Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Morgan County Partnership.
Don't forget to add megan@morganpartnership.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

MORGAN COUNTY PARTNERSHIP

The Morgan County Partnership was named the 2013 Red Wagon Award Recipient!

Quarterly Newsletter **Fall 2013**

Dear Partners,

The Morgan County Partnership is proud by the fact that we have continued to operate all of our programs despite the limited funding we have received this grant cycle. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated staff and supportive community! With the recent success of our Light the Way to Recovery 5K Run/Walk, which was the Partnership's first big fundraiser event, we are in the process of putting together a fundraising plan. All the money that is collected during these events will go directly back to our prevention programs and initiatives.

In addition to maintaining our current programs, we have also been able to begin the school-based SBIRT program, which is the only school-based program in the state! The focus of the program is to have a conversation with students about the probability that

they have or will come across a situation where they are offered and choose to try alcohol, or another illegal substance. This is a great resource for schools because it allows them to be able to provide immediate services to those students that need it, instead of placing them on a waiting list.

We are also happy to report that our pilot Youth Leadership Day project we started during the last school year is now offering the one-day conference to another group of students as well as continuing to work with the students from the pilot program. We have also invited students from Paw Paw high school to participate in the leadership day as well. This is a great opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills and to work with our current community leaders. We plan to make this an annual event.

As always, I welcome your feedback and suggestions about the Partnership's programs and/or funding efforts. I can be reached at the office at 304-258-7807 or by email at kristin@morganpartnership.org. We are grateful for the community's continued support of our programs and the staff and I will continue to work hard in order to keep those programs and resources in Morgan County.

Sincerely,

Kristin Willard
Executive Director

The First Light the Way To Recovery 5k Run/Walk was a huge success!

The first Light the Way to Recovery 5K Run/Walk was held on Saturday September 14, 2013. Over 90 runners and walkers came

Ask the Experts

To listen to previously recorded shows, click on the ad above.

Don't Forget to tune in every Sunday morning at 9:15am on WDHC 92.9 FM. This show focuses on youth issues that effect our school, family and community.
If you have a topic that you want us to address on our show,

from all over the tri-state region to participate in this community event. All proceeds from the Light the Way to Recovery Run/Walk 5K goes towards building a stronger, drug-free community through prevention programs and initiatives provided by the Morgan County Partnership.

In celebration of National Recovery Month, the 3rd Annual Community Candlelight Vigil immediately followed the 5K race. The Community Vigil is a time to remember those who have lost their battle with an addiction and to provide support and encouragement to those on the road to recovery. The guest speaker for the event was Keleigh Taylor, Program Director for BOLD (Building Our Lives Drug Free), which is based in Berkeley County and Pastor Andrew Cooney offered the spiritual message. The Master of Ceremonies was School Social Worker, Gary McDaniel. Musical guests included Greg Moe, Aiden McDaniel, Iona McDaniel and Alyse Hoffman.

Sponsors for the Light the Way to Recovery 5K Run/Walk race include; US Silica, WVU Extension, Morgan County Parks and Recreation, Change the Future WV, Rankin's Physical Therapy and Fitness Center, Portals, Tony's Butcher Block, and War Memorial Hospital.

Youth Leadership Day is Becoming an Annual Event

The first Youth Leadership Day was held in February earlier this year. This year we expanded the program to include a Year 1 track for first-time students, and Year 2 track for those students that participated in the first Youth Leadership Day in February. The Youth Leadership Day for Year 1 students was held on October 29th and the event for Year 2 students was held on November 6th.

The students in the Year 1 track was a brand new group of youth leaders, which included 32 freshman, sophomores and juniors as well as students from Paw Paw high school. Federal Judge Gina Groh was the keynote speaker, describing her ideas on "What is Leadership?". Then the students were broken up into groups and

contact us at
info@morganpartnership.org

Upcoming Events:

11/16/13: Working with Youth Training from 9am-12pm (CEUs available)
Click here for more information

11/20/13: TIPS Training (on-premise) at 10am at Panorama at the Peak Restaurant
Click Here for more information

11/22/13: MCP Breakfast Meeting from 8am-9am at First Church

12/09/13: Underage Drinking Prevention Task Force meeting from 3pm-4pm at MCP Office

12/20/13: MCP Breakfast Meeting from 8am-9am at First Church
Guest Speaker: Joy Buck, PHD

01/08/14: Prescription Drug Prevention Task Force
from 12-1pm at MCP Office

MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S
TIP LINE:

participated in 4 separate workshops on Planning and Running a Meeting, Goal Setting & Decision Making, Professional Demeanor and Public Speaking 101. Presenters included; Kristin Willard, Executive Director for the Morgan County Partnership, Sean Bryner, Morgan County Probation Officer, Hannah Stewart, Program Coordinator for Starting Points and Cindy Smalley, Program Assistant at WVU Extension.

Seventeen returning students participated in the Year 2 track. Lanc e Fox, Principal of Berkeley Springs High School, was the keynote speaker. The theme of the Year 2 track was on changing school culture and promoting school pride. Pastor Andrew Cooney talked to the group about how to change school culture. Then the students heard from a panel of Berkeley Springs High School graduates about how they showed school pride when they were in school and what pride in their school means to them. The panel included; Cindy Largent-Hill, Adjudicated Juvenile Rehabilitation Review Commission for the WV Supreme Court of Appeals, Charles Trump, local attorney for Trump & Trump; David Banks, Morgan County Schools Superintendent, Brad Close, Morgan County Commissioner, and Lara Omps, Law Clerk for Judge Groh. The panel discussion was moderated by another Berkeley Springs High S chool graduate, Gary McDaniel, Clinical Social Worker for Morgan County Schools. After these two large group presentations, Leslie Hotaling, co-owner of the Panorama at the Peak Restaurant, discussed how to brainstorm and to create a work plan. Students then broke up into groups of 4 and created actions plans around school beautification, communication, social activities, organizational collaboration.

A special thanks goes out to Morgan County Schools, First United Methodist Church, Tari's Restaurant, Panorama At the Peak for providing the students with transportation, space and food for this event. Another special thanks goes to all of our speakers and presenters who took the time out of their busy schedules to make a difference in our community and to positively impact our young people. And finally, the Partnership would like to thank our planning committee because this event would not happen without their time and dedication. Members of this committee include Rose Jackson, Brenda Hutchinson, Cindy Largent-Hill, Amber Guthrie, Gary McDaniel, Leslie Hotaling and Cindy Smalley. Funding for this event was provided in part by a grant from the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation.

304-258-2450

This line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Help them keep our community safe!

Volunteers Needed!

The Morgan County Partnership is always in need of volunteers to work on community task forces, help plan and organize events, and general office assistance, including data entry.

If you are interested in giving your time to support a local non-profit organization, please contact at us at 304-258-7807 or return the the volunteer form below.

Contact Information:

Morgan County Partnership

2 6 Chapman Street
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Phone: 304-258-7807
Fax: 304-258-7710

Check out our webpage at www.morganpartnership.org!

Engage. Educate.

Empower.

The SBIRT Program has Begun Screening Students in Morgan County Schools!

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) provides a unique opportunity for students ages 12-18 in Morgan County Schools to receive additional, free support for early intervention and prevention of future substance abuse and/or mental health problems. The focus of this program is to have a conversation with young people about the very real probability that they have or will come across a situation where they are offered and choose to try alcohol, or another illegal substance. This program will also be working with students at risk of mental health problems.

An important aspect of the SBIRT Program is that the results of screening and brief intervention services are confidential between the student and the program facilitator. Information will not be shared with school administration or law enforcement, and the participation in SBIRT Program services will not be included in student's school file. If a student is at risk of harming themselves or others, or is experiencing abuse, we will work together to create a plan of action to increase the student's safety that may include releasing information to additional parties. Otherwise, these conversations are confidential and focused on working with a student's own unique motivation for making positive changes and living a healthier lifestyle.

At this time, screening and brief interventions are taking place at both Warm Springs Middle School and Berkeley Springs High School. Screenings at Paw Paw High School are scheduled to begin in November. A letter has been sent home by all three schools informing parents of the SBIRT Program and providing both contact information for the SBIRT Program Facilitator as well

as the option to decline SBIRT services for their student(s). For additional information on SBIRT Program services, please contact Wendy Baracka at 304-258-7807.

Nikki Cowles is a Train the Trainer for Too Good For Drugs/Violence

Too Good For Drugs/Violence is a comprehensive drug and violence prevention program designed to decrease risk factors and build protection within the child. Too Good develops a framework of social and emotional skills through the development of goal-setting, decision-making, and effective communication skills in addition to peer pressure refusal, pro-social bonding, conflict resolution, and media literacy. Too Good builds the basis for a safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment. Too Good For Drugs has been implemented in Morgan County Schools since 2008 and Too Good For Violence begun to be used at the Intermediate School in 2012. The Program Facilitator for the program is Nikki Cowles, who trains local school personnel how to implement the program. In October she spent a week in Atlanta, Georgia to become a certified Train the Trainer in order to maintain the highest standards and fidelity of implementation of the Mendez Foundation's Too Good Programs. As a result of this training, she is able to provide curriculum training in the following program areas: Too Good for Drugs K-5, Too Good for Drugs 6-8 Revised, Too Good For Violence K-8 and Too Good for Drugs & Violence High School.

Healthy Choices Fair at Warm Springs Intermediate School

Over the past several years the Morgan County Partnership has partnered with Warm Springs Intermediate School during Red Ribbon Week to host a Wellness Fair. This year the fair focused around Healthy Choices. On October 22 and 24, every student in the school participated in the event.

Topics included, stress management, gun safety, pet care, yoga, art appreciation, music appreciation, exercise & heart health, good touch, bad touch, zumba, healthy eating, media wise, the 4-H experience, self-esteem, financial education, middle school athletics, environmental stewardship, and life safety. The presenters included; Brenda Hutchinson, Susan Chadick, Officer Cliff Coburn, Cindy Smalley, Shamus Cleveland, Angela Lawrence, Rene Fincham, Paul Cooper, Stacy Dugan, Wendy Baracka, Jim Murray, Johnny Robinson, Officer TJ Johnson, Helen Baker, Kristin Willard, Coach Kathleen Stotler and her basketball players; Brandon Mellott, Chris Stotler, and Andrew Butts.

Decrease in Sales to Minors by Alcohol Retailers in Morgan County

Alcohol compliance checks are a type of environmental prevention that deters alcohol outlets from selling alcohol to underage youth. Law enforcement officials supervise undercover youth who attempt to purchase alcohol; if the attempt is successful, the establishment and the clerk are given a citation and fined. Research indicates that regular compliance checks increase retailer compliance and subsequently decrease alcohol sales to minors.

The most recent Alcohol Compliance Checks were completed by the Morgan County Sheriff's Department and the WV ABCA during the month of February (13th and 14th) and the month of June (June 5th). 2 out of 9 On-Premise establishments sold to minors during the February 14th check. 2 out of 11 Off-Premise stores sold to minors during the February 13th check. 2 out of 22 stores sold to minors during the June 5th check This made the 2013 alcohol compliance check buy-rate at 14% (which was the lowest buy-rate

that Morgan Co. has had). 2011-12 had a 20% buy-rate and 2010-2011 had a 47% buy-rate.

Effective law enforcement, alcohol education to youth, evidence-based prevention programming, and servers and retailers being trained in the TIPS program (Training for Intervention ProcedureS), just to name a few, have helped crack down on alcohol being sold to minors. The next TIPS training will be on November 20th, 2013 at 10am held at Panorama at the Peak Restaurant.
Establishments that sell alcohol that are interested can contact the Partnership at (304) 258-7807.

Asset Building Tips:

Here are a few ideas to get more involved-to build assets-in the lives of young people around you:

- Look for one opportunity in the coming week to find out about the interests of a young person you know.
- Ask a young person about his or her name. How did her or his parents choose it? Then share the story of your name.
- Tell parents when you see their children doing something good.
- Without placing blame, report to parents if you've seen their children misbehave-really! For parents, this information can be hard to hear, but your action shows that you care and are willing to help them. Most parents will appreciate it.
- If you're a parent or guardian of a child, ask an adult friend you respect to be a special friend to your child, maybe even an informal mentor.

Search Institute has identified 40 positive experiences and qualities that can help to ensure that young people succeed. They're called Developmental

Assetsâ„¢, and surveys of thousands of students show that the more assets young people report experiencing, the fewer risky behaviors they'll engage in and the more good things they'll incorporate into their lives.

Adapted from Get the Word Out: Communication Tools and Ideas for Asset Builders Everywhere, copyright 2003 by Search Institute

For an opportunity to volunteer for an in-school Assets Program in Morgan County, helping our youth meet new adults and new ideas, please contact Angela at angela@morganpartnership.org.

MORGAN COUNTY
PARTNERSHIP

Mark all that apply:

( ) I am requesting membership information

( ) I would like to become a volunteer for the Coalition

( ) I would like to make a donation to the Morgan County Partnership

Amount: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Special Interests/Skills: _____

Mail to: Morgan County Partnership, 26 Chapman Street, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Make checks payable to the Morgan County Partnership. THANK YOU!!

The Morgan County Partnership is a 501 (C) 3 Non-Profit.