



**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2018 - 2019**

**IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR**



VISION mobilizes community resources to help create a better future for Schuylkill County; a quality place for us all to live, work, play, and raise our families.

We do this by building effective collaborations, coordinating community assets, finding resources to support the work of the collaboration, and communicate progress back to the community & partners.

We believe that Schuylkill County's greatest asset is her people.

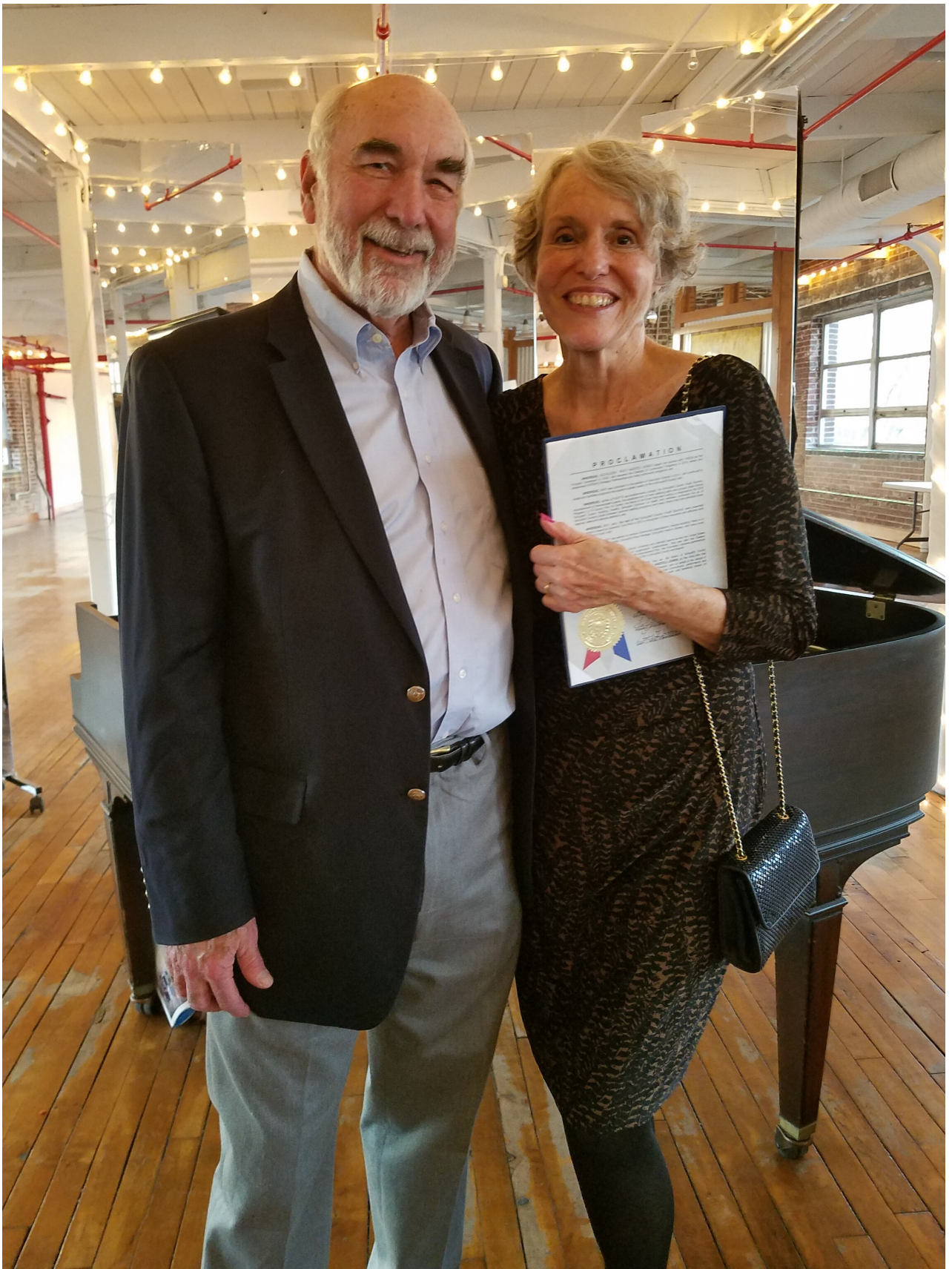
## 2018 – 2019 Board of Directors:

C.Ryan Bates, Chair – Evans Network of Companies  
Brock Stein, Vice-Chair – Koch’s Turkey Farm  
Rebecca Netznik- Rising Chair – Salvation Army  
MaryAnne Woodward- Treasurer – Riverview Bank  
Marybeth Matz- Secretary – Schuylkill Area Community Foundation

Renee Buchanan - Shenandoah Senior Living Center  
Tiffany Cresswell-Yeager - Gwynedd Mercy University  
Gina Gargano – Schuylkill Visitors’ Bureau  
Gary Hess - Hess Catering/ Schuylkill County Commissioner  
Dan McGrory- Public Member  
Darcy Medica - Penn State University - Schuylkill  
John Murga- Hidden River Credit Union  
William Reppy - Lehigh Valley Health Network- Schuylkill  
Jennifer Stehman - St Luke's University Health Network  
Mary Strausser - Gym-Jam Therapeutics  
Rubina Tareen – Islamic Society of Schuylkill County, Alvernia  
University  
Helen (Wendi) Wheeler – Justi Group, Inc.  
Susan Williams – Penn State University- Lion Launch Program  
Madison Yeager – Student member – Schuylkill Haven Area School  
District

## 2018-2019 Advisory Board Members:

Jennifer Melochick	James Rhoades
Michael McCord	Micah Gursky
Robert Carl	Gretchen Sterns
Joseph Jones, Jr.	Mary Luscavage
Tyler Zimerofsky	Tom Badger
Julie Zangari	Kay Jones



Special Thanks to Kay Jones for her dedicated, creative, passionate, thoughtful and intelligent service to our community over the past 12 years.



**On January 7, 2019, Mandy Fitzpatrick joined VISION as the Program and Development Director.**

Mandy brings a wealth of non-profit, local, and state experience that will make her an effective and valuable addition to our staff. Mandy has a public health background and government experience at both the county and state level. She was a Certified Worksite Wellness Specialist and has presented her work for Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, and Building Healthy Schools Institute. She is also contributor to several abstracts related to work increasing fruits and vegetables consumption and physical activity in Early Child Care settings.

Mandy is a lifelong resident of Schuylkill County and very involved in the community. Mandy looks forward to using her knowledge and passion to serve the people of Schuylkill County with programs and partnerships that make a positive impact on the county and the people who live in or visit it.

Mandy has assumed a leadership role in Schuylkill County Youth Summit facilitator and the development of new programming for VISION.

## 2019 Strategic Plan: 4 Goals

Goal 1: Develop relationships and partnerships to serve and meet the needs of our community

Goal 2: Select a wide-range of diverse projects that improve the quality of life in Schuylkill County.

Goal 3: Create a unified communications strategy that conveys clear, targeted information to various audiences.

Goal 4: Continuously improve processes, partnerships, and policies to ensure intentionality and purposefulness.

For more information and specifics on initiatives please visit [www.schuylkillvision.com](http://www.schuylkillvision.com)





## **VISION Projects**

Schuylkill County's VISION helps to create and facilitate effective, focused, public and private coalitions to address specific Schuylkill County issues that affect our daily quality of life.

# Power of Partnership

**VISION partners with organizations across the county to provide presentations, activities, education, and program facilitation in the areas of quality of life, health and wellness, arts and culture, economic growth, and the importance of community. Key projects this year included:**

After school programs: ACHIEVE

Opioid Response Committee: St. Luke's University Health Network

Healthy Schuylkill Communities: Lehigh Valley Health Network

Folk Art Alliance: Walk In Art Center

Don't Text and Drive Campaign: Clinical Outcomes Group, Inc

Schuylkill County Youth Summit: Schuylkill County Commissioners and business sponsors

Schuylkill Resiliency Project

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## Schuylkill County Youth Summit

The Youth Summit's mission is to engage, equip, and support our youth to create a great future for Schuylkill County.

The theme for 2018/2019 was to have a positive impact on the opioid and drug use crisis in our region. The students developed a multi-prong approach:

- o Peer-to-Peer communication was enhanced by developing a website. Thanks to Travis Snyder, Skook Recovers and FeatherHawk Productions, for his work with VISION to create [www.skookyouth.com](http://www.skookyouth.com).
- o Advocating for the establishment of permanent 'take back' sites throughout Schuylkill County to decrease the amount of prescription substances available in homes.
- o Distributing drug destruction bags to oral surgeons in the county.

The 2019 Youth Summit met at Penn State, Schuylkill on April 11, 2019 with more than 80 students present. Many community leaders shared information with students who then designed responses to these issues. Those present at the Summit honored Kay Jones for her dedication and inspirational leadership of the Schuylkill County Youth Summit.

**Positive Schuylkill: Live, Work, Play** was announced as the 2019 – 2020 focus with panel discussions and break-out sessions facilitating an exploration of this topic and ways to move forward.

The 2020 Youth Summit will be held on March 24, 2020 at Penn State, Schuylkill.







VISION facilitates **Healthy Schuylkill Community** coalitions that address the problem of obesity and lack of exercise and promotes safety and connections in the county.

Healthy Schuylkill Summer 2019 was the sixth year of the Healthy Schuylkill Summer Program, it featured a program entitled "Rock Your Body" to mirror the theme, "Libraries Rock!".

13 Schuylkill County libraries participated in 2019



# HEALTHY SCHUYLKILL COMMUNITIES

WORKING TOGETHER FOR HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES



Safe Trunk or Treat, Playground Clean Up, Community Gardens, Community Educational Programs, Health Fairs, walking programs, and more

For more information please visit [www.schuylkillvision.com](http://www.schuylkillvision.com)



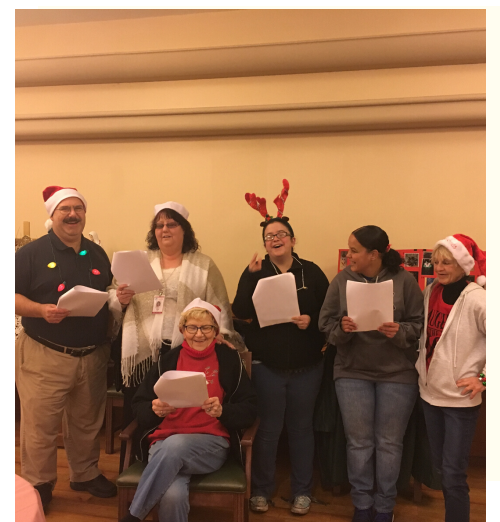
# VISION Collaborators

Walk In Art Center  
 Schuylkill Conservation District  
 PSU LionLaunch  
 Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce  
 Schuylkill Visitors Bureau  
 Schuylkill County Commissioners  
 Schuylkill County MH/DS Advisory Board  
 Nurse Family Partnership  
 Diakon Lutheran Services  
 CareerLink  
 Schuylkill Prevention Partnership  
 Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Bureau  
 Schuylkill River Greenways Association  
 Schuylkill County's Opioid Task Force  
 PA Department of Health's Public Health 3.0  
 Clinical Outcomes Group



## VISION IN THE COMMUNITY

Working in Schuylkill County to improve our quality of life.

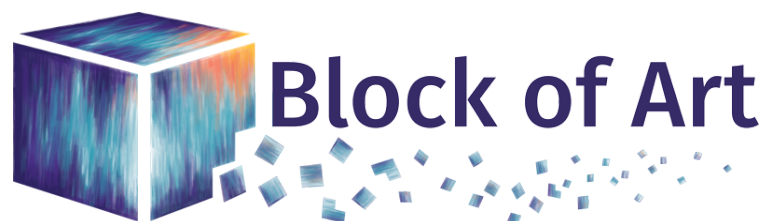




FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.SCHUYLKILLVISION.COM](http://WWW.SCHUYLKILLVISION.COM)

# VISION's Strategic Partners

VISION serves as the fiscal sponsor for our Strategic Partnerships, these grassroots organizations serve a variety of needs in the county. VISION provides administrative, fiscal, and other support as needed. VISION works closely with our strategic partnerships so that they effectively reach their goals.



# FUNdraiser: a social event held with the purpose of raising funds

## #whereisthewahhab

Merriam Webster



# 2020 ANNUAL HALLOWEEN 5K ZOMBIE RUN

OCT 31 2020

## SAVE THE DATE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.SCHUYLKILLVISION.COM](http://WWW.SCHUYLKILLVISION.COM)

# Thank you

for the opportunity to empower Schuylkill County to be her best.

As the executive director of Schuylkill County's VISION I have the amazing opportunity to use my natural talents and professional training to collaborate with some of the finest people I have ever met. I truly appreciate your support and confidence.

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Jeanne Elberfeld, MD, LSW- Executive Director  
Mandy Fitzpatrick- Director of Programs and Development

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