

**Butler County We Belong
Advisory Council Minutes
For meeting held November 30, 2017**

- In attendance: Brenda Cole, Lynn Pukylo, Tammy Rose, Bruce Gascoine, Katie Berbigler, Sherry O'Donnell, Erin Patton, 10 Lifesteps Transition students
- Brenda Cole reviewed the purposes of Butler County We Belong (BCBW) along with tasks accomplished since the group's inception in November of 2016.
- Those in attendance were informed about the outcomes of a needs assessment survey created for BCWB. The survey was given to those attending Strike the Stigma, emailed to the Advisory Council, and handed out at community events. Survey results indicated desired outcomes including:
 - Holding a Transportation Community of Practice
 - Holding a community-wide event to train first responders on how best to support people with disabilities.
 - The desire to hold an additional community-wide event similar to Strike the Stigma
 - Desire to reach out to locations within the community to determine if they are disability friend

As a result of the survey findings, Brenda Cole reached out to a number of people in our community to gather more information about the topics listed above. During this Advisory Council meeting reports were given about Transportation, First Responder training, and outreach to the community.

- Transportation Report (see Agenda for summary of conversation held with Amber Davis of ANR). On the advice of the members of the Advisory Council present at today's meeting, a Community of Practice about transportation availability in Butler County is still advised. Particular questions concern city bus routes and transportation between Butler and Cranberry. Brenda Cole will be reaching out to Amber Davis at ANR to address issues raised by Advisory Council and to plan how we can partner together to hold a Community of Practice.
- First Responder's Report (see Agenda for individuals contacted and results of conversations held with those individuals).
 - The Advisory Council is pleased that many agencies are pursuing this topic in the form of outreach and workshops for first responders and, in some cases, for individuals with disabilities.
 - The Advisory Council is in agreement that we should work with Professors from Indiana University of Pennsylvania to present their training for Emergency Room Personnel. The Council suggested that the training should be open to others interested in attending. Working in conjunction with ANR as well as Brittany Buzzelli at Community Liaison, it is suggested that our efforts at training emergency room personnel would be presented as a part of a series with the other two organizations. An initial contact has been made at Butler Hospital. There appears to be interest in this type of training especially if it provides CEU's. Finally, the Advisory Council suggested that BCWB also reach out to medical clinics/fast care clinics as well as hospitals located in Cranberry. The date and

location of this training has not been finalized although the month of April has been targeted.

- It is important that BCWB assures that the training does not conflict with an intended training being planned by ANR. That training will focus on inclusion in recreation with Aron Hall of the National Inclusion Project as the trainer.
 - Mary Wildman of Butler County Autism reminded the group that the Autism Society of Pittsburgh has training videos and a presenter (Jesse Torisky, Esq.) that focus on training courtroom personnel including judges and parole officers. The Advisory Council is in agreement that, although this training has been offered across the state, it would be valuable to bring it to in Butler County. BCWB will explore the feasibility of including this training on the same day as the IUP training or determining if it should be a stand-alone offering.
- Logo Design-Kelsey Berbigler, Advisory Council member, surveyed those in attendance for feedback related to a logo design for BCWB. Kelsey will provide the Advisory Council with two or more logo options by the first of the year.
 - Community-wide survey-a sample survey was given to the group for feedback. The purpose of the survey is to ask businesses, leisure time locations and employers within Butler County about their accessibility to people with disabilities. After some discussion, those present agreed that it would be unlikely that businesses would be interested in completing a survey and sending it back to be evaluated for inclusive practice. It was suggested that BCWB create a letter describing community integration/inclusion, ADA accessibility and disability awareness to businesses and others. Then, using the data base of locations provided by SRU students, BCWB could send the letter to those locations along with a BCBW window cling asking that the recipient display the window cling if they believe they are welcoming to individuals with disabilities. Other suggestions were given for connecting with the community via this letter including offering trainings and having businesses and others take photos of their displayed window cling and sending them to BCWB to be posted electronically.
 - Next Steps
 - Brenda Cole will send minutes of Advisory Council member to other board members and ask for feedback.
 - Brenda Cole will continue to reach out to contacts throughout the community regarding the Transportation Community of Practice, the First Responders Community Wide training and the survey/letter with the window cling.
 - Brenda Cole will ask members of the Advisory Council to let her know how they can help with any of these projects moving forward. Anyone interested can contact her at 724-283-3198 ext. 243 or at bcole@communitycareconnect.org