

MIFFLIN JUNIATA HUMAN SERVICES



A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022

MIFFLIN JUNIATA HUMAN SERVICES

20 North Wayne Street, Lewistown
717-242-5452

Juniata County Courthouse Annex
(Bousum Building)
717-436-7739

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Director - | Allison Fisher |
| Grant Writer - | Lisa Stalnaker |
| Fiscal Manager - | Whitney Yohn |
| Housing Stability - | Melissa Stewart |
| | Susan Hawkins |
| | Angela Price |
| Community Resources - | Robin White |
| | Amy Torres |

Initiate.Collaborate.Build

Vision: Mifflin and Juniata Counties will address community needs through strengthened leadership.

Mission: MJHS will initiate community action which facilitates collaborative efforts and builds service capacity to address community needs around issues of education, income, and health.

Programs:

- Education
 - Community Collaboration
 - Mifflin County Communities That Care
 - Juniata County Prevention Board
 - Mifflin and Juniata County School Districts
 - Mifflin Juniata United Way
 - Tri-County Drug and Alcohol
 - Area Agency on Aging
 - Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services
 - Probation/Parole Offices
 - CYD Departments
 - Grant Coordination
- Income
 - Financial Literacy
 - Business and Education Connections
 - Financial Literacy Presentations
 - Poverty Simulations
 - Housing Stability
 - HAP
 - HUD
 - ERAP
 - PIT Count
 - Veterans
 - Coordinated Entry
 - SCA Housing Grant
 - Energy Bank
 - Housing Coalition
 - PHARE
- Healthy Communities
 - Food Security
 - SFPP
 - Food Summit/trainings
 - TEFAP
 - Food Calendars
 - Information and Referral
 - Intake
 - ORS System Management
 - Community Capacity Building

EDUCATION

Community Collaboration: The issues facing communities today are many and complex, and exist on a diverse scale. Partnerships are increasingly becoming the answer for issues that involve many stakeholders or require the application of many minds to address. There are many types of partnerships; basically, a community partnership is a collaborative relationship between willing entities formed to address shared objectives. We believe that strong partnerships build a collective focus that makes lasting progress. There is an old proverb that says “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” Building partnerships is a key component of accomplishing the work of Mifflin Juniata Human Services. Some of the agencies we partner with most often include:

- Communities That Care/Prevention Board
- School Districts
- Mifflin Juniata United Way
- HSDF Partners
- Tri-County Drug and Alcohol
- Area Agency on Aging

Grant Coordination: Grant coordination efforts allow Mifflin and Juniata Counties to be the applicants on a variety of grants designed for community development to improve services to the residents of our counties. The process typically starts with the identification of an eligible funding source by county offices or departments who then contact a variety of collaborative boards to determine interest and the county grant writer and/or the director will meet with groups to begin the grant writing process. Once the grant is obtained, the grant writer coordinates the fiscal and program reporting requirements of the grant.

GRANTS AWARDED 2022

| Grant Title | Department | Amount Awarded |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| VPR | Juniata County | \$165,606.00 |
| DOJ Vest Grant | Juniata County | \$5,232.00 |
| PCCD COVID-19 Grant | Juniata County | \$50,216.00 |
| JC CJAB TA Grant | Juniata County | \$2,000.00 |
| IPP | Mifflin County | \$95,000.00 |
| Re-Entry Coordination | Mifflin County | \$57,439.00 |
| Co-Responders Grant | Mifflin County | \$79,103.00 |
| DOJ Vest Grant | Mifflin County | \$5,232.00 |
| Pre-Trial | Mifflin County | \$177,188.00 |
| VOCA | Mifflin County | \$63,021.00 |
| RASA/VOJO | Mifflin County | \$64,942.50 |
| PCCD COVID-19 Grant | Mifflin County | \$59,230.00 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Rural Violence Reduction | Mifflin County | \$50,000.00 |
| MC CJAB TA Grant | Mifflin County | \$2,000.00 |
| ATC – BJA Grant | Mifflin County | \$157,000.00 |
| ATC | Mifflin County | \$166,678.00 |
| Innovative Policing Initiative | Mifflin County | \$59,992.00 |
| State Opioid Response Grant | Mifflin and Juniata Counties | \$265,224.00 |
| DDAP LETI | Mifflin and Juniata Counties | \$55,702.00 |

GRANT SUMMARY 2022

| Grant Status | Count of Grants | Total Dollar Amount |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Awarded | 20 | \$1,753,583.50 |

MAJOR GRANT COLLABORATIONS:

- JC VPR: Grant collaboration with JVBDS, JC School District, RedCo Group, and CCR to provide school-based mental health services in the Juniata County School District. The program was a huge success. The grant ended in 2022. However, the program has been sustained and the services continue to be offered in the schools.
- Co-Responder: Grant collaboration with JVBDS, Lewistown Police Department, CCR and other police departments. This grant provides a mental health co-responder to police departments in Mifflin County. The program was a success and, although, the grant ended in 2022 the program has been sustained.
- Re-Entry Coordinator: Grant collaboration with CJAB to provide SIM training and the creation of a dashboard. This grant also ended in 2022 with great success and has been sustained.
- BJA Rural VCR: Provides funding for co responder and CIT training. CIT training was held with 15 participants. Grant is ongoing into 2024.

INCOME

Income programming includes housing stability and financial literacy.

- **Financial Literacy**

- Financial Literacy Presentations
 - Outreach events attended include Veteran’s Outreach at Rec Park, Senior Games at Kish Park, National Night Out Mifflin and Juniata County, Strodes Mills Elementary Open House, JVBDS Employment Workshop at Birch Hill, Lewistown Elementary School Open House, Juniata School District Health and Wellness Event, Walk for Warmth, Leadership Institute Health and Human Services Day, Indian Valley Elementary School Open House, Juniata County Early Learning Family Fair, McAlisterville Senior Center Energy Bank Presentation, Senior Expo and the Out of the Darkness Walk.
- Business/Education Connections
 - Business and Ed Meetings held at The Academy
 - HMJ Employment Coalition Job Fair

- **Housing Stability**

- Homeless Assistance Program

The Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) provides services to people who are at risk of becoming homeless or who are homeless. Participants must demonstrate that with the prevention and intervention services provided by HAP they will be able to meet their basic needs in the immediate and near future. Clients must prove that their gross monthly income does not exceed 150% of the federal poverty level, the household has adequate permanent, sustainable income and demonstrate the ability to maintain rent and sustain their basic needs and that household has the funds above HAP eligibility in order to bring current balance owed to zero. Clients have a responsibility to complete all necessary documents and give total disclosure of required documents and information. Clients are required to attend three case management meetings within a 90 day period to set goals and create a spending plan for the household. HAP has a budget year of July 1 to June 30. In 2022 HAP numbers decreased due to the utilization of ERAP funds, which cover 18 months opposed to the 1 month covered under the HAP program.

| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of families served | 14 | 9 | 4 |
| Total amount awarded | \$5,704.97 | \$4,282.48 | \$1,631 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| Total amount awarded | \$3,146.94 | \$823.18 | \$500.00 |

- **PHARE**
The Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE) provides rental assistance to people who are at risk of becoming homeless or who are homeless. This program is similar to the HAP program, with the exception of the case management piece. PHARE case management is a six-month period and during this time there are additional funds to assist with rent and utilities to stabilize client’s financial outlook. Due to the funding time frame, the PHARE grant for 2021 is open until 2023.

| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of families served | 19 | 0 | 0 |
| Total amount awarded | \$6,905.77 | \$0 | \$0 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Total amount awarded | \$2,161.39 | \$0 | \$0 |

- **SCA Housing Grant**
MJHS partners with the Tri-county Drug and Alcohol Commission (SCA) to administer the State Opioid Response Support Services Navigation & Housing Services for Individuals with Opioid Use Disorder grant (SCA SOR grant). This grant allows us to utilize HS staff and SCA staff to meet the needs of substance abuse individuals in need of housing. Staff meet monthly in a team setting to discuss and refer clients to the program. The HS Housing Resource Assistant provides unit development and housing checks while the HS Housing Stability Coordinator provides case management and budget services. SCA Case managers provide DA services. The program works with approximately 10 persons a year to keep them safe and stably housed.

| Mifflin County | Housing Clients Enrolled | Housing Clients Stable | Units Explored | Units Developed |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 2022 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 2021 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 6 |
| 2020 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 2 |

- **Veterans Grant**

The Veterans Affairs grant provides services to veterans and the local Veterans Affairs office. Direct services to veterans include rental assistance, utility assistance and heating assistance. Both Veterans Affairs Office in Mifflin and Juniata Counties receive \$40,000 to assist in Veteran outreach initiatives. This includes advertising materials, outreach space rental, and cemetery flags. This year MJHS also used grant dollars to equip the REBOOT program in Juniata County with a laptop, projector and many outreach items. Funds from 2022 were also used to host the Attorney General’s Office presentation on avoiding scams targeting veterans. Funds also support events on Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day.

| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of families served | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Total amount awarded | \$650.00 | \$587.59 | \$1,105.20 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total amount awarded | \$0 | \$1,762.38 | \$499.900 |

- **Energy Bank**

Mifflin Juniata Human Services partners with the Mifflin Juniata United Way to provide both Mifflin and Juniata County residents with heating assistance. The Energy Bank provides a one time, minimum delivery of the preferred heating source to qualified residents. To qualify for the Energy Bank clients must be denied LIHEAP. There is no income eligibility, however, a copayment based on income does apply. Clients 60 and over and veterans are eligible for the Energy Bank regardless of receipt of LIHEAP benefits and the copay is waived. Clients have a responsibility to complete all necessary documents and give total disclosure of required documents and information. During the appointment financial health, energy conservation and weatherization information is provided. The Energy Bank is funded through the Walk For Warmth, which is organized by the Mifflin Juniata United Way.

| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of families served | 44 | 17 | 23 |
| Total amount awarded | \$12,926.90 | \$5,540.14 | \$10,127.00 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 22 | 12 | 13 |
| Total amount awarded | \$12,127.31 | \$3,841.51 | \$5,203.25 |

○ HUD Programs

- Point In Time Count
- Coordinated Entry Access Point/211
- Regional Housing Advisory Board/
Continuum of Care meetings/trainings

Living wage for 1 working adult with 1 child: \$32.41 vs. poverty wage of \$8.38 vs minimum wage of \$7.25
 Living wage for 2 adults in a household with 1 working adult and 2 children: \$36.24 vs. poverty wage of \$12.74 vs minimum wage of \$7.25.
 Living wage for 2 adults (both working), 2 children: \$23.28 vs poverty wage of \$6.37 vs minimum wage of \$7.25
 The living wage is the hourly rate needed for said household to support basic expenses at a bare-bones level in the county.

● Housing Initiatives

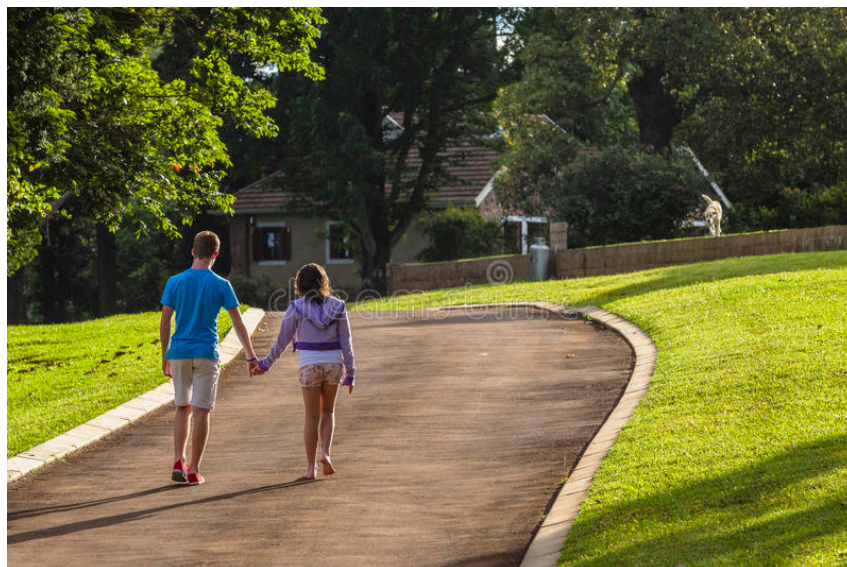
- Housing Coalition

This group meets four (4) times a year (February, May, August, and November) on the third (3rd) Thursday at 10:30 a.m. in meeting room B of the Mifflin County Courthouse. Action teams are encouraged to meet on the off months. Action teams consist of:

- Market/Resources
- Elderly
- Re-Entry
- Special Needs/Affordable Housing

● Juniata County Children and Youth Program

| Number of Referred Youth | Number of Youth Housed | Number of Youth Employed At Referral | Number of Youth Employed At Program Close | Percent of Income Increase |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | 0 | N/A | N/A |



Healthy Communities

Healthy community coordination allows MJHS the opportunity to engage in a variety of programs that affect the healthy development of our community.

o **Food Security**

- State Food Purchase Program

We partner with four food pantries in Mifflin County to provide food security through the State Food Purchase Program (SFPP). Organizations submit an application for funds. The SFPP board reviews the submitted request and designates approval and allotments for each submission. Organizations then choose whether they would like to receive food through the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank or a local vendor. This food is then combined with other donated food to provide scheduled food distributions.

Clients receive a non-perishable box, which includes items such as soups, canned vegetables, canned fruit, tomato products, canned meat, cereal, rice products, spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, instant potatoes, Jell-O, peanut butter, crackers, cake mix and paper products. This box usually weighs around 25 to 30 pounds. Clients also receive a perishable box, which includes milk, a dozen eggs, 2 kinds of meat, potatoes, apples, onions, carrots, apple juice or grape juice, bread, a bakery item, yogurt.

SFPP 2019/2020

| Organization | SFPP Funds Received | Individuals Served |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Salvation Army | \$5,251.54 | 607 |
| Hands of Grace | \$22,244.00 | 996 |
| Bible Baptist Food Pantry | \$6,167.40 | 214 |
| Calvary Bible | \$20,604 | 802 |
| Totals | \$54,266.94 | 2,619 |

2020/2021

| Organization | SFPP Funds Received | Individuals Served |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Salvation Army | \$5,251.54 | 262 |
| Hands of Grace | \$22,244.00 | 634 |
| Bible Baptist Food Pantry | \$6,167.40 | 184 |
| Calvary Bible | \$20,604 | 593 |
| Totals | \$54,266.94 | 1,673 |

2021/2022

| Organization | SFPP Funds Received | Individuals Served |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Salvation Army | \$6,471.46 | 94 |
| Hands of Grace | \$22,548.00 | 565 |
| Bible Baptist Food Pantry | \$7,049.00 | 137 |
| Calvary Bible | \$20,908 | 553 |
| Totals | \$56,976.46 | 1,292 |

- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program**
This year we added VFW and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard to the list of agencies who receive TEFAP food in Mifflin County. The Salvation Army also re-instated their participation with TEFAP. For the 2022/23 TEFAP year we have 4 agencies receiving food. This is an increase from 1 agency in 2021/22. This food is added as a supplement to the monthly food boxes that are distributed at Calvary Bible. For Salvation Army and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard the food is added to their grocery table for consumers to choose from as they come in for food. The VFW uses their TEFAP food to supplement the Military Share food distribution that is held once a month for active and nonactive veterans at the Lewistown Armory.
- **Food Calendars**
Mifflin Juniata Human Services maintains a monthly food calendar. The calendar can be found on the Mifflin County website and is also distributed to 71 different people from organizations such as churches, Mifflin Juniata United Way, Geisinger, Seda-Cog, Primary Health, Mifflin Juniata Regional Services, food pantries, home health care agencies, Mifflin County School District, and low-income housing facilities. Mifflin and Juniata Food Pantries have remained strong during COVID and are back to operating as they were pre-COVID. In Mifflin County, the Salvation Army and Mother Hubbard's Cupboard are open daily by appointment and New Life Church, Hands of Grace and Calvary Bible offer a monthly food distribution. Free meals in Mifflin County are offered once a month by St. Vincent DePaul, The Lumina Center, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, St. Mark's Luthern Church, Lewistown Presbyterian, New Life Church, Freedom United Methodist Church and Kish Valley Grace Brethern. In Juniata County, the Juniata County Food Pantry is open twice a week and also provides a food distribution once a month in Turkey Valley. Journey Christian Church, Table of Grace, East Waterford Presbyterian Church, Arch Rock United Methodist and Lighthouse Community Church offers once a month food distribution with the Iskcon Farm offering a food distribution twice a month. Please refer to the food resource calendars for the dates and times of food distributions and free meals.
- **Food Summit**
On October 17, 2022 Mifflin Juniata Human Services again partnered with Central Pennsylvania Food Bank to sponsor "A Day in the Life" food summit for the local food pantry/free meal volunteers, as well as organization involved with food insecurity. There were 35 people in attendance from 12 different organizations that provide food security in Mifflin and Juniata Counties. The event included a food insecurity simulation where participants were given a community member profile with a goal to feed that profile for a day with healthy, nutritious food on the budget they were given. The event included lunch and each participant received a gift bag that included a variety of items locally made in Mifflin and Juniata County by small businesses.

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank Report

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Mifflin County

Population: 46,179

Food insecurity rate: 12.1%

Total pounds ordered through CPFEB: 373,815

Total SFPP pounds: 83,107

Average cost per pound: \$0.47

Average produce percentage: 13%

Average Foods to Encourage: 73%

Juniata County

Population: 24,657

Food insecurity rate: 9.5%

Total pounds ordered through CPFEB: 236,025

SFPP dollars are received by the JC Food Pantry

Average cost per pound: \$0.10

Average produce percentage: 7%

Average Foods to Encourage: 60%

*Foods to Encourage are healthy foods, such as fruits, vegetables, protein, whole grain and dairy products.



Information and Referral

- Telephone Intake

The role of the Community Resource Coordinator is to ensure that each person contacting the Mifflin Juniata Human Services office understands what resources are available for their particular needs in order to prevent issues in the future. Needs are assessed during the telephone intake process. The Healthy Communities Coordinator asks questions regarding the nature of the call, household size, income and expenses. Through these conversations information is gathered to assess eligibility for MJHS programs, along with other community resources available. Eligible programs are explained and appointments are scheduled with the case manager.

2022

| | Juniata County | Mifflin County |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Family Diversions | 8 | 36 |

| Month | Juniata County | Mifflin County |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| January | 0 | 6 |
| February | 0 | 6 |
| March | 0 | 0 |
| April | 1 | 7 |
| May | 1 | 2 |
| June | 1 | 8 |
| July | 1 | 1 |
| August | 1 | 2 |
| September | 0 | 0 |
| October | 0 | 3 |
| November | 1 | 1 |
| December | 0 | 0 |

- Outcome Results System (ORS) Management

The Outcome Results System (ORS) is a complete software application that provides human service organizations the ability to collect, track, analyze and report all of the data that is critical to their operations. Mifflin Juniata Human Services maintains the ORS system for our community. Many of our partnering agencies, as well as other community service agencies utilize ORS to prevent duplication of services and collect data. The Community Resource Coordinator manages the ORS system. This includes adding/deleting ORS users, updating user agreements, training new users, merging duplicate family members, and general ORS clean up. We have 14 partner agencies with 37 users on the ORS system. In November of 2022, John Hume, a representative from Design Data held a training at the Annex on the updates in the ORS system. Eight agencies sent ORS users from their agency to the training.

- o Community Capacity Building

The Community Resource Coordinator provides meeting minutes for the SFPP board meeting, staff meetings, housing coalition, Mifflin County Communities That Care, Juniata County Prevention Board and other meetings as needed. The Community Resource Coordinator also attends the Mifflin Juniata Human Resource Council Meetings, LINK meetings and MATP coordinating meetings.

| Meeting | Meetings per Year |
|---|-------------------|
| SFPP Board meetings | 4 times a year |
| Staff meetings | Monthly |
| JC Prevention Board | Monthly |
| Housing Coalition | Quarterly |
| MJ Human Resource Council Meeting | Monthly |
| LINK Meeting | Quarterly |
| Center for Community Action Board | Monthly |
| Mifflin County Communities That Care | Monthly |
| Mifflin County School District Advisory Council | Quarterly |
| Early Childhood Development Task Force Meeting | Monthly |
| Training Clearinghouse | Bi-Monthly |
| Total meetings per year | 69 |

- o Human Services Website

With funding available through the Re-Entry Coordination grant the housing coalition developed a human services website. Human Services grants and programs are constantly changing. This website provides up-to-date information on housing, food, and mental health resources for Mifflin and Juniata counties. The website is mjhslinks.org. The Community Resource Coordinator is also working on linking the organizations website to the MJHS Links website. In 2022 we had 563 hits on the MJHS Links website. As we develop the website and continue to promote it's use we feel this number will continue to grow.

CARES AND ARPA FUNDING

The COVID pandemic brought a plethora of funding from a variety of resources in order to address issues related to the pandemic. As we continue in a state of emergency these funds continue to provide housing and utility assistance to those families affected by the pandemic. The following lists outline the resources received and utilized by MJHS.

| EFSP CARES | | EFSP ARPA |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 16 | 6 |
| Total amount awarded | \$9,898.58 | \$2,055.60 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of families served | 7 | 1 |
| Total amount awarded | \$3,212.40 | \$286.17 |

| ERAP 1 | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of households served | 220 | 311 |
| Number of unduplicated individuals | 475 | 845 |
| Total amount awarded | \$995,691.45 | \$1,157,678.93 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | 2021 | 2022 |
| Number of households served | 43 | 47 |
| Number of unduplicated individuals | 78 | 104 |
| Total amount awarded | \$168,494.38 | \$158,735.69 |

| ERAP 2 | |
|---|--------------|
| MIFFLIN COUNTY | 2022 |
| Number of households served | 236 |
| Number of unduplicated individuals served | 577 |
| Total amount awarded | \$626,825 |
| JUNIATA COUNTY | |
| Number of households served | 66 |
| Number of unduplicated individuals served | 161 |
| Total amount awarded | \$207,757.45 |