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Operation Our Town Reporter

a monthly newsletter *by* our volunteers *to* our volunteers *about* our fight against drugs and crime in Central PA

Volume 13, Issue 1 - January 2021



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Committed Businesses:

American Eagle Paper Mills
 Grainger Industrial Supply
 Norfolk-Southern Foundation
 Small Tube Products
 Stuckey Ford & Subaru
 Value Drug Company



Our Town Times

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

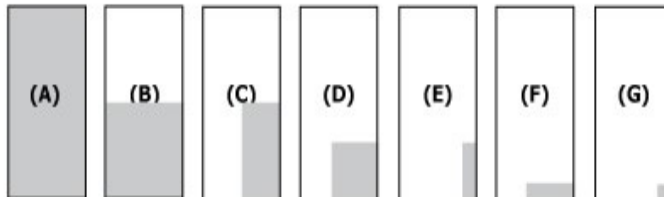


Distributed at the Annual Blair County Chamber Operation Our Town Breakfast and throughout the year to local businesses and community organizations!
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY PRIDE!

The 2021 report will provide an update to the readers from this past calendar year. We will hear from law enforcement, treatment providers, healthcare professionals, business leaders and others from our community about how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected and amplified the drug problem in youth and adults.

Get the inside scoop from Operation Our Town Roundtables on their projects and efforts to help keep our community safe!

Please help us...



| Ad sizes | Width | Height | Cost |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| (A) Full Page | 10" | 21.33" | \$900 |
| (B) Half Page | 10" | 10.66" | \$650 |
| (C) 1/4 Page Vertical | 5" | 10.66" | \$450 |
| (D) 1/3 Page Square | 6.633" | 6.633" | \$400 |
| (E) 1/6 Page Vertical | 1.833" | 6.633" | \$200 |
| (F) 1/6 Page Horizontal | 6.633" | 1.833" | \$200 |
| (G) Block ad | 2" | 1.667" | \$50 |

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All ads and pre-payment MUST be received by February 1, 2021.

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Please print and return this portion with your payment (checks only—do not send cash).
 Checks to be made out to Operation Our Town and mailed to DiAndrea Media, Inc.
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Name: _____ Company: _____

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Will you be submitting final artwork? Yes No

Use the same artwork from last year? (no charge) Yes No

Mission

To facilitate partnerships between community and business to fight drug abuse and crime through proven law enforcement, treatment, and prevention techniques.



Month of January

| | | | |
|------|----------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 1/5 | Northern Blair Roundtable meeting | 11:00am | Zoom conference call |
| 1/20 | Marketing Roundtable meeting | 4:00pm | Zoom conference call |
| 1/21 | Criminal Justice Advisory Board Roundtable meeting | 12:00pm | Zoom conference call |
| 1/21 | Faith-based Roundtable meeting | 2:00pm | Zoom conference call |
| 1/22 | Pharmacy Roundtable meeting | 7:15am | Zoom conference call |
| 1/28 | Housing Roundtable meeting | 12:00pm | Zoom conference call |

REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY
PUSH OUT THE PUSHER
 814-693-3020

Taking Back Our Neighborhoods



A partnership led by business to fight drugs and violent crime in Central PA

ABOUT US ▾ NEWS & EVENTS MEDIA ▾ NEED HELP? ▾ NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Pennsylvania
 Get Connected. Get Help.™

PA 2-1-1 is a comprehensive database that includes information about health & human services.

PA 2-1-1 can be accessed by phone 24/7 or the web at:

www.pa211.org

HOME VOLUNTEER ▾ DONATE ▾ OUR WORK ▾ GRANTS ▾ RESOURCES PARTNERS ▾ Search

CONTACT

Operation Our Town

A community and business partnership of Blair County PA to promote healthy neighborhoods and protect its citizens from illegal drug use and resulting crime.

The Best ME Is Drug FREE!



Operation Our Town - Updated website!

BLAIR DRUG₂₀ ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS
 Empowering Healthy Lifestyles

814-381-0921

Check out the new and improved Operation Our Town website! The redesigned website provides a much needed facelift and a fresh, modern look to our content.

Click on the link below to view the redesigned Operation Our Town website:

<https://operationourtown.org/>

Grant Recipient Highlight: Family Services, Inc. Blair County Human Trafficking Taskforce Initiative

By: Marlene Dancy-Murray, PMSC AmeriCorps
Member with Operation Our Town



Education is the first step in combatting human trafficking, and Family Services, Inc. is grateful to Operation Our Town for supporting this training to continue the fight against human trafficking in our county. While movies and media portray human trafficking as kidnapping or smuggling, those who work with human trafficking victims/survivors know that human trafficking is almost always perpetrated by individuals known to the victim/survivor - usually family members, close friends, or significant others.

The training was conducted to raise awareness of human trafficking to assist Blair County investigators and others to identify it in our community. Additionally, the training provided specific tools and procedures to implement when conducting human trafficking investigations.

Shea Rhodes, Esq., Director and Co-Founder of the Villanova Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation presented the training on Combatting Human Trafficking: A Cross Systems-trauma informed approach to investigations, prosecutions, and victim services. The purpose of the training was to provide training on human trafficking to Blair County systems and agencies to install procedures so that the victims of human trafficking are effectively given aftercare services and to properly prosecute buyers and exploiters of this crime in Pennsylvania; and provide strategic approaches for investigations, prosecutions, and survivor support.

At the conclusion of this course, participants were better able to:

- Understand and apply both Federal and Pennsylvania human trafficking laws
- Recognize the multifaceted victim service needs of a victim/survivor of sex trafficking and the benefits of cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Understand the most successful approach to working human trafficking cases, from investigation through prosecution and beyond

This four-part training focused on both Pennsylvania and Federal laws on sex trafficking and co-occurring crimes to trafficking. It also focused on the complex trauma that victims suffer and the various social services needed to support survivors through restoration and recover. It highlighted various law enforcement initiatives already underway in Pennsylvania.

Sex trafficking does not discriminate based on geography; it is happening throughout the Commonwealth, including rural Pennsylvania, and is leaving victims behind who experience complex trauma.

This training was a great fit for the Operation Our Town grant opportunity because here in Blair County, drug trafficking has been shown to be intertwined with human trafficking.



There are more than 4 million victims of human trafficking internationally.

99% of trafficking victims are female.

1 in 7 reported runways in the U.S. in 2018 is likely a victim of child sex trafficking.

Profits from forced sexual labor are estimated at \$99 billion worldwide.

Events like the Super Bowl and major sports all-star games are monitored for sex trafficking.

Victims are still arrested for crimes they were forced to commit by traffickers.

@FSIVICTIMSERVICESPROGRAM
Helpline: 1-800-500-2849 or 814-944-3585
24/7/365 | Confidential | Free

Family Services, Inc.
2022 Broad Avenue Altoona, PA 16601
Phone:(814) 944-3583
Website: www.familyservicesinc.net
Email: aowens@familyservicesinc.net

