



Sharing Our Stories, Working to Create Change

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, **Commissioner David T. Jones** and **Melodie Jackson**, a Family Specialist with our Systems of Care initiative, participated in a round-table discussion hosted by **Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale** on opioids and their impact on children and families. The discussion was one of several listening sessions Auditor General DePasquale has hosted across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to see what services and support are available to people with an opioid use problem as well as those in their families and communities. It also featured input from leaders of several city departments, including **Public Health Commissioner Dr. Thomas Farley** and **Human Services Commissioner Cynthia Figueroa**. Jackson offered the unique perspective of someone with lived experience and how that experience has helped her better serve those who utilize the services provided by DBHIDS.



DBHIDS Staff Cook for a Good Cause

Twelve cooks participated in the third annual DBHIDS Combined Campaign Cook Off at CBH on Tuesday, Dec. 12. Countless Philadelphia nonprofit organizations benefit from the city-wide campaign. Four organizations were present including [Heifer International](#), [Women's Way](#), [United Negro College Fund](#), and [AIDS Fund](#). In addition to the tasty treats provided by staff, there was also one craft table of donated survival bracelets and key chains by Ben Alston, and a raffle for a basket of treats donated by Precious Touch. Throughout the event staff were encouraged to taste dishes ranging from savory to sweet and vote with donations of a dollar for each of their favorite chefs. All proceeds benefit the [2018 Combined Campaign](#).

The best table presentation winner is Ebony Ballard. The gift basket raffle winner is Pam Early. The Top Chef is Sicily Hill, Stacey Thomas, and Monava Chappelle, for 'Everything Chocolate,' raising \$131.

Together we raised \$980.00 for the Combined Campaign, which brings the three-year total to approximately \$2,900.00!

Dr. Jill Bowen named new DBHIDS Deputy Commissioner



Beginning Monday, Jan. 8, a new face can be found within the department! We're pleased to announce that **Dr. Jill Bowen** will start as our Deputy Commissioner of Finance and Administration.

Dr. Bowen has more than 30 years of experience in behavioral health services and management. She was most recently Senior Adviser for Mental Health, Strategic Policy Initiatives for the Office of the Mayor in New York City. She started her career as a Clinical Psychology intern with Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn. There, over the course of a 13-year period, she rose through the ranks, ultimately serving as Senior Associate Director and Breakthrough Deployment Officer for the Lean Organizational Innovation and Effectiveness division. She later served as Assistant

Vice President/Chief Transformation Officer of Behavioral Health Services for New York City's Health and Hospitals Corp.

Dr. Bowen, who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and both a Master of Arts and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Adelphia University, has an extensive track record in staff development and training, organizational management and strategic planning. An author and frequent lecturer, Dr. Bowen has also worked in private practice and served as a college professor. Dr. Bowen's office will be in the Executive Management Suite on the 7th floor of 1101 Market Street. Please be sure to give her a warm DBHIDS welcome!



Dr. Real Honored by Philadelphia Psychiatric Society

Kudos to **Chief Medical Officer Dr. Lawrence Real** who received the Paul J. Fink Leadership Award from the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society (PPS) last month. The award is annually given by PPS to recognize one of its members who has demonstrated psychiatric leadership through education, research, community engagement or advocacy for all mental health

consumers. In the photo with Dr. Real are (left to right) PPS Immediate Past President Kenneth Weiss, MD, Dr. Real, and PPS President Tahir Maqsood.

DBHIDS Staff Complete Innovation Academy Program

Congratulations to our **Ava Ashley**, Health Program Manager for DBHIDS' Trauma Unit, and **Brittany Borden**, Organizational, Culture and System Transformation Specialist for the newly created Project Management Office, for completing the [Philadelphia Academy for Municipal Innovation](#).

The goal of the Academy is to develop a network of emerging City leaders that is diverse in both departmental representation and work experience. Four cohorts totaling nearly 100 employees have successfully graduated from the course. Both Ava and Brittany, as well as their supervisors, consider the course to be a valuable professional development opportunity, and many of those in the first four rounds remain involved in the development and implementation of successful innovations in their day-to-day work and in City-wide initiatives. Job well done!

Looking for Health Promotion Information?

Have you ever wondered how many Philadelphians have been trained in Mental Health First Aid? Curious about who utilizes DBHIDS' free online screening program? The Health Promotion team is eager to provide other parts of our system with information regarding behavioral health screenings, Mental Health First Aid, suicide prevention, Healthy Minds Philly, and other aspects of their work! To make a request, fill out the [Health Promotion Information Request Form](#). The Health Promotions team will confirm receipt of your request within two business days and the request will be completed within five business days. Please submit requests with enough notice to meet your deadline. If you have trouble completing the form, or any questions or concerns, feel free to contact [Kate Fox](#). The Health Promotion team looks forward to meeting your information needs!

Interested in Becoming a Certified Peer Specialist?

A Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) is a person who is willing to self-identify as a person with a serious behavioral health disorder (mental illness, or co-occurring disorder) with lived experiences. The Peer Culture and Community Inclusion Unit will accept applications for CPS training from Dec. 18 to Jan. 12. For more information please contact [Cathy Washington](#) or download the application [here](#).

Employee Recognition: Celebrating Our Best

If you think the ACE Awards left with former Commissioner Arthur Evans, think again! We're still taking time to showcase our talented staff! Please join us in congratulating the second round of 2017 ACE Award honorees.

Team Award: Health Promotion Unit: Dana Careless, Maria Boswell, Kate Fox, Leonia Johnson, Shemiah Cooper, Erica Gerald, Andrea October, Trevor Boyle, Malik Gray, Stephanie Mack, Victoria Wilmore, Tamara Brown, and Brooke Stello

The Longest Yard: Sybil Evans, Program Analyst for Intellectual disAbility Services' Services and Supports Connection Team

Good Catch: Joe DiMeo, Program Analyst for the Network Improvement Accountability Collaborative

Jack-in-the-Box: Kenya Smith-Johnson, Technical Assistant for the Peer Culture and Community Inclusion Unit

We salute these hardworking individuals and thank them for their commitment and dedication! The Quality of Work Life Committee is now accepting nominations for the final solicitation period of 2017 through Dec. 21. Click [here](#) to nominate a colleague today.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mind Your Holidays Signature Event

Friday, Dec. 15

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Jefferson Station, 12th & Filbert Streets (underground near Mayflower Floral Shop)
Health Promotion is hosting a signature event to celebrate the Mind Your Holidays campaign! There, people will be encouraged to stop by our table to get free behavioral health screenings and resources.

This initiative is designed to encourage people to pledge to check in on those around them who might be facing difficulties during the holiday season, as well as get a “Check-Up from the Neck Up” for themselves, so that together we can stay well and beat the holiday blues. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Year-end Holiday Breakfast

Monday, Dec. 18

8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Community Behavioral Health, 801 Market Street, Room 1154, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Bridge Between Two Worlds: Celebrating 10 Years of Crisis Intervention Team

Friday, Dec. 22

11 a.m.

Community Behavioral Health, 801 Market Street, Room 1154A, Philadelphia, PA 19107
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services Commissioner David T. Jones and Philadelphia Police Department Commissioner Richard Ross will lead the celebration of our Crisis Intervention Team’s (CIT) 10-year anniversary, recognizing how CIT has strengthened relationships between law enforcement and community. Lunch will be served. You must RSVP Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator, Michele Dowell, MSW via [email](#) or by calling 267-233-4870

Family Member Story Telling Training

Friday, Dec. 29

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PRO-ACT Training Center, 444 N. Third St., Suite 307, Philadelphia, PA 19123

This training, open to adults 18 years of age and older, offers helpful tools to encourage sharing personal and challenging experience to help inspire and motivate. Resource sharing and networking opportunities will be available at this event, which is a prerequisite for Certified Peer Specialist. For more information contact, [Jazmin Banks](#) or register [here](#).

December is...

[AIDS Awareness Month](#)

DBHIDS IN THE NEWS

Open Minds: [Social Determinants Today, Social Determinants Tomorrow](#)



To have information about your area included in the January 2018 issue of At Your Best: DBHIDS News, please email us by Wednesday, December 20. If you have questions about this publication or ideas for future issues, please contact Monica Lewis-Wilborn at 215-685-5475.

For DBHIDS resources visit DBHIDS.org/contact/resources
[DBHIDS Team Highlights Archive](#)