# Never Underestimate the Power of a Second Chance



CELEBRATING 45 YEARS IN THE LIFE IMPROVEMENT BUSINESS<sup>SM</sup>

### **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Berks Connections/Pretrial Services** 

#### **Mission Statement**

Berks Connections/Pretrial Services improves lives and creates safer, more prosperous communities by providing services, support, and community reintegration to individuals involved in the justice system and to their families.

#### **Vision Statement**

The communities we serve are safer and healthier because people in the justice system have the tools and support to live productive, law-abiding lives.



#### **Charles Dixon**

In 2019, Charles was referred to BCPS's Workforce Development Program through the Department of Corrections. He was hesitant about becoming a client at first. "I had a lot of pride," Charles explained about his apprehension, "I was skeptical about it; I was scared. I didn't know if I wanted their help." For many of our clients, the first step to improving their lives is allowing themselves to receive help. It may sound simple, but this can be one of the hardest parts of their journey.

As he worked with his Workforce Development case managers, Charles became extremely motivated to do whatever he needed to do to get back on his feet. Almost right away, he began to see positive changes in every area of his life. He received funding assistance for an apartment for the firsts 6 months, and now, over one year later, he is continuing to maintain the payments on his own. Charles became the first BCPS client to obtain employment at East Penn Manufacturing. And, most notably, after working with BCPS's financial advisor, Charles created a budget, established a savings account, and he was able to purchase his dream car!





Charles received the **2021 Life Improvement Achievement All-Star Award**, which recognizes clients who, through their hard work and perseverance, have overcome many obstacles, succeeded in improving their lives, and are now making a positive difference in our community. He was nominated by Jessica Nunez, Reentry Services Director.

Jess explained, "Charles deserves to be recognized with this award because he has shown tremendous improvement and growth through the time I have worked with him!"



#### Dear Friends of BCPS:

To say that 2020 was a challenge would be an understatement for all of us. However, for BCPS, living the Life Improvement Business means rising to every challenge. We encourage our clients to face their challenges and to tackle each barrier they encounter as an opportunity to make a positive change! So that is what we did: we worked hard, stayed focused on carrying out our mission, and did not let the challenges prevent us from serving our clients.

Our office was closed to in-person services on March 16, 2020, and almost overnight, we had to ask our dedicated staff to reimagine all aspects of the delivery of our programs and services, knowing that our clients would need us more than ever. The stability that is so important to a client's success is often fragile. Job losses, housing insecurity, food insecurity, substance abuse, and mental health issues were instantly compounded by the closure of most inperson safety-net services. We learned very quickly that our staff is creative and resilient and our clients' connection to our services can survive virtually! We "Zoomed" from morning until evening, established new referral processes with our awesome social service partners, and ramped up connections to our employers whose needs were ever-changing.

As businesses were able to open in the summer, our team seamlessly switched gears. We developed a thorough and robust "Return to Work" plan that complied with all PADOH and CDC guidelines, which allowed us to reopen our office for in-person services on July 5th. Once again, our staff reimagined their work. Service delivery now involved "COVID questions", education on COVID protocol for exposure, mask distribution, Plexiglas, social distancing, disinfectants, and navigating a changed social service community as we helped our clients access resources to meet their other needs. Our staff did this all while providing our traditional programs and services!

We hope as you look through our 2020 Annual Report, you sense the gratitude we have for our dedicated staff, our awesome Board of Directors, and for you, our volunteers, donors, partners, and colleagues. We are proud of the program updates, the supportive services provided, and the THREE new programs launched during a pandemic. You played a role in making these accomplishments possible! Thank you for helping us to ensure that BCPS's essential services continue to be the source of hope, opportunity, and second chances for those that need it most!

Sincerely,

Peggy Kershner Co-Executive Director Nicolle Schnovel Co-Executive Director

Nicolle Schnorel

Providing
Opportunity &
Second Chances

# BERKS CONNECTIONS / PRETRIAL SERVICES

BCPS provides HOPE, OPPORTUNITY, and SECOND CHANCES through the programs and services we offer

**2020 STATISTICS** 

4,623 WALK-INS

BCPS had 4,623 office walk-ins even with the offices closed for part of March, April, May & June,



**BUS PASSES** 

\$10,800



\$10,800 of bus passes were purchased in 2020 - NOTE buses were not running, or running on full capacity during the pandemic

\$57,471 in 2019

\$8,277

REQUIRED WORK
BOOTS & CLOTHES

\$8,277 in work boots and work attire, required for employment, were purchased in 2020







## COMPUTER BASED LEARNING CENTER

672

Even with the offices closed for part of March, April, May & June, the computer-based learning center was used 672 times, to update resumes, search for jobs and housing, and other needed resources

\$3.395 IDENTIFICATION

\$3,395 - money orders to obtain PA Identification required for employment \$11.451 in 2019



\$1,273 for taxi vouchers, Uber, Lyft and gas cards



BCPS has a contract with the Department of Corrections to provide programs and services to referred individuals on state parole.



297 individuals with the DOC received training in workforce development

60 individuals with the Department of Corrections received Mentoring





42 Clients were assisted with finding suitable, more affordable housing.

2020 numbers are lower than prior years due to pandemic-related closures

BCPS provides Housing Services to individuals preparing to reenter the community from the Berks County Jail's Reentry Program, the Wernersville Community Corrections Center and those in the community on parole who are facing homelessness. Services include assistance in obtaining

stable, affordable housing, rent and utility assistance, case management, and budget counseling. BCPS staff also educates participants about their rights and responsibilities as a renter, preparing them to be successful tenants and all-around good neighbors!

BCPS staff provides pre and post release services to the Berks County Jail System (BCJS) Reentry Program participants. Case managers work with inmates to develop their Transition Plan – a document that outlines needs, includes reentry goals and identifies supports – to aide in their successful return to the community. BCPS staff, through ongoing case management, provides

referrals and information about housing, employment, drug, alcohol and mental health counseling and treatment as well as education and literacy. Upon release, Reentry Program clients have access to a multitude of services such as use of the CBLC, the benefits of the Employment Development Specialist's labors and potential entry into the R3 program.



# MANAGEMENT

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



BCPS provides employment readiness workshops, job search assistance, case management and retention support for inmates in the Reentry Program at the BCJS (pre and post release), residents of the Wernersville Community Corrections Center, those on state parole, and Treatment Court participants. In addition, BCPS helps to remove many of the barriers between reentrants and employment such as the

need for proper identification, transportation assistance and providing necessary work shoes or clothing. All BCPS case managers have been trained in the evidence-informed curriculum Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Offenders Seeking Employment (CBI-EMP) to better serve clients and improve their outcomes in employment and the overall recidivism rate.



BCPS provides financial literacy education in a group setting and one to one budget coaching and assistance for DOC Workforce Development and Housing program clients. In addition to educational sessions, BCPS staff provides financial coaching when employment is obtained to help individuals reach their financial goals.

In October 2018, BCPS began offering mentoring services through a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, which allows us to serve both individuals in State Correctional Institutions and individuals on State Probation/Parole who reside in Berks County. Our mentors aid clients in developing an individualized wellness plan, provide early intervention services to clients that are experiencing difficulties or exhibiting behaviors that are indicative of a backslide, and facilitate both group and one-to-one workshops. Mentoring services are also a critical component offered in our R3 and R3 Prep YA programs.



# JOB DEVELOPMENT



The BCPS Employment Development Specialist works within the community to develop and maintain relationships with employers to encourage opportunities for workforce development program clients who successfully complete the program. This position helps ensure that individuals referred for employment are a good match for the employer's needs, serves as a liaison between case managers and employers, and provides ongoing retention support and assistance to the employer.

#### **NEW PROGRAMS IN 2020**

#### **WORK IN PROGRESS (WIP)**

WIP is a comprehensive reentry workforce development program for current or former justice-involved individuals who have a mental health diagnosis and are currently receiving case management services from SAM, Inc. BCPS staff work with WIP participants on a one-to-one basis to prepare them for entering employment. The program includes job readiness and essential skills training, financial literacy education, and cognitive-based workforce sessions. Our Employment Development Specialist enlists the support of local employers to provide job shadow and volunteer opportunities for WIP clients. Once programming is completed, the participant receives assistance with job search and job placement. Additionally, case management and retention support is provided to each participant for a minimum of one year following their enrollment in the program.



#### **R3 PREP ADULT**

R3 Prep Adult is the newest program for BCPS and the latest enrichment for R3 and its participants. This program allows for added outreach and recruitment efforts so that more Berks County reentrants may participate in R3 as well as provides BCPS with an Apprenticeship Liaison (AL) who cultivates additional Apprenticeship Affiliate and prospects for BCPS. Upon enrollment into R3 Prep Adult, clients receive BCPS's traditional workforce development training and case management, an introduction to cognitive concepts, and undergo assessments indicating math and reading levels. Prior to starting in an R3 cohort, participants are provided with an array of information and education about apprenticeship opportunities and their benefits. It is anticipated that with this added layer of education, we will begin to see more R3 graduates move onto registered apprenticeship programs and entering into careers that will provide them with a lifetime of fulfillment and success!!

#### **NEW PROGRAMS IN 2020**



Jeffrey, pictured above, is an **R3 Prep YA** graduate where he received his GED and went on to obtain employment at Reading Bucket Service LLC.

# R3 PREP FOR YOUNG ADULTS (R3 PREP YA)

R3 Prep YA serves young adults (18-24 years of age) with justice system involvement who lack a diploma or high school equivalency. Participants are prepared for entrance into Rebuilding Reentrants & Reading (R3). R3 Prep YA couples academic attainment with an innovative approach to opening career choice opportunities for young adults to further their education and acquire fundamental skills in construction trades that lead to lifelong gainful employment. BCPS provides a mentor, case management, cognitive programming, and an introduction to the R3 program. Our partner in this program, PA CareerLink® Berks County's Young Adult Program, provides the educational component. Stipends and paid work experiences are available to participants. Enrollment occurs on an ongoing basis and the length of participation is individualized depending on their academic level.

The R3 Prep YA program allows individuals to have a unique learning opportunity that they never had before.

~ Jessica Nunez - Reentry Services Director





BCPS has operated Rebuilding Reentrants and Reading (R3) since 2017. This registered preapprenticeship program offers an opportunity for individuals with a criminal history to acquire skills in the construction trades that lead to gainful employment and assists with the renovation of some of the City of Reading's blighted neighborhoods.

BCPS partners with Habitat for Humanity Berks County (HFHBC) and the Reading Muhlenberg Career and Technology Center (RMCTC) to provide the three components of the training; career and technical education at RMCTC, hands-on learning on-site at HFHBC properties, and an employment-focused cognitive curriculum delivered by BCPS staff. BCPS developed this innovative model which is based on best practices of reentry programming and adult career and technical education. The Berks County Workforce Development Board has identified the construction trades as a high-priority sector that provides employment opportunities at family-sustaining wages. The combination of best practices - classroom learning, hands-on experience, and cognitive interventions – not only improves employment outcomes for participants, it significantly reduces recidivism as well. 166 individuals completed R3 between October 2017 and December 2020. 54% of the R3 graduates are maintaining stable employment and 89% have not recidivated! Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the average recidivism rate was lower than 10%, sometimes as low as 3 or 4%, and stable employment for the R3 graduate was about 70%.

BCPS provides case management, mentoring, and support for one year following graduation. The comprehensive case management includes financial literacy and coaching as well as job search, placement, and retention support. Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc., Keystone Chapter (ABC) is the RA sponsor for this preapprenticeship program. R3 graduates are granted 6 months credit toward one of ABC's 7 apprenticeship programs. R3 is the only registered pre-apprenticeship program in PA exclusively serving reentrants!



#### DID YOU KNOW?

Pennsylvania's recidivism rate is 46%

BCPS R3 graduates recidivism rate is 11%!

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic closures, it was 7%



#### **Clinton**

In 2019, after serving over 5 years in prison, Clinton was referred to BCPS, where he joined the 13th Cohort of the R3 program. In addition to the standard R3 education, he received Flagger Course training and obtained an advanced certification to be a Flagger. After graduating from the program in November 2019, with his certification in hand, Clinton was hired by Flagger Force. Unfortunately, he was laid off due to the pandemic.

Clinton created a new plan, with the tools he learned in the R3 program and secured a job at the Hope Rescue Mission as a member of The Clean Team. This group is responsible for keeping the city of Reading looking nice by pulling weeds, maintaining flower pots, and picking up garbage along Penn Street.

One of the biggest aspects of the R3 program is rebuilding the community. His new position as a member of The Clean Team allows Clinton to give back to the community, by keeping it clean and beautiful!

Malik, an R3 graduate from the 14th cohort, worked diligently with staff members, Kip and Willie, to identify and map out the steps to move toward his goals. His focus at that time was on the importance of practicing a positive Daily Maintenance Plan.

Today, Malik continues to exercise the COG skills he learned while participating in the R3 program. He feels that his parenting skills, communication skills, and self-care exercises are greatly improved because of the work he had accomplished with our team.

BCPS helped to build his self-esteem and confidence, so much so that he was "happy to see the judge and share how my life has been improving" when he walked into Treatment Court.

Malik graduated from Treatment Court in May of 2021 and has been sober for over three years. He is currently employed at Helping Harvest, working with them for nearly a year.





#### PRETRIAL SERVICES

## Pretrial Interviews and Assessments

Pretrial Officers conduct post-arrest interviews and assessments of criminal defendants and furnish the verified assessments to the judiciary, either prior to bail being set or at the preliminary hearing. BCPS utilizes the Pretrial Assessment Tool of the Ohio Risk Assessment System (PAT-ORAS) to assess the risk of a defendant committing a new offense while under pretrial release or failing to appear for court. BCPS also assists with jail population management. Pretrial staff conduct a monthly review of the jail population to assure that low-risk defendants are not needlessly incarcerated due to their inability to post bail. We are pleased to see that on average, the true pretrial population (those held only on a bail) hovers around 25%, which is well below the national average. For those defendants that are classified as low risk and are deemed appropriate for pretrial release, Pretrial Officers will provide the assessments to defense counsel and recommend that a motion is made to modify the bail to release the defendant on unsecured bail. In 2020, pretrial officers conducted 1,011 interviews and provided 831 assessments to the court.

#### **Pretrial Supervision**

BCPS provides a supervised release for criminal defendants who would otherwise remain in jail until the final disposition of their case. Pretrial Officers utilize the results of the PAT-ORAS to set conditions that are based on the risk that individual poses and to ensure both court appearance and public safety. Pretrial Officers provide drug and alcohol program referrals for individuals facing drug-related charges and for those identified as having a drug or alcohol problem. BCPS also oversees the Community Release Bail Program, which was designed to ensure that the economic circumstances of a person will not subject him/her to punishment before trial. In 2020, Pretrial Officers supervised 393 defendants. The appearance rate for defendants under our supervision was 97% and the re-arrest rate was 5%.



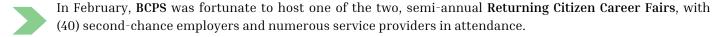
#### **Treatment Courts**

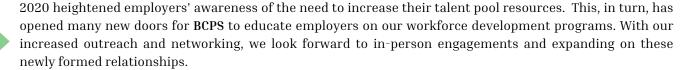
BCPS provides personnel and support for the Berks County Treatment Courts, which include DUI, Drug and Alcohol, and Mental Health Courts. BCPS interviews and assesses most treatment court applicants and provides referrals for drug and alcohol testing and treatment. Our Reentry Coordinator provides case management and workforce development programming for participants of the DUI, Mental Health, and Drug Treatment Courts. The Treatment Courts provide an intensive combination of court-ordered treatment and regular interaction with the Treatment Court Judge and the team, including the Public Defender's Office, Adult Probation Office, TASC, SAM, Inc., the District Attorney's Office, treatment providers, and BCPS.

### **Employment Development**

BCPS Workforce Development programs equip returning citizens with the tools and skills necessary to become productive members of our community. Obtaining stable employment at a living wage is important to one's reentry success. BCPS's Employment Development Specialist partners with area employers to learn about the employers' specific operations and provides referrals of individuals who are a good match for their hiring needs. To ensure further success, we also deliver ongoing support after placement to ensure a successful experience.

Although the 2020 global health crisis interrupted so much, it also created opportunities.





BCPS was awarded a new grant at the end of 2020, which allowed for the creation of a new position: Apprenticeship Liaison. This liaison will help us better bridge the jump from our R3 pre-apprenticeship program to registered apprenticeships through our affiliate, ABC, and other apprentice programs. R3 graduates wanting to move on to an apprenticeship will experience increased exposure to education, better wages, and lifetime careers.

Thank you to the 40 employers and service providers who attended our last Career Fair to provide hope, second chances, and community resources to those looking to improve their lives. Additionally, 50 volunteers were on hand throughout the day to provide support and encouragement as well as mock interviews and general assistance to more than 200 job seekers!

Thank you!





#### **HAMILTON**

Seven years ago, Hamilton was sitting in prison; he was at rock bottom and recognized that he needed to make a change. But he had no idea where to start. He couldn't even comprehend what it meant to be a productive member of society. The day he was introduced to BCPS is the day his life began to change for the better.



Hamilton participated in BCPS's Workforce Development Program for reentrants, where he received assistance with setting goals and creating a

transition plan. He was given tools for employment readiness, as well as case management to help set him up for success. But the biggest thing BCPS gave him was HOPE. Before he was incarcerated,

Hamilton was a DJ, and it was the only work experience he had. BCPS showed him the potential of other employment options. He started out in an entry-level role at the front desk at Hope Rescue Mission. After two years, he became a Certified Recovery Coach and went on to serve as the Director of Case Management for another two years.

In 2018, his dream to get back into the entertainment industry became reality. When the opportunity presented itself, he felt that he was ready to take the leap. And that jump launched his career. Hamilton is now best known as DJ VIDAL on LOUD 99.3 FM in Reading (106.9 Allentown, 99.5 Easton, and 108 SOUL in New York). As LOUD FM's media personality and production director, Hamilton is live on the radio, records voiceovers, and handles marketing, all within a day's work. One only needs to listen to him speak about what he does to know that he is in his element.





clients so that they could put their best feet forward at their interviews! The Forge also held several vaccine clinics in Reading, provided 200 Easter baskets to local children, and participated in a community clean-up. As a member of this organization, Hamilton can certainly say, he has turned the page on his life, and is, indeed, a productive member of society.

Hamilton is also giving back to our community as a member of The Forge, a men's organization whose focus is to support the growth and potential of men in greater Reading. The Forge held a professional men's business clothing drive, which provided suits to BCPS

BCPS believes people can change.
They believed in me! I wouldn't be where I am without the HOPE they gave me seven years ago!
~Hamilton



Hamilton attended the Milton Hershey School and is a Reading High School graduate. In addition to DJ'ing, he loves to cook, read, and listen to jazz. He is married to his lovely wife, Candace, and between them, they have a combined family of ten children. They live in Womelsdorf, PA.

**HAMILTON** 

# Programs for Children and Families - Volunteer Opportunities

We miss seeing our dedicated volunteers!

Because visitation to the jail has been prohibited during the COVID-19 pandemic,
the regularly held in-person BCPS events and programs were not able to take place.

#### Mother's/Father's Voice Program

The Mother's/Father's Voice Volunteers have not been able to go into the jail since last March. These volunteers recorded incarcerated parents reading stories for their young children. The book and DVD are sent to the child, for them to watch their parent reading while following along in the book. This provides a sense of closeness between the parent and child that would otherwise not be possible. Although some families are able to connect via face-time, this on-demand parent/child connection is not happening for some parents, yet another tragic consequence in the pandemic.

In 2020, 143 children received books and recordings of their parents prior to the jail closure in March. (In 2019, 862 children benefited from this program.)



#### **Mock Interviews**

Thankfully, solutions were found for volunteers to continue serving some of our clients! Mock Interview Volunteers were able to connect with clients via Zoom to allow them to practice their newly learned interview skills, which is hugely beneficial to individuals who are embarking on their new lives! Volunteers provide instant feedback so that our clients can show their best selves to future employers.

#### **Family Connections Events**

In a non-pandemic year, BCPS staff and volunteers host social events allowing incarcerated parents to reunite with their children and caregivers. Our Family Connections Picnic is held in September and serves as a United Way Day of Caring site. Children spend quality time with their parents by sharing a meal, playing games, and enjoying the outdoors. At the Family Connections Holiday Party families enjoy a delicious holiday meal, crafts, and a special visit from Santa Claus for the children! Generous contributions from United Way volunteers allow us to provide gifts for all the children in attendance. These events provide the opportunity for much-needed contact between children and their incarcerated parents within a positive environment. We hope for a return to these events in 2022.



**Holiday Gift Project** 

BCPS enlists individual volunteers and volunteer groups throughout the community to provide holiday gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated or involved in the criminal justice system. Normally, the gifts are collected and distributed at a special holiday event hosted by West Lawn United Methodist Church. To minimize exposure during the pandemic, Santa's Workshop moved to an empty office on the ground floor of our building, where families were able to safely pick up their gifts, along with blankets and pillows provided by Blankets of Hope, and Godiva-donated teddy bears. **600 children received gifts in 2020!** 

For more information about BCPS programs and how you can volunteer to help, please visit www.berksconnections.org or contact Vanessa Starr at vstarr@bcpsreentry.org

Programs for Children and Families – Volunteer Opportunities

#### **United Way of Berks County**

As a United Way partner, BCPS receives funding to support the Reentry Program at the Berks County Jail System as well as ongoing funding to staff our Computer-Based Learning Center. Over the years, many BCPS initiatives and events have been made possible thanks to the generous financial and volunteer support of the United Way of Berks County. In a non-pandemic year, our annual Family Connections picnic serves as a United Way Day of Caring site.



#### Berks County Forensic Task Force

In 2020 the Community Resources Network merged with Berks County's Forensic Coalition to form the Berks County Forensic Task Force (BCFTF). The BCFTF mission is to enhance the quality, coordination, and planning of services for the justice involved in Berks County to support the reintegration of returning citizens into local communities, lower recidivism rates, reduce the number of victims of crime and increase the safety of our communities.

#### **Hope Rescue Mission**

BCPS and Hope Rescue Mission (HRM) partner to assist clients in common. HRM generously donates clothing and winter coats for our program participants and offers a safe living environment for returning citizens who are working to support themselves.



#### Blankets of Hope

Blankets of Hope supports BCPS clients by providing blankets to individuals who are homeless or are at-risk for homelessness, and beds and bedding for those who are getting off of the street and moving into a home. Blankets of Hope also provided pillows and blankets were given to the children who received holiday gifts through the BCPS Holiday Gift Project.





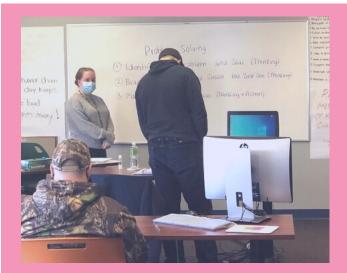






Patty, our Human Resources Director, is modeling her BCPS shirt, showing her team spirit, and support of second chances!





When an R3 participant was exposed to a person who was COVID-19 positive, the R3 team came up with a plan. They set up a desktop computer with a webcam in the classroom so the participant was able to attend COG classes virtually. This allowed the participants and staff to stay safe and healthy while the participant quarantining could continue to move forward with their cohort!

Yet another story about how BCPS staff has improvised to meet the needs of the clients during a global pandemic.

We are always happy to see our clients, and especially love when they bring their children with them. Jeffrey read to Torah when he was incarcerated through our Father's Voice program. Now Torah loves reading with her daddy every day!

Jeffrey is an R3 graduate and we are very proud of him for all the progress he has made.





#### **Victor**

After serving a 4-year sentence at a State Correctional Institution, Victor's parole agent referred him to BCPS's Department of Corrections Workforce Development and Housing programs. He worked with his case manager on establishing a housing budget, taking tenant education classes, and learning the importance of maintaining a job while working toward a savings goal. After receiving six months of financial assistance for rent, Victor continued to reside in his apartment, maintaining all of his bills on his own for the last year. He worked closely with our financial advisor to create a budget, open a secure credit card, and raise his credit score. After almost a year of implementing what he learned through BCPS, he has raised his credit score by 100 points! Victor is a prime example of how BCPS services help to improve client's lives in more ways than one. He used the skills he learned, took advantage of what the program had to offer, and has continued to rebuild his life!



After graduating from the R3 program in 2019, Erick jumped on various opportunities to further his career and continue to improve his life! Erick recently opened up a technology retail store and applied for his business privilege license. In August 2020, he obtained his dealers license to sell cars in order to help support his family!



# Financia

#### BCPS Revenue and Expense For Calendar Year 2020 January 1 - December 31, 2020



#### Revenue:

Public Support	1,828,666
Investment Income	81,365
Other Income	1,000
Total Revenue:	\$1,911,031

#### **Expenses:**

Expenses \$1,920,195  Management & Fundraising Pretrial Services General /Community Release
Community Outreach R3 Program Reentry Programs

Pretrial Services

Community Release 454,071

Reentry 688,693

R3 504,799

Community Outreach 32,764

Total Program Services - 88%

\$1,680,327

Management & General	165,473
Fundraising	74,395
<b>Total Support Services</b>	\$239,688
Support Services – 12%	

**Total Expenses:** \$1,920,195

Decrease in Net Assets: \$9,164

# Thank you to our donors! Your financial support provides HOPE, OPPORTUNITY and SECOND CHANCES to our clients and their families when they need it the most!

\$2,000 - \$4,999

Customers Bank Ann Gundry

Craig and Melissa Poole Queen City Family Restaurant RKL, LLP Spark Solutions & Support United Methodist Women, Eastern Penna, Conference



#### \$1,000 - 1,999

Carmela and Steve Bobick Emerald Advisors, LLC Marianne Garrett Althea Harmon Humane Pennsylvania Penn State Health St. Joseph Penske Transportation Solutions PrimeCare Medical, Inc. Alexia Pursley Scott and Yvette Rehr Shane and Rebecca Remp Nicolle Schnovel Lawrence Snow The Junior League of Reading **UGI Energy Services** Weik Capital Management, Inc.

\$20,000

Peter and Mary Terranova

\$10,000

**Henry Janssen Foundation** 

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Freedom Toyota Performance Toyota Jeanne and Eric Savage

#### \$500 - \$999

**Champion Personnel** 

Complete Healthcare Resources, Inc. East Penn Manufacturing, Co. Kip Frasso **Bradley and Barbara Hall** Inperium Margaret Kershner Gregory Kiddy Morgan Stanley Robert Myer Dan and Heidi Nickischer Rentschler Law, LLC SHRM Berks Chapter #179 St. John's Lutheran Church Anthony and Michelle Tomczak Tompkins VIST Bank University of Cincinnati Corrections institute Kent and Sara Weymouth

#### **\$250 - \$499**

Berks Coalition To End
Homelessness
Easy Does It, Inc
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Christine Guistwite
Megan and Matthew Huesgen
Sydney and Gerald Malick
David & Jane Rohrbach
Virginia Rush
Marilyn Schneider
James Shankweiler
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#### **Up to \$250**

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Carolyn Bazik
Patty Bell
Berks Counseling Center
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Frontstream
Gage Personnel
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Phyllis Moser Chad Moyer

Denise and Douglas Myer

Kathleen Nallo
Kristy Peat
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Michael Reese
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Leah Rotenberg
Wesley Roth

Pamela Rothenberger William Seaman Richard Small Erinn Smidga Allan Sodomsky

Robert and Martha Spezialetti

Vanessa Starr

Kathleen and Mark Stone Janice & Gerard Thompson

Peter Valenteen

MaryAnn VanderVeen

J. William Widing

Francis and Lucy Williamson

Women's Guild of St. Mark's UCC

## **THANK YOU!**



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Nicolle Schnovel	_
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	Human Resources Assistant
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Development/Commun	ity Outreach Staff
Vanessa Starr	_ Development Director
Julia Ganter	Community Outreach Coordinator
Pretrial Services Staff	
	_ Pretrial Program Manager
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Christine Guistwite Jessica Nunez Jason Mensch Willie Colon Kristi Byrne	_Reentry Services Director _R3 Program Director _ Deputy R3 Program Director _R3 Case Manager
Christine Guistwite Jessica Nunez Jason Mensch Willie Colon Kristi Byrne Ashley McGee	_Reentry Services Director _R3 Program Director _ Deputy R3 Program Director _R3 Case Manager _R3 Case Manager
Christine Guistwite Jessica Nunez Jason Mensch Willie Colon Kristi Byrne Ashley McGee Kathleen Stone	_Reentry Services Director _R3 Program Director _ Deputy R3 Program Director _R3 Case Manager _R3 Case Manager _ Employment Development Specialist
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### **2020 Life Improvment Award Recipients**



#### Paul J. Hoh Life Improvement Awards

Every year, **BCPS** honors individuals, organizations, and businesses for furthering our mission, by improving the lives of incarcerated individuals, reentrants, and their families. We also recognize clients who, through hard work and perseverance, have overcome many obstacles to succeed in their lives, and are now making a positive difference in our community.

#### **2021 HONOREES**





# Thank you for your support!



The First Step Towards a Second Chance







Berks Connections/Pretrial Services is proud to be certified by the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) through their Standards for Excellence certification program. BCPS successfully completed this certification program by voluntarily opening itself up to scrutiny by a "jury of its peers" who examined our organization for compliance with PANO's Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the Nonprofit Sector. Standards of Excellence are based on fundamental values such as honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability. BCPS's programs and services, management, fundraising, and financial practices were examined in depth before the certification was awarded. BCPS is one of the first organizations to be certified under the Standards program that began in 2002.

BCPS earned the 2021 Gold Seal of Transparency. Our financial details agency information can be viewed at https://www.guidestar.org/profile/23-1969810.



#### **Berks Connections/Pretrial Services**

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