



## BE A SUPERHERO FOR YORK COUNTY KIDS

York County leaders are taking a stand to be superheroes for children in our county and you can too. Five community leaders have made the commitment to partner with the York County Safe and Healthy Communities Initiative through the York County Children's Advocacy Center. Through this partnership, adults in York County will be trained how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

Our goal is to train 5% of the adult population in York County, with these leaders' commitment to give their employees the opportunity to complete this training, we will get much closer to that goal.

Thank you Vicky Diamond, WellSpan York Hospital, Dave Sunday, York County District Attorney's Office, Pamela Gunter-Smith, York College of Pennsylvania, JT Hand, York Water Company, Anne Druck, United Way of York County

[To learn more about these superheroes click here.](#)

[To take the Stewards of Children training at no cost click here.](#)

*This initiative is paid for through a competitive grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and Penn State University*



## Welcome: Stephanie Long, Family Advocacy Supervisor

The CAC welcomes our new Family Advocacy Supervisor, Stephanie Long. Stephanie has come to the York CAC with valuable experience working in the CAC setting. She was previously a Mental Health Services Coordinator and Behavioral Therapist at UPMC Child Advocacy Center of Central PA in Harrisburg, where she provided advocacy and mental health services to children and their families. Stephanie also has 14 years' experience working in community based mental health. Stephanie looks forward to continuing to be able to serve children and their families in her new role.

## MDT Appreciation Happy Hour

In July the CAC hosted a MDT appreciation event, inviting our team to come together so we could let them know we appreciate their hard work! CAC staff, CYF staff, law enforcement, ADAs and volunteers were present for the event.

We also took the opportunity to highlight the SHINE Campaign. The SHINE Campaign inspires hope for survivors of child abuse. #SHINEcampaign to fight the stigma of child sexual abuse and let survivors know they're not alone. [To learn more click here.](#)



## BACK to SCHOOL

This past school year was full of challenges like our community has never seen before.

Distance learning, hybrid schedules and unexpected shut-downs had huge impacts on children and their families. Another unexpected impact was decreased exposure to mandated reporters, which resulted in a decline in child abuse reports ([click here for more information](#)).

As we approach the return to school for the 2021/2022 school year, the people tasked with protecting children are preparing for an increase in child abuse reports. We should expect teachers will be hearing about abuse that occurred and having to make more reports. We should expect child protective services workers will be getting an increase in cases to respond to and ensure safety. We should expect law enforcement having to work an increased number of investigations as allegations come in. We should expect increased work loads for all team members; prosecutors, nurses, therapists, advocates, forensic interviewers. We expect this and we remained committed to serving the children of York County.

## Look Who's Been Working Their Tail Off:



**Susan Workinger**



Susan is one of the CAC's most active volunteers. She is currently the Board secretary and chairing the 2022 Wine Dinner. She helps spearhead our Pinwheel Gardens.

### More about Susan:

**Where are you from?** York, PA  
**What would someone be surprised to know about you?** Hiked Mount Washington  
**What is your favorite snack?** Honey Wheat Pretzels  
**How long have you been involved with the CAC?** 2016  
**What do you like most about working with the CAC?** Giving children a safe place to share their story and to see them overcome a situation they were placed in through no fault of their own. The team does an incredible job in giving each child a voice.

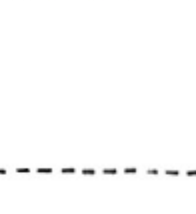
**Jenifer Brenneman**



Jeny is an emergency duty caseworker with York County Office of Children, Youth and Families. She is often the first to see a child after a report of abuse has been made. She can be met with fear, anger, shock, or many other emotions when she shows up at someone's door. Jeny's day is filled with the unexpected and she is thriving in her role.

### More about Jeny:

**Where are you from?** I'm originally from the Pittsburgh area but have been in the Hanover area for the past 11 years.  
**What would someone be surprised to know about you?** Hmm, I'm full of surprises but I think the one that shocks the most is that I used to be a wedding singer (yes, just like Robbie Hart but not as great obviously haha!).  
**What is your favorite snack?** I love Chex Mix – but it has to be the Bold flavor. It's all about the boldness. J  
**How long have you worked in child welfare?** I have been in child welfare for 5 1/2 years, all spent within the Intake department with YCOCYF.  
**What do you like most about working with the team in these cases?** That's a difficult question- there are a lot of aspects that I really like about working with the team. I would say what I like most, though, is having the opportunity to create and build professional relationships and to learn from those individuals. I am always learning and growing as a professional in my field and I rather enjoy taking away new information, new techniques, anything really that can reinforce or enhance the way that I work with the families, children, and agencies/departments in the county.



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