I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their efforts throughout the year. The success of our facility is built on the efforts of our staff and in this past year, we have had enjoyed many successes. We have made it through another year filled with both challenges and victories. As the Warden of the facility it is reassuring to know that I can count on all of you regardless of what we face. To the volunteers and our prison board members I thank you too for all of your support and encouragement throughout the year. Enjoy the 2018 year in review and I offer all my best wishes and happiness to you and your families as we look forward to another successful year.

Happy New Year!

PRISON BOARD
Commissioners
Matthew Osterberg
Ronald Schmalzle
Steve Guccini
President Judge
Gregory Chelak
District Attorney
Raymond Tonkin
Sheriff
Kerry Welsh
Solicitor
Tom Farley
This past year saw many achievements and accomplishments to be proud of for sure. Programs and services here at the facility continue to be a focal point toward the rehabilitation of our offenders. 2018 however brought us new terminology regarding the state of drug and alcohol addiction in the US. Such epic proportion has the pain and suffering achieved that we have new nomenclature to describe the state of the issue. It is apparent that we are experiencing what is now described as an “Opioid Crisis”.

Every day, more than a hundred and fifteen (115) people die after overdosing on opioids. The misuse of and addiction to opioids including prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opioids such as fentanyl is a critical national crisis that is detrimentally affecting public health as well as social and economic welfare. The Centers for Disease and Prevention estimates that the total “economic burden” of prescription opioid misuse alone in the US is $78.5 Billion dollars a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement. Here are some facts we know about the Opioid Crisis:

- Approximately 21% to 29% of patients prescribed opioids for chronic pain misuse them.
- Between 8% and 12% develop an opioid use disorder.
- Approximately 4% to 6% of patients who misuse prescription opioids transition to heroin.
- Approximately 80% of people who use heroin first misused prescription opioids.
- Opioid overdoses increased 30% from July 2016 through September 2017 in 52 areas in 45 states.
- The Midwest saw opioid overdoses increase 70% from July 2016 through September 2017.
- Opioid overdoses in large cities increased by 54% in 16 states.
- This issue continues to be a public health crisis which has contributed to the spread of infectious diseases including HIV, and Hepatitis C.

In the face of this dire news I submit that our recidivism reduction programs treatment and counseling serve to battle this epidemic at a foundational level. Keep up the fight, never give up and know that your efforts do make a difference!
Correctional Officer Amanda Mills has been selected as “Officer of the Year” for 2018. She has been employed at the facility since April 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Joseph Knapp
October 1, 2017-December 31, 2017

Maintenance Technician Joseph Knapp has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for October 1, 2017-December 31, 2017. Mr. Knapp has been employed by the county of Pike since March 2000 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Dorothy Devuyst
January 1, 2018- March 31, 2018

Food Production Supervisor, Dorothy Devuyst has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for January 1, 2018- March 31, 2018. Dorothy Devuyst has been employed at the facility since September 2014 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
Food Production Supervisor Beth Ann Ryan has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for April 1, 2018– June 30, 2018. Ms. Ryan has been employed at the facility since February 2017 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Food Production Supervisor, Tracy Borchert has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for July 1, 2018– September 30, 2018. Ms. Borchert has been employed at the facility since September 2005 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
Correctional Officer Melissa Conway has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for October 1, 2017—December 31, 2017. Officer Conway has been employed at the facility since March 2004 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Correctional Officer Robert Cron has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for January 1, 2018–March 31, 2018. Officer Cron has been employed at the facility since April 1998 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
Correctional Officer Brad Howlett has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for April 1, 2018—June 30, 2018. Officer Howlett has been employed at the facility since June 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Correctional Officer Stephanie Landrio has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for July 1, 2018—September 30, 2018. Officer Landrio has been employed at the facility since November 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
2018 Catholic Social Services
New Hire
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Counselor Melissa Zabriskie

The Pike County Correctional Facility is excited to welcome a new Drug & Alcohol Treatment Counselor from Catholic Social Services. Melissa was born and raised on her family's small farm in Northern NJ. She is a graduate of High Point Regional High School where she was on the Varsity Swim Team and swam competitively in NY. She attended Misericordia University in Dallas, PA where she graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. It was her goal to become an Orca trainer but when there were no job offerings, she decided to go back to school to pursue her second dream of helping others. She attended and graduated from Seton Hall University with a Master’s Degree in Professional Counseling as well as a Degree in Professional Studies.

Melissa has always been active in helping her community. She was a member of her county’s local 4-H Goat Club and participated in various community service activities. She has raised money and supplies for struggling families, sent cards and gifts to our soldiers in other countries, and volunteered at her local animal shelter. It has always been her dream to help others. She began by helping her mother teach at a parent/child play program and then transitioning to a Family Support Supervisor providing individuals with developmental disabilities with skills to take care of themselves. With her spare time, Melissa likes to play volleyball. Melissa is currently a Drug & Alcohol Treatment Counselor with Catholic Social Services where she does individual and group counseling, Vivitrol consultations, Level of Care Assessments, is CRN certified, and performs case management work.

2017 Pike County Correctional Facility
Returning Hire
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Counselor Rich Shea

Rich was one of four children raised by his parents in Wallkill, New York. He has been passionate about sports his entire life. He played on varsity level sports in football, basketball and baseball at Wallkill High School. After graduation, Rich developed a serious addiction to alcohol and drugs leading him to quit college and work construction jobs during his twenties. He found recovery at age 28 and eventually returned to complete his education at The State College at New Paltz, New York. After majoring in psychology and understanding the seriousness of addiction, he thought a career in counseling would be rewarding. He earned a New York State credential to counsel chemically dependent people in 1996 and has been doing so ever since. He married his wife, Susan in 2004 and moved from Orange County, NY to Milford, PA. Rich currently works for Catholic Social Services and is a returnee Drug and Alcohol counselor for individuals and groups in the facility that we are extremely grateful to have back. Rich believes in his mission of helping others and that all people afflicted with addiction deserve a chance to recover their lives.
We are happy to introduce the newest member of our administrative staff here at the Pike County Correctional Facility. Shannon was born and raised here in Pike County and attended Delaware Valley High School. She hopes to soon enroll in college to start studying to become a nutritionist. She would be happy to have a career to educate people in the importance of eating healthy and exercising. Shannon spends most of her time with her children, but with her free time she likes trying out new ways to workout, staying fit, and learning about healthy habits. She enjoys spending quality time with her family, especially with the holidays approaching with Christmas being her favorite time of year. Shannon is happy to be a part of the Pike County Correctional Facility Team and we are happy to have her contributions toward fulfilling the facility mission.

Our Newest Volunteer, Lisa B.!

Lisa B. joined the Pike County Correctional Facility volunteer force in 2018 with enthusiasm and positivity that energizes multiple programs on many levels. An Adjunct Assistant Professor at Pace University Graduate School for Mental Health from 2001 until 2010 as well as Marymount Manhattan College, Lisa also taught psychology, sociology and statistics at the College Program at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women and Taconic Correctional Facility. Lisa has been involved in Babies Behind Bars, South Africa as the U.S. Liaison since 2005 promoting humane conditions and care for incarcerated women and their infants/toddlers who are, by law, incarcerated with them in certain situations. Lisa is also certified in Horticultural Therapy in prisons and Metapsychiatry which is an existential approach to mental health. She is also trained as a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator with rabies vector animals in New York.

Here at the Pike County Correctional Facility, Lisa is facilitating Anger Management classes for county males in the A.R.R.O.W. program, for females in the H.O.P.E. program and Level 3 male inmates/detainees. She also has just begun a Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy group for the A.R.R.O.W. program. Lisa is always smiling, bright and eager to help all those with whom she interacts. Her willingness to fulfill any need to teach the inmates how to live a productive life is so greatly appreciated by staff and inmates!
“Random Acts of Kindness”

Kindness
Pass It On:

Give a flower  Eat lunch with someone new
Listen with your heart  Visit a sick friend
Clean a neighbor’s walk  Offer a hug
Give an unexpected gift  Make a new friend
Pick up litter  Say “hello”  Open a door
Plant a tree  Help carry a load  Share a snack
Cheer up a friend  Thank a teacher or mentor
Read to a young child  Lend a hand  Do a kind act daily
Leave a thank you note  Offer your seat
Cycle courteously  BE TOLERANT  Let another go first
Bake cookies to share  Give a compliment
Help a student make friends  Donate your gently used items
Give a balloon away  Lend a pencil  Respect others
Celebrate something new every day  Do a favor
Encourage a friend  Use a reusable water bottle
Walk a dog  Forgive mistakes  Smile at someone

the random acts of kindness foundation.

randomacts of kindness.org
Welcome To Our
Newest
Volunteers!

Joseph Sudano: Catholic Church

Anne Krothe-Wolfe: HIV Education

Lisa Bordovsky: Anger Management

Harriet Harrison: Jehovah’s Witness Bible Study

Christina Paonesa-Dikagaray—Bi-lingual bible

Rabier Jackson: Jehovah’s Witness Bible Study

Jesus Diaz: Jehovah’s Witness Bible Study

Juan Rios: Bi-lingual Bible Study

Timothy Harrison: Jehovah’s Witness Bible Study

Father John Boyle: St. Vincent’s Church

Ariel Morales: Jehovah’s Witness Bible Study

Efrain Medrano: Jehovah’s Witness Bible

Ulises Medina: Catholic Church

Kenneth Parlatore: Movies of the Bible

Thank You For Volunteering!
This year, The Pike County Correctional Facility once again welcomed the Evangelistic “Light of Hope Ministry” to perform concerts for the inmate/detainee population from Friday April 20, 2018 to Sunday, April 22, 2018. The concerts were held over the duration of three days and involved old fashion gospel singing, proclaiming hope, building faith and renewing the heart. The ministry is based in the Susquehanna Valley Pennsylvania and was founded in 2002 with the mission of spreading the message of hope through singing and preaching in correctional facilities. The inspirational messages and testimony from Mark Martin and the Country Gospel Music by the New Hope Gospel Singers truly enlightened and reassured our offenders that they can live meaningful lives with purpose after their incarceration. At the conclusion of each concert, the group held an open prayer and discussion time for the offenders to speak about the belief in a higher power and how it can positively affect the lives of those behind bars. As Always, Thank you Light of Hope Ministry!
On a brilliantly sunny Friday in May, we attended the Pike County Area Agency on Aging Volunteer Appreciation luncheon at Woodloch Springs, a magnificent resort nestled in the countryside just outside the town of Hawley. A pristine lake was the center of our view surrounded by budding trees and lush foliage. A fountain in the lake seems to serve as a symbol of what this agency is all about, allowing our seniors to enjoy their later years in the fashion of their earlier carefree days.

Held yearly without fail, this is the most festive event of the year for our community seniors with entertainment provided by Rich Wilson who has a talent for covering favorite songs nearly identically to the original artists as well as motivating many guests to get up and dance the Cupid Shuffle and the jitterbug.

The food is always delicious, and this year there was a choice of chicken parmesan and vegetarian lasagna. Cherished volunteers received their awards, and guests who bought chances to win one of many treasures displayed on tables jumped up with glee when their number was called. The hard work of those at the Area on Aging office, as always, made for a truly festive, happy time.

The Pike County Correctional Facility continues to partner with the Pike County Area Agency on Aging in supporting homebound seniors by providing nutritionally balanced meals, which are prepared in the kitchen of the Pike County Correctional Facility.
The Pike County Correctional Facility is honored to display our continued support of Safe Haven’s mission to rehabilitate and empower women in the community. In doing so, our female participants have been given the opportunity to donate beautifully handcrafted crocheted blankets to a Safe Haven fundraiser event and participate in special events such as the “Clothesline Project”. The “Clothesline Project” was created to bring awareness to the issue of violence against women, men and children. The female offenders who have been or know someone who has been affected by violence expressed their emotions by decorated t-shirts that were ultimately hung on a clothesline display. The intention of the display is to honor survivors, act as a memorial for victims, and/or those who have lost someone special to violence. The “Clothesline Project” display is intended to educate the community and promote awareness, as well as to document violent crimes against women.

The Art of Kindness Gala & Auction

On August 18th in support of Safe Haven’s 2018 Art of Kindness Dinner and Auction at the Best Western in Matamoras, PA, the participants of the Pike County Correctional Facility H.O.P.E. (Helping Offenders Promote Excellence) looming program hand crafted an array of colorful throws in support of the many caring community members who have provided assistance and guidance in their time of need. The Administrative team at the Pike County Correctional Facility recognizes the important ongoing mission of Safe Haven of Pike County.

The live and silent auctions offered items that valued from $10 to $2100. These items were donated by local community businesses. Christina Byrne, executive director of Safe Haven of Pike County and Safe Haven Secretary Cheryl O’Sullivan, along with the Safe Haven team, put together a lovely gala and auction. When everyone arrived they were immediately allowed to walk around and look at all the items on auction. When people started settling into their chairs an array of delicious foods were brought out and everyone indulged, with a sweet treat ice cream bar for dessert. When people were sitting and finishing up their meals, the auctioneer, Nick Volturo of WBRC TV13 started reading off the silent auction winners. The live auction shortly followed. The Art of Kindness Gala & Auction was a huge success for Safe Haven.

The Pike County Correctional Facility will continue to assist Safe Haven with their mission through support and awareness.
16th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
at the Pike County Correctional Facility
September 13, 2018

This year’s Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was a good old fashioned barbeque at the Pike County Correctional Facility. Even with bad weather we were able to express to the volunteers how much we appreciate them. Under a giant white tent we served a buffet style Bar-B-Q dinner that the Wardens and staff had prepared. The volunteers lined up to fill their plates full and then most definitely filled their bellies.

Every chair was taken

and the tent was filled with laughter as the volunteers sat together, and enjoyed their meals. Even Commissioner Osterberg came by to express his appreciation. After the crowd had settled into their chairs it was time to recognize the outstanding tenured staff members of the facility: Officer Jason Annunziata (20 years of service), Officer Robert Cron (20 years of service), Officer Steve Riemer (20 years of service) and Sgt. Thomas Schwartz

Each volunteer was given a special gift for their contributions and combined efforts of reducing recidivism and elevating safety in the community. We greatly appreciate their efforts in providing programs for the offenders housed within our facility.

Thank you to all our staff members and volunteers. You are truly valuable and continue to make a difference!
2018 Pike County Correctional Facility Volunteer of the Year

Hampton Morgan

The 2018 Pike County Correctional Facility Volunteer of the Year has been generously giving of his time here at the facility for years. All the while, Hampton has facilitated various programs for both the male and female populations, employing a wide array of rehabilitative curriculums ranging from Forgiveness to Integrity, written material he has personally developed.

In addition to teaching many coping and life skills to our male and female offenders, Hampton has also volunteered at USP Canaan since 2009. With the assistance of two other prison volunteers Hampton has established the non-profit “Choosing Integrity” in October 2014 and currently serves as executive director. The Volunteer of the year is also a facilitator of the Smart Recovery Inside/Out program which offers participants tools and techniques for building and maintaining motivation, coping with urges, managing thoughts, feelings, and behaviors and living a balanced life, both while inside jail and after release.

Born in North Carolina, our Volunteer of the Year holds a B.A. from Virginia Tech in political science and a Masters of Divinity from Moravian Theological Seminary. Hampton served as a pastor in the U.S. Virgin Islands and North Carolina as well as a denominational executive in Pennsylvania, traveling and working for the church in 15 different countries.

We are proud to recognize the fact that Hampton also has worked for three years in the business office at New Hope Manor, a women’s residential substance abuse treatment center in Barryville, New York teaching Money Management to the residents in addition to being assistant to the CFO. Our award winner is committed to doing whatever he can to help those incarcerated learn from their mistakes, to overcome addiction and regain their footing as productive residents of our county.

This year’s Volunteer of the Year has resided in Pike County since 2003, has been married for 45 years to his lovely wife Ginny, who also volunteers at the Pike County Correctional Facility. They have four grown children and five grandchildren.

We are proud to introduce the 2018 Pike County Correctional Facility Volunteer of the Year, Hampton Morgan!
Volunteering at the Pike County Correctional Facility

By “Volunteer of the Year”

Hampton Morgan

Volunteers often say they receive more from those they serve as volunteers than they feel they give to them. There is truth in that, but there can also be times one walks away from that hour of service feeling like the time was wasted. "What was that all about?" is a sentiment I have never been able to fully avoid. You come in, prepared for a great session, and nothing seems to go right. It's not exactly your fault; it's not exactly the fault of the participants. It helps me to remember that the best batters in baseball get a hit less than 40 percent of the times they bat. So it is with volunteering at the Pike County Correctional Facility. Sometimes you feel the hour was a grand slam home run and you don't exactly know what happened. Those serendipitous classes keep you coming back. As for the classes where you walk out scratching your head, you just have to let them go.

I have always felt the staff at PCCF prizes the efforts of volunteers. I have often felt myself as more of a colleague or partner of the staff in a joint effort to make a difference in the lives of inmates than a well-intentioned outsider whose presence is merely tolerated. I like to think of volunteers as people who connect the important work of the correctional facility staff to the community out of which many of the inmates comes. We come voluntarily to reach out to the men and women who will eventually come back to the communities where we live. The warm welcome we receive from the staff and the vast majority of the inmates makes us feel invested in the correctional facility's important work far more than our tax dollars could ever make us feel.

-Hampton Morgan
DONATIONS FOR DOGGIES

On a beautiful snowy afternoon The Pike County Correctional Facility C.O.R.E. Officers and the C.O.R.E. program participants delivered handmade pet beds to the Pike County Humane Society. The female H.O.P.E. Program Participants have transformed old bunk mattresses that would normally be thrown away into cozy pet beds for the animals at the Pike County Humane Society. The old bunk mattresses are cut into smaller beds and covered with worn bunk sheets and blankets that have been cleaned and colored, that can no longer be used in the facility. These new beds provide a nice soft warm place for the sheltered animals to relax and sleep.

Upon arrival, many dogs came running up to say hello. News station BRC13 arrived to interview the Pike County Correctional Facility Treatment Counselors and humane society staff on the charitable event and later that day the filming would air on the five o’clock news. We remind anyone interested in providing a forever home to a pet in need to contact the Pike County Humane Society. The Humane Society is also in need of donations and volunteers.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

This year for the very first time we are proud to convey that selfless and caring PCCF Staff members participated in a holiday food drive which was presented to the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Milford. Participating Correctional professionals brought in bags filled with canned and non-perishable food items totaling over seven hundred (700) items! Staff members resoundingly answered the call to assist those in need this holiday season, and look forward to selecting another food pantry for the next drive! This is yet another example of elite correctional staff members dedicated to serving the community and we could not be more proud of them!
The Jolly Old Elf Visits Pike County!

Another year has gone by and Santa (volunteer Ed Shaffner), made his annual stop here at the Pike County Correctional Facility to give joy to all. He hand delivers gift bags filled with yummy goodies to all the Inmates/Detainees. The gift bags are festively decorated by the female inmates and include a handmade card from the Christmas Cards for Inmates Program, facilitated by CentrePeace Inc. The holiday season can be difficult for incarcerated individuals and their families and many have a deep sense of isolation and despair. These small gestures from Santa can help build hope for those that are working to rehabilitate themselves. We would like to extend a thank you to all that have donated and volunteered in lifting the spirits of those that are incarcerated. A special thanks goes out to Ed Shaffner for being the Selfless Jolly Old Elf once again this year!

Christmas Cards for Inmates: CentrePeace Inc., an organization that strives to prevent recidivism, organizes a Christmas Card program which gives thousands of inmates an opportunity to be reminded of the love and hope symbolized by the Christmas season. This Christmas card, hand illustrated by a community volunteer, unquestionably serves to lift spirits during the holiday season. CentrePeace Inc. 3047 Benner Pike Bellefonte, PA

Angel Tree Christmas: A Program of Prison Fellowship: The Angel Tree program provides support for children with incarcerated parents. During the holidays they reach out to the children of those that are incarcerated and their families to deliver gifts and a personal message of love from their incarcerated parent. The Pike County Correctional Facility supported the Angel Tree Christmas program by encouraging incarcerated parents to fill out the applications and mail them out in hopes of giving their children the opportunity to receive a gift with their personal message.

Prison Fellowship 44180 Riverside Parkway, Lansdowne, VA 20176
Crisis Intervention Training: This year, Treatment Counselors at The Pike County Correctional Facility successfully completed training pertaining to Crisis Intervention and Mental Health First Aide. By completing this training, our Programs Department has gained more knowledge on how to increase opportunity for earlier detection, intervention, and to improve treatment outcomes for those whose behavior is influenced by mental illness, substance abuse, intellectual disabilities and related conditions.

Vivitrol: To stem progression of the opioid epidemic, The Pike County Correctional Facility and Catholic Social Services together have made concerted efforts to prevent offenders from returning to drugs and alcohol upon release from incarceration. A pivotal aspect of this fight is the provision of information and administration of the Vivitrol shot. The Vivitrol shot blocks the receptors in the brain that causes the feeling of “euphoria” when an individual uses opiates or alcohol and therefore reduces cravings. Administration of the Vivitrol shot once a month combined with effective counseling dramatically reduces the chance of relapse which in turn saves lives and reduces recidivism.

Norristown State Hospital: Treatment Counselors attended the Norristown State Hospital Stakeholders meeting to discuss best practices in the competency evaluation and mental health restoration processes on a national level to reduce “incompetency to stand trial restoration waitlist”. The common goal of these meetings was to identify how to provide the appropriate treatment to those individuals the court deems incompetent to stand trial. By formulating proper treatment plans, correctional staff members can reduce the numbers of individuals transferred to state hospitals and restore competency. Pike County Correctional Facility staff draw upon community resources and organizations to collectively make efforts every day to reduce recidivism among these individuals. A follow up stakeholder meeting was held by the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) at the Harrisburg State Hospital to discuss their goal to have all county jails and state prisons to use the same procedures to prevent individuals with mental illness from entering the criminal justice system.

Going Green in Corrections: The Justice Technology Information Center (JTIC) hosted a webinar for Pennsylvania correctional facilities and prisons disseminating information on methods of saving money and improving offenders and employees’ morale. Pike County Correctional Facility is proud to say that we currently participate in many of the “Going Green” steps, from integrating technology and people by training staff and inmates which helps develop skills and transitioning, to energy saving practices, improving efficiency, health, and safety.

Statewide Forensic Services Conference for Counties: Pennsylvania county officials and their staff come together to collaborate options and opportunities to reduce mental illness in the criminal justice system. The Pike County Correctional Facility recognizes the importance for mental health and law enforcement to communicate and work together to reduce recidivism. Pike County is one out of 30 counties in Pennsylvania involved in the Stepping Up Program, a program where communities come together to develop an action plan to reduce mental illness in the criminal justice system. For more information visit: www.https://stepuptogether.org.
The Opioid Epidemic is a nationwide Crisis. Pennsylvania has been one of the states hardest hit, being in the top 10 for overdose deaths across the nation and the numbers continue to increase. Even here in Pike County, the amount of overdose deaths and naloxone reversals continues to rise. In 2017 Pennsylvania ranked sixth, highest in the nation for overdose deaths and in Pike County alone we have lost more than 50 residents to overdose since 2014. Addiction is a disease and does not discriminate amongst demographic, ANYONE can become addicted. As a community, we need to work together to support and implement effective treatment and prevention programs in our community.

The Pike County Opioid Task Force has been meeting Monthly for the last year to address the issue of addiction, reducing the stigma associated with addiction, and improving the health of all residents. The Task Force has collaborated with the University of Pittsburgh on creating a three-year strategic plan that can benefit from contributions and perspectives from all members of our community. The primary areas of our focus include: prevention, reducing stigma, enhancing the continuum of care in the treatment and recovery process, improving public safety issues associated with substance use and related overdoses, decreasing supply of illicit drugs, implementing harm reduction strategies, and increasing coordination between law enforcement and healthcare/human service entities to support recovery from addiction and improve the wellness of our communities.

During the last year, the Task Force has been able to attend a number of community events to increase awareness, worked with community treatment centers on being able to provide a full continuum of treatment to all Pike County Residents, collaborated with the Pike County Correctional Facility to allow for access to the release packet to their website, continued access of Naloxone to first responders, and created a binder of local resources which has been provided to local medical providers and community resources.

The Task Force is comprised of a wide variety of community resources, members of the local school districts, Pike County Commissioners, Carbon Monroe Pike Drug and Alcohol Commission, Single County Authority, and members from our local communities. Anyone is welcome to attend and continue to help us improve our community. Joining the Opioid Task Force for a meeting is the first step toward participating in this effort. Task Force Meetings are held at the Pike County Training Center located at 135 Pike County Boulevard Lords Valley, PA 18428 on the First Tuesday of the Month at 10 am. The next meeting will be held on January 8th 2019 at 10 am. For treatment information call the Carbon Monroe Pike Drug and Alcohol Commission at 1-866-824-3578 or visit www.pastop.org for additional information and resources.
The H.O.P.E. Program
“Helping Offenders Promote Excellence”
Written By L.S.

How the HOPE Program Helped Me

The HOPE Program helped me learn how to forgive myself and to believe in myself more. Additionally, with the HOPE Program, I learned how to boost my confidence, manage my finances, and recognize unhealthy relationship patterns. The HOPE Program also helped to motivate me to locate a rehabilitation program once I am released to continue treatment and to help me find out who I truly am without being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. With all the coping tools I learned in the drug and alcohol programs, I feel more confident that I could potentially prevent a relapse from occurring. Because of this, I feel encouraged to become a functioning member of the community again and hope that I can help others who struggle with addiction in the future.

The A.R.R.O.W. Program
“Actively Reducing Recidivism Opens Windows”
Written By C.T.

In ARROW, I got to be around people that have a lot of the same issues as me. There is no reason to hide an addiction when you’re around peers with the same problems. I have had the opportunity to meet some great volunteers. They find the time out of their own schedule to come here and help me through my issues. I have a great amount of respect for people like this. They could be doing something else but they genuinely come here to help me which makes me want to work harder through my issues and eventually to help others. This is how I came to learn about Smart Recovery. Through this program, it really gets into what addiction is and how the brain works with it.

ARROW also gave me the opportunity to get my GED. This is something I know I would never have gotten on my own. This will help me not only in my professional life but as an example to my own children on how to overcome adversity and problem solving. The ARROW program has opened doors for me to be able to live my life happy and sober. Through this program I have learned skills to be the person I want to be.

The C.O.R.E. Program
“Correctional Offenders Reintegrating Effectively”
Written By R.K.

The C.O.R.E. program itself is a great opportunity to feel as if you are part of the community again. It has taught me how to deal with and interact with many different types of people and personalities. The program has allowed me to open my mind and want to expand and excel in different business ventures in my life. This program has really offered me a lot and doing that has made me more of a humble person. Everyday is a learning process for me. I am very happy and grateful that I was given the chance to be a part of this program and I look forward to doing all that I can for the program during the remainder of my time at the facility.
The C.S.S. Program
“Catholic Social Services”
Written By A.S.

The Catholic Social Services, C.S.S. program has helped me deal with many of my issues. The counselors Mr. Shea and Ms. Melissa are great people and are very helpful and respectful to understanding the problems that many of us have. When you are in the program nobody judges you or makes fun of your problems that you may be going through. We all try and learn from each other’s mistakes in the past. Whatever is said in the program stays in the program. When we are in class we help talk about drug addiction, anger, depression, as well as helping with anxiety.

The counselors also have one on one sessions if you don’t feel comfortable talking in front of the class. Nobody forces you to speak if you’re not ready. C.S.S. also helps us get into halfway houses so you can continue on your sobriety with others in the same situation as you. I, myself enjoy going to CSS and will continue going after I leave Pike County Correctional Facility. I believe it is a valuable program and I’m glad I’ve had the opportunity to attend.

The M.O.R.E. Program
“Motivating Offenders to Reintegrate Effectively”
Written By D.S.

When I got locked up I thought joining programs would be a joke and I joined a program out of selfish reasons, but the more I attended the M.O.R.E program, I realized that it was actually helping me with issues that I have. I get to attend different classes such as Healthy Relationships, Life Skills, Anger Management (which I needed), Relapse Prevention, and Men’s Issues with volunteer Dan Marcus. The counselor and volunteers make the classes fun with movies and packets where we get to fill out our honest opinions and are able to talk about our individual issues.

I am truly grateful for the M.O.R.E. program. It has helped me improve my relationship with my girlfriend as well as the mother of my children. I have found skills to communicate with my parents and children along with other skills that I will use once released from Pike County Correctional Facility. I would like to thank you for your time and dedication in helping me and others in bettering our lives.
Thank You From All Of Us At The Pike County Correctional Facility. We Wish You the Very Best In the New Year!

2019
In 1814 work began on the Pike County Courthouse; it was completed in 1815. This structure served as a Courthouse and Jail until 1851 when a small brick building was built in front of the present Courthouse. (This was removed when the present Courthouse was built in 1872-73).

The Pike County Correctional Facility was built in 1995. It is a 87,800 square foot, non-smoking Facility, situated on 268 acres in Blooming Grove Township. Our direct supervision 375 bed Facility houses both male and female offenders. Educational, religious, and rehabilitative programs are provided to assist offenders in reintegrating into society. During their incarceration, female offenders have the opportunity to participate in the H.O.P.E. Program (Helping Offenders Promote Excellence). The A.R.R.O.W. Program (Actively Reducing Recidivism Opens Windows) offers qualified male Pike County offenders the opportunity to change their lives through intensive rehabilitative programming. Upon successful completion, eligible offenders may graduate to the C.O.R.E. Program (Correctional Offenders Reintegrating Effectively) where they will continue their rehabilitative efforts by learning new skills through community service. The M.O.R.E. Program (Motivating Offenders to Reintegrate Effectively) is available to all male offenders interested in making positive changes in their life. The Pike County Correctional Facility is working together to ensure that our community is safer for everyone.