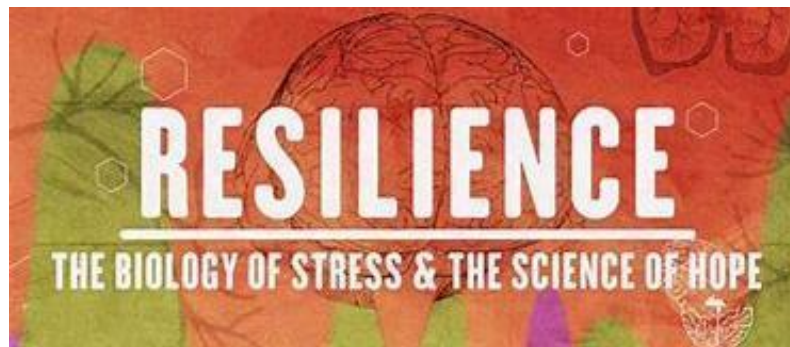




[Click here](#) to subscribe to this free monthly publication from Chester County MH/IDD

Chester County Department of Human Services, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA 19380



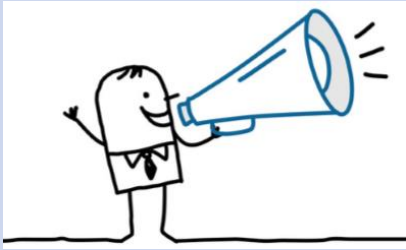
## Viewings Planned for New Documentary

More than 20 years ago, the Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Study dared to ask questions about childhood abuse and family dysfunction. The responses created a public health revelation, explored in a new one-hour, award-winning documentary. Free screenings are scheduled in Chester County next month.

***Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope*** delves into the science of ACEs and the birth of a movement to treat and prevent toxic stress. Now understood to be one of the leading causes of everything from heart disease and cancer to substance abuse and depression, extremely stressful experiences in childhood can alter brain development and have lifelong effects on health and behavior.

Viewings of the film are planned for May 16, at a gathering for individuals certified in Mental Health First Aid, and on May 24 at the Henrietta Hankin Library for the public. Both events are free but have limited space available. Look for more information to be posted at the [MH/IDD website](#).

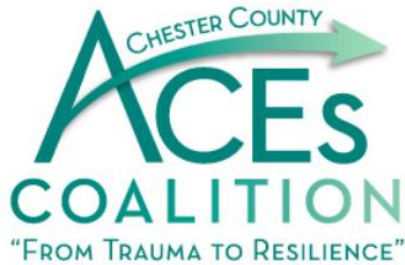
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## ***Calling All Mental Health First Aiders!!***

Join us for a special Mental Health First Aid Gathering, Wednesday, May 16 at the Thorndale Fire Company from 4 – 6 pm. This event will feature a viewing of the documentary **Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope**, noted in the article above.

*If you are among the more than 3,600 individuals who have been certified in Mental Health First Aid in Chester County, watch for your email invitation! Updates are also posted on the Mental Health First Aid of Chester County Facebook Page!*



## **Dine & Donate Event to Benefit Chester County's ACEs Coalition**

Come out to support Chester County's ACEs Coalition at a fundraiser on Wednesday, May 16 from 5-9 PM at P.J. Whelihan's Restaurant in Downingtown. [Click here](#) for an event flier.



## ***Local & State Efforts for Suicide Prevention***

This year, Chester County's certified QPR instructors have trained more than 550 people in the nationally acclaimed suicide prevention training, QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer). You can join the thousands of locals who have taken this two-hour class and learn 3 basic skills that can save a life. Contact the Suicide Prevention Task Force at [ccsptaskforce@gmail.com](mailto:ccsptaskforce@gmail.com) to learn more about signing up for a free class or scheduling one for your organization.

Chester County's Suicide Prevention Task Force holds quarterly meetings that are open to the public. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 9 from 3PM - 5PM at the Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester.

The next Regional Suicide Prevention Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 24 at 10:00 am, and will take place at Family Service Association of Bucks County, 4 Cornerstone Drive, Langhorne, PA 19047. RSVP to Stephanie Gimeno at [Stephanie.Gimeno@uhsinc.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gimeno@uhsinc.com).

PA's Annual Suicide Prevention Conference is May 10 and 11 in Harrisburg, PA. This year, two Chester County task force members will be presenters at the event. Find out more about this important conference at [this link](#).

***Additional upcoming suicide prevention events are listed below!***



Jake Kelleher  
**Liv • Live Concert**

*A concert event to raise awareness  
of depression and suicide prevention*

The next Liv Live Concert for suicide prevention is a collaboration of West Chester University's Active Minds and Chester County's Suicide Prevention Task Force. Join us!

**Thursday, April 19  
at 6PM**

**Más Mexicali Cantina • West Chester**

*All proceeds benefit suicide prevention efforts in  
Chester County.*



**Suicide Prevention Night at the  
Ballparks in Philadelphia**

**Philadelphia Phillies  
VS  
Pittsburgh Pirates**

**April 21, 4:05 PM**

Get your half priced tickets

with a donation towards

suicide prevention in PA and

more information by going to

[this Phillies link.](#)



**Chester County Announces two Public Hearings for the  
Human Services Block Grant**

**Monday, April 9 at 4:30 PM in West Chester**

&

**Tuesday, April 10 at 1:00 PM in Coatesville**

[Click here for details](#)



**May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

***How are you going to recognize this national observance in 2018?***

If your agency is planning events, displays, or other activities during Mental Health Awareness Month, contact us to be added to the Chester County Mental Health

Month calendar and other promotion. Just email [tbehringer@chesco.org](mailto:tbehringer@chesco.org).

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**Job Opening!**

Voice & Vision, Inc. is looking for a Coordinator to lead Chester County's Consumer / Family Satisfaction Team. [Click here](#) for more information.



PA's System of Care Partnership  
is sponsoring

## Better Together


20th Children's  
Interagency Conference

Monday, April 30 through  
Thursday, May 3, 2018

Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel  
State College, PA

This conference will provide an opportunity for providers, youth, family members, practitioners and educators to learn about changing trends, best practices, resources and various system of care activities throughout PA. The conference will provide a national perspective on a variety of issues, including government, family peer, early childhood, youth leadership, and school-based mental health.

[Get the brochure at this link.](#)



**WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER:**  
PARTNERING FOR HEALTH AND HOPE

**PENNSYLVANIA'S  
MENTAL HEALTH  
AWARENESS FAIR**

**SAVE THE DATE** **WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018**  
10:30AM-1:30AM  
STRAWBERRY SQUARE ATRIUM  
320 Market Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101

Sponsored by the PA Department of Human Services Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, PA System of Care Partnership, PA Healthy Relationships Partnership, and Health M.O.U.E. PA. Call 717-787-6463 for more details.



## Resources, Events & Classes

**The EASE of Summer - A FREE workshop Series** - At West Chester University Community Mental Health Services, Thursdays, April 12, 19 and 26.

**PA's 2018 Annual Suicide Prevention Conference** - May 10 and 11 in Harrisburg.

**Free Mental Health First Aid** classes are offered throughout the year in Chester County. Check the MH/IDD website for upcoming classes. Information is posted regularly.

**Chester County Refer web** is a user-friendly database for social services information.

**Calendar of events** - *Updated!* Information on local monthly stakeholder meetings and support groups.



Chester County Department of Mental Health /  
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities  
601 Westtown Road, West Chester, PA  
[www.chesco.org/mhidd](http://www.chesco.org/mhidd)

Chester County Commissioners \* Administrator:  
Linda Cox \* Deputy Administrator: Candy Craig