

STAKEHOLDERS' NEWSLETTER

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Get the facts about electronic cigarettes, their health effects and the risks of using e-cigarettes.

STRONGER TOGETHER

TMI is a model solution partnering police, school, health, and education to prevent substance use.



Annual TMI Toys and Joys Event



Greetings,

December has been a very busy month for The Martinsburg Initiative. Here is what we have been working on.



Toys and Joys

108

School counselors, social workers, and community organizations shopped to provide gifts.

1,418

Individuals were provided with gifts from TMI's Annual Toys and Joys event.



Wow- that is just so amazing. Thanks to the unbelievable generosity of donor Gerry Thrasher, the gym at Ramer was filled to overflowing with toys for all ages, household items, shoes, clothing, candy, bikes, and everything that would make a family's Christmas special. Additionally, toys were donated by the Job Corps and WVU Extension Office. Shopping occurred during the week of December 11-15, followed by delivery of the gifts to families.

A huge thank you to the TMI staff, youth from Musselman High and Spring Mills High Youth Coalitions, and youth from Teen Court who all helped to unload two U-Haul loads of toys on a Saturday morning, and a huge thank you to the TMI staff who worked behind the scenes to make the entire week successful.



Grand Opening

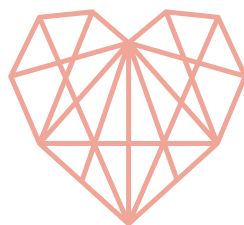


House *on* Martin

F O R E V E R Y O N E

On Wednesday, December 13, TMI Executive Board Chairman Chief Erin Gibbons cut the ribbon to open TMI's House on Martin for Everyone. Following the ribbon cutting, board members took a HOME tour, including a clothing closet, food pantry, hygiene cupboard, and school supply shelving. TMI formally thanks all of our collaborating partners who have made this project happen: Berkeley County Schools, United Way, Proctor and Gamble, Job Corps, and Berkeley County PTA.

Additionally, we thank everyone who has contributed items, including Gerry Thrasher, Musselman and Spring Mills Drug-Free WV Youth Coalitions, and Teen Court participants. At least once a week, TMI provides items from the HOME to people who need them. To request items for a needy family, please email Jennifer Burroughs at Jennifer.burroughs@k12.wv.us. TMI accepts donations of new and gently used children's clothing, diapers and baby wipes, hygiene products, and shelf-stable food. Contact Jennifer to donate.



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

Berkeley Heights

By Emily Hawver, TMI Social Worker



My name is Emily Hawver, and I am the Berkeley Heights Elementary School social worker. I work with the children one-on-one and also in groups. I also provide crisis intervention for other students when I can. I am the stop sign lady helping to keep the flow of bus and parent traffic going smoothly and safely for both parent drop-off in the mornings and pick-up in the afternoons. I also help out in the front office during the secretaries' lunches. I am also teaching Too Good For Drugs in all the classrooms.

We have about 475 kids in the school, and teaching Too Good for Drugs in the classrooms has helped me build rapport and relationships with students I might not get a chance to get to know otherwise and build a stronger bond with the students already on my caseload. I have also found that students approach me more out in the community when I am currently teaching in their classrooms, which has also allowed me to build relationships with parents of students not on my caseload.

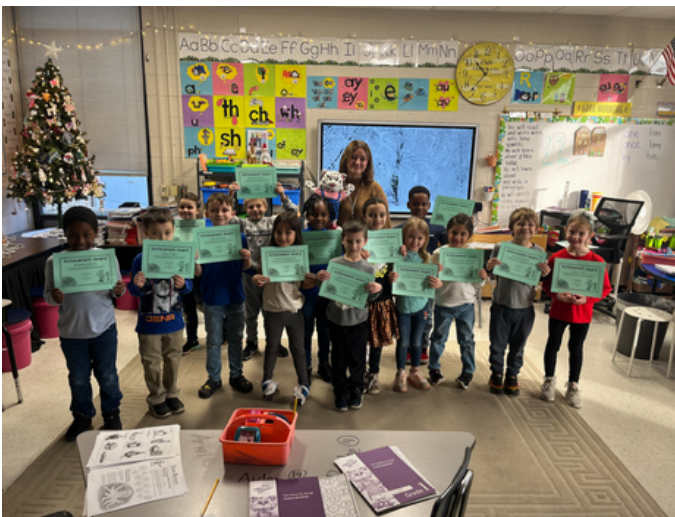
I am mentoring a social work intern from Shepherd University this school year. She has been a tremendous addition to the staff. She is assisting in running groups and individual sessions, teaching Too Good for Drugs, and helping around the school where she is needed. I look forward to the rest of the school year and its challenges and successes.



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

Tuscarora

By Madi Staub, TMI Social Worker



A new club has been added to Tuscarora Elementary this year. It is called Club K.A.L.M (Kids All Learning Mindfulness). Madi Staub, the TMI school social worker, and Anna Sheets, a kindergarten teacher, run this club. This club is geared towards students who struggle with behaviors and may have fallen behind academically due to their inability to focus in class. These students may get in trouble, making them not enjoy being in school. This club helps equip these students with the tools necessary to make school a more positive environment where they are encouraged to be their best selves. The club hopes to minimize discipline referrals, increase emotional bonds with not only their peers but also adults, and be able to verbalize feelings and needs. This club works on things like patience, gratefulness, empathy, honesty, dignity, and more.

The Christmas spirit is in full swing at Tuscarora Elementary. Many staff members decided to make a difference in these children's lives by sponsoring them and ensuring our students had presents under the Christmas tree this year. Ten students were able to be sponsored by some of their teachers and received many gifts on their list this year. The other students and families who could not be sponsored could also receive gifts from TMI's Joys and Toys. Close to 35 students, siblings, and parents from Tuscarora Elementary could receive gifts due to this wonderful event.

Too Good for Drugs has been taught to 6 classes throughout the semester at Tuscarora Elementary. All three of the second-grade and three of the four first-grade classes will complete the TGFD course by the time Christmas break starts. Many of the children were sad to see Wagner and Carmen go but were very proud of themselves for completing the course. They were all very excited to receive a certificate for all their hard work. The last first-grade class and all four kindergarten classes will start their lessons after Christmas break.





TMI works every day to prevent substance use, to build strong families, and to empower the community. We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

Sincerely,

Margaret

NOVEMBER 2023



SUCCESS BY THE

NUMBERS

*Measuring our impact on the
community this month.*

MENTORING BY LEAD MENTOR

Total in 2023

35 Students

402 Sessions

260 Hours

MENTORING BY VOLUNTEER MENTORS

Total in 2023

58 Students

155 Sessions

80 Hours

FAMILY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

November 2023



34 Families Case-Managed by FCOC

54 Home visits with children/families with high-risk designation



110 TOTAL REFERRALS TO TMI

Total for 2023

3

From Police

116

From Schools

4

From Community

208 STUDENTS ON CASELOAD

November 2023

Total in 2023

135

*SW and CM screen
children/family caseload
for SDoH needs:*

126


Referrals to Resources


1055

*Sessions of therapeutic
activities to moderate
and high-risk children*

710

*Hours of therapeutic
activities to moderate
and high-risk children*





TRAUMA EDUCATION

in 2023

141

*Educators
Trauma-Trained*

34

*Trauma-Sensitive
Educator Training
Certification*



2022-2023 School Year

POLICE CLASSROOM VISITS

216

*Classrooms with two
law enforcement visits*

18

*of these visits happened
in November of 2023*

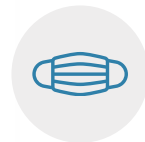


COVID IS STILL ALIVE AND WELL.

Protect yourself
and others.



GET YOUR VACCINE



WEAR A MASK



WASH YOUR HANDS



**West Virginia
Immunization Network**

A PROGRAM OF The Center for Rural Health Development





It's a family affair.

Get your family and friends vaccinated for COVID-19, Flu, Pneumonia, Meningitis, Shingles, and mpox.

Everyone 6 months and older should get a COVID-19 vaccine.

All adults need an annual flu vaccine.

1 in 3 will develop shingles in their lifetime, but vaccines can reduce the risk

CDC recommends meningitis vaccines for all preteens and teens.

Children under 2 and adults over 65 are most at risk for pneumonia.

People at risk of mpox should get both doses of the vaccine to get the most protection against infection.



Community
Education
Group

Join our list for updates.



[vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)

1 (833) 734-0965

#BoostUp!



Get the facts about electronic cigarettes, their health effects and the risks of using e-cigarettes.

E-cigarettes (also called “vapes”) have been the most commonly used tobacco product among U.S. youth since 2014. Educators can make a real difference by engaging in meaningful conversations with their students about the dangers of vaping for young people and ways to quit.

CDC launched the Empower Vape-Free Youth™ campaign in 2023 to encourage middle and high school educators to speak with students about the risks of e-cigarettes and nicotine addiction. The campaign also provides resources for educators to help students avoid or quit vaping.

EMPOWER
Vape-Free
YOUTH™



Info Provided by the Center for
Disease Control and Prevention





A MODEL SOLUTION

TO A NATIONAL PROBLEM

Our mission is to prevent substance use disorders, build strong families, and empower the Martinsburg community through police, school, community, health, and education partnerships.

1

Increase awareness

of how to prevent substance use disorder through community empowerment.

2

Mitigate negative consequences

Resulting from substance misuse or trauma through community interventions, medication overdose.

3

Identify, risk stratify and offer appropriate interventions

for individuals experiencing risk factors of trauma or substance misuse.

4

Evaluate and report performance.



THE
MARTINSBURG
INITIATIVE

A POLICE, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Berkeley County's Fentanyl Problem



Fentanyl in the local drug supply is more dangerous than you think.

Fentanyl. You've probably heard about it. It's a colorless, tasteless, and odorless drug mixed in with pills and powders right here in Berkeley County. And its deadly effects are on the rise. Check out the facts.

#4

In 2022, Berkeley County ranked #4 in West Virginia for having the **most teens with overdose-related ER visits.**



The pills you get from your friends have already **changed hands over 10 times**, so no one knows if they have been laced with fentanyl.

50x

Fentanyl is about **50 times stronger than heroin.** That's seriously deadly stuff.



Fentanyl is so strong that **just a few salt-sized grains can be fatal.**

Real prescription pills look nearly identical to fake ones with fentanyl. If it doesn't come from your doctor, you can't be sure it hasn't been tampered with or laced.

3 out of 5 pills/powders contain deadly amounts of fentanyl.



Get more facts at [FentanylEffect.com](https://www.fentanyleffect.com)





Success for All Event



HOME Grand Opening



Annual TMI Toys & Joys



Annual TMI Toys & Joys



THE
MARTINSBURG
INITIATIVE
A POLICE, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

FIND US HERE >

BERKELEY HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY
BURKE STREET ELEMENTARY
EAGLE SCHOOL INTERMEDIATE
ORCHARD VIEW INTERMEDIATE
OPEQUON ELEMENTARY
ROSEMONT ELEMENTARY
TUSCARORA ELEMENTARY

WINCHESTER AVE ELEMENTARY
PIKESIDE PRE-K LEARNING CENTER
NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL
MARTINSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

Contact us to be a mentor.

OUR PARTNERS

