



T&E CARE FALL FEST

On Sept. 10, T&E Care held its 14th annual Fall Fest, and Thank-You Concert, at Wilson Farm Park. The event was an incredible success, with an outstanding band, perfect setting and a sellout for all the food trucks. The weather was beautiful: in the low 70s, sunny, and just a slight breeze. With more than 500 people in attendance, the only glitch was a power malfunction for the band at the very end of the event, but the crowd just sang along to a couple of favorite Beatles tunes to help them finish off the night—making it very special! Lots of raffle tickets and t-shirts were sold, and many folks honored T&E Care with a general donation. To learn more about T&E Care, visit tecare.org.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF T&E CARE





program reflecting a reinforced commitment to helping the most vulnerable among us find or keep a stable place to live.

The partnership, organized by Chester County's Department of Community Development, consists of a team of street outreach workers, a board of lived-experience advocates, and nonprofit organizations that provide shelter and service.

"In a county as affluent as ours, some people may think we do not have homelessness, but in fact, hundreds of people every day lack a stable place to live, and the pandemic only exacerbated the problem," said Chester County Commissioners Marian Moskowitz, Josh Maxwell and Michelle Kichline.

"That is why we are so proud to elevate our commitment beyond our former Decades to Doorways program. Our outreach workers are now county employees rather than contractors, and we have an advisory board of individuals who have experienced homelessness and who understand clients' issues because they have walked in their shoes. We have also increased funding for the nonprofit agencies that provide shelter and transitional homes."

Making the public more aware of the services available is a major goal of the partnership. A new website has launched, showcasing the faces of homelessness and telling people's stories in their own words about their experiences. Other forms of outreach, such as newsletters and a social media campaign, are designed to help more county residents appreciate the importance of tackling this issue.

For more information about the Chester County Partnership to End Homelessness, visit endhomelessnesschesco.org.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

2-1-1 SEPA

Call 211

This is part of the national 2-1-1 Call Centers initiative that seeks to provide an easy-to-remember telephone number and web resource for finding health and human services—for everyday needs and in crisis situations. Search the vast database of services and providers to find the help you need.



T&E Care

tecare.org

The mission of T&E Care is to maintain a network of people providing financial and other material assistance to persons in need, in and around the Tredyffrin and Easttown townships area.

T&E Care will provide assistance by identifying persons in need through contacts in the community; communicating these needs—respecting always the privacy of the intended recipients—to the T&E Care network via email, the website, and other media; and facilitating the delivery of such assistance through T&E Care directors, officers, and other volunteers.

T&E Care runs two basic categories of programs—those that handle immediate problems, and those that attempt to help a family have a more successful future.

Valley Creek Crisis Center

610.280.3270

Individuals in mental health or emotional crisis may sometimes need emergency help such as phone counseling, an outreach visit, or a hospital stay to help them manage the crisis and remain safe.

Chester County contracts with Valley Creek Crisis Center for a consumer-run "warmline," telephone crisis counseling, a walk-in center, mobile crisis outreach, and an adult crisis residential program that provides short-term voluntary residential care to help stabilize consumers in a mental health crisis and help avoid hospitalization.

If you or someone you care about is experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis, call 610.280.3270. The Valley Creek Crisis Center is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are feeling lonely, depressed or anxious and just want to talk, call Chester County's warmline, 1.866.846.2722. This line is answered by trained individuals in recovery. You may also text the Pennsylvania Crisis Text Line by texting "PA" to 741741. ■

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