family recovery conference

Wednesday, May 24, 2017 -- 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Quality Inn – 300 Tarentum Bridge Rd. - New Kensington, PA 15068

This training day is designed for staff of organizations addressing the needs of substance abusers, their families and children. Treatment professionals as well as family support/parent education staff will increase their knowledge of current responses to opiate addiction, strategies for helping families within the recovery and family support community and the varied options for treatment and recovery available in Pennsylvania. Workshops will provide information on issues facing African-Americans in recovery, healing trauma as part of recovery, support for children grieving the loss of a parent, and communication within the recovering family. We will hear from people living in recovery and their family members who have agreed to share their experiences with participants.

Sponsors: Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance (PFSA) and Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission

Supporting Organizations: Westmoreland County Children’s Bureau, Family Services of Western PA, Highmark Caring Place, Lost Dreams Awakening RCO, PA Dept. of Human Services, SPHS (Southwestern PA Human Services Behavioral Health), SpiritLife, Inc., UPMC St. Margaret and Drug-Free Workplace PA.

Registration: Cost of training is $20.00 per person, which includes training and materials, lunch, and continuing education credits, if applicable.
Register online (credit card payment) here, or see page 4 for other options.
Deadline to register is May 15, 2017 or when maximum number of participants is reached.

Continuing Education: This training has been approved for 6 hours of education credit by the Pennsylvania Certification Board (PCB) for substance abuse and other behavioral health professionals.

Credits for social workers and marriage/family therapists is pending approval.

For information: Visit www.pa-fsa.org, call (717) 238-0937; email bbitler@pa-fsa.org
Mailing address: 2000 Linglestown Rd., Suite 301, Harrisburg PA 17110
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8:30 – 9:00 AM – Registration

9:00 – 9:15 AM – Welcome
Angela Liddle, President and CEO, Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance
Colleen Hughes, Executive Director, Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission

9:15- 10:15 AM – Keynote Address: From Addiction to Hope
Jason Snyder, Special Assistant to the Secretary, PA Dept. of Human Services
Jason will share his personal journey of recovery and healing from the deaths of his two brothers to heroin overdose, as well as provide a look at Pennsylvania’s response to the rise in opioid use.

10:15 – 10:30 AM – Break

10:30 AM– 12:00 PM - Panel Discussion: Strategies for Helping Families
Shara B. Saveikis, M.S.W., Westmoreland County Children’s Bureau, Greensburg, PA
Jonathan Han, M.D., University of Pittsburgh Medical Center – St. Margaret
Dana DeFonso, B.A., M.A. – Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services Behavioral Health, Monessen, PA
Dr. VonZell Wade, PhD, LPC, CCTP – SpiritLife, Penn Run; Lost Dreams Awakening, New Kensington, PA
Moderator – Louis E. Wagner, Jr., SpiritLife, Penn Run, PA
This presentation will examine several perspectives on treatment of Substance Use Disorder, ways children and family members are affected by a loved one’s addiction and recovery, and help available to people in recovery and their families. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions to the panel.

12:00 – 12:45 PM – Lunch

12:45 – 1:30 PM - Trinity Farms Center for Healing: A Story of Goats and Hope
Paula Eppley-Newman and Michelle Letovsky, Beginnings, Inc., Johnstown, PA
Trinity Farms Center for Healing is an innovative, eco-friendly outdoor environment committed to integrative healing practices for complete body, mind and spiritual renewal providing unique opportunities for self-healing in a safe and nurturing environment. What started as a dream to create a stronger community, is turning into a reality of collaboration, cooperation and healing. Working in cooperation with business leaders, volunteers, agencies and local farmers, Trinity Farms is creating a space for people hurting and struggling to integrate back into the community to move beyond addiction and incarceration towards healing and hope.

*Concurrent workshop sessions: You will choose your workshop on the day of the training. We will try to honor your choice, but due to space limitations, we may ask you to join an alternate workshop. Topics, agenda and speakers may change when situations beyond our control exist.
1:30 – 2:45 PM – Concurrent Workshops*

A. – Issues Facing African-American Families in Recovery
   Dr. VonZell Wade, PhD, LPC, CCTP, SpiritLife, Indiana, PA
   This workshop will focus on cultural implications of addiction and recovery within the African-American community, particularly within the family system.

B. – Family Communication: Talking About Addiction and Recovery
   Bob Brinker, Family Services of Western PA, Greensburg, PA
   Communication in families affected by Substance Use Disorder sometimes centers on blame and shame. This workshop will offer tips for open communication within the recovering family.

C. – Faces and Voices of Recovery: Parent and Caregiver
   Laurie Johnson Wade, Lost Dreams Awakening, New Kensington, PA
   Amy Green, Scarlett Hope, Harrisburg, PA
   The powerful stories of two parents (one a grandparent as well) in recovery and how recovery has impacted their children and families.

2:45 – 3:00 – Break

3:00 – 4:15 PM – Concurrent Workshops*

D- Helping Children Grieve the Loss of a Parent in Substance Use Disorder Scenario
   Terri Bowling, Highmark Caring Place, Camp Hill, PA
   Beth Bitler, PA Family Support Alliance, Harrisburg, PA
   What you have feared would happen, has happened. A loved one has died from substance use. Children may feel like no one understands what he/she is going through. Sometimes when a tragedy strikes, the grieving child in the addiction/recovery process is overlooked. This session will provide you with an understanding of grief through the eyes of a developing child. We will discuss grief, the Grief Spiral theory, child development, and how best to support a grieving child, with a focus (or perspective) on the addiction/recovery family.

E - Healing Trauma in Recovery
   James McAninch, SpiritLife, Penn Run, PA
   Trauma has long been identified as a factor in Substance Use Disorder and many approaches exist to help those in recovery to heal from past traumatic experiences. This workshop will examine the crucial role that trauma plays in Substance Use Disorder, and focus on Thought Field Therapy, a little-known evidence-based process of healing negative emotions and trauma in the recovering person.

F – Faces and Voices of Recovery: Adult Children and Siblings
   Sammie Mangino, Family Services of Western PA, Pittsburgh, PA
   Adrienne Smith, Recovery Advocate, New Kensington, PA
   The presentations in this workshop will focus on recovery from the perspective of an adult child that grew up in a family entrenched in addiction, social services and generational poverty and how it has impacted the future lifestyle choices when now working as a professional in the same field. Addiction in a family has profound effects on all members of the family, including siblings of the addicted person.

4:15 – 4:30 PM – Evaluation and Certificates
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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Rooms are available at a discounted rate of $79.00 plus tax. Call for reservations and mention that you are attending the PA Family Support Alliance conference.

TO REGISTER: (Registration fee is $20.00 per person).
Deadline to register is **May 15, 2017** or until maximum number of participants is reached.

The fastest and easiest way to register is [directly on our website](#) and pay by credit card. If paying by check or credit card (not on website), complete one form (below) for each participant and return form with your payment to:

Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance
2000 Linglestown Rd., Suite 301, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Name: ____________________________
Organization: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________

Phone: ___________ E-Mail: ____________________________
Certificate?  PCB _______ Social Work _____ Attendance _______  None _______

Do you have any special dietary or accommodation needs? ______________________________________________________

Payment:

Check # _________ enclosed  Credit Card □ Master Card □ Visa □ Discover

Name on Credit Card ____________________________

Credit Card Number __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __

Expiration Date (month) ___ _ (year) ___ _  Security Code (on back of card) ___ ___ ___

Signature ____________________________________

Registrations are not complete until both form and payment are received. You will receive a confirmation email when you register. Please print and bring this with you to the conference. No refunds. You may substitute attendees.

For information: Visit [www.pa-fsa.org](http://www.pa-fsa.org), call (717) 238-0937; email bbitler@pa-fsa.org.