

**United
Way**



Schuylkill United Way

Helping Other People Everyday

9 North Centre Street, Suite 301
Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone: 570.622.6421

Schuylkill News of H.O.P.E.

2025 1st Quarter Newsletter



***Our first quarter Schuylkill News of H.O.P.E. newsletter is proudly sponsored by
Lehigh Valley Hospital—Schuylkill.***



Meet our 2026 Campaign Chair **CHRIS DENDE**

Chris Dende has been Vice President, Human Resources for Mrs. T's Pierogies over the past 26 years. Chris received his Bachelors Degree from American University, Washington, DC which included a semester abroad in Krakow, Poland. He is entering in his 41st year in the Human Resources profession which included valuable experiences and contributions in the Baking, Dairy, Ice Cream and Automotive industries.

The passion in his Human Resources vocation is creating a positive and collaborative work culture that focuses on safety, employee engagement, communication, community service and celebrating the wins in work & life. Chris is a past Chair of the NEPA Manufacturers & Employers Association, and he serves as an executive board member for St. Joseph's Center in Scranton PA, Schuylkill/Luzerne County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and was past Assistant Chairperson of the 2025 Schuylkill County United Way Campaign. Chris and his wife Veronica have 4 children, Katie (Philadelphia), Chris (Brooklyn), Jacqueline & Nick (Washington DC).



SAVE ^{THE} DATES

SUW 2026 Campaign Kick Off Breakfast

Friday, September 5 - Breakfast served at 8:10am. Program begins at 8:30am.

SUW 2026 Campaign Appreciation Breakfast

Friday, November 14 - Breakfast served at 8:10am. Program begins at 8:30am.

Both breakfasts will be held at:
St. Nicholas Banquet Hall
855 Sunbury Rd.
Pottsville, PA 17901





Meet our Board of Directors

The Schuylkill United Way is governed by a 30 member, volunteer Board of Directors.

2025 Executive Officers

Mr. John Gleisner, *President*

Mrs. Naomi Ost, *Treasurer*

Mr. Mark Mikita, *1st Vice President*

Mr. Dominic Sylvester, *Assistant Treasurer*

Dr. Andy Smarkanic, *2nd Vice President*

Mrs. Kelly K. Malone, SUW Executive Director, serves as Secretary to the Board.

Board Members



Denotes an Executive Committee Member.

Mr. Jack Bertolet, Jr.

Atty. Ben Forbes

Mrs. Naomi Ost

Mr. Joe Bessette

Mr. John Gleisner

Ms. Alyssa Panzarella

Atty. Jim Bohorad

Mrs. Michelle Hammer

Ms. Kelly Rakus

Mrs. Deidre Boris

Mr. Patrick Kane

Mr. Ed Redding

Ms. Diane Boris

Ms. Karen Kenderdine

Mr. James Samelko, Jr.

Mr. Ryan Christiansen

Mr. Charles Ladd, IV

Dr. Andrew Smarkanic

Mr. Chris Cohoon

Mr. John Matz

Mr. Dominic Sylvester

Mr. Chris Dende

Mrs. Michele Mickonis

Mr. Andrew Umphrey

Ms. Becky Devlin

Mr. Mark Mikita

Mr. Jeff Wessner

Mr. Joseph Drasdis, Sr.

Mr. Mark Minnig

Mr. Greg "Woody" Woodruff

New Members



Becky Devlin
Geschwindt Stabingas
Ebling Funeral Home



Joseph Drasdis, Sr.
Drasdis & Son



Mark Minnig
SEDCO, Inc.



Greg "Woody" Woodruff
Walmart, RDC 7030

Captain Jason B. Jones Memorial Day of Caring

May 9



This is a day to:

- ✓ **spread hope & give back**
- ✓ **say thank you to our Partner Agencies & help our community**
- ✓ **honor a local hero who made the ultimate sacrifice, Capt. Jason B. Jones**

Who: Adults can volunteer with their family, friends, & co-workers, or we can match you with a group. Opportunities for all skill levels are available! (Teachers and students, contact Becky for youth options!)

Where: Project sites are located throughout Schuylkill County. List the area you'd like to serve in, and we'll do our best to match you up with your preference.

When: Friday, May 9, beginning at 9am. Some sites will wrap up at Noon. Others will finish no later than 2pm.

Contact: Becky Woods,
Director of Marketing & Programs,
(570) 622-6421 | bwoods@schuylkillunitedway.org

Online Registration
available!



**Schools, Libraries, Youth Organizations can
participate in Day of Caring!**

If your students, youth groups, or kids you work with would like to color and write a letter of thank you to our deployed service members, SUW volunteers will collect them and submit to Operation Gratitude. They will be included in care packages for these brave heroes. Templates are available! Contact Becky for all the details.



Captain Jason B. Jones Memorial Day of Caring



Join us on **Friday, May 9, 2025** at various locations
throughout Schuylkill County.

This form can be faxed to 570-622-7424 or scanned and emailed to bwoods@schuylkillunitedway.org

Please direct questions to Becky Woods, at 570-622-6421.

In order to be guaranteed a t-shirt, we ask for all volunteers to be **registered by Friday, April 4.**

Project start times and length of time on site are flexible depending on project site.
Thank you for your participation! We look forward to another great turnout this year!

Name of Company or Team Organizer: _____

Address: _____

Name of Main Contact: _____

Phone: _____ Email of Contact: _____

Number of Volunteers: _____

Names of Volunteers (please include t-shirt size!):

List skills/trade: _____

List Physical Limitations: _____



8TH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

***ALL 14 SCHUYLKILL COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS
ARE COMPETING!**

***VISIT WITH OUR
PARTNER AGENCIES!**

***FOOD TRUCKS!**

JUNE 17, 2025 - 5 P.M.

**NORTH SCHUYLKILL H.S.
GHOSH ORTHODONTICS FIELD
AT SPARTAN STADIUM**

RAIN DATE - JUNE 19, 2025



SCAN ME



2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Approximately 1,300
attended



\$33,500 raised for
SUW programs &
our Partner Agencies



NEW Kick Out at
Half-Time



FREE family-friendly
event to meet our
Partner Agencies and
Sponsors!

Contact Mike Joyce,
Director of Community
Engagement for all
sponsorship opportunities!

(570) 622-6421

mjoyce@schuylkillunitedway.org



Registration

Contact Charles Ladd, IV or
Chris Cohoon to register.

Charles Ladd, IV
Phone: (570) 762-6781
Email: laddcc4@verizon.net

Chris Cohoon
Phone: (719) 252-0571
Email:
cohoonce@airproducts.com

Send list of pairs or
foursomes, or you will be
assigned to a team.

\$100 per golfer

Price includes: greens fee,
golf cart, lunch, dinner, beer,
and drinks on the course.

Checks can be made payable
to "SUW Hometown Golf
Tournament" and sent to:
Attn: Charles Ladd, IV
11 Mountainwood Drive,
Mountaintop, PA 18707

Nearby Lodging

Comfort Inn & Suites
1252 Morea Rd.
Barnesville, PA
(570) 773-5252

Dress Code

No cut-offs or tank tops.
Soft spikes only.

→
Visit our website
for all the details!



Contact Mike Joyce
for **sponsorship opportunities!**

mjoyce@schuylkillunitedway.org
(570) 622-6421

20th Annual SUW-HOMETOWN

SUMMER GOLF TOURNAMENT

JUNE 27, 2025 | 9:00 AM

MOUNTAIN VALLEY GOLF COURSE
1021 Brockton Mountain Dr.
Brockton, PA 18214



Fall Golf Outing
Sept. 26

Nurse's Pantry



Proudly Sponsored By



Nurse's Pantry

In 2020, SUW launched the Nurse's Pantry to **provide school nurses essential items to help students stay healthy, stay focused, and stay in school.**

Items that can be found in the Nurse's Pantry include: school approved clothes, socks, underwear, lice kits, and hygiene items.

Special thanks to **Dollar General** and **UGI** for doing special collections in 2024 to support our school nurses through our Nurse's Pantry!



Contact Becky Woods, Director of Marketing & Programs if your company or organization would like to do a collection for the Nurse's Pantry!

(570) 622-6421

bwoods@schuylkillunitedway.org



See you at the Lager Jogger!

Saturday April 26

Visit the Schuylkill United Way staff at this year's Yuengling Light Lager Jogger on Saturday, April 26! Find out what **color changing cups** we'll have this year, cheers!





American Red Cross
610-375-4383

Avenues/Founded as UCP in 1952
570-622-7920

Big Impact Group of Schuylkill County
570-622-0174

Child Development, Inc.
570-544-8959

Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Council, YES Northeast Certificate Program
570-622-0940

Nurse-Family Partnership
484-772-2360

The Salvation Army/Pottsville Corps
570-622-5252

Sexual Assault Resource & Counseling Center (SARCC)
Office & 24/7 Hotline: 570-628-2965

Schuylkill County Society for Pediatric Orthopedics (formerly Crippled Children)
570-622-7170

Schuylkill Hope Center for Victims of Domestic Violence
Office: 570-622-3991 *24/7 Hotline: 570-622-6220

Schuylkill Wellness Services
570-622-3980

Schuylkill YMCA
570-622-7850

Scouting America, Hawk Mtn. Council
610-926-3406

Tamaqua Area Adult Day Care Center
570-668-6556

Tamaqua Area Meals on Wheels
570-449-8271





SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

HIVE

**Monday,
June 2
1pm-3pm**

Community ideas & action.

**Gatherings for all human-service organizations
and everyone working with people in
Schuylkill County.**

Opportunities for:

- Grant Collaboration Planning
- Touching Base on Community Initiatives
- Learning Who's Working on What
- Networking
- Resource Mapping
- Listening Sessions

Location:

Alvernia University Pottsville CollegeTowne
500 Progress Ave., Pottsville

**Register
today!**



Proudly brought to you by:



Contact Becky Woods at bwoods@schuylkillunitedway.org or (570) 622-6421 for more details.



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Coming soon!

Our 2024 Impact/2025 Campaign Report
will be out soon! Contact the SUW office
to make sure we have your address.

You can also sign up to receive our
digital newsletters and
periodic updates!



SCAN ME

