# the Shunung Star Star



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PRIDE Community Services receives a \$25,000 grant from the Truist Charitable Fund to assist in the purchase and installation of a new fire alarm system.

**PRIDE Community Services, Inc.** is excited to announce that we received a \$25,000 grant from the Truist Charitable Fund to assist in the purchase and installation of a new fire alarm system at our Mill Creek Head Start Center.

Lisha Whitt, PRIDE's Chief Executive Officer stated, "We were thrilled to receive this grant from the Truist Charitable Fund. It was quite a surprise to receive more than our initial request, but we are incredibly thankful for the opportunity. Truist has always been a great supporter of the work we do at PRIDE Community Services, and we appreciate their continued support."

In March 2023, straight-line winds hit PRIDE's Logan Head Start Center, causing significant damage to the center, and displacing two classrooms. Due to the emergency situation, PRIDE was permitted to reopen the Mill Creek Head Start Center for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. However, for continued use of the Mill Creek Head Start Center during the 2023-2024 school year, PRIDE was required to install a new fire alarm system, costing approximately \$30,000. With the costly repairs at the Logan Head Start Center and increased costs across the board, PRIDE's leadership team felt the additional cost of the new fire alarm system was too much to incur at the time. The Truist Charitable Fund grant allowed PRIDE to install the fire alarm system, keeping the Mill Creek Head Start center open and serving 3- & 4-year-olds in that area.

"When disaster struck PRIDE Community Services' Mill Creek Head Start Center, we knew we could help restore their building's fire alarm so that they could continue providing the critical services to the individuals, children, and families they serve," said Calvin Barker, Tri-States (West Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio) regional president for Truist. "Supporting community partners likes this is how we fulfill Truist's purpose to inspire and build better lives and communities."

#### **About The Truist Charitable Fund**

The Truist Charitable Fund ("TCF") is committed to Truist Financial Corporation's (NYSE: TFC) purpose to inspire and build better lives. TCF was established as a donor-advised fund and is administered by The Winston-Salem Foundation. TCF invests in local community organizations, focusing on grants that support initiatives and programs in the areas of educational equity,

Continued on pg. 8

# Child and Adult Care Food Program

#### **CONFETTI EGG TACO**

#### **Ingredients**

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp red bell pepper, diced
- 2 tbsp green bell pepper, diced
- 1/2 tsp onion powder
- 4 large eggs
- 8 corn tortillas
- 1/4 tsp salt



Total TimeServing SizeServings10 minutes1 taco8Components: Meat/Meat Alternate, Grains

## **Directions**

- 1. In a large skillet, heat oil on medium-high.
- 2. Add peppers and cook for 3-4 minutes.
- 3. In a medium bowl, scramble the eggs, salt and onion powder with a fork or hand mixer. Add egg to the skillet and season with salt. Move the egg mixture around until the eggs are fully cooked.
- 4. Place 2 tablespoons of the mixture into each corn tortilla and serve warm. Add a side of fruit and milk for a complete breakfast.

One taco provides 3/4 oz eq grains and 3/4 oz meat alternate.

If interested in our Child and Adult Care Food Program, please contact Brandi Browning at 304-752-6868 or brandi.browning@loganpride.com.

## **Human Resources**

On Friday, December 1, 2023, our agency staff met at the Chief Logan Lodge and Conference Center for our Annual Winter Conference. Our staff enjoyed a day filled with gift-winning, dancing, laughing, and learning. Officer Derrick Miller from the Logan County Sheriff's office spoke to staff about safety awareness while visiting client's homes. Our staff also got to meet his drug dog and got to witness him doing his job of finding drugs that were hidden throughout the room. We enjoyed music and dancing by DJ Chuck Schultz. Staff were treated to a delicious lunch and snacks prepared by the staff of the lodge. Throughout the day, different staff won prizes. In the afternoon, we were all hilariously entertained by Comedy Magician Matt Fore. We ended the day by awarding lucky staff members with wonderful prizes won by drawing of tickets. All staff were given a PRIDE jacket, a Walmart gift card, and a Retention Bonus check. A great day was had by all our PRIDE family, and we look forward to what 2024 will bring to us and our amazing agency.





## **Head Start**

Our Head Start classrooms ended 2023 with lots of fun and activities. August through December is always filled with new experiences, new routines, and learning opportunities. Everyone was so thankful to have some well-deserved celebrations before Winter break. Every child in PRIDE Head Start classrooms, as well as Collaborative Pre-K Classrooms received Christmas gifts purchased by PRIDE. Children and Staff at our Logan Head Start Center loved our special visitors! Santa Claus and his elf were able to appear with help from our Weatherization Department. Thank you to everyone for helping our children have a magical Christmas.









# Supportive Services for Veteran Families



Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 1 p.m.

VVA Chapter #308

Henlawson, WV

Refreshments will be served.

Hosted by:







# **Emergency Repair and Replace Program**

On November 6, 2023, the crew at Trumpet Heating and Cooling completed the installation of Mrs. Parton's new heating system. Trumpet installed a new 3.5 ton package heat pump and connected the unit to the existing duct system. Repairs to the existing duct system were completed where necessary. The crew also installed a new digital thermostat and new smoke detectors.





Mrs. Parton stated she was very delighted with the work and how nice it felt to wake up in a warm and cozy home. She was very grateful to the crews at Trumpet and to PRIDE Community Services, Inc. for helping get heat in her home.





For more information regarding our Emergency Repair and Replacement Program contact

Kenneth Sullins 304-752-6868 or Kenneth.Sullins@loganpride.com Will Rogers 304-752-6868 or Will.Rogers@loganpride.com

## **Senior Services**

Lois Dingess is one of PRIDE's precious seniors that attends the Earl Jarvis Congregate Center. She was born on March 1, 1935, in Murphy, VA. She is the only child of the late Nancy Colley and Fred Owens. Lois and her family moved to Phico, WV when she was just three years old. Lois graduated from Chapmanville High School in 1953. A year later in 1954 she married her late husband, Joe Dingess. They continued to live in Chapmanville for 40 years but later moved to Logan in 1996 where she still resides. Lois has one son, two granddaughters, and three great grandchildren who all live in Ohio. When reflecting on the past she stated that she worked at the Island Creek Company Store for 4-5 years and The City of Logan Water Board where she retired after 31 years of service. She stayed in St. Albans and cared for her mother during the time she worked at the Water Board until the passing of her mother. After that, she retired. In her younger years she



enjoyed going to ball games and loved going to the mountains to explore. She had lots of girl-friends and enjoyed having parties and slumber parties with them. Nowadays her favorite activities include quilting, reading, jigsaw puzzles, church and coming to PRIDE each day. She has been attending PRIDE since 2013 and says she likes to come to PRIDE mostly for the interaction with others. When asked what it takes for a long happy life she responded "be happy with yourself, don't dwell on sad or bad things." She believes in keeping busy and being happy. She said she often tells people "Don't sweat the small stuff" and "this too shall pass."

# **In-Home Services**

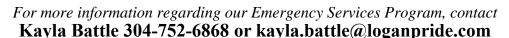


Stephanie Hill began working at PRIDE in December 2023 as an Aged and Disabled Waiver Case Manager. Stephanie has been in the field of case management for over a year and says she really enjoys working with the elderly and disabled. She stated that her goal in her role is to be of service to others in hopes she can make a difference in someone's life. She wants to bring a smile to people's faces and let them know she is here to help. Stephanie lives in Big Creek, WV with her two dogs Cooper and Miley, who will both be 13 this year. She is a fantastic auntie to two nieces and two nephews. On the weekends she often travels to Virginia to spend time with her boyfriend. She graduated from WV State University in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Her past work experience has been in accounting and payroll and she has been pursuing a master's degree in Human Resources.

# **Emergency Services**

#### TIPS TO CONSERVE ENERGY & SAVE ON MONTHLY UTILITY BILLS

- Insulate your home.
- Clean or replace your air filters.
- Replace light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs.
- Weatherize your home.
- Change routine or habits: (turn off lights when leaving a room.)
- Upgrade your HVAC system / update heating & cooling equipment.
- Washing laundry in cold water instead of warm can reduce gas or electricity being used by hot water tanks which reduces cost.
- Use natural light.
- Install new thermostats. Regulate temperature.
- Replace old appliances with energy efficient appliances.
- Take shorter showers.
- Switch to using smart power strips.
- Weatherstrip your doors and windows.
- Regulate fridge and freezer temperature.
- Turn off / unplug all electronics & appliances when not in use.
- Hand wash dishes instead of using dish washer. / Use Dishwasher at night to avoid peak hour charges.

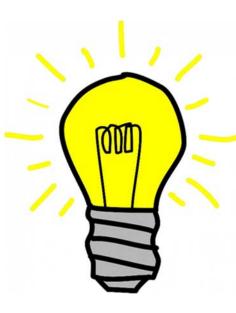


# **Cover Story cont.**

Leadership development, career pathways, small business, and community services. To learn more about Truist's purpose, visit https://www.truist.com/who-we-are/about-truist.

#### **About Truist**

Truist Financial Corporation is a purpose-driven financial services company committed to inspiring and building better lives and communities. Truist has leading market share in many high-growth markets in the country and offers a wide range of products and services through our retail and small business banking, commercial banking, corporate and investment banking, insurance, wealth management, and specialized lending businesses. Head-quartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Truist is a top 10 U.S. commercial bank with total assets of \$535 billion as of Dec. 31, 2023. Truist Bank, Member FDIC. Learn more at Truist.com.



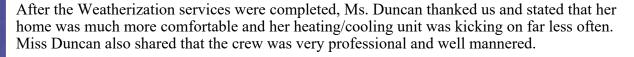
# Weatherization

Upon initial application for Weatherization services, Ms. Duncan was placed on the waiting list. After some time, Ms. Duncan's wait was over and the team was ready to move forward with services. Once an inspection was completed, it was found that Ms. Duncan's home had an active roof leak and needed floor repairs. She was then placed on the home repair waiting list until funds were available. Once home repair funding became available, Ms. Duncan received a new roof and floor repairs in the master bedroom.

After the home repairs were complete, Ms. Duncan was eligible to have Weatherization services completed on her home. An Energy Audit was then conducted and found the home was in need of air sealing. After all tests were performed, a work order was completed.

The Weatherization crew completed air sealing (primarily in the duct system) and foundation repairs, including repair of the belly that holds the insulation and vapor barrier to pro-

tect the existing insulation. Health and Safety measures were also completed, which included installing an ASHRAE fan and switch, smoke/CO alarms, and a pressure relief pipe to the water heater.



Our Weatherization team is proud to serve our community and always take PRIDE in everything we do. We have a great group of technicians that enjoy helping others.









## **Important Dates to Remember**

March 10	Daylight Saving Time
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 26	Board of Director's Meeting—Noon
March 27	Logan County Connect Humanity Workshop—11am—3pm
March 31	Easter
April 1—5	Head Start Spring Break

#### ARE YOU A LOW INCOME VETERAN FACING HOMELESSNESS?

Contact Eddie Thompson

Call Us at (304)752-6868 or (304)784-0677

A VERY SPECIAL

"THANK YOU"

TO OUR

DEDICATED

EMPLOYEES!





## Did you know...

Amazon donates to
PRIDE Community Services Inc. when
you shop @AmazonSmile.
<a href="http://smile.amazon.com/">http://smile.amazon.com/</a>

#YouShopAmazonGives

Choose PRIDE Community Services (#NY927) for your **Kroger Community Rewards** 

#### **Board of Directors**

Jeff Valet / President

Valet & Associates

Kathleen Mounts / Vice President

Early Education Advisor

Joseph Mendez / Secretary

Logan County Magistrate

John Turner / Treasurer

Logan County Clerk

Vacant

Public Sector Representative

**Dwight Williamson** 

Logan County Magistrate

**Christopher Workman** 

Family Court

**Amber Blankenship** 

Low-Income Sector Representative

Regina McNeely

Head Start Policy Council

Pat Lykens

Senior Advisory Representative

Lisa Sigmon

Low-Income Sector Representative

**Crystal Rogers** 

Senior Advisory Representative

**Dana Wright** 

Private Sector Representative

Dr. Michael Johnson

Private Sector Representative

**Tonya Williamson** 

Woodforest Bank

#### **Funding Sources**

- Administration for Children & Families (ACF), Dept. of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
- Dept. of Energy (DOE)
- Dept. Of Health and Human Resources (DHHR)
- United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)
- United States Dept. of Veteran Affairs (VA)
- WV Bureau of Medical Services
- WV Bureau of Senior Services (BOSS)
- WV Community Action Partnership
- WV Department of Education
- WV Dept. of Health & Human Resources (WVDHHR)
- WV Development Office—Community Advancement & Development (WVCAD)
- West Virginia Metro Area Agency on Aging (Metro AAA)

# **Services Offered:**

**Case Management:** The goal of this program is to assist the aged and disabled 18 years and up through the process of application for the Title XIX Waiver program.

Kathy Stidham / Director

**Child & Adult Food Care Program (CACFP):** Offers food reimbursement and training to in-home family daycare providers.

• Brandi Browning / Director

**CSBG (Community Service Block Grant):** To stimulate a better focusing of all available local, state, private and federal resources upon the goal of enabling low-income families and low-income individuals of all ages, in rural and urban areas, to attain the skills, knowledge and motivations and secure the opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient.

Brandi Browning / Director

**Family Stabilization Program**: Assists individuals and families who are experiencing crisis situations that inhibit their ability to be successful or work toward success in their personal lives.

Brandi Browning / Director

**Head Start:** Provides comprehensive and quality services to all Head Start children and families in order to facilitate their development to the fullest potential.

Chanda Elkins / Director

Housing Program: Offers a continuum of programs that provide affordable, decent, safe, energy efficient and innovative housing for low-moderate income people and to improve the conditions of communities we serve. This program includes: Emergency Repair and Replacement Program (ERRP) and Weatherization Program.

Stephen Gilman / Director

**In-Home Services Program:** In-home care services are available by certified homemakers and certified nursing assistants.

Kathy Stidham / Director

**Senior Services:** Offers services to persons with disabilities and the aging population of Logan County.

Kathy Stidham / Director

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families:** Focuses on securing and maintaining housing for Veterans who are currently homeless, assists in obtaining VA and other public benefits.

Eddie Thompson / Coordinator

## **Vision Statement**

PRIDE Community Services will serve as a driving force in creating a community where people are empowered with resources and opportunities to reach their greatest potential.

## **Mission Statement**

PRIDE Community Services makes a positive impact on the lives of those in need by bringing together educational, financial and human resources that support self-sufficiency.



**Empowering Lives. Strengthening Communities.** 

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WWW.LOGANPRIDE.COM Visit us on Facebook!

How Can I Help?

PRIDE is focused on bettering our community. We can only meet our goals with the assistance of community members like you. We hope that you will support our mission and help us continue to implement our programs and initiatives. If you would like to send a donation, please do so by mail to the address listed or via our website.

You are also welcome to volunteer your time to see our programs up close and personal. Contact the Human Resources Dept. for volunteer opportunities.