

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit.

— Nelson Henderson

Designed by the individuals in the Achievement Program.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

What a remarkable year it has been for Chartiers Center!

This past year, we worked together with a laser focus toward achieving our strategic initiatives, which have included growing Chartiers Center and expanding our reach into new counties and communities.

In fact, for the first time in our organization's history, we opened our doors to serve people beyond Allegheny County. This feat is truly a testament to our strong track record of excellence and a longstanding commitment to our mission of exceptional care.

In the pages to follow, we are proud to share updates of new programs, program expansions, and innovations that we believe are 'cutting edge' and acknowledge the best practices and wishes of those we serve.

Our efforts as an organization are impossible without the exemplary Chartiers Center team. Our team of 150 members has never been stronger; more compassionate, more curious, and more innovative. Together, we have the power to do so much.



A MESSAGE FROM THE **BOARD PRESIDENT**

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines the word "grow" as,

A. to spring up and develop to maturity, and B. to be able to grow in some place or situation.

Chartiers Center is an organization that works to bring this definition to life.

The Chartiers Center staff and board strive to create an environment that encourages our clients to reach their full potential through various interventions. We look to embrace a vision of growth within our programs to meet the different needs of our clients and neighbors.

We provide care to a very vulnerable population and are honored to serve them. Some clients need a safe place to live; others need someone to help them navigate life's ups and downs. The staff at Chartiers Center is prepared to meet each client where they are in life and to help them tackle their concerns by utilizing the programs and resources we have in place.

Chartiers Center is an ever-changing, ever-evolving organization. As I wrap up my year as Board Chairman, I want to say thank you to everyone for all your help and hard work! I look forward to all of the incredible growth yet to come.





Homeless to Housing Programs Grow in Numbers Served

Chartiers Center joined the Allegheny County Continuum of Care in 2012 with the Hestia Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program. Chartiers Center's Hestia PSH Program not only embraces the concept of "Housing First" but also uses a scattered site, rental assistance program in which the person served holds the lease. The Hestia PSH Program was launched as a program to serve individuals and families that are experiencing homelessness and have mental health diagnoses. Today, Hestia serves 99 households with a capacity to serve 101.

In 2017, Chartiers Center opened the Vesta Program, a Rapid Rehousing Program (RRH) that targets individuals/families who are experiencing homelessness and substance use issues. The Vesta RRH Program is a

short-term program designed to provide intensive supportive services to assist individuals with their recovery journey and road to self-sufficiency. Today, Vesta serves 45 households with a capacity to serve 61.

In 2018, Chartiers Center built upon the success of Hestia through the creation of the Atlas Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Program. The Atlas PSH Program was created to serve individuals that are experiencing homelessness and have any disabling condition. The Atlas PSH Program follows the same models of "Housing First" and harm reduction to assist individuals with securing stable housing and working towards self-sufficiency.

In 2022, Chartiers Center's Atlas PSH Program was ranked number one in performance

outcomes in Allegheny County. Because of this, the Atlas PSH Program was awarded an expansion to assist an additional 31 individuals that are experiencing homelessness with rental assistance and supportive services. Currently, Atlas serves 23 households with a capacity to serve 46. With this expansion project, the Allegheny County Housing Authority has partnered with Chartiers Center to provide housing choice vouchers to Atlas clients.

Today, Chartiers Center's Housing team consists of the Director of Homeless Services, six Housing Coordinators, a Certified Recovery Specialist, an RN Integrated Case Service Coordinator, and an HMIS Coordinator.



Chartiers Center Expands Services to Washington County



For the first time in Chartiers Center history, the agency is officially opening services outside of Allegheny County. Not only does this mark the achievement of one of our strategic objectives, but it also signals opportunity for growth and reflects our selection as a quality provider by Washington County.

Unlike Allegheny County, Washington is not a "any willing provider" community. Therefore, providers must be invited to operate in this community. Our track record as a provider with integrity, recovery orientation, and quality clinical services were a big factor in our selection.

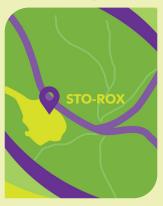
The new outpatient clinic is located at 95 West Chestnut St. in Washington, Pa., where we provide individual therapy and medication

management services. Our primary population is adults, over the age of 18.

Under the leadership of Alesha McGough, our team includes a psychiatrist, certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP) and a registered nurse who works to assess and treat the clients we serve. There are multiple therapists on staff who have a breadth of experience and training regarding mental health concerns, trauma-informed care, substance use disorders, and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

We also have an Information Specialist and a very welcoming office staff to meet your needs and answer your questions. All services are provided in person. We are happy to report there is no wait to schedule an appointment.

Delivering Mental Health Services and Resources to Neighbors in Sto-Rox



Chartiers Center has been a member of the provider community in McKees Rocks and Stowe Township for the past decade. First, the agency was a partner with the Sto-Rox Community Health Program and then among the founding members of the Community Resource Center, hosted by Focus on Renewal, where we provided service coordination and street outreach.

As a result of input from community stakeholders, a freestanding mental health outpatient clinic was created on Broadway Ave in Stowe Township that is adjacent to The Cash Club, a ¾ recovery house. While the pandemic caused the clinic to pause, we are now fully open for business.

In fact, interest has sparked the addition of a new program that we are calling Chartiers Center Connections (or C3)! This is a one day per week social rehabilitation program that was designed to address the social isolation and need for rehabilitative support that is unique to the Sto-Rox neighborhoods. This program continues to be incredibly successful, and we hope to expand the available space soon.

Chartiers Center is proud to serve the neighbors of the Sto-Rox communities as we recognize that a number of barriers make it difficult for them to access needed treatment and support services that are offered outside of the area. Our goal is to continue to have a presence in the community where we can support the needs of our neighbors as they work to live the lives they want to live!



Consumers in the Janus Program are Having Success Living Independently

Chartiers Center welcomed a new era in community living for Chartiers Center clients. After two years of planning and extraordinary effort on the part of our team, the Alvern Gardens Community Residential Rehabilitation (CRR) program closed. CRR services were considered one of the premiere recovery-based services for those we serve, and Chartiers Center was proud to offer this option for over 25 years to allow people to live outside of institutions.



When Chartiers' CRR closed, residents were assessed to determine who was appropriate for independent living. Seventeen of the residents were moved into the new Permanent Supported Housing Program called Janus. The Janus Program has a capacity to serve 23 and provides the person served with the option to choose where they want to live, near what family and/or amenity. To be eligible, the person must meet the requirements for Mobile Psych Rehab (MPR) and Blended Service Coordination (BSC) services.

We all know that having your own place to live is empowering and dignified. The Janus Program team is proud to be making this a reality for our clients. Staff report clients are making significant strides, including several clients who have made the decision to obtain employment since entering the program. One client works full-time and has recently completed his Certified Peer Specialist

classes. Numerous clients have been working towards self-sufficiency, learning to ride the bus, and expanding their kitchen skills. Staff are working diligently to connect our consumers to resources throughout the community, including but not limited to programs for utility assistance, doctors, local libraries, and benefit counseling. Self-care has also become a priority for clients as they have intentionally incorporated healthier eating habits, reduction of tobacco usage, and exercising into their daily lives.

In Roman mythology, Janus is the god of new beginnings; transitions. Janus is often depicted as having two faces— one looking at the past and the other at the future. As we move to this new chapter for our organization, we remain grateful to all who made such great contributions to the Alvern Gardens CRR Program and look forward to a promising future for the Janus Program.



IDD Programs Reflect Individual Achievements and Choices

This past year, Chartiers Center was excited to introduce the new names of our Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) Programs— The Achievement Program and Chartiers' Choice Center!

At our Adult Training Facility in Dormont, we found that the old names did not truly exemplify the intentions of each program. At Chartiers Center, we greatly prioritize giving those we support the ability to choose and the tools needed for achievement, which is what we wanted to be reflected in the new names.

The Achievement Program, formerly the Employee Training Program, focuses on independence building and gives individuals the tools they need to be self-efficient.

Chartiers' Choice Center, formerly known as the Senior Community Center, focuses on skill maintenance among people of any age with physical limitations or medical needs.

The Achievement Program and Chartiers' Choice Center plan all activities, groups, and community outings with input from the individuals who are living their everyday lives. Community outings are determined based on the interests of the group. Of particular interest are the local coffee shop and community parks. There is a bi-weekly bowling group and occasional field trips to the museums. Within the programs, Taste of Tuesday is a popular themed activity where the group

their likes and dislikes. Other group activities include weekly sign language lessons and a relaxation group where everyone is instructed to close their eyes and use visual imagery to go somewhere in their mind. This generates lively conversation. Both programs explore other interests and hobbies like art, cooking, gardening and games on their computer tablets.

We are excited to begin this chapter with renewed focus on celebrating personal goals and individual choices that make our programs

stand out.





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Special thanks to those who have supported our work this past year. Listed donations were made from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. We are grateful to the many donors who have given generously this year and are especially thankful for the donations made through the Amazon Smile Charity List of canned goods, home goods, socks, t-shirts, and underwear for our consumers in need.

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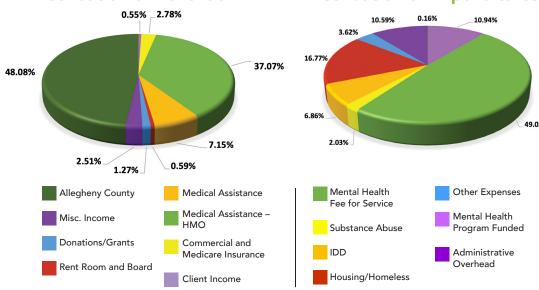
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