

STEP News

Lycoming-Clinton Counties Commission for Community Action (STEP), Inc.

Volume 3, Issue 1 2013

Community Collaboration Pathway to Success

Partnership:



Engagement:

PPL's financial donation of \$3,000 will support coordination that aligns the three organizations through the process of a merger.



Teri MacBride, PPL Regional Community Relations Director; Loni Gamble, CAPP Founder/Executive Director; Heather Eisner, The Campbell Street Family, Youth & Community Center Operations Manager; and Terry E. Roller, STEP President & CEO, discuss the potential merger process and upcoming Summer Counts! Program.

*Your Pathway
to Success*

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Success:

“PPL receives a lot of requests for support, and we have to really take a look at which organizations in the community are making a huge impact with the dollars that we have available to support their community endeavors. STEP and its new partnership with CAPP and the Campbell Street Center is a very exciting initiative, and we are really pleased to see it coming together and want to support it.”

- Teri MacBride

PPL Regional Community Relations Director

STEP, Inc.'s mission is to engage diverse individuals, families, and communities in the pursuit of social and economic success.



Housing Options Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:



Engagement:

STEP's Clinton County Scenic By-Way State Route 120 Home Program rehabilitated homes and properties along Route 120, a major gateway to the Pennsylvania Wilds region. The program complemented initiative goals and followed the *PA Wilds Design Guide*, earning STEP a 2013 Champion of the Pennsylvania Wilds Great Design Award from the Pennsylvania Wilds Initiative.



Harold C. "Bud" Yost, Sr., former STEP Chairperson and former Clinton County Commissioner, and Rachelle Abbott, STEP Director of Planning (2nd and 3rd from left) accepted a *Champions of the Wild Great Design Award* on May 2, 2013. Presenters pictured (l. to r.) are: Dan Glotz, Chairperson PA Wilds Planning; Debra Pontzer, Economic Development Workforce Specialist for Representative Glenn Thompson; Julie Brennan, Legislative Aide to Senator John N. Wozniak; and Representative Matt Gabler, 75th Legislative District.

Success:

"The PA Wilds Planning Team recognizes the tremendous effort put forth by so many dedicated individuals and groups and are proud to be able to honor them with these awards."

- Jodi Foster
Awards Committee Chair

"The Clinton County By-Way State Route 120 Home Program provides a great example to other rural communities on how to use the PA Wilds Guide as a way to exemplify and improve their character which is loved by locals and visitors alike."

- Meredith Hill
Director, Pennsylvania Wilds



Housing Options Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:



Engagement:

STEP, in collaboration with Clinton and Lycoming County governments, has leveraged nearly \$1.5 million to stabilize housing infrastructure.



- Stabilizing Neighborhoods • Revitalizing Communities • Promoting Energy Efficiency •
- Allowing Seniors to Live Independently • Making Neighborhoods Safer for Children •
- Increasing the Tax Base • Invigorating Housing Market • Improving Home Accessibility •
- Rehabilitating Neighborhoods • Counseling Homeowners • Promoting Affordable Housing •

Success:

"Clinton County has had a long, successful partnership with STEP, and we are glad for the PHARE funds to be coming to our county to help tackle the Unmet Needs waiting list."

**- Tim Holladay
Clinton County
Director of Planning**

"Lycoming County and STEP joined forces several years ago to conceive the Homes in Need program. That partnership has yielded enormous benefits across the face of Lycoming County and in the lives of the hundreds of home-owner families who have been helped. We are extremely excited today to focus our collective energy on the Brodart Neighborhood and look forward to seeing the renaissance begin."

**- Bill Kelly
Deputy Director, Lycoming County
Planning & Community Development**



Independent Living Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:



Borough of South Williamsport



Engagement:

A feasibility study was commissioned to determine the viability of repurposing the vacant PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Forest Service Building for use as a senior center.



Former DCNR building is perfectly located adjacent to the Susquehanna River Walk and South Williamsport Park.

Success:

“This project is a win-win for both South Williamsport and STEP, as filling the vacant building with a satellite senior center would work for both of us and build an asset in the community.”

**- Bernie Schelb
South Williamsport Borough
Council President**

“The breadth and depth of this potential project certainly would impact our seniors, but additionally it impacts our community economically by renovating and reusing an underutilized building.”

**- Terry E. Roller
STEP President & CEO**



Housing Options Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:



Engagement:

STEP's Housing Counseling Program supports the mission of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) by assisting state residents having questions about homeownership and home foreclosure. PHFA awards are presented to individual counselors and counseling agencies demonstrating exemplary service to Pennsylvania residents.



Dan Merk accepting the Best Housing Counseling Agency Award on behalf of STEP, Inc.

Awards presented by:
Brian A. Hudson, Sr.
PHFA Executive Director & CEO
and **Terri Redmond,**
PHFA Housing Counseling Program Manager



Savonna Reagan accepting the Best Housing Counseling Specialist Award

Success:

“Our housing counselors perform a great public service by educating Pennsylvanians about their housing options.”

- **Brian A. Hudson, Sr.**
PHFA Executive Director
and CEO

“STEP is a very positive organization, and the services provided by the Housing Counseling Department helped me work through my housing situations. They were very timely in submitting paperwork and worked very hard with me on a plan to answer my needs.”

- **Annette Fenning, Customer**



Independent Living Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:



Engagement:

Joining forces to fight hunger. Uptown Music Collective raises \$5,000 for STEP's Office of Aging Meals on Wheels Program.

Mrs. Carolyn W. Bullock, STEP Board Secretary and Aging Advisory Chairperson, Meals on Wheels volunteers Tom & Patti Nau and Barbara Barger were presented a check for \$5,000 from students at Uptown Music Collective.



Uptown Music Collective students perform at the February 1, 2013 concert benefitting STEP's Office of Aging Meals on Wheels Program.

Success:

“Our yearly benefit shows are an important piece of connective tissue between our students and the community in which they live. Through these performances they have the opportunity to impact their community for the better, while doing something that they love—playing music. It’s a great lesson for them and a great example for others. We are all very happy that we could contribute in a meaningful way to this wonderful organization’s work with area seniors.”

**- Dave Brumbaugh
Uptown Music Collective Executive Director**



Early Learning Pathway to Success

Success Through Engagement and Partnership

Partnership:

Greater Susquehanna Valley



Engagement:

A Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way grant supported the continuation of early childhood education in Union County through the expansion of STEP's Parent Child Home Program (PCHP).



Marchessi Hassinger uses her new stethoscope and dramatic play skills to check her sister Veronica's heart at a PCHP home visit.



Early writing becomes exciting when you get to use a new whiteboard in the PCHP Program, like Allen Reeder with his mom, Billie Jo.

Success:

"The program not only helps you work better with your child, but also strengthens your bond with your child."

- PCHP Parent

"This will help United Way to make sure these very important early education programs will continue for children from infancy to age 5."

- Sara Lauver

Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way
Community Investment Director

If you would like to consider making an investment in our community via STEP, Inc. contact us at 570-326-0587.

STEP Office of Aging Volunteer Banquets

(Clinton & Lycoming Counties)

Over \$1 million—estimated yearly value of volunteer time.



Every year 550 volunteers provide 51,550 hours of service. They hand deliver meals, assist at senior centers, and visit nursing facilities and personal care homes as advocates, as well as assisting with health insurance issues and tax preparation.



Terry E. Roller, President & CEO

Traci Lowe, CFO

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