

# Network News

Voice of the SWAN/IL Network

## In this issue:

page **2** *Family Finding*

page **3** *Erie County's ILP Honored*

pages **4-5** *Camp Agawam 2016*

pages **6-7** *Older Youth Retreat*

page **12** *The Value of Great Resource Parents*

## Network News

is published by the Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network and Independent Living Program

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services  
Office of Children, Youth & Families  
P.O. Box 2675  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675



## Permanency Roundtables: Another Tool in your Toolkit

By Christine Swank, SWAN Regional Technical Assistant, Northeast

The Casey Family Permanency Roundtables (PRTs) are a statewide initiative whose purpose is to develop a plan to expedite permanency for children in care as well as identify systemic barriers to permanency.

The SWAN prime contract was tasked with championing PRT implementation with interested county child welfare agencies. In 2014, the SWAN quarterly meetings featured an Overview of Permanency Roundtables workshop. Since then, members of the SWAN team—regional technical assistants (RTAs) and Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange (PAE) and Legal Services Initiative (LSI) coordinators—have shared PRT information with their assigned counties.

A PRT can best be described as aggressive, innovative and focused solely on permanency. The roundtable is a professional case consultation, led by the county and supported by Casey Family Programs and SWAN, that brings people together to focus on permanency planning for youth in care.

Presently seven counties in Pennsylvania have implemented PRTs. Allegheny and Washington counties led the way, piloting them in 2013 even before rollout of the statewide initiative. PRTs in those counties are now a regular part of their practice. Bucks, Cambria, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Lawrence and Mifflin counties all have used PRTs for youth in need of permanency, with a total of 57 children being presented at initial roundtables.

The target population for many counties include:

- Youth with an APPLA goal,
- Youth who will “age out” within the next year,
- Youth who have been in care for more than 18 months,
- The “longest waiting youth”: those who have spent considerable time in care, and
- Youth whose cases are certified by the caseworkers as being “stuck.”

Northampton County is the latest to implement PRTs; they held their “Achieving Permanency through Roundtables Values” training in

[Continued on Page 14](#) ►

# In Westmoreland County, Family Finding Requires Collaboration

By Erin Veith, SWAN LSI Paralegal

Family Finding and family engagement is the focus in Westmoreland County, as the Westmoreland County Children's Bureau (Bureau) is renewing its efforts to find creative, impactful ways to establish strong family support systems for the children and youth it serves.

From independent living (IL) activities to SWAN-supported trainings to piloting new partnerships with service providers, the Bureau is using all resources to improve family engagement through collaboration. And one year after implementing Rule 1149, which is aimed at strengthening family finding efforts, the Bureau continues to see the benefits of Family Finding and family engagement for its youth.

An important part of Family Finding is giving the child a voice, and the Bureau believes its youth can be their own best advocates. During a recent independent living group session, IL caseworkers gave youth an opportunity to take part in Family Finding in an inventive way. Rather than simply question youth about their family and kinship supports, IL caseworkers used an artistic approach by engaging IL youth in creative eco-mapping. The youth made visual collages that identified all the supportive individuals in their lives and expanded their awareness of their support systems in the process. IL caseworkers reported that by engaging in the activity, the youth were able to see that their support systems extend well beyond immediate family members and close friends.

Knowledge of the function of Family Finding in casework management is integral to creating a system that works. The Bureau has

partnered with the Westmoreland County Children's Roundtable to hold SWAN-supported trainings for caseworkers, service providers, court-appointed attorneys, and other individuals involved in child welfare in Westmoreland County.

These trainings, conducted by Family Design Resources' legal training specialists, have addressed Family Finding and family engagement in a variety of ways, most recently with the training, "Children of Incarcerated Parents." Additionally, the Bureau has conducted legislation-specific in-house trainings on Rule 1149, Family Finding, and Diligent Search Efforts, which set forth compliance expectations for casework staff and LSI paralegals.

While family engagement is integral for children in care, the Bureau is making additional efforts to maximize family engagement when a case is opened for services. In May, the Bureau partnered with JusticeWorks YouthCare

to create the JusticeWorks Assessment Pilot, a program in which family group decision making (FGDM), an evidence-based family engagement model, is being used in the assessment phase of non-custody cases.

Under the pilot program, all appropriate cases in one assessment unit of the Bureau are being referred to JusticeWorks for FGDM conferencing. Though still early in its initial phase, the Bureau is hopeful that this approach will strengthen family engagement by identifying family and kinship supports before the cases become active with the court system. Ideally, this pilot program will reduce the overall number of court-active cases, prevent new referrals for those families, and



Continued on Page 13 ►

# National Honors for the Erie County Independent Living Program

By Steve Eidson, Practice Improvement Specialist,  
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center

Erie County's Office of Children & Youth (OCY) and its Independent Living Program (ILP) recently received a 2016 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The ILP prepares youth who are or were in out-of-home care or who need supports and services to become successful adults. The program is a collaboration among Family Services of NW PA (FSNWPA), Bethesda Children's Home, and OCY.

In 2011, FSNWPA and Bethesda entered into a contract with OCY to co-deliver independent living services to Erie County's dependent and delinquent youth. While the program had existed since the mid-90s, in 2011, Erie decided to bring in the two private providers to expand services and enhance program outcomes. The ILP now serves more

than 300 youth and young adults each year.

Youth are matched with an ILP caseworker to overcome obstacles to successfully transition to adulthood. Caseworkers assist youth on issues such as education, employment, housing, life-skill development and wellness services. Caseworkers also connect youth to community resources to promote self-sufficiency.

"The Erie County Independent Living Program has allowed hundreds of Erie County youth to prepare for life as an adult by teaching skills and providing supports that will give them a solid foundation for a great future," says Lana Rees, executive director of OCY. "The collaborative nature has made this innovative program and the youth we serve successful."

[Continued on Page 9](#) ►



County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, OCY Administrator of Placement Services Darlene Krol, OCY Supervisor Ashley Csuhta, OCY IL Coordinator Rebekah Viszneki, OCY Executive Director Lana Rees and Erie County Director of Administration Gary Lee

# Camp Agawam 2016

I have attended every National Adoption Center (NAC)/SWAN Older Youth Matching Event held at Camp Agawam, and while each one has been memorable, the first year's has always stood out. Firsts usually have that distinction, as they become the experience to which subsequent moments are compared. However, 2016's event is quickly becoming the new standard. We have another first.

Two days before the event, Julie Marks, Older Youth Project manager, NAC/Adoption Center of Delaware Valley, sent out an email: 25 youth and 12 families were registered to attend. On the day of the event, 21 youth were present. There were 14 families, some from such exotic locales as central Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio.

Never heard of or been to a NAC/SWAN Older Youth Matching Event? These fun, interactive events provide prospective adoptive families and older youth in need of a permanent home the opportunity to get acquainted with one another. Katie Juliana, Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruiter at Diakon Adoption & Foster Care, says the events are "so important for youth to know that there are families looking for teens. So many other matching events are attended by families looking for younger children, which can be very discouraging to older youth in attendance. It is also a great opportunity for families to see what we see in our kids—people, not paperwork."

The event had a promising start. Though storms were forecast, the weather remained warm and sunny, and the entirety of Camp Agawam's expanse



By Nic Landon, Family Pathways, SWAN Older Child Matching Initiative Child-Focused Recruiter

# The Second First Time



was available to us; in fact, the rain didn't fall until after all the guests had left. Josh Strelbicki of Family Pathways was the emcee, and he kicked off the day with a contagious energy.

Families and waiting youth participated in activities that found them conversing and interacting with one another in a natural, low-pressure way. Everyone looked to be having a grand time, and Josh kept things moving so that the excitement never waned.

Events like this are important for older youth who are awaiting adoption. "Older youth matching events sponsored by the National Adoption Center and SWAN have helped several teenagers find permanent families," Julie says. "For both the youth and the prospective adopters, meeting and becoming acquainted in person in a festive environment is so powerful. For families, the impact is so much greater than it would be by just looking at a photo and a few written words."

Lunch was a buffet consisting of BBQ ribs, sausage, marinated chicken, veggie burgers and salads. Following this was the annual fishing derby, overseen by the Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange's Jon Douglas. Even Julie caught a fish, her first ever—one of many firsts at this year's Camp Agawam matching party. For several families and youth, this was the first time they had attended such an event.

Firsts are incomparable quilts of memory. Personally, I think we ought to always be doing everything for the first time.

# Not Dwelling in the Past

By Jesenia Loarte, Youth Quality Improvement Specialist,  
Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center

The theme for the 2016 Older Youth Retreat, held August 8–12 at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, was “The past is a place of reference, not a place of residence.” This quote was chosen by youth on the Retreat Steering Committee. They felt what most might see as failure and mistakes, youth see as stepping stones in the right direction! The quote is so powerful to youth. The retreat was an opportunity to give youth a new perspective and a way to bond.

During the weeklong retreat, youth participated in countless activities such as jewelry making, canvas painting, vision boards, furniture painting, scrapbooking, hip hop dancing, and so much more. As I walked

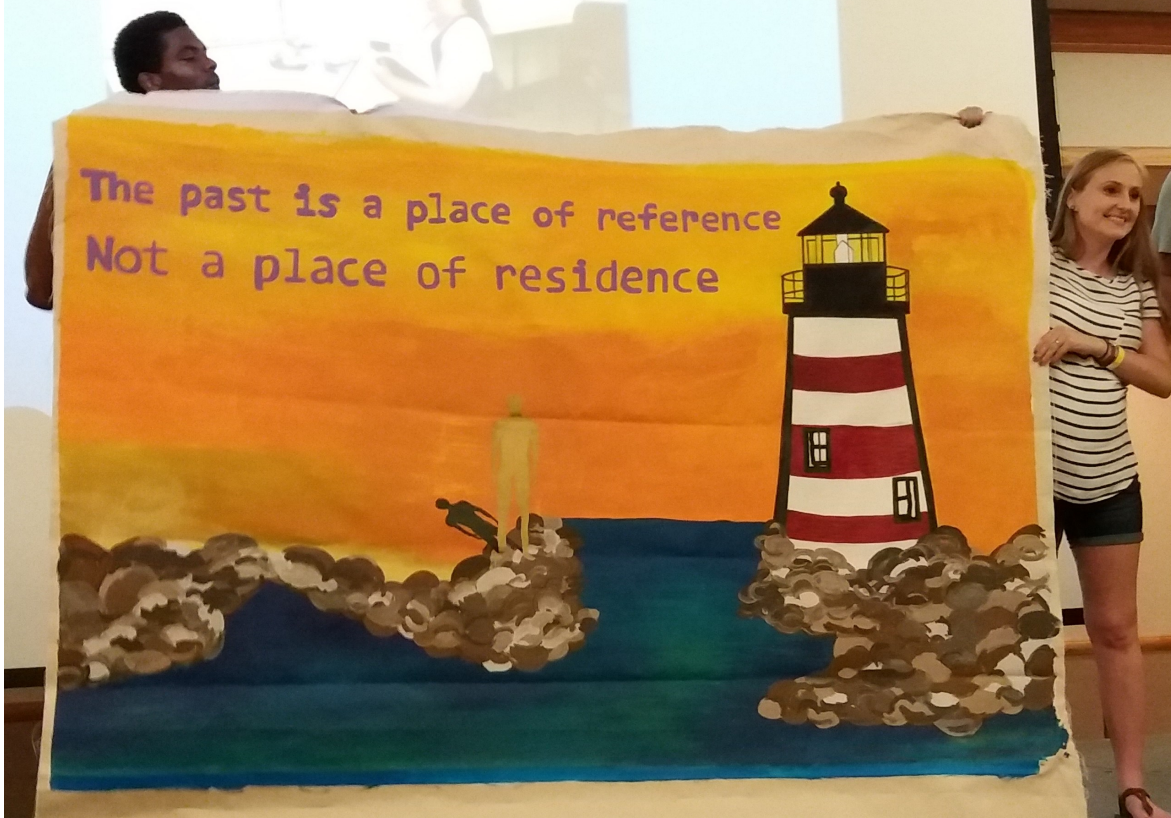
around, one of many things that I observed was how focused and creative the youth were. Many of them were projecting their feelings and dreams through their artwork. Youth in foster care are extraordinary and resilient, and sometimes it takes compelling events like the retreat to give them something to be proud of by highlighting their strengths.

The Older Youth Retreat is one of the greatest resources available to youth in care. It gives them an opportunity to stop and reflect. I believe the retreat empowers, encourages, helps youth feel confident, and shows how significant they are. This year's retreat gave youth a new perspective on life, pointing out opportunities and so much more.



**Watch a video about the retreat at:  
[www.independentlivingpa.org/ILRetreat.htm](http://www.independentlivingpa.org/ILRetreat.htm)**

# Older Youth Retreat



# Meet the Craters

SWAN Helpline Featured Waiting Family

Paul and Crystal Crater are an active and loving couple who have been married since 1999. They live in a three-bedroom townhouse in Elizabethtown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, located in the Elizabethtown School District. There are numerous community resources and recreational services near the home, including the Elizabethtown Library and a variety of parks. The family enjoys movie nights, playing cards and board games, day trips, reading, family get-togethers and trips to Virginia Beach. They share their home with two dogs, a two-year-old bichon/poodle mix named Riley and a 10-year-old border collie named Bindi.

Paul is a committed husband who describes himself as kind, strong and honest. He stated his biggest accomplishment is his family. Paul's hobbies include playing guitar, reading, being with family and friends, and spending time with Crystal. Paul is employed full-time as a service technician for ArcelorMittal.

Crystal describes herself as a laidback, fun-loving, and positive person. She identifies her greatest accomplishment in life as being married for twenty years and still in love. Crystal enjoys many activities, including playing cards with Paul, watching movies and TV, being outdoors, being involved with church activities, and spending time with friends and family. Crystal is a full-time layout artist at Continental Press.

Paul and Crystal have much experience with children, through having previous foster children in their home and spending a lot of time with their nine-year-old great-niece. Crystal also has a great deal of experience with children as a Sunday school teacher and from volunteering; she volunteered in an IU13 classroom during her junior year of high school and helped at Special Olympics.

Paul and Crystal desire to extend the gift of a loving family to a deserving child. They seek one girl between the ages of 10 and 16 of any race or ethnicity.



**For more information:**

**Chris Beahan  
Bethany Christian  
Services  
717-399-3213  
cbeahan@bethany.org**



# Bair Wins Angels in Adoption Award

---

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute selected the Bair Foundation Child & Family Ministries as the recipient of the 2016 Angels in Adoption award. The agency was nominated by a family in Erie, Pennsylvania and selected by U.S. Representative Mike Kelly for their excellence in adoption services.

Jill Schmidt, director of Adoption and Permanency Services, and Kim Young, Bair vice president, represented the Bair Foundation at a gala on September 21 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

Past recipients of this prestigious award include Muhammad Ali, First Lady Laura Bush, Kristin Chenoweth, Scott Fujita, Deborra-lee Furness, Katherine Heigl and Josh Kelley, Patti LaBelle, Ne-Yo, Rhea Perlman, Shonda Rhimes, Korie and Willie Robertson, Al Roker, Jane Seymour, Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy, Bruce Willis, Nia Vardalos, Bill Klein and Jen Arnold, Connie Britton, Rachel Crow, Studios, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, Hallmark Channel, and *PEOPLE* Magazine.

---

## Erie County ILP (*cont'd from p.3*)

The novel partnership Erie uses for program design, assessment and service delivery has allowed for enhanced services that provide older youth and young adults with the important skills necessary to be productive and self-sufficient members of the community.

In this collaboration, life skills courses and activities are usually co-taught or facilitated by ILP caseworkers from FSNWPA and Bethesda, under the direction of Breanne Hillen (NWSWA) and Amy Bizjak (Bethesda). Ashley Csuhata, ILP supervisor, and Rebekah Viszneki, ILP program coordinator, oversee quality assurance and general program administration and direction.

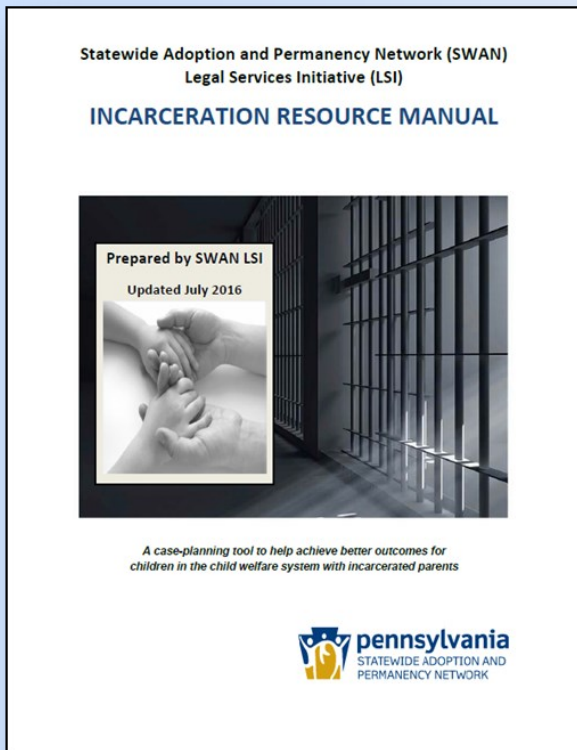
Each youth has a primary ILP caseworker but knows that all ILP staff members are available to help them learn skills or work through issues in their lives. Many of the ILP's services are hands-on so that youth can practice and develop skills in "real-time" settings. As youth and young adults move out on their own, they can choose from supervised independent living or transitional living apartments to put those skills into practice.

Communication is a key element of the Erie County collaborative effort. Staff members at FSNWPA and Bethesda meet regularly with OCY and juvenile probation to make sure that all of the partners are on the same page for the youth and young adults with whom they work. Communication is also really important between staff and the youth; all of the caseworkers use the latest technology and social media to stay in contact with the youth they serve. Youth and young adults from the program also advise OCY and the ILP through a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) in the county and serve on the statewide Youth Advisory Board.

"I firmly believe that collaboration is the key to effectively delivering services to our constituents, and I am very proud of the work OCY is doing. They are setting an excellent standard for how interorganizational collaboration can make Erie County a more vibrant region," says Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper.

Congratulations again to the Erie County Independent Living program and OCY!

# SWAN LSI INCARCERATION RESOURCE MANUAL



The Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) Legal Services Initiative (LSI) recently released the Incarceration Resource Manual, a tool to assist caseworkers and supervisors in case planning with incarcerated parents and for SWAN LSI paralegals as they support the counties' efforts to engage with them.

The manual contains entries for each Pennsylvania county prison, with links to their websites and appendices with detailed information. This resource was developed to help achieve better outcomes for children in the child welfare system and make a difference in the lives of the families that rely on SWAN.

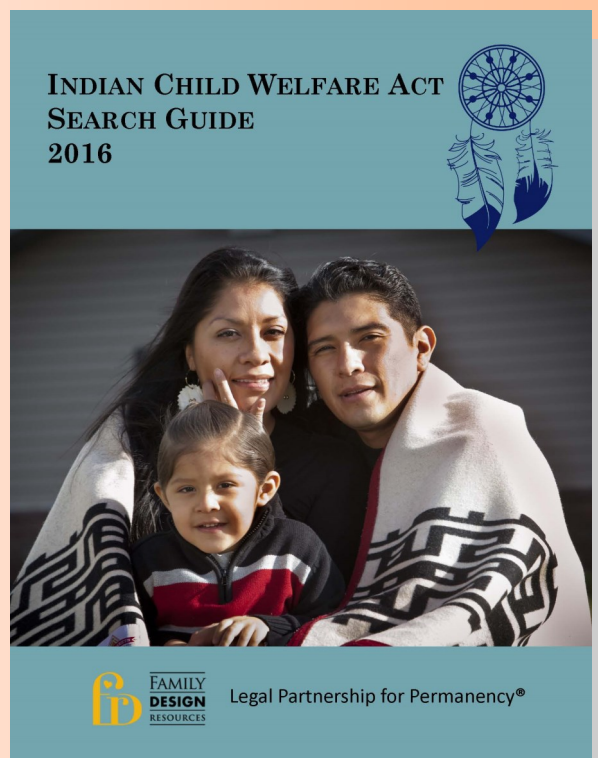
Please download the Incarceration Resource Manual online at [www.diakon-swan.org/irm](http://www.diakon-swan.org/irm) and share it with county workers, affiliates, families and county prison facilities.

## INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT SEARCH GUIDE

Family Design Resources, Inc. (FDR) and its Legal Partnership for Permanency® recently published the 2016 *Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Search Guide*. This free resource, directed to courts and child welfare agencies, was developed to increase understanding of federal ICWA guidelines and ICWA-specific diligent search activities.

The *ICWA Search Guide* is intended to be used in conjunction with the Diligent Search packet.

Please feel free to access the guide from the FDR website and share the link with your colleagues: [www.familydesign.org/icwa-search-guide](http://www.familydesign.org/icwa-search-guide)



# Together as Adoptive Parents

Phyllis Stevens, TAP Founder and Executive Director

Together as Adoptive Parents, Inc. (TAP) is an organization in Montgomery and Philadelphia counties that provides Post-permanency support, resources, and services. We believe that the adoption, foster or kinship road should never be walked alone and that no family or child should have to figure out where to find help.

We give families the tools that they need to “fight” another day: fighting to understand the child’s behavior, fighting the school system, fighting for more services, etc. Our organization offers:

- Training
- A staffed helpline
- Advocacy
- Conferences

Our website ([pa.taplink.org](http://pa.taplink.org)) offers additional resources, such as information on:

- How to negotiate (or renegotiate) an adoption subsidy
- The Adoption Tax Credit
- Adoption reimbursement of nonrecurring expenses
- Resource Family Care Act
- Permanent legal custodian

In 28 years of supporting families, we have learned that if the parents in the household are not healthy, the children are not healthy. If the parents are stressed, the children are stressed.

TAP believes that parents and children should have fun together. We offer a variety of social time throughout the year, including an annual summer picnic, mini-carnivals in yards, and family trips. One of our biggest endeavors was taking children and their caregivers to Disney World for a week last

year.

Because some of our families have children with feeding tubes, we had to get special permission to carry liquids, feed needles, and such on the plane. We also had to notify the TSA that we would be bringing children with autism through the scanners, and lots of wheelchairs. Southwest Airlines was wonderful!

A lot of planning and fundraising resulted in 75 children and 37 caregivers arriving at Philadelphia International Airport at 6:00 a.m. on June 6, 2015. Needless to say, the children were very excited, and the noise level was very high. When everyone was seated on the plane, we realized that we took up two-thirds of it.

This was a time when kids could just be kids. A time when foster parents, birth parents and caseworkers worked as a team to make this a memorable experience for all.

One of the foster/adoptive dads said that he was going to take his five children to the best restaurant that Disney has, because when the children return home they may not have the

opportunity.

One of TAP’s faithful members, Diana, was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer a few weeks before the trip. She was determined to take her son to Disney, and she did. Diana died a few weeks after returning home.

I read somewhere that “home is where you hang your heart.” My prayer is that every child and youth in foster care has a place to hang their heart.



# The Value of Great Resource Parents (From Someone They Benefited)

By Melissa Buhay, SWAN Technical Specialist

Some people take family for granted. Family can mean a lot of different things to different people, and it may not always include a blood relative; families can be created in many ways. Resource parents and adoptive parents are two examples of these created families, and I was fortunate to have experience with both types of families in my life.

My older brother and I were in foster care, but we did not know that we were “different.” Our foster parents, Jim and Linda, treated us the same as their two older biological sons. We were clothed and fed, and we always felt like we were part of the family. Although they were unable to provide permanency due to health issues, our foster parents selflessly advocated for us and helped facilitate the transition to our wonderful adoptive home. Our foster mother passed away many years ago, but we are still in touch with my foster father to this day.

During the matching process, my brother and I met with a few prospective adoptive families. There were a few bad matches, one that we refer to as the “stinky feet family,” for obvious reasons. One family, Hans and Linda, stood out among the others. We met with them on several occasions, often in a park as

my brother and I had a lot of energy to burn and loved playing on the monkey bars and swings. We also had overnight visits and did other fun activities like going to Kennywood Amusement Park.

After months of visiting, when I was 7 and my brother was 8, we moved from our foster home into Hans and Linda’s home four hours away. Our parents introduced us into their family in a way which allowed us to settle in at our own pace and not forget where we came from, since we were still very close with our foster parents. For example, my brother and I had favorite blankets that were very battered and torn. Our parents bought us new blankets, but kept our old blankets at the foot of our beds. Eventually they put the blankets in bags under our beds until we were comfortable enough to let them get rid of the blankets entirely.

Of course, there were difficult times too. We “tested” our parents regularly by telling friends that our parents favored one of us over the other sibling or saying that they were “mean.” Time and time again, they proved that they were going to be there for us and that we were finally HOME, and it was okay for us to feel safe and loved.



Our parents provided a strong foundation for my brother and me. Consequently, adoption is something that is very near and dear to me. I now work with the Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) Helpline as a technical specialist, assisting families who are thinking about becoming foster or adoptive parents and letting them know that they can make a difference for a child in foster care.

I talk to families every day, some of whom have become discouraged in the adoption process. By sharing my story with them, I like to think that I am imparting a little hope that their own created family is waiting for them! I also have the pleasure of speaking

with families who have already adopted and may be having issues with their adopted child. I often see myself in some of these children. I try to reassure families that these can be typical behaviors for children out of the foster care system, and that their child may be “testing” them like I did with my parents.

Thanks to my “created” resource families’ continued commitment and support, I have become the successful, compassionate person I am today. And I’m trying to pay it forward and reach others through my work at the SWAN Helpline and in articles like this, to share my story with as many people as possible to help children and families everywhere.

---

### **Family Finding (*cont’d from p.10*)**

maximize family engagement when families most need that support.

With an eye toward the future of family engagement, the Bureau recently implemented Kinship Team Reviews to further improve its efforts by ensuring that, whenever possible, the children they serve are placed with kinship resources. These administrative reviews make certain that casework staff members are actively engaged in Family Finding as an ongoing process, in compliance with Rule 1149 and the Bureau’s ultimate mission.

The Kinship Team Reviews examine

nonkinship placements on a case-by-case basis and work to identify any barriers to placement with kinship resources so that the caseworker can, with the assistance of FGDM conferencing or another appropriate resource, resolve these issues and the child can ultimately be placed with an appropriate family member or kinship resource.

Family Finding and family engagement require creativity and collaboration, and the Westmoreland County Children’s Bureau is committed to exploring new family engagement efforts, as well as improving the efforts already underway, to ensure that the families they serve have the supports they need.



## Permanency Roundtables (cont'd from p.1)

August. Jennifer Behnam, Casey Family Program consultant and trainer, told the participants, "PRTs are not for every child in out-of-home care, nor is it an instant guarantee for permanency. But it is another tool to add to your toolbox along with all the other good practices, programs and initiatives that you already use."

Since Permanency Roundtables are still relatively new to Pennsylvania, the participating county agencies, Casey Family Programs and SWAN come together for "County Convening" meetings. These give all an opportunity to review permanency outcomes for youth as a result of having a PRT and discuss what is working and what can be improved.

Successes that were shared at the "County Convening" on September 26 include:

- Allegheny County: Two children ages 14 and 6 with extensive special needs (physical) and a goal of APPLA achieved permanency; the 14-year-old found permanency with kin (robust family

finding), and the 6-year-old found permanency through adoption.

- Bucks County: A 20-year-old will be adopted by a resource family after turning 21.
- Lawrence County: After four-and-a-half years, a sibling group of four found permanency (PLC) in the same community with families who attend same church and schools.

Other positive outcomes noted as a result of PRTs:

- Bringing folks together is powerful.
- They created a learning scale.
- Staff left the PRTs feeling supported and that they were not responsible for every task.
- Administrators attend PRTs and are able to address barriers immediately.
- The PRT lead is connected to other programs.

If you are a county agency interested in adding PRTs to your toolkit, contact your SWAN RTA or a PAE or LSI coordinator for more information.

### A Little Trivia...

Jim Casey, founder of UPS, also founded Casey Family Programs, which developed the Casey Permanency Roundtables. When Northampton County held their PRT values training in August, it was at the Fowler Family Southside Center. This center was made possible by Marlene "Linny" Fowler, a legendary philanthropist in the Lehigh Valley who acquired her wealth upon the death of her parents. Her father, Harold Oberkotter, had been executive CEO of UPS.

It is apparent through Mrs. Fowler's generosity to numerous programs that she was committed to supporting and strengthening families and communities in the Lehigh Valley—not unlike the tradition of Casey Family Programs to build hope for children, families and communities.

The administrative team at Northampton County felt this coincidence was "good karma" at work for the kick-off of their PRT initiative!

# Traumatic Stress: Signs and Symptoms and Recovery Training

By Christine Swank, SWAN Regional Technical Assistant, Northeast

---

Cynthia Loftus-Vergari, Fellow, American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, was the guest speaker for an interactive training on traumatic stress on September 29 at the Rose Bader Room at John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitation in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. This training familiarized participants with the signs and symptoms of traumatic stress. An overview of treatment modalities and advances in the field also prepared participants to work more effectively with individuals who have experienced trauma.

This training was well received, with a total of 67 professionals and resource parents in attendance. It was sponsored by the Northeast Training Collaboration; Catholic Social Services of the Diocese of Scranton; Children's Service Center of Wyoming Valley; Family Caring for Children; Families United Network; the Institute for Human Resources and Services, Inc.; Loftus-Vergari, Inc. and St. Joseph Center.

## Adopt Lehigh Valley Kids

---

The Salvation Army Children's Services is thrilled to introduce a new approach to permanency for older kids in the Lehigh Valley called Adopt Lehigh Valley Kids. This program is made possible through a partnership between WFMZ-TV 69; The Salvation Army Children's Services; the Lehigh County Office of Children & Youth Services; and Northampton County Children, Youth and Families. The recorded segment, which airs the first Friday of each month, features an older waiting youth who is waiting for a forever family.

For more information, contact:

**Jan Musser Geier**

Outreach and Marketing Coordinator

425 Allentown Drive, Suite 1

Allentown, PA 18109

Phone: 610-821-7706

Fax: 610-821-8121

Facebook/SalvationArmyChildrensServices

Twitter/@SACChildrensServ



Foster Care & Adoption

# Pennsylvania Resources

**Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN)**

[www.adoptpakids.org](http://www.adoptpakids.org)

**Prime Contractor for SWAN**

[www.diakon-swan.org](http://www.diakon-swan.org)

**Independent Living**

[www.independentlivingPA.org](http://www.independentlivingPA.org)

**SWAN Helpline**

800-585-SWAN

**Pennsylvania State Resource Family Association**

[www.psrfa.org](http://www.psrfa.org)

**SWAN Legal Services Initiative Warmline**

888-793-2512

[lsiwarmline@diakon-swan.org](mailto:lsiwarmline@diakon-swan.org)

**Office of Children, Youth and Families,**

**Pennsylvania Department of Human Services**

[www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov)

**Network News**

Karen Lollo at [klollo@diakon-swan.org](mailto:klollo@diakon-swan.org)

**SWAN listserv through Google Groups**

Joe Warrick at [jwarrick@pa.gov](mailto:jwarrick@pa.gov)

**SWAN on Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/AdoptPA](http://www.facebook.com/AdoptPA)

**SWAN on YouTube**

[www.youtube.com/AdoptPAKids](http://www.youtube.com/AdoptPAKids)

## SAVE THE DATE

**2017 SWAN/IL Winter Statewide Meeting**

**January 18–19, 2017**

**The Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center**

**State College, PA**

