

## Front Porch Project Welcomes New Trainers



*The trainers work together to keep "community assets" afloat during the Front Porch Project session.*

Since launching the Front Porch Project (FPP) in 2011, we've held more than 50 training sessions and reached over 900 people. We're proud of our progress and the impact we're making, but we need to do more. PFSA developed a "train-the-trainer" program and provided 11 new trainers with all the tools they need to offer FPP in their communities. These new partnerships will allow the FPP message – **we all have a role to play in preventing child abuse** – to spread more quickly across Pennsylvania. We welcome these wonderful professionals to the PFSA family:

- Laura Acetta – Easton
- Myrna Ayala – Philadelphia
- Dontie Brooks – Harrisburg
- Thomas DeFrank – Bethlehem
- Bobbi Edwards – Northampton
- Paula Eppley-Newman – Johnstown
- Martha Martin – York
- Niurka Reyes – Harrisburg
- Cathy Ritter – Johnstown
- Kristin Villarrial - Johnstown
- Rachel Zaborowski - Johnstown

We're also pleased that these experienced trainers are continuing to provide FPP in partnership with PFSA. They also helped with training the new folks!

- Lori Lower Amey – Liverpool
- Bob Brinker – Greensburg
- Marcie Lightwood – Allentown
- Raffy Luquis, PhD – Middletown
- Patty Ross – Altoona
- Dorothy Thomas – Philadelphia

Watch the Front Porch Project grow in 2015! To find out more about FPP, locate a training near you, or sponsor a local session, visit [www.pa-fsa.org](http://www.pa-fsa.org) or contact us at (717) 238-0937.

### "Why I Love the Front Porch Project"

Beginnings, Inc. has been the leader in providing services to young children and their families including community programs for parents in Cambria County for many years. Executive Director Paula Eppley-Newman contacted PFSA in early 2014 to find out more about our Front Porch Project (FPP); then we held a FPP session in Johnstown. Response was great – but what really moved Beginnings toward becoming more involved was the death of a child in Harrisburg.



*Paula Newman (right) with Beginnings staff members Kristin Villarrial, Rachel Zaborowski, and Cathy Ritter.*

When Paula read a PFSA email about the tragedy and the comments from neighbors who wanted to help, she was "touched with an amazing impact" and decided to make FPP a new initiative for Beginnings. We held more local sessions and trained Beginnings staff as trainers. They will

offer FPP sessions in Cambria, Bedford and Somerset counties as part of their commitment to help FPP grow.

Paula explains, "I look at the Front Porch Project as an investment into our community. I hear so often that 'people just don't care.' I don't believe that is true. People do care, they just don't know what to do and how to react. They feel that it is impossible for one person to make a difference. FPP is a vehicle to get information out there. It meets people where they are and helps them realize that everyone has something to contribute. And that everyone can make a difference."

Her passion for PFSA's primary prevention program is obvious – and contagious – and has grown even stronger recently. "It's such a perfect way to look at situations that raise concern and understand that we can all do something. **It's not only big, grand gestures but rather small ripples that make the bigger impact in the long run,**" says Paula. Well said!

To find out more about Beginnings, Inc. visit [www.beginningsinc.org](http://www.beginningsinc.org). ●

### Upcoming Events: Front Porch Project

- Tuesday, January 27, 2015  
Bensalem (Bucks County)
- Friday, February 20, 2015  
Harrisburg
- Monday, April 27, 2015  
Tuesday, April 28, 2015  
Indiana (Indiana County)

Visit our website at [www.pa-fsa.org](http://www.pa-fsa.org) for details and additional training sessions.