first responders can significantly strengthen and enhance their collective response to domestic violence.

PLEASE REMEMBER US ON AUGUST 11, 2026!

Make a gift on the Stairways BH page at www.eriegives.org.



SBH Proudly Offers Care for 65 Years in Erie

Since its inception in 1961, Stairways Behavioral Health (SBH), has been a beam of hope and healing for the Erie community. As one of the largest mental healthcare agencies in the region, SBH has dedicated itself to providing compassionate care, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to mental health and substance use recovery. In celebration of 65 years of service and progress, SBH was highlighted in the *Erie Times-News* ERIE 2026 tabloid for innovative programs, collaborative partnerships and community engagement.



The article outlined the following points:

Innovative Programs Tailored to Community Needs--

In the past year, SBH has made remarkable strides in enhancing its service offerings. One of the standout achievements has been the expansion of the Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Program, which addresses the growing substance use issues prevalent in the area. Additionally, the introduction of Medication-Assisted Treatment, including Brixadi®, reflects SBH's commitment to employing cutting-edge practices in its treatment plans.

Furthermore, recognizing the rising demand for psychosocial rehabilitation, SBH has revamped its Psychiatric Rehab Program.

Collaborative Partnerships--

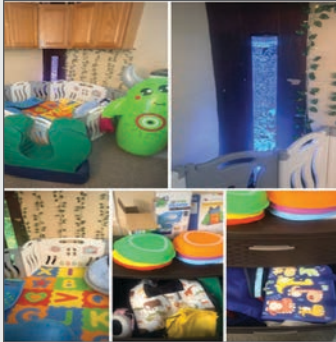
Central to SBH's mission is its focus on collaboration. Over the past year, SBH has formed partnerships with key organizations like the Erie County Office of Mental Health & Intellectual Disabilities, the Mental Health Association, and NAMI of Erie County, PA.

A Commitment to Continuing Care--

As SBH navigates its journey forward, its unwavering commitment to comprehensive mental healthcare remains a cornerstone of its mission. By continually evolving and adapting to the needs of the community, SBH offers hope and support in Erie County.

To learn more about our programs, visit www.stairwaysbh.org.

A Calming Space



Thanks to the Beacon Light Behavioral Health System (LBHS) holiday fundraiser, the Specialized Therapeutic Residence For Intellectual and Developmental Empowerment (STRIDE) in Kittanning was able to expand its sensory and calming corner with a variety of new equipment designed to support client regulation, engagement and comfort.

Recent additions include a teeter popper, textured sensory mats, an inflatable peapod, noise-cancelling headphones, musical and light-up stepping stones, a wooden music marble run, a peanut bounce ball, busy boards, a soft squeeze sensory chair, and a sensory fish bubble tube aquarium tower lamp—quickly becoming a client favorite.

These new resources complement existing items in the space, including a bean bag chair, a wide assortment of sensory fidgets and various calming lights. Clients have responded positively to the updated environment and are actively utilizing the space as intended, demonstrating increased engagement with sensory-based supports.

For details about STRIDE or to make a donation, visit www.beacon-light.org.

The calming corner has become a favorite space for many of our clients; providing them with a comfortable environment to decompress, self-regulate and engage with sensory supports ..."

—Brittany Smith, STRIDE Residential Manager in Kittanning

ANNUAL APPRECIATION RECEPTION

2026 Board and Donor Awards



L to R: 2026 B.E.A.C.O.N. Award recipient David Ferguson & Guy Signor, JHS President & CEO

On May 21, Beacon Light Behavioral Health System, Beacon Light Adult Residential Services and Journey Health System, held their annual board and donor appreciation event with nearly 60 people at the Pennhills Club in Bradford. Agency leaders thanked board members for volunteering and the donors in the community for providing philanthropic support toward the agency's mission.

The program commenced with a prayer by Father Leo Gallina. Joseph Yaros, Journey Health System's Board Chair, delivered a warm welcome message, followed by an introduction of all of the Board members. Their Boards have a combined total of 335 years of service.

A Service Milestone Award was presented to Brandon Means for 10 years of service.

The 13th Annual B.E.A.C.O.N. Award was presented to David Ferguson. B.E.A.C.O.N. stands for

Being an Enthusiastic Advocate for Community and Organizational Needs and is awarded each year to an individual who exemplifies service to the Beacon Light companies.

Guy Signor, Journey Health System's President and CEO said, "David's story is, at its core, a story of commitment—commitment to family, to community, and to making a difference wherever he is called to serve."

At Journey Health System, David Ferguson has been a guiding light for more than two decades. His steady leadership, thoughtful counsel, and strategic insight have helped shape who Journey Health System is today and where they're going tomorrow.

Additionally, Beacon Light Behavioral Health System's Executive Director Jen Gesing recognized the Kiwanis Club of Bradford. For 90 years, their generosity and support ensured that children living in the residential programs received Christmas gifts and holiday celebrations.

Carnival Day at BLARS McClure Unit



Beacon Light Adult Residential Services' Community Stabilization and Reintegration Unit (CSRU) in McClure had an absolute blast on their own Carnival Day! The clients enjoyed games, treats and plenty of laughs all afternoon. It was wonderful to see everyone come together and have so much fun in the sunshine.

For details about the CSRU, visit www.beacon-light.org/residential-programs-for-adults.

Construction at 1st Street Facility

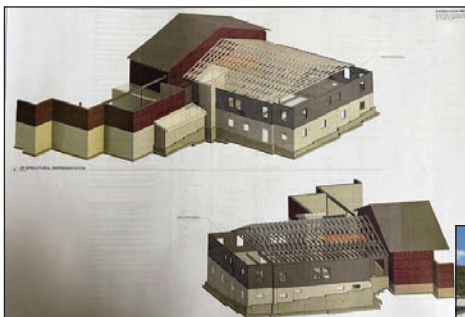
Beacon Light Behavioral Health System (BLBHS) is excited to announce that significant construction activity is underway at their 1st Street residential facility, located on the main Journey Health System (JHS) campus in Bradford. May 12th, marks the beginning of renovations and a two-story addition of approximately 7,500 sq. ft., to include new digs for the Girls in Recovery Learning Strengths (GIRLS) program. The plan is designed to enhance both client living spaces and staff work environments.

The upcoming improvements include

a spacious client activity room, eight new bedrooms, a calming room, modern kitchen, laundry area, updated restrooms, and a new elevator on the main floor. The ground floor will feature new office spaces, a nurse's office, a conference room, staff restrooms and kitchenette.

Important Reminder: Bradford campus staff and visitors should exercise caution around dump truck traffic and staging areas. No outages or road closures are planned.

Updates will be provided as the project progresses. Follow us on Facebook.



Bradford Kiwanis Club Gifts for Kids' Holiday Festivities



L to R: Kiwanis Club of Bradford's President Stacy Williams & Jennifer Gesing, BLBHS Executive Director

For the 89th consecutive year, the Kiwanis Club of Bradford held their Christmas party for the children of Beacon Light Behavioral Health System. This year's event was held at the Bromeley Education Center in the main Journey Health System building with Kiwanis Club members.

Beacon Light is grateful to the Kiwanis Club for contributing money every year to buy gifts for the children in their programs.



We're truly grateful to the Kiwanis Club for being a steadfast partner in our mission."

--Jennifer Gesing, BLBHS Executive Director

GIRLS Have a Blast at Erie Zoo

Some of the Girls In Recovery Learning Strengths' (GIRLS) clients from Beacon Light Behavioral Health System had an incredible time at the Erie Zoo in April. They enjoyed exploring the animal exhibits and sharing plenty of laughter all day. It was nice to see clients engaging in such positive and joyful experiences outside the usual routine. Here's to many more exciting outings ahead!

Learn more about the GIRLS program at www.beacon-light.org/residential-programs-for-children.



Community Outreach Efforts at Beacon Light



BLBHS SAP at the Warren School Spring Expo 2026

Beacon Light's team is actively engaged in the community at several events throughout the year.

They have participated in conferences, health fairs, radio talk shows, expos, and more!

Plus, if your school, office, media outlet, community group or organization needs a virtual or in-person

presentation on behavioral health topics, learn more about the organization's Speaker's Bureau by emailing communications@journeyhealth.org.

All of Journey Health System's affiliates are available to bring a better understanding and acceptance around those experiencing mental health conditions.

For more information about current career opportunities, visit our affiliates' websites or follow them on Facebook.

Friendship House Fun



Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association's "Friendship House" Drop-In Center located at 72 East Ave., Ste. A, in Warren posts a monthly calendar of events on their Facebook. Additionally, their consumers recently enjoyed the following activities, such as:

- A puzzle extravaganza! A client tackled a colorful 300-piece puzzle and triumphantly displayed it, while others completed their own puzzle masterpieces.
- Friendship House had another "American Idol" performance. During Duet Day, Shawn, channeled his inner Elvis and teamed up with Francis to serenade everyone.
- Everyone gathered to decorate cheerful springtime flower cut-out sugar cookies.

For more information, call 814-779-1918 or visit www.fwmwa.org.

BHARP Features FWMWA

The Forest-Warren Mental Wellness Association (FWMWA) will be featured in the upcoming Quarter 2, 2026 edition of the Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania (BHARP) newsletter this summer. This section highlights the vital work of BHARP's contracted partners, showcasing their commitment to improving behavioral health across rural communities.

FWMWA, in collaboration with Journey Health System's Marketing Department, submitted an insightful write-up to introduce the organization's mission, services and impact. Readers can look forward to learning more about FWMWA's dedication to supporting mental wellness in the region. Accompanying photos will offer a glimpse into the compassionate care and community engagement that define FWMWA's approach.

FWMWA appreciates the opportunity to be part of this inspiring publication and share the important services they offer.



Deerfield Behavioral Health and Deerfield Centers for Addiction Treatment Transition

deerfield
centers for addictions treatment
AN AFFILIATE OF JOURNEY HEALTH SYSTEM



Effective May 15, Deerfield Behavioral Health of Warren (DBHW), permanently closed their Outpatient Clinics in Warren, Bradford and Erie. The clients they served were transitioned to other local clinics to ensure continuity and support. Many will remain within Journey Health System (JHS) through an affiliate partner, such as Beacon Light.

DBHW will operate as a physician practice, which is currently being re-branded with a new logo (shown above), an updated mission, vision, and core values statement.

As a result, the Deerfield Centers for Addiction Treatment (DCAT) operations has detached from DBHW under a new management agreement with another JHS affiliate, Stairways Behavioral Health (SBH), in order to ensure continued and sustainable addictions treatment services in Warren and Forest counties. DCAT will continue to operate at their current locations in Warren, Tionesta and Marienville.

For more information, call 814-723-5545.

For more information or news, please visit any of our affiliates' websites or follow them on social media!



Deerfield Solutions At NatCon 2026

Deerfield Solutions was an exhibitor at the National Council For Mental Wellbeing's 2026 National Conference (NatCon).

In Denver, April 27-29, the team shared information regarding the benefits of LOCUS® software to roughly 4,000 attendees at the largest mental health and substance use care event in the U.S.

LOCUS® and CALOCUS-CASII® online tools are the gold standard

for level-of-care determination, service intensity assessment and treatment planning. LOCUS was developed by the American Association of Community Psychiatrists. These programs are now used in over 26 states and in several international locations.

For more information, visit www.deerfieldsolutions.com or call 814-878-2020.

All-Affiliates' Art Contest Mental Health Awareness Month 2026



PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Secretary Visit DCAT



L to R: Wayne Sharrow, DCAT Clinical Director; Melissa Baxter, Forest-Warren SCA Director; Dan Minich, DCAT Program Manager; Dr. Latika D. Davis-Jones, PA DDAP Secretary; Guy Signor, JHS President & CEO; Melanie Hake, DCAT Executive Director.

During a visit on April 29 to Warren County, Secretary Latika Davis-Jones of the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) visited Deerfield Centers for Addiction Treatment (DCAT). The DDAP team received a comprehensive site visit that highlighted the organization's ongoing commitment to excellence in substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery services.

The visit brought together leadership, clinical staff, and community partners in a collaborative setting that emphasized Deerfield's mission to deliver high-quality, accessible care across northwestern Pennsylvania. DCAT presented its new ALIGN system. This initiative addresses a critical gap in the behavioral health and corrections landscape, where individuals often receive detoxification and residential care and may participate in outpatient treatment, but upon discharge, face a lack of structure, support and direction.

For more information, call 814-723-5545. Follow DCAT's new Facebook Group and Instagram.

DCAT Now Offers Free Client Transportation

In an effort to make addiction treatment services more accessible, Deerfield Centers for Addiction Treatment (DCAT) has introduced a complimentary transportation service for its clients in Forest and Warren counties. Clients can easily request transportation services when they call to schedule their appointments with DCAT's office locations in Marienville, Tionesta and Warren, Pennsylvania.

For more information about transportation for DCAT's services, call 814-723-5545.





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