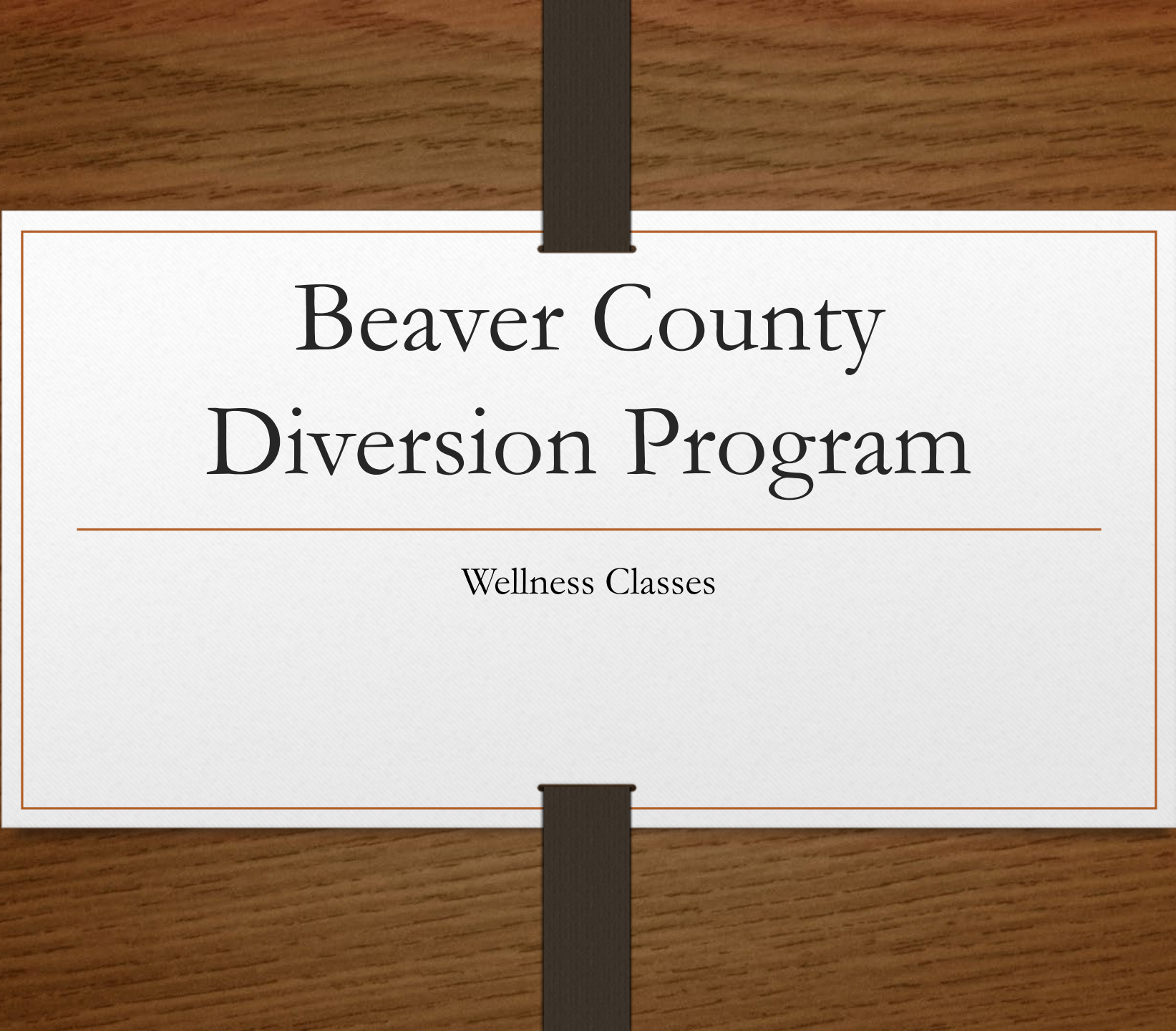




Beaver County Diversion Program

Wellness Classes

So you want some help finding AND keeping a job ... how BCRC can help:

- We have different ways of helping you find and keep a job, depending on your individual needs, capabilities, skills, and choices.
- I want to talk about (4) different scenarios with you next: the Paid Work Training program (PWTE), the Mental Health Transformation (MHT) program, the MH Pre-Vocational program, and the Community Employment option.

Paid Work Training Experience (PWTE)

This program is located at BCRC's Centerplace location; it runs Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 am until 2:00 pm = 15 hours per week, for up to 6 months.

Clients in the program get paid for learning clerical skills, including preparing mailings, making copies, scanning documents, and shredding confidential records.

Included are computer training, attendance at Job Fairs or Hiring Events, and informational speakers.



Paid Work Training Experience (PWTE)

- Time is set aside every day to create and keep the resume updated, and to search for jobs online.
- A practice interview takes place in the beginning, and time is spend on reinforcing the strengths identified and to build skills in the desired areas.
- A vocational class is scheduled every afternoon, with participants sharing and providing mutual support. Topics discussed include communication skills, worksite conflict, appropriate behavior, and other barriers.
- Work Incentives Counseling for those receiving SSA disability benefits is included.
- Staff is available for working individually on identified areas of need.

Mental Health Transformation (MHT)

Clients work 1-on-1 in the community with a Program Specialist (PS).

The PS helps the client to create a resume and apply for jobs, online and in person.

Interview preparation and supports are provided.

Transformation ...going **beyond** change



Mental Health Transformation (MHT)

- Once the client secures a position in competitive employment, the PS remains available to assist in helping the client learn job tasks or resolve conflict, or as a general resource.
- If the client chooses to leave the position, a PS can assist in closing out one job on a positive note and securing another job.
- Work Incentives Counseling for those receiving SSA disability benefits is included.
- All services are provided free of charge to the client. The Program Specialist's home office is at WIN Services in Beaver.

Mental Health Vocational Preparation (MH Voc Prep)

This service is provided in our production center in Center Township, close to the BCTA travel center. DART transportation is also available for qualified individuals.

Clients choose a schedule that works for them, by attending one or more days per week.

Typical hours are 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Clients perform a variety of contract jobs which are paid either hourly or per piece, under the supervision of Job Coaches (JCs).



MH Voc Prep

- Skills taught are practical in nature, such as team work, punctuality/reliability, following company rules, complying with dress codes, and communication skills.
- Presentations and vocational classes are offered as well.
- Work Incentives Counseling for those receiving SSA disability benefits is included.
- All services are provided free of charge to the client.
- Participation in MH Voc Prep is not time limited, as long as the client makes adequate progress over time.

Community Employment (CE)

CE serves as job exploration opportunities in the community.

This service is intended to help the client explore competitive employment opportunities and become more familiar and comfortable with employer expectations.

Outings are 1-on-1 or in groups, under the supervision of a Job Coach (JC) or Program Specialist (PS).



Community Employment

- Activities included are career observation, job shadowing, and educational tours.
- Paid transitional work experiences are offered, such as paid mobile janitorial services in community-based contract work.
- Work Incentives Counseling for those receiving SSA disability benefits is included.
- All services are provided free of charge to the client.
- Participation in MH Community Employment is not time limited, as long as the client makes adequate progress over time. CE can be in addition to MH Pre Voc. Program participation.

Requirements for Mental Health (MH) Vocational Services at BCRC

- A diagnosis of serious mental illness (SMI) is needed.
- To engage in services, a psychological evaluation or a letter from the treating physician dated within the past 12 months needs to be submitted. The psych eval. completed by Merakey as part of the Diversion Program requirements serves this purpose.
- All authorizations for MH vocational services are provided by Beaver County Behavioral Health in Beaver Falls.
- There is no cost to the client for engaging in vocational services with BCRC.

Supported Employment (S.E.)

- **Supported Employment** services are the foundation for BCRC's vocational program. S.E. forms the basis for all programs described in the previous slides.
- S.E. services provided are within the guidelines established by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Examples of S.E.

- Client needs help renewing a state I.D. or obtain a birth certificate and Social Security Card to be work-ready.
- Client would like assistance with preparing for the job interview.
- Client has a criminal record and would like to practice explaining what happened to a prospective employer.
- Client obtains competitive employment and would like help obtaining work-appropriate clothing.
- Client has a conflict at work and would like to talk about conflict resolution.
- Client would like help closing out one job on a positive note and start looking for a new work opportunity.

Supported Education (S.Ed.)

- **Supported Education** helps participants with mental illness to pursue their educational goals. This service helps to promote career development and improve long-term work opportunities.
- Offered are career planning, academic survival skills, direct education assistance with enrollment and financial aid, and outreach opportunities.

Examples of S.Ed.

- Client would like to attain a GED and needs a referral for preparation and funding.
- Client would like help preparing for the driver's license permit exam.
- Client wants to explore opportunities and funding for a certificate or degree program, including visiting and touring a college campus.
- Client starts a certificate or diploma program and would like assistance with the syllabus or scheduling, engaging with education supports, or learning about graduation requirements.

How do I engage in services? Can I refer a friend or family member?

- Call our office at 724.378.4750 and ask to schedule an Information & Referral appointment.
- BCRC staff will meet with you in the community at a mutually agreed upon time and location to discuss your options for engagement.
- Please pass the information on if you have a family member or friend who might benefit from vocational services with BCRC.

Other Vocational Services: Careerlink

- Office is located inside the Beaver Valley Mall (570 Beaver Valley Mall, Monaca, PA)
- Open Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm; phone #724.728.4860
- Website: www.pacareerlink.pa.gov
- Updates the listing of open positions in Beaver County daily, online and on paper
- Offers workshops on creating a resume and preparing for an interview
- Has regular computer training classes in MS Office applications
- Offers a multi-week entrepreneurship training course
- Hosts a job fair at the Beaver Valley Mall every October

Careerlink continued:

- Careerlink also hosts the monthly Re-Entry Workshop (Expungement Process) every last Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm
- All services are free of charge!
- Careerlink services are also available online:
- Create an account on www.cwds.pa.org
 - Option to create an online resume; further option to make the resume public so prospective employers can contact the job seeker directly

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)

- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) is located at 1745 Frew Mill Rd Suite #1, New Castle, PA 16101. The office is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. The phone # is 724.656.3070.
- Vocational counselors work out of several locations in Beaver County, such as Careerlink, ABC Associates in Beaver Falls, and the Franklin Center in Aliquippa. They also meet in the community, by request.
- How to engage:
 - 1.create an account on www.cwds.pa.org
 - 2.click on “request engagement with OVR”
 - 3.a vocational counselor will call you for an appointment

OVR continued:

- OVR provides assistance with: Vocational Evaluation, Counseling, Training, Restoration Services, Placement Assistance, Assistive Technology, Support Services and much, much more.
- More information is available here:
 - <https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/ovr/Pages/default.aspx>

Job Training for Beaver County

- Job Training for Beaver County, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that provides employment and training services for Beaver County's economically disadvantaged in-school/out-of-school youth, welfare clients, adults and dislocated workers.
- JTBC office is located across from Careerlink at the Beaver Valley Mall, 277 Beaver Valley Mall; open Monday to Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Several representatives also work inside the Careerlink office.
- What they can help with:
 - JTBC offers on the job, paid training for young adults up to age 24.
 - They also help with driver's license training and GED preparation for young adults, and much more.

Sample High-Demand Occupations

- JTBC has a listing of high-demand occupations and can help pay for the training necessary to obtain the required certification.
 - Certified Recovery Specialist; training currently offered at Penn State Beaver
 - Emergency Medical Technicians
 - Paramedics
 - Manufacturing Technology; training currently offered at CCBC
- JTBC provides case management services to insure trainee success and program completion
- <http://jtbc.org/>

Online job search engines

- www.indeed.com
- www.snagajob.com
- www.monster.com
- www.craigslist.com
- www.ziprecruiter.com
- www.careerbuilder.com

Building Trades/Apprenticeships

- <https://www.buildersguild.org/>
- Union apprenticeships are a hot topic right now as the building trades, such as plumbers, carpenters, sheet metal workers, and electricians, are actively seeking applicants.
- Apprenticeships are on-the-job training opportunities under the supervision of a master builder; they are paid and lead to a journeyman examination in 3-5 years.
- Requirements typically are a H.S. Diploma or GED, driver's license, and good math skills.
- An entrance exam is required. Go online ↑ for the next scheduled exam dates.

Beaver County Rehabilitation Center (BCRC), Inc.

Contact Info

Address:

131 Pleasant Drive 2nd Floor Aliquippa, PA 15001

Phone Number: 724-378-4750

E-mail: info@bcrc.net

Website: www.bcrc.net

