

# Advocacy In Action

September 2022 Newsletter - News and Updates from Turning Point of Lehigh Valley

## Employers Can Make a Difference

## Fulton Bank

We have seen an increase in the number of companies who have not only wanted to give back, but also provide employees a paid day to do volunteer work in the community. Jacque Cooper, a Market Sales & Service Specialist with Fulton Bank, who wanted to get more involved in our mission.

Jacque started out as Mentor and began to share her story during our nursing school student trainings. She also joined our Development Committee, helping us raise donations. When asked why she wanted to get involved, she said, "I saw an opportunity to have more of an impact in helping victims like me rebuild and repair their lives. Serving as a Mentor at Turning Point has given me an outlet and a purpose," said Jacque. "Connecting with these other women and supporting one another has helped me - and all of us - realize that we are survivors and most importantly - we are not alone!"

Thanks to Jacque and Fulton Bank, she has continued to use her once a month volunteer time during business hours were valuable as she used her professional expertise to give input as part of our Ad-hoc Social Entrepreneurship Committee that discussed employer trainings, policies, and procedures about domestic and intimate partner abuse. She examined her own employer's policies. In doing so, she realized that Fulton Bank already had policies and resources available on their wider Fulton network for employees that she did not know were there. Then she connected with her human resource team about their policy.

"Jacque has been a tremendous asset to us," remarked Andrea Search, our Director of Advancement. "She has been a great support system for others and is willing to help the organization with any task. We absolutely appreciate all her support, time and effort over the years. And we love that her employer, Fulton Bank, allows her time off and flexible work scheduling to volunteer."

At Turning Point, we want to help to create a climate of change in the workplace. We wholeheartedly believe that a workplace culture of compassion, knowledge, and readily available resources can empower survivors to access the help that they need. Together, we can change workplace norms of silence and isolation and work toward workplace culture of support and resilience.

### Top 5 Ways Employers Can Support Employees

5. Discuss workplace accommodations and create a safety plan
4. Display Turning Point of Lehigh Valley materials
3. Review policies that are necessary to best help survivors, and revise if necessary
2. Refer the employee to call the 24/7 helpline
1. Provide onboarding and regular employee domestic and intimate partner abuse training by Turning Point



24/7 HELPLINE 610-437-3369



## In the Workplace

Sharp



We know that domestic and intimate partner abuse is not something that just “stays at home.” It comes to work with survivors. We have heard from many of our survivors that their workplace has added to the existing stress of their abusive relationship or situation by not working with them. The support of their employer would have made a world of difference.

The impact of domestic and intimate partner abuse affects not only survivors, but entire communities. Turning Point of Lehigh Valley is committed to reaching survivors where they are. We know that providing trainings to employees does more than just increase safety and support systems. There are benefits to companies as well. The Department of Labor reports that victims of domestic violence lose nearly 8 million days of paid work per year in the U.S., resulting in a \$1.8 billion loss in productivity for employers.

Sharp Clinical Services, Inc. recognizes the impact that domestic and intimate partner abuse can have on employees. It started out when their Human Resources Generalist, Renee Palanzo, reached out to us about planning an employee engagement activity on August 26th to recognize Women's Equality Day. As part of their event they wanted to partner with us to host a donation drive to give back to the community in which they live and work.

From there it blossomed into training all of their employees to recognize the warning signs, learn how to respond, and educate them on resources that are available. With overwhelming support from the management and leadership teams, we facilitated three training sessions to accommodate three different shift schedules.

For more information on training and resources, please contact Meredith Mecca, Community Outreach Director, at [mereditm@turningpointlv.org](mailto:mereditm@turningpointlv.org), or 610-797-0530 ext 221.

## LV Pride 2022

Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table at 2022 Lehigh Valley Pride and for Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center for an incredible job with this annual event!



We support ALL survivors of domestic and intimate partner abuse.

## Musikfest with

 Guardian



We were grateful for the opportunity to participate in Musikfest with Guardian Life. Thank you to everyone who stopped to spin the wheel! We received 150 responses to our brief community awareness survey in which will enable us to focus our trainings to best meet the needs of the community.



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## Top 5 Philanthropic Ways Your Business Can Support Survivors



- Become a Sponsor or Donate an Item to Our 2023 Spring Auction
- Host a Wish List Donation or Monetary Giving Drive
- Coordinate a paid Volunteer Service Project Day
- Collect Gift Cards for Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Double the Donation - Companies of all sizes match employee donations.

## The Perfect Partnership

Turning Point and the YWCA of Allentown's The Perfect Fit for Working Women have



a shared commitment to empowering survivors and advocating to end gender-based violence. Perfect Fits provides clothing at no cost to our clients so they can find the confidence they need to thrive.

If you have gently used clothing, call them at (610) 871-5060.



## Thank You Heather & Dana

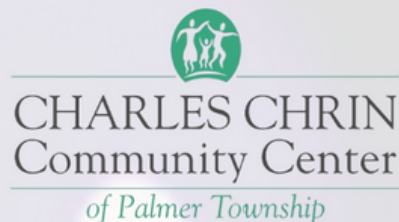
We would like to highlight the good work of Heather Adams and Dana Szabo from ABM Logistics. These awesome volunteers chose to utilize their 8 hours of paid volunteer time from their employer, ABM Logistics, to give back here at Turning Point. They took time out of their busy schedules to sort through and organize clothing for our clients and their families.

Interested in volunteering with us?  
Email: [hr@turningpointlv.org](mailto:hr@turningpointlv.org)



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**EVERY1 KNOWS SOME1**

# **ANNUAL VIGIL**

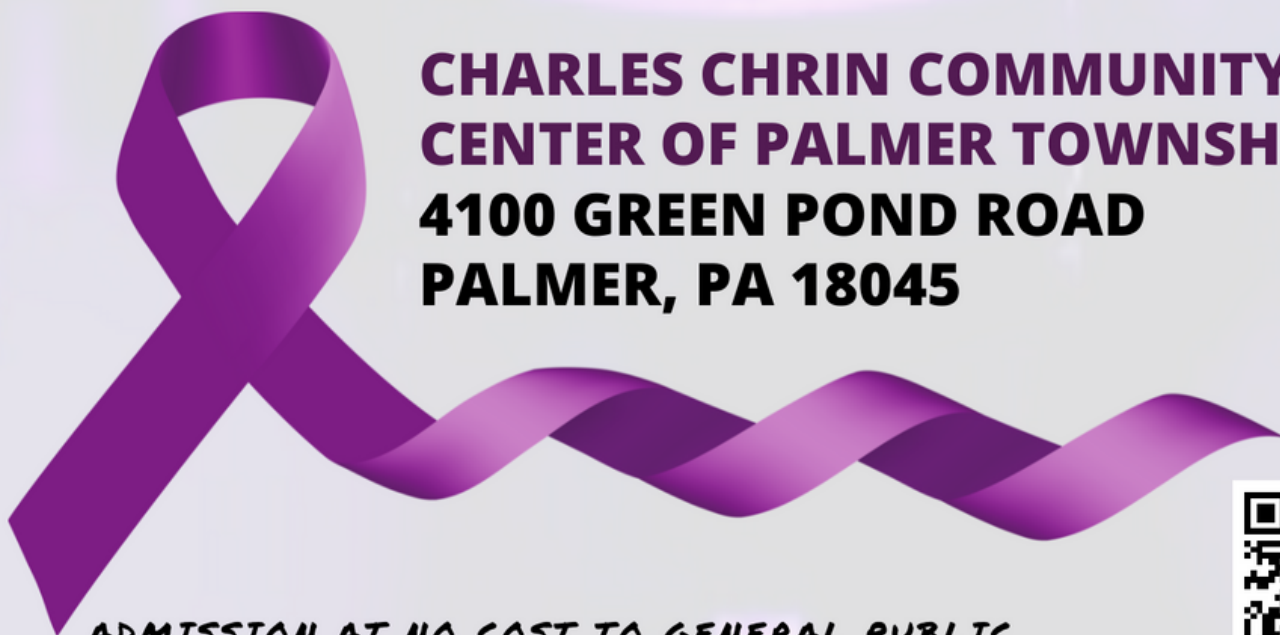
**LIVE MUSIC | SURVIVOR SPEAKERS | CANDLELIGHT VIGIL**

REMEMBERING LIVES LOST, HONORING  
SURVIVORS, AND GIVING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

**Wednesday, October 19, 2022**

**6:30-7:30PM** (Doors open 6:00pm)

**CHARLES CHRIN COMMUNITY  
CENTER OF PALMER TOWNSHIP  
4100 GREEN POND ROAD  
PALMER, PA 18045**



**ADMISSION AT NO COST TO GENERAL PUBLIC  
SPANISH AND ARABIC INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE**



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## Thank You to Everyone Who Donated in August

Thomas and Patti Abbott  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
Dr. Gary Bonfante  
Hugh and Angela Carlin  
Vanessa Cohen  
Jane Flood and Sherman Cox  
Adrienne Donica  
First Moravian Church  
Dennis and Nancy Giangiulio  
Glasbern Inn  
Kim and George Godfrey  
Michelle Graupner  
Green Hills Direct Family Care PC  
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Mary Jo Hill  
William Hoffman  
Annamarie Jordan  
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David Zieger

**Consider becoming a monthly donor by visiting our donate page by scanning the QR code or going to [turningpointlv.org/donate](https://turningpointlv.org/donate).**



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