

THE YOUTH CONNECTION



**SOUTHWEST
TRAINING**
SERVICES, INC.
SERVING WASHINGTON AND GREENE COUNTIES
www.swtraining.org

SEPTEMBER 2020

STATE & LOCAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (SLIP)

Pennsylvania's workforce development system works with employers and other stakeholders to connect young people with high-quality work-based learning opportunities, paid work experiences and career pathways. Southwest Training placed "SLIP" interns at a variety of industries throughout Greene and Washington counties. Twenty-two (22) Interns, under this grant opportunity, received an 8-week internship with a company/organization that was relative to their field of study. Thank you to the employers that served as worksites! (see page 4 for additional information about the Internships and the students).



Supernova Services—Intern
Allison Paxton

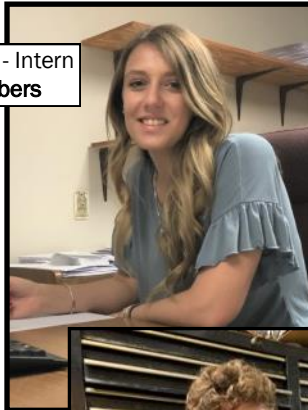


Mon Valley Alliance—Intern
Maria Claybaugh



Jarred Rice—Intern—Washington County
Department of Tax Revenue

County of Greene - Intern
Cassidy Chambers



Washington County Court of Common
Pleas Judge Traci McDonald-Kemp &
Intern—**Skyler Rideout**



Ammeraal Beltech —Intern
Cameron Cernuska



Letha Gordan—Intern
Bradley Physical Therapy

SOUTHWEST TRAINING SERVICES, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

Chair: **Dr. Dennis McCarthy** — Executive Director, Western Area Career & Technology Center

Vice Chair: **Matthew Uram** — Job Developer, Southwestern PA Area Agency on Aging

Secretary: **Marianne Albert** — Vice President, Penn Commercial, Inc.

Treasurer: **Justin Gatten** — Vice President/Relationship Manager, Huntington Bank

Rachel Mauer — President, German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

John Tkach — Director of Projects, Keystone Development Partnership

**STAYING CONNECTED...**

As we all know, ZOOM has become an integral part of our lives, with graduations, family visits and milestones all being celebrated through ZOOM!

ZOOM is being used by everyone at the PA CareerLink® for staff meetings, informational meetings, and most importantly, connecting with our customers. PA CareerLink® staff are able to help people job search, create or update their resumes, attend Career Pathways workshops, mock interviews, and meet for appointments to enroll into training programs. ZOOM is very convenient for anyone with a computer or smart phone, and by making an appointment, a job seeker can meet with any of the PA CareerLink® staff to complete these tasks stress free. The PA CareerLink® offices are open now, by appointment only. Safety measures have been put into place to protect the staff and visitors alike. *As with any means of social media, you must always be alert and responsible.*

Our mission is to assist job seekers with finding jobs or training and to help employers find quality candidates. We are just adapting to the changes and requirements to operate in this unprecedented time!

Many online resources and services can be found at: www.pacareerlink.pa.gov.

We have found other sources to stay connected online.

**ALTERNATIVES TO ZOOM:**

Skype: Skype Meetings enable you to connect for free with up to 10 people at once. This can be a great option for teams and small groups. www.skype.com

Gotomeeting.com: This platform allows you to record the meeting, present files for download, show PowerPoint presentations and more. It's easy to setup and gather a large number of people at one time. www.gotomeeting.com

Google Hangouts: This free option allows you to schedule meetings through Google calendar. You can host up to 10 people at once. <https://meet.google.com>

Facebook Messenger Video Chat: This platform typically has a high participation rate due to students already being on Facebook. Users report very few technical difficulties however, it is limited to only eight people at a time. www.facebook.com

Houseparty: You can host up to eight people at a time, but is limited to only allowing people you know to join the meeting. www.houseparty.com

Instagram Live: Most likely, most students are already on this social media platform. So, it's a great option for meetings. After a leader goes live, they simply tap on a person's name to invite them to join the live video. www.instagram.com

GroupMe: This is a free group text messaging and conference calling service that allows you to create groups and easily text message several contacts at once. www.groupme.com

VIRTUAL LEARNING FUN!

As a result of all of our in-person career camps being cancelled this summer, we were fortunate enough to connect with Dr. Mary Jo Podgurski, President/Founder for the Washington Health System Academy for Adolescent Health, Inc. Dr. Podgurski pitched her idea of hosting "Virtual Camps" and we were thrilled to help her make those a reality! **As a result... 10 Camps** were planned, developed and delivered! Each were fun, but also educational and all had career and "S.T.E.A.M." (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) components.

⇒ A total of **192 youth** attended **10 camps** over **11 weeks** and **5 weekly clubs** (that evolved from the camps) are still being hosted! The camps included:

Art Camp: This Camp also focused on Anime Art, with a long term project of creating a comic book, written and illustrated, in chapters, by the young artists. Art from these Camps will be published in the annual youth drive anthology. This year's title is "COVID Connections". Crochet artist, Cheryl Hopper, also taught all of the art campers to crochet! **Careers in Art:** Art Gallery Dealer; Animator; Commercial Artist; Interior Designer; Graphic Designer; Fashion Designer

Book/Writing Camp: The young people in this camp loved it so much, they created an on-going weekly book club. The Campers discussed their love of books and reading and the written word and they wrote stories based on writing prompts. They all read their stories on Fridays. Guest Speaker, Karen Mansfield, from the Observer Reporter, taught about careers in journalism. **Careers in Writing:** Communications Director; Screenwriter; Technical Writer; Novelist; Columnist; Book Editor; Advertising Manager; Public Relations Specialist

Computer Camp: Facilitators taught campers how to code. Guest Speaker, Richard Podgurski, talked about his career in Information Technology. A parent comment: "This camp was better than the one I paid a lot of money for last year. My son really loved coding with kids his own age." **Careers in Computers:** Video Game Designer; Software Tester; Web Developer; Systems Analyst; Software Engineer; Computer Support Specialist; Computer Programmer

Culinary Camp: This facilitator team prepared two dishes daily and the campers did their own version of "Chopped" on Fridays. Speaker, Linda Adkins, Owner of LA Sweets Bakery, taught the campers how to make banana split cake and speaker, Mark Kennison, owner of the President's Pub, shared his career as a restaurateur. **Careers in Culinary Arts:** Baker; Chef; Pastry Chef; Food and Beverage Manager; Restaurant Manager; Food Scientist

Games Camp: During this fun camp, the campers explored various types of games from card games to online gaming, to role playing games. It was a very popular camp! **Careers in Gaming:** Games Designer; Software Developer; Games Animator; Game Programmer; Audio Engineer; Gamer

Photography Camp: Facilitators lead the campers to create photo journals illustrating the principals of photography. Guest Speaker, Ericka Hatfield, shared her knowledge of photography. A parent's comment: "Both my husband and I were impressed by how engaging the class was, and also how your team managed to make all the students feel successful and appreciated, regardless of their photography experience and distance learning skill set."

Careers in Photography: Commercial Photographer; Portrait & Fashion Photographer; Travel Photographer; Forensic Photographer; Photojournalist; Sports Photographer

Theater Camp: All theater, all the time! Speaker, Adam Brock (WCT and American Idol) shared insights into auditioning and directing. The highlight of this camp? The campers created original plays in break out sessions and performed them.

Careers in Theater: Actor/Performer; Artistic Director; Choreographer; Sound Designer; Director; Lighting Designer; Musical Director

Wellness Camp: Speaker, Dr. Cindy Schuler, taught about dental health, fitness instructor, Megan Leslie, led the campers in exercise, and Dorothy Tecklenberg taught tai chi. Also demonstrated and modeled were meditation, mindfulness & relaxation for stress. **Careers in Wellness:** Health/Fitness Teacher; Nurse; Doctor; Dentist; School Psychologist; Nutritionist; Coach

Travel/Explorer Camp The adult facilitator, Liz Glowark, set a goal of visiting each continent before her 30th birthday and accomplished that dream. She taught about Antarctica, South America and Asia. Dr. Podgurski also taught about Russia, the Netherlands and China. **Careers in Travel:** Airline and Commercial Pilots; Air Traffic Controllers; Flight Attendants; Travel Agents; Tourism Promoter; Meeting, Convention, and Event planners; Anthropologist



THANK YOU to Dr. Mary Jo Podgurski and her entire team that created curriculum, facilitated, assisted and attended these camps! What positive & fun experiences during this unprecedented time for so many of our area's youth!

SLIP INTERN	HIGH SCHOOL / POST-SECONDARY	MAJOR	WORKSITE
Nicole C.	Robert Morris University	Mechanical Engineering	Accutrex Products, Inc.
Cameron Cernuska	Bucknell University	Chemical Engineering	Ammeraal Beltech
Kaitlin Wagner	Seton Hill University	Physician's Assistant	Boar Physical Therapy
Letha Gordan	Youngstown State University	Exercise Science	Bradley Physical Therapy
Madison Simkovic	Slippery Rock University	Exercise Science	County of Greene – Parks & Recreation
Cassidy Chambers	Slippery Rock University	Exercise Science	County of Greene
Douglas Gudenburr	The Citadel	Mechanical Engineering	Ductmate Industries, Inc.
Ty Bedillion	Washington University	Mechanical Engineering/ Engineering Management	Ductmate Industries, Inc.
Dalton Fraser	California University of PA	Computer Information Systems	Greene Co. Career & Technology Center
Hannah Cole	Central Greene High School	n/a	Greene County Prothonotary
Maria Claybaugh	St. Vincent College	Communications	Mon Valley Alliance
Noah Muccino	California University of PA	Computer Science	Private Industry Council of West./Fayette
Montell Carlock	California University of PA	Sports Management	Strive for a Better Tomorrow, Inc.
Allison Paxton	Bethany College	Psychology	SuperNova Services
Amanda Reilly	Slippery Rock University	Communications/Public Relations	United Way of Washington County
Wesley Hoge	Geneva College	Accounting/Business Management	Washington County Controller's Office
Skyler Rideout	Washington & Jefferson College	Business Administration	Washington County Court of Common Pleas – Judge Traci McDonald-Kemp
Blake Frame	Lynn University	Political Science	Washington County District Attorney's Office
Nicholas Marucci	University of Pittsburgh	Political Science/History	Washington County District Attorney's Office
Sarah Stitch	Duquesne University	Sociology/Social Work	Washington County District Attorney's Office of Victims Services
Michael Plants	Clarion University	Accounting	Washington County Dept. of Tax Revenue
Jarred Rice	Washington & Jefferson College	Accounting	Washington County Dept. of Tax Revenue



Thank You Employers



*"Doing the best at this moment
puts you in the
best place
for
the next moment"
(Oprah Winfrey)*

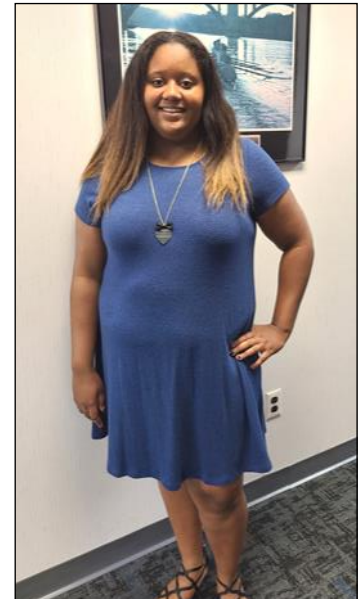
WORKING IN WASHINGTON COUNTY



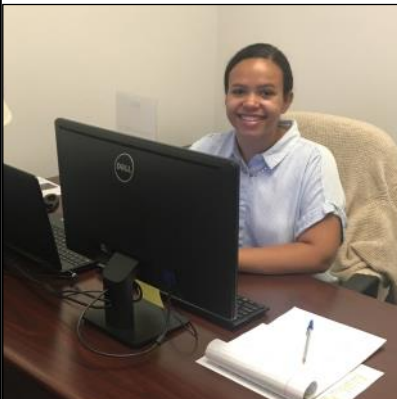
(above left)-Wesley Hoge-Intern with (right) Nico Labella -(2019 SWTS Intern and Worksite Supervisor) at the **Washington County Controller's Office**



The Ivy Green—Owner-Melissa Mega, Intern, Cameron Moore and Alternate Supervisor Brianna Palfreyman



(above) Ariana Kemp—Intern **PA CareerLink® Washington County**



United Way of Washington County Intern—Amanda Reilly



Dennis Slovick and Worksite Supervisor Ron Allison **Burgettstown Borough**



PA Trolley Museum Intern—Alyssa Garner



Charlie Allison, Worksite Supervisor Carol Sweda, and Vivian Allison at **Greenlee Derrico Posa, LLC.**



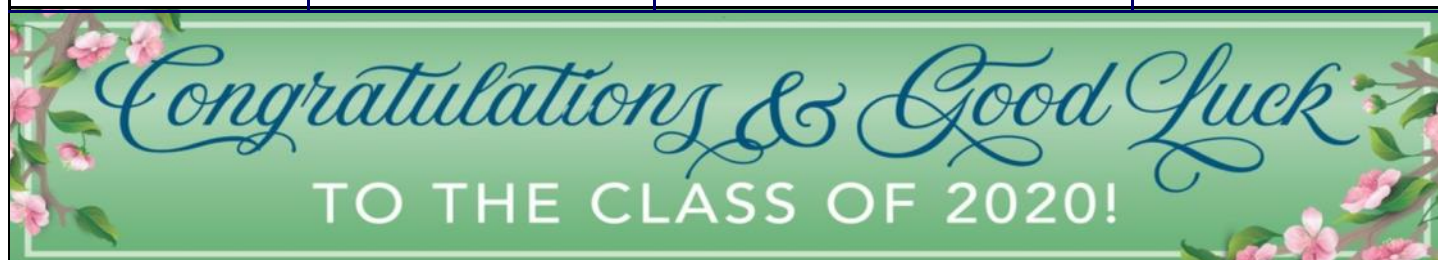
Joseph Neish-McMurdy, Matthew Kidwell, Michael Jeniskis, Joshua Tournay and Gage Mullins at **Western Area CTC**

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 SWTS HIGH SCHOOL GRADS

We are so proud of this year's graduating class! Although the school year did not end up the way we all wanted it to, this group of students successfully completed their high school years with a positive outlook for the future! CONGRATULATIONS!!

SENIOR	HIGH SCHOOL	POST-SECONDARY or EMPLOYMENT	MAJOR
Samantha Hindman	Bentworth Area High School	Point Park University	Communications
Andrew Klepis	Bentworth Area High School	University of Pittsburgh	Political Science/Philosophy
Tanner Knox	Bentworth Area High School	Employment	
Tiffany Lusk	Bentworth Area High School	Washington & Jefferson College	Biology / Pre-Med
Evie Ritter	Bentworth Area High School	Employment	
McKenzie Huber	Burgettstown Area High School	Employment	
Shannon Reed	Burgettstown Area High School	Pittsburgh Technical College	Business Management
Jacob Harris	California Area High School	Employment	
Carmen Tyler	California Area High School	Employment	
Mark Ayres	Canon McMillan High School	Community College of Allegheny Co.	Business Administration
Natalie Boehm	Canon McMillan High School	Clarion University of PA	Education
Alexis Dolanch-Babcock	Canon McMillan High School	Vet Tech	Veterinarian Technician
Briana Mittenzwey	Canon McMillan High School	Employment	
Michael Robison	Carmichaels Area High School	Employment	
Kiersten Dennison	Central Greene High School	California University of PA	Criminal Justice/Forensics
Kaitlyn McCrea	Central Greene High School	Employment	
Kaitlyn Pratt	Central Greene High School	Waynesburg University	Nursing
Talia Teagarden	Central Greene High School	Waynesburg University	Nursing
Olivia Miller	Charleroi Area High School	Duquesne University	International Business
Makendra Pendleton	Charleroi Area High School	California University of PA	Physical Therapy Assistant
Brianna Allison	Fort Cherry High School	Parkway West CTC	Nail Technology
Jackson Clevenger	Fort Cherry High School	Duquesne Light Apprenticeship	
Ariana Kemp	Fort Cherry High School	Pittsburgh Technical College	Computer Aided Drafting
Kelystah Martisko	Jefferson Morgan High School	Employment	
Colby Simkovic	Jefferson Morgan High School	Employment	
Hope Moore	McGuffey High School	Employment	
Natalie Egan	Ringgold High School	California University of PA	Occupational/Physical Therapy
Logan Petroske	Ringgold High School	Employment	
Robert Orndoff-Jenkins	Southeastern Greene High School	Employment	
Travis Stevulak	Southeastern Greene High School	Laurel Business Institute	Welding
Matthew Whipkey	Southeastern Greene High School	Employment	

SENIOR	HIGH SCHOOL	POST-SECONDARY or EMPLOYMENT	MAJOR
Zachary Diedrich	Trinity Area High School	Cedarville University	Accounting
Christopher Paradise Jr.	Trinity Area High School	Employment	
Micalya Samples	Trinity Area High School	Community College of Allegheny Co.	Undecided
Alyssa Stewart	Trinity Area High School	Employment	
Logan Pegram	Trinity Area High School	Western Area CTC	Emissions & Transmission
Kayla Andreoli	Washington High School	University of Akron	Accounting
LaShauna Carruthers	Washington High School	Community College of Allegheny Co.	Social Work
Pareis Gardner	Washington High School	Pittsburgh Technical College	Hospitality Management
Unique Levy	Washington High School	Pittsburgh Technical College	Hospitality Management
Zakhi Marshall	Washington High School	Wheeling University	Undecided
Steven McClain Jr.	Washington High School	Employment	
Randi Thomas	Washington High School	Our Lady of the Lake University	Psychology
Dalton Bamberger	West Greene High School	Employment	



VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE

Due to COVID-19 and the closing of our offices in March 2020, our youth staff have developed **virtual workshops** for youth to participate in. All workshops have been uploaded to Southwest Training's YouTube channel including:



Financial Literacy workshop: This workshop covers basic terms and ideas related to financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Career Readiness workshop: This workshop highlights the Career Ready Initiatives by the PA Department of Education that highlight the goals and essential skills for students at every grade level in terms of preparing for a career after high school.

Interview Skills workshop: This workshop reviews common interview questions and provides suggestions for how to prepare answers to the questions.

Diversity and Equity Workshop: This presentation will provide you with general knowledge about key issues, terminology, &

practices for reducing discrimination in your workplace & community.

Professionalism & Building Respect in the Workplace: Strive to be the best employee that you can be with these tips and guidelines on professionalism and building respect in the workplace.

Harassment in the Workplace Workshop: This presentation will provide you with general knowledge about types of harassment, legal information, statistics, and prevention and response tips when addressing harassment.

Also included on our YouTube Channel is the Orientation to PA CareerLink® services. It is a summary of the various services offered through the PA CareerLink®. Check them out on YouTube — Southwest Training Services, Inc.... We will be adding more!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBaN8g6fndNh465B-OQPMw>

CONNECT WITH PA CAREERLINK®

Looking for work? Interested in training? Need help with your resume? Call or email our local PA CareerLink® offices for more information. Let us inform you of the many services and resources available to you!

You can also log onto: www.pacareerlink.pa.gov

PA CareerLink® Greene County

200 Greene Plaza, Waynesburg, PA 15370
phone: 724-852-2900
Email: paclgreene@washingtongreene.org

PA CareerLink® Mon Valley

570 Galiffa Drive, Donora, PA 15033
phone: 724-379-4750
Email: paclmv@washingtongreene.org



PA CareerLink® Washington County

90 West Chestnut Street, Suite 150 LL, Washington, PA 15301
phone: 724-223-4500
Email: paclwash@washingotngreene.org

HAPPY RETIREMENT TRISH!



After working for Southwest Training in various capacities, and following 10+ years as the Site Administrator for PA CareerLink® Mon Valley and Washington County, Trish Brickner decided to retire. To say she will be missed is an understatement.

Trish was a true working manager and worked tirelessly to promote workforce development

resources and services within the Southwest Corner. She effortlessly oversaw two PA CareerLink® locations, in Washington

County, all the while serving on multiple boards and committees throughout the area. We are thankful for all of her years of dedication, hard work,



service and support. After living in the Mon Valley area her entire life, Trish and her husband, Gus, are relocating to South Carolina, which has always been a dream of theirs. We wish you a future of happiness! Enjoy this well deserved new adventure!

SUPPORT FROM SOUTHWEST...

Lisa L. Neil, President – lnail@swtraining.org

Cynthia A. Derrico, Vice President – cderrico@swtraining.org



For more information or to get involved, contact our Youth Staff:

Ester Barnes, Youth Program Coordinator

ebarnes@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 241

McKenzie Monaghan, Youth Case Manager (Wash. Co.)

mmonaghan@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 275

Maresa Hunyady, Youth Case Manager (Greene Co.)

mhunyadi@swtraining.org 724-852-2900 x 246

Marta Zimmerman, Youth Case Manager (Mon Valley)

mzimmerman@swtraining.org 724-379-4750 x 125

Joyce Leyda, Records & Retention Specialist

jleyda@swtraining.org 724-229-1350 x 231

Eligible youth between the ages of 14 to 24 (in-school and out-of-school) can enroll with Southwest Training and work with our staff on the following:

- ⇒ Work one-on-one with a Youth Case Manager
- ⇒ Gain Skills To Get A Job
- ⇒ Achieve a Credential
- ⇒ Get help with Job Searching
- ⇒ Learn Effective Interview Techniques
- ⇒ Academic and Occupational Skills Testing
- ⇒ Supportive Services
- ⇒ Career Awareness Activities
- ⇒ Post-Secondary Training Opportunities
- ⇒ Paid Work Experiences
- ⇒ Job Shadowing Experiences
- ⇒ Post-Secondary School Visits
- ⇒ Employer/Industry Tours
- ⇒ Career, College and Job Fairs
- ⇒ On-The-Job Training

... AND MUCH MORE!

NEW PA CAREERLINK® WASHINGTON COUNTY SITE ADMINISTRATOR AIMEE TRUNZO

Aimee Trunzo grew up here in Washington County where she still resides today with her husband and two small children. She spent only a brief four years out of the county while she attended, and graduated from, Theil College in 2005. While in college, she belonged to the Sigma Kappa Sorority while also earning a spot in the Communication Honor Society, Lambda Pi Eta. While attending college, Aimee found her way to Southwest Training Services, Inc. During two summer breaks, she worked as a Summer Manager for the Summer Youth Program. After completing her Bachelors Degree in Communications, she went to work for Southwest Training and never looked back! Over the next 14 years she has held multiple positions within the agency including Case Manager and Operations Support Specialist, and has been involved in numerous projects within the agency. Along with her new position, she will be continuing to provide Operational Support along with providing technical/computer support for the other PA CareerLink® offices in the Southwest Corner. **CONGRATULATIONS** on your new position Aimee!!

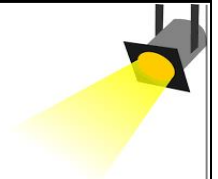


SWTS STAFF SPOTLIGHT: JOYCE LEYDA



Hello! My name is **Joyce Leyda** and I am the Records & Retention Specialist for Southwest Training Services. My main office is in the PA CareerLink® Washington County but I track and maintain follow-up, for one-year, after program exit, on ALL individuals that we serve. Previously, I was in the WIOA out-of-school summer youth program and had a work experience opportunity at the PA CareerLink®. My role was to assist job seekers and customers on the PA CareerLink® website and while they were in the Career Resource Center. I was lucky enough that at the end of my work-experience, Southwest Training offered me a position full time and I have been here ever since! This year is my 4th year with Southwest Training!

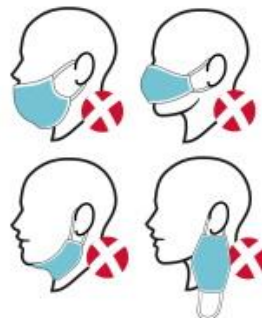
I graduated from Bentworth High School. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, especially babysitting my niece. I also like to listen to music and travel to the beach. The best part of my job is seeing all the people working and how far they have come. Here we are all family and I have learned many valuable resources along with building connections in the community with professional skills.



CORRECT



INCORRECT



MEET OUR 2020 SUMMER YOUTH MANAGERS

RYAN BROWNFIELD-Greene County



"My name is Ryan Brownfield and this is my fourth year as a summer manager with Southwest Training Services Inc. I recently graduated from Waynesburg University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. My major was Business Management and I had a minor in Marketing. While in college, I started working on an MBA which I plan to complete in the future. Besides pursuing an MBA, I have also been accepted into the Pittsburgh Fellows program and will be moving to Sewickley at the end of August. During my time there, I will be working for Birgo Realty in their property management and operations sections, while also attaining 12 graduate level credits and a few certifications in leadership. While working for Southwest Training I have learned a lot pertaining to what it takes to be a manager and leader. I have been challenged and stretched to great lengths

and know that if you are determined, you can accomplish anything. My favorite part of the job was getting to talk to and learn about the participants and watching them grow through the experiences that their worksites have offered them. Seeing participants and worksites come back year after year is nice to know that what we are doing here at Southwest Training is good for the community and leaving a lasting impact on their lives."

MADDIE SPENCER—Washington County

"I'm Maddie Spencer and this is my first year as a Summer Manager. I am a graduate of Trinity Area High School and a currently a sophomore attending Penn State University — main Campus, majoring in Public Relations.

I am excited to meet the workers in the Summer Program and to see them regularly throughout their work schedules. As Summer Manager, I have taken on responsibilities that will be useful in my future career. I hope to make personal connections with both my workers and the worksites."

Maddie was a summer worker last year and she did so well that we brought her back as a manager and she has done a remarkable job!



KATIE VALLA — Mon Valley

Katelyn (Katie) Valla is a junior at Hood College, in Frederick, Maryland, majoring in Environmental Science & Policy. After Katie graduates from college, her goal is to pursue a career in Marine Biology. This is Katie's second year as the Summer Manager for the Mon Valley Area.

Katie stated, "The aspect I enjoy most about being a summer manager is meeting with the youth and seeing their excitement about starting a new work experience."



SUPERINTENDENT SPOTLIGHT – Dr. James Konrad – Washington

Superintendent James Konrad
Washington School District

Dr. James R. Konrad began his appointment as Superintendent of **Washington School District** on July 1, 2017. The Washington School District serves 1,500 students in grades K-12. During his first year as superintendent, Dr. Konrad focused his attention on academic achievement, technology, and positive public relations. As a result of his efforts, Dr. Konrad received a Distinguished superintendent evaluation from his Board of Directors. Over the past few years, Dr. Konrad has prioritized his vision of Washington School District to include an emphasis on Social & Emotional Learning. This emphasis continues today during the 2020-2021 school year especially due to the global pandemic that we are experiencing which has had a major impact on the mental health and well-being of the students that we serve. Dr. Konrad believes that these “life skills” will provide a foundation for greater personal growth and success for our young people.

A public educator for over 15 years, Dr. Konrad works closely with his Board of Directors, principals, teachers, support staff, students, and community. Through positive collaboration, he takes time to understand various needs of the district and works diligently to secure the necessary resources and partnerships to support the success of all learners. Prior to joining Washington School District, he served in a variety of roles, including teacher, special education teacher, Director of Special Education, Assistant Principal, Principal, & Director of Instructional Improvements and Teacher Evaluations.

As a native Pennsylvanian, Dr. Konrad is a visionary leader who is committed to closing all achievement gaps for the students that he serves. He is an individual who embraces a growth mindset and truly believes that you never stop learning. He is passionate about all students having access and opportunities to the best teachers, resources, programs, partnerships, and post-secondary options in college and career.

Dr. Konrad holds the following degrees: A doctoral degree in Educational Administration from Temple University; a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Temple University; and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Special Education from Duquesne University, where he was a four-year starter on the men's Division 1 soccer team. He is currently completing a Master of Business Administration degree from Temple University.

Recently, Dr. Konrad has been collaborating with superintendents across the Commonwealth through a number of State initiatives including the state's Superintendent Academy – Cohort 2 under the direction of Secretary of Education, Pedro Riveria, PA Association of School Administrators (PASA) New Superintendent's Academy, and PA School Board Associations (PSBA) Commonwealth Education Blueprint, Alliance of Mindful School Leaders, Creating Vision By Opening Eyes, and Tri-State Area School Study Council.

Dr. Konrad resides in Washington County with his wife Heddy and their three young daughters: Abby, Maddy, and Ally.

**RANDOM FACT:**

If you *smile*, even if you're in a bad mood, it will *immediately improve* your mood, because the simple action of thinking about smiling and using the muscles is enough to trigger happy chemicals in the brain.

DID YOU KNOW???

Yuor brian is so pfweroul, taht it can raed scntenees wth mxied up wrods as lnog as the fsrit and lsat letetrs are in the rgiht palce.

PRINCIPAL SPOTLIGHT-Mr. Brandon Robinson - Jefferson Morgan

Mr. Robinson is entering his 12th year in the Jefferson-Morgan School District. He has had various roles in the district, but currently is the Middle/High School Principal and Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Robinson attended Waynesburg University for his Bachelor's Degree and California University of Pennsylvania for his Master's Degree & Principals Certification. He also holds a Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Point Park University.

Mr. Robinson currently lives in Canonsburg, PA with his wife Melissa, and son Kyler. He is a sports enthusiast and enjoys watching football and basketball.

Mr. Robinson believes that each student is unique in their own way and need a safe, caring, and challenging atmosphere to grow and mature emotionally, intellectually, physically, and socially. It is important for students to develop self-esteem, sensitivity, creativity, and respect for others as well as improve upon their critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, and research skills while learning how to work collaboratively with others.



Principal Brandon Robinson
Jefferson Morgan High School

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR SPOTLIGHT

MAGGIE MOTYCKI Bentworth High School



Ms. Maggie Moyticki
Counselor, Bentworth H.S.

My name is Maggie Motycki, and I am the high school counselor for Bentworth High School. I have been working at Bentworth full time since October 2017 (but I subbed here for a semester in the spring of 2014). I graduated from Charleroi High School, then went to Penn State University where I majored in Crime, Law, and Justice, and from there received my Masters in Counseling Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

My favorite thing about working at Bentworth is getting a chance to

form relationships with all of the students (my favorite perk of working in a small school!) I love getting to see kids grow from scared freshmen to seniors who are ready to take on the world!

Youth Reentry Cooperative Network

**YOU DIDN'T COME THIS FAR
TO ONLY COME THIS FAR.**



**Education, Employment, and Mentoring Programs
for Washington, Greene and Beaver County
Justice-Involved Youth Ages 18-24.**

Please Call Chuck 361-232-7290 for More Information.



Job Training for Beaver County, Inc.



Equal Opportunity Employer. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



Hannah Cole—Intern
Greene County Prothonotary's Office



Monongahela Chamber of Commerce
Intern—Mackenzie Figolah



Bella Skobel—Intern
Charleroi Area High School



Strive for a Better Tomorrow, Inc.
Supervisor Chantel Bey and
Intern-Montel Carlock



Lisa Motosicke at
South Hills Rehab



Carmen Tyler working at the
Greater Washington Co. Food Bank



Morgan Simkovic at
Greene County Parks and Recreation



Sophia Strnisha—Washington County
Court Administrator's Office



Sara Roscoe and Worksite
Supervisor, Norma Kelley at the
Flenniken Public Library



David Lambert at
North Bethlehem Township



Interns— Nicholas Marucci, Blake Frame,
Jacob Paez, DA Gene Vittone, Madison Walsh
Washington County District Attorney
Gene Vittone's Office



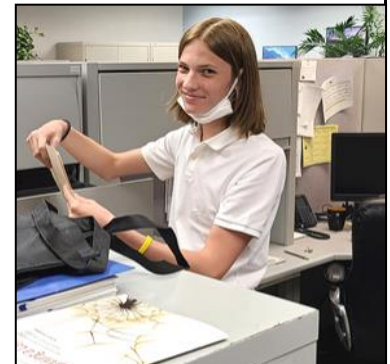
Colton Baldauf
Greater Washington Co. Food Bank



Derek Timko (left) & David Timko (right)
Working at West Brownsville Boro



Diamon Butler, Savannah Johnson, Kameelah
Young, Izabelle Garrety, and
Worksite Supervisor, Nikki Jones - Life Church



Jacob North—Intern for the
PA CareerLink® Washington Co.



Jacob Harris
Greater Washington
County Food Bank



Jonas Brovey
Center in the Woods

Karlee Payton & Madeline McClure
with their Worksite Supervisor at
5 KIDZ KANDY →



left to right-Amaya Owens, Amari Owens, Savanna Owens, Dennis O'Brien,
Maddison Hite, Macayla Traverso-Bloom - Daisytown Community Center



Burgettstown School District- Corey Phillips and Dylan Slovick help with landscaping



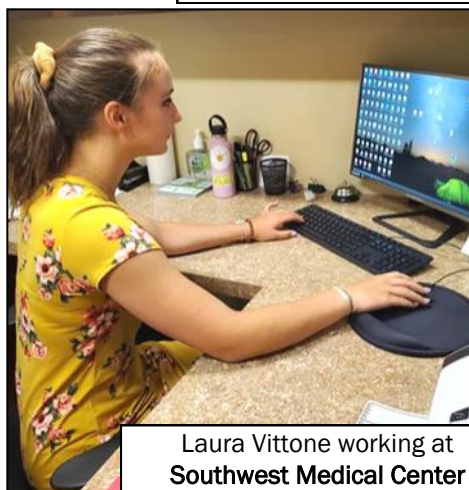
**Kidz Biz—Maiden Street
Morgan North and Peyton Celani**



Katie Waugh—Intern for the Washington County Coroner's Office



**Tyra Sparks-Gatling
L.A. Sweets Bakery**



Laura Vittone working at Southwest Medical Center



**Gianna O'Brien
Tri County Realty Associates, LP**



**Ameara Chandler
Canon McMillan School District**



Breanne Miller—Intern for the PA CareerLink® Mon Valley



Marena Malone, MacKenzie Lightfoot, Edward Hamilton, and Tearsa Smith at Washington High School

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH!!

Southwest Training serves Greene and Washington County youth ages, 14 to 24 who fall under two categories— in-school and out-of-school. Out-of-school youth are mainly between the ages 18-24. As COVID-19 required adjustments to education, such as closing campuses, extending programs, and transitioning to online education while initiating reopening plans, we want to congratulate all students who have persevered and adapted to the changes. We commend students across the board who have established resiliency and stepped up to the challenge, as well as faculty members, instructors, and professors who have done so as well.

We are very proud of the following recent graduates, as they too, have completed their programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

GRADUATE	SCHOOL—GRADUATION DATE	MAJOR/PROGRAM OF STUDY
Amber Kesner	Greene County Career & Technology Center (6/18/2020)	Licensed Practical Nurse
Kaelyn Jenkins	Greene County Career & Technology Center (6/18/2020)	Licensed Practical Nurse
Nicole Jones	Med Certs (8/06/2020)	Medical Front Office Administrative Assistant
Lauren Riley	Med Certs (8/20/2020)	Healthcare Administrative Professional
Michael Draven	Penn Commercial (7/2/2020)	Electrician



ADVENTURE AWAITS FOR SAGE MILLER

Southwest Training personally congratulates **Sage Miller** (pictured left), who has persevered through the academic and workforce challenges that COVID-19 has posed. Sage is 2019 Trinity High School graduate and is currently a full-time student, at Pittsburgh Technical College. She is seeking her Associates Degree in Hospitality Management Administration and has excelled in her academics and work in the field.

Sage has shown distinguished leadership while advocating for herself and her fellow classmates throughout the transition to online learning. It is through those efforts that the online education forum has continued to get better and meet unique needs of working in the Hospitality Management field and maintaining academic integrity. Sage's goal is to eventual-

SUCCESS IS IN SHAYLA WELLHAM'S FUTURE

Southwest Training would also personally like to congratulate **Shayla Wellham**. Shayla is 2019 graduate of Canon McMillan High School who has excelled through these changing times academically and personally. She is currently attending Pittsburgh Technical College, for an Associate's Degree, in Criminal Justice. Shayla has shown true resilience in the transition to online learning, not just through the obtainment of excellent grades, but her optimism and positive perspective.

In times such as these where there is an increased demand for qualified, competent, and authentic criminal justice professionals, we are proud to see her succeed in her academic training and professional development. Shayla's goal is to possibly become a Probation/Parole Officer!



How Are Your “Soft Skills”?



THE IMPORTANCE OF SOFT SKILLS IN THE WORKPLACE

You’ve been hired! That’s great news. But it’s important to understand that making a good impression doesn’t end with the interview. Once hired, many people act in an unprofessional manner and make negative impressions on supervisors and co-workers. The result? They end up losing the job they worked so hard to obtain.

Professionalism is one of many ‘soft skills’ that today’s employers say workers are lacking. These skills center on social interaction and communication while at work. Acting in a professional manner and learning other ‘soft skills’ will improve your chances of succeeding

within a company, even if you lack experience or have underdeveloped technical skills.

How Are Your Soft Skills?

Punctuality: Do you arrive at work 15 minutes early, or do you rush around and get there a few minutes late?

Professional Dress: Do you dress for success, or do you just wear whatever might be clean that day?

Self-motivation: Do you actively seek out work for yourself, or do you wait for someone to tell you what to do?

Flexibility: When asked to do something you’ve never done before; do you rise to the challenge or complain that you don’t know how to do it?

Teamwork: Do you think working as a team is a waste of time, or does it motivate you to do your best?

You also have to realize that the mistakes you make at one job could stay with you as bad performance reviews, unfavorable references and as part of your professional reputation as you look for another job. With that in mind, the following is a list of professional behavior guidelines to keep in mind as you start a new job:

Basic Professionalism

- ⇒ Get any dental or medical appointments out of the way before you start a new job.
- ⇒ You don’t want to take off work early in your employment unless it’s an emergency situation.
- ⇒ Be on time for work. Nothing says ‘unreliable’ like repeated tardiness.
- ⇒ Come to work clean and well groomed. Yes, it sounds obvious, but poor appearance leaves a lasting impression.
- ⇒ Dress appropriately for work. Don’t wear a suit to your job if it’s dirty and labor intensive. Likewise, don’t wear a t-shirt to an office job at a law firm.
- ⇒ Take the time to read the office manual on policies and procedures. Then follow it.
- ⇒ Keep your personal life separate from your office life. Don’t address personal matters while you are on a company phone on company time.
- ⇒ Remember that the supplies and equipment provided to you are there to help you do your job, and are NOT there for your own personal use.



“Any other people skills, besides 400 Facebook friends?”

APPRENTICESHIP—Learning while Earning

An **Apprenticeship** combines on-the-job learning with job related instruction to build worker skills and establish pathways to higher levels of employment and wages.

An **Apprenticeship** meets business needs for qualified workers in more than 1,000 occupations. As an “earn and learn” model, apprentices are employed and earn wages from the first day on the job.

THE 5 COMPONENTS OF A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP ARE:

- 1) Business Involvement:** Employers define skill requirements, recruit apprentices, provide on-the-job (OJT) training, select mentors, pay progressive wages as skills increase, and validate related instruction inhouse or in partnership with training providers.
- 2) Structured On-the-Job-Training:** Apprentices get hands-on training from an experienced mentor at the job site for typically not less than one year.
- 3) Related Instruction:** Classroom instruction accompanies on-the-job learning. Education partners collaborate with business to develop a curriculum based on the skills and knowledge needed for the job.
- 4) Rewards for Skill Gains:** Apprentices receive increases in pay as their skills and knowledge increase. Progressive wage increases help reward and motivate apprentices as they advance through their training.
- 5) National Occupational Credential:** Every graduate of a Registered Apprenticeship program receives a nationally-recognized credential.

Apprenticeships are often found in highly skilled technical jobs, such as engineering or construction, or popular trades, such as carpentry, plumbing, and electrical. New industries like - finance and business, hospitality, health care, telecommunications, IT, and energy are also benefitting from apprenticeship programs.

Do you want to learn more about Apprenticeships?

www.Apprenticeship.gov is the one-stop source to connect career seekers, employers, and education partners with apprenticeship resources. Learn more about apprenticeships across industries, how to establish a program, and access open apprenticeship jobs.

<https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Workforce-Development/apprenticeship/Pages/default.aspx>



“Don't put a limit
on anything.
The more you
dream the
farther you get.”

Michael Phelps
22 medals



HAPPY RETIREMENT PATTI!

We also want to congratulate **Patti Hanley** on her recent retirement from **Pittsburgh Technical College!** Patti has been a strong supporter of our youth program and has always offered assistance with workshops and school events. She has been a long-time partner and a member of our Southwest Corner PA CareerLink® Operator Consortium. We wish you the best Patti! We will truly miss you. (pictured left-right: Trish Brickner & Patti Hanley at their Office Retirement party)

Youth Work Experience Worksites – GREENE COUNTY

5 Kidz Kandy	Greene County Redevelopment Authority
County of Greene	High Calling Hoops
County of Greene – Parks & Recreation	Jefferson-Morgan School District
Eva K. Bowlby Public Library	PA CareerLink® Greene County
Flenniken Public Library	Riverview Homes, Inc.
Greater Waynesburg Christian Outreach	UMWA Career Centers, Inc.
Greene County Career & Technology Center	Waynesburg Borough
Greene County Historical Society & Museum	West Greene School District

Youth Work Experience Worksites – WASHINGTON COUNTY

Borough of Donora	PA Trolley Museum
Bradley Physical Therapy	Penn Commercial Business & Technical School
Brownson House	Shekinah Ranch Camp
Burgettstown Borough	Smart Kids Childcare and Learning Center
Burgettstown Area School District	Southwest Medical Center
California Area School District	Strive for a Better Tomorrow, Inc.
Canon McMillan School District	The Ivy Green
Center in the Woods	The Marketplace at Emerald Valley, LLC
Charleroi Area School District	Transitional Employment Consultants (TEC)
Chicco Bacello	Tri-County Realty Associates
Chiropractic Care Center	Trinity Area Middle School
Daisytown Community Center	Washington County Coroner's Office
DMI Companies, Inc.	Washington County Court Administrator's Office
Ellsworth Borough	Washington County Dept. of Tax Revenue
Greater Washington County Food Bank	Washington County District Attorney's Office
Greenlee, Derrico, Posa, LLC.	Washington County Parks and Recreation
Kid Biz East Maiden	Washington Feeding Program
LA Sweets Bakery	Washington Health Systems - Teen Outreach
Lemoyne Center	Washington High School
Life Church	Washington School District
Monongahela Chamber of Commerce	West Brownsville Borough
North Bethlehem Borough	Western Area Career/ Technology Center
PA CareerLink® Mon Valley	Westmoreland Co. Historical Society
PA CareerLink® Washington County	



*Youth Services are sponsored by the
Southwest Corner Workforce Development Board and
the Commissioners of Greene, Washington and Beaver Counties*

***Recognizing the importance of
preparing young people for
success in the workplace.***



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