



Operation Our Town Reporter

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

Volume 17, Issue 5 - May 2025



OperationOurTown.org

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UPMC Altoona
Value Drug Company
Ward Transport & Logistics Corp.



Operation Our Town - Annual Funding Opportunity

Grant Cycle Opens: May 1, 2025

Grant Application Deadline: June 6, 2025

Funding Announcement: 2025 Prevention Grant Cycle

Funding Available: A total of \$75,000 is available to fund programs aimed at preventing and/or reducing drug abuse and/or crime in Blair County.

Eligible Applicants: 501(c)(3) Non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies. Previous grant recipients are also eligible to apply.

There are two grant applications to choose from:

- Funding requests under \$3,000 or
- Funding requests over \$3,000

Grant Application: Visit www.OperationOurTown.org go to the "Grants" tab on the homepage, click on "Apply Now" in the drop-down menu to download the grant application.

***** Please note that both grant applications have been revised and updated, so the updated versions
(with the revised date of 4/27/2021 in the bottom right corner)
must be used to apply for funding *****

Due Date: One (1) original and ten (10) copies of applications must be delivered or mailed to Operation Our Town (5508 6th Avenue, rear Altoona, PA 16602) by **June 6, 2025**. Any applications that are mailed must be postmarked by this date.

Grant Application Notification: Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by the middle of August.

For questions, please contact:

(814) 296-8730 or

shawna@operationourtown.org

Mission

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



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

BLAIR DRUG & ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS
Empowering Healthy Lifestyles
814-381-0921

Area police departments give year end review - A4

OUR TOWN TIMES
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Substance Use and Mental Health
CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS

By Amber D. Varney, NCC, LPC - CPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies

Co-Occurring Disorders are disorders in which an individual has both a primary mental health and substance use disorder diagnosis. Many individuals involved in behavioral health treatment present with co-occurring disorders. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 21.5 million individuals have co-occurring disorders. It is important to address both conditions simultaneously for effective treatment. Trauma can include...

Click on the image above to view the 2025 OOT Annual Report!

Month of May - Meetings

5/1	Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting	10:00am	Blair County Chamber
5/5	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Rec & Park Commission
5/6	Northern Blair Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	The Bull Pen restaurant
5/15	Faith-based Roundtable meeting	2:00pm	Blair Drug & Alcohol Partnerships & Zoom
5/16	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom
5/21	Marketing Roundtable meeting	4:00pm	OOT office
5/22	Housing Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	U.S. Hotel Tavern

Purchase your June 17 Curve game tickets through either the Operation Our Town Night Fundraiser order form or link below, and a portion of ticket sales will be donated to Operation Our Town!

<https://am.ticketmaster.com/altoonacurve/communitynights>

2025 OPERATION OUR TOWN FUNDRAISER AT PNG FIELD

TUESDAY, JUNE 17 – 6:30PM

Altoona Curve vs. Richmond Flying Squirrels
BENEFITING OPERATION OUR TOWN



BUSINESS PACKAGE

Share your product or service with thousands of Curve fans on Operation Our Town Night!

PLATINUM PACKAGE

Have two members of your company participate in an on-field promotion (based on availability), first pitch before the game (based on availability), receive a public address/scoreboard & program "thank you" for being a community sponsor and supporter, a concourse table to display your company's information/products & 50 Grandstand game tickets for June 17.

GOLD PACKAGE

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter, first pitch before the game (based on availability), a concourse table to display your company's information/products and 25 Grandstand game tickets for June 17.

SILVER PACKAGE

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter, first pitch before the game (based on availability), a concourse table to display your company's information/products and 15 Grandstand game tickets for June 17.

BRONZE PACKAGE

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter, first pitch before the game (based on availability), a concourse table to display your company's information/products and 10 Grandstand game tickets for June 17.

INDIVIDUAL GRANDSTAND TICKETS

\$550 (\$100 Donation)

\$350 (\$75 Donation)

\$175 (\$50 Donation)

\$85 (\$25 Donation)

\$7 (\$1 Donation)

OPERATION OUR TOWN NIGHT

- ☐ I am a PLATINUM supporter
- ☐ I am a SILVER supporter
- ☐ I am a GOLD supporter
- ☐ I am a BRONZE supporter

Company Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Method of Payment: (circle one) Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name on Card: _____ Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration: _____ Security Code: _____

IF PAYING BY CHECK, PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO: ALTOONA CURVE Check Number: _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT NATE BOWEN AT (814) 283-3118 or NBowen@AltoonaCurve.com

Grant Recipient Highlight:

The Nehemiah Project

Kids Connect

By: Nick Gordon, Operation Our Town
Community Outreach Coordinator



Kids Connect is an after-school and summer program dedicated to serving elementary students in grades K-5, particularly those in the community surrounding the former Wright School. With a mission to build brighter futures and instill hope, the program offers a nurturing environment where children can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Operating during the school year on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 3:30 to 6:00pm, and in the summer from Monday to Wednesday, 11:00am to 2:30pm, Kids Connect hosts approximately 30 children daily. Sessions take place in a variety of settings, including a classroom, gym, auditorium, and playground, ensuring a mix of educational and recreational activities. Additionally, the program organizes two monthly outreach events, like movie nights, game nights, and glow nights, fostering community engagement.

Kids Connect is entirely free, making it accessible to all families in need. The program provides after-school meals, homework assistance, grade encouragement, and interactive activities designed to spark creativity and growth. What sets Kids Connect apart is its holistic approach, supporting not only children but entire families. The facility includes unique resources like a sensory room, baseball and basketball facilities, and multiple programs aimed at strengthening families, faith, and futures.

Through Kids Connect, The Nehemiah Project collaborates with community partners, including the Penn State Extension program, to offer STEM activities and other educational opportunities. The program is transforming lives by providing hope, resources, and opportunities to children and families in the community. For more information about any of the services The Nehemiah Project offers through Kids Connect or to learn more, please check out their info below.



The Nehemiah Project/Kids Connect
Contact: Kyreisha Flack
Email: kye.tnppa@gmail.com
Address: 1809 11th Street, Altoona, PA 16601
Phone: 814-201-2096
Website: www.tnppa.org
Mon-Fri, 8am-4pm

