**Morgan County Partnership gets $125,000 Drug Free grant**

September 2, 2011

The Morgan County Partnership, Inc. of Berkeley Springs has been given a grant for $125,000 from the Drug Free Communities Support Program.

Funding was awarded by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and is meant to be used to involve local communities in preventing and reducing substance use among youth.

“These grants will provide much-needed support to help local communities combat substance use among teens and children,” said Congress-woman Shelley Moore Capito.

The funding recognizes the potential of the Morgan County Partnership can have to save young lives through education and prevention, Capito said.

Gil Kerlikowske, director of National Drug Control Policy, said: “Data show that community efforts to reduce youth substance use through Drug Free Communities program are effective. I commend coalitions, like the Morgan County Partnership, which work tirelessly to prevent and reduce youth drug use across the nation.”

The Drug Free Communities program is directed by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The program provides grants of up to $625,000 over five years to community coalitions.

Only 87 grantees were selected from over 450 applicants.

In West Virginia, the Jackson County Health Department in Ripley also received a grant for $125,000.

(Morgan Messenger)