

the Shining Star



Contents:
Page 1 Cover Story
Page 2 Weatherization
Page 3 Emergency Services
Page 4 Human Resources
Page 5 Head Start
Page 6 In-Home Services
Page 7 Senior Services
Page 8 SSVF
Page 9 RRP
Page 10 Important Dates

PRIDE Community Services Expands CSBG Services to Kanawha County, WV

PRIDE Community Services, Inc. (PRIDE), a leading Community Action Agency in WV, committed to combating poverty and promoting self-sufficiency, proudly announces the expansion of its Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) services into Kanawha County, West Virginia. This expansion marks a significant milestone for PRIDE as it extends its reach to better serve low-income individuals and families across southern West Virginia. With the addition of Kanawha County, PRIDE will offer a range of critical support services designed to reduce poverty, improve living conditions, and foster economic independence.

“We are excited and honored to bring our CSBG programs to the residents of Kanawha County,” said Lisha Whitt, Chief Executive Officer of PRIDE Community Services. “Our mission has always been rooted in serving our communities with compassion and purpose. Expanding into Kanawha County allows us to help more individuals access the tools and resources they need to thrive.”

Through the CSBG program, PRIDE will provide services such as case management, employment support, financial literacy, housing stability assistance, and referrals to vital community resources. The goal is to empower residents to overcome barriers, increase their self-sufficiency, and achieve long-term stability.

PRIDE Community Services is expanding our Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) services into your area. Our new office will be opening soon.

Location:
426 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301

Services:

Emergency
Services

Housing
Stability

Employment
Support

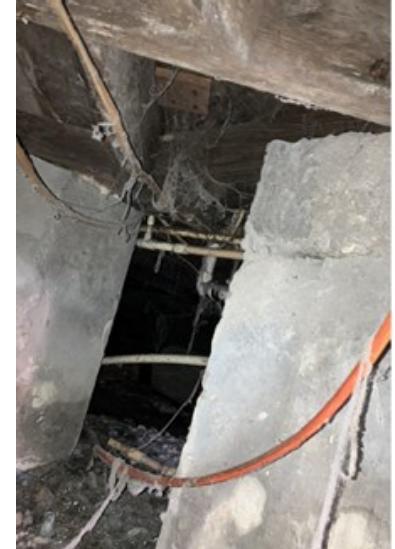


Weatherization



Roger Gallion was approved for Weatherization Services in January and soon after had his initial audit scheduled. Upon arriving at the residence, we noticed it was an older home that was in need of a lot of air sealing and insulation. During the audit, we found that the main components in weatherizing this home were going to be air sealing a lot of openings and cracks underneath, along with insulation installed in areas under the home and in the attic. We found the attic to be in good shape, with only the need to have cellulose blown in to meet regional requirements. Other items needing attention were wrapping the water heater, application of mastic on the ductwork and floor boots, and installation of CO/Smoke detectors.

The original blower door was 1804, and after four days of work from our weatherization crew, we were able to decrease their air loss to 1395. Mr. Gallion and his wife were very pleased with the work from our crew and stated numerous times how grateful they were for our help. It is jobs like this that make our work meaningful.



Emergency Services

WAYS TO SAVE ON FOOD COSTS

1. Planning and Preparation:

- Make a Meal Plan: Planning your meals for the week helps you buy only what you need, reducing impulse purchases and food waste.
- Create a Shopping List: Stick to your list to avoid overspending and ensure you don't forget essential items.
- Check Your Pantry: Before shopping, review what you already have to avoid duplicate purchases and maximize what you already own.

2. Smart Shopping:

- Shop the Perimeter: Produce, dairy, and meats are often found on the perimeter of the store, where you're less likely to be tempted by impulse buys.
- Shop Alone: Shopping alone reduces the likelihood of buying unnecessary items that might be tempting to buy with a friend or family member.
- Shop on a Full Stomach: Hunger can lead to impulse purchases, so eat before you go grocery shopping.
- Compare Prices: Don't assume the first price you see is the best. Compare unit prices and prices across stores to find the best deals.
- Consider Store Rewards Cards and Loyalty Programs: Many stores offer rewards programs or cards that can save you money on purchases.
- Take Advantage of Curbside Pickup: This can help you avoid impulse purchases and stay on budget.

3. Strategic Buying:

- Buy in Bulk (with Caution): Bulk buying can be cost-effective, but ensure you have the space to store items and won't waste them before they expire.
- Opt for Generic Brands: Generic or store-brand products are often cheaper and of comparable quality to name brands.
- Consider Frozen Produce: Frozen fruits and vegetables can be a budget-friendly alternative to fresh produce, especially when out of season.
- Buy Seasonal Produce: Produce that is in season is typically more affordable and often fresher.
- Avoid Pre-Cut or Prepared Foods: These items are often more expensive and may not be as nutritious as home-cooked options.
- Shop for Clearance and Sale Items: Regularly check for sales and promotions to maximize your savings.
- Use Coupons Strategically: Utilize coupons for items you regularly purchase.

4. Reducing Food Waste:

- Meal Prep and Meal Planning: Prep ingredients in advance and plan meals based on what you already have in your pantry and fridge.
- Freeze Excess Produce: Freezing excess fruits and vegetables can help reduce food waste and extend shelf life.
- Make the Most of Leftovers: Plan to use leftovers in new meals to minimize waste and save money.

Human Resources

In the first quarter of 2025, our agency welcomed several new employees. Our Head Start program welcomed Kaylee Cantrell as a Teacher, Makaela Dowdy as a Family Advocate, and Karley Hall as an Assistant Teacher. Our In-Home program welcomed Kimberly Canterbury, Evie Collins, Melissa Harris, Bertha Calloway, and Brittany Porter as Direct Care Workers and Leandra Trammell as Case Manager. Our CSBG program welcomed Elizabeth Farley as Program Support Specialist, and our Finance Department welcomed Amber Horn as Accounting Specialist. As a whole, our agency is growing, and we are very excited to welcome our new staff. We wish each of them much success in their new journey and look forward to working with them. Welcome to our PRIDE family.

*For information about agency job openings, please contact the Human Resources office
304-752-2272 / cindy.codispoli@loganpride.com / kaci.marcum@loganpride.com*



Head Start

The Head Start program successfully purchased an alternative vehicle to ensure transportation services on days when our regular Head Start bus drivers are unavailable. This new vehicle allows us to maintain consistent service for our children without interruption.

We have officially placed the vehicle into operation, and it has already proven to be a valuable asset to our program. Staff recently had the opportunity to use the vehicle for an overnight professional learning trip, just one of many ways it supports our team and services.

Head Start would like to extend a big thank you to the following staff members who have stepped in to drive our new bus: Christy Mitchell, Katie Lowe, and Kelli Hensley. They've already put their skills to work, providing our little ones safe and cheerful transportation to and from the Logan Center.

We look forward to utilizing the vehicle for many future opportunities that benefit our children, families, and staff.



PRIDE Head Start is currently enrolling students for our 3 & 4-year-old program for the 2025-2026 school year.

Applications can be completed by scanning the QR code or in person at the main Head Start office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. If you have questions, please call (304) 752-5344.

In-Home Services

In-Home Services are vital for enabling individuals, especially seniors and those with disabilities or chronic illnesses, to live safely and comfortably in their own home. These services include personal care, housekeeping, meal preparation, and medication reminders that are tailored to meet the unique needs of each person. By receiving support at home, individuals can maintain their independence and enjoy a higher quality of life while avoiding or delaying the need for institutional care. In-Home Services also provide peace of mind to families, knowing their loved ones are receiving compassionate and professional care in a familiar environment. Direct Care Workers are essential to the well-being and daily functioning of PRIDE's In-Home participants. They provide critical hands-on support that allows individuals to maintain dignity and independence in their home. Beyond physical care, Direct Care Workers often offer emotional support and companionship, forming strong, trust-based relationships with those they serve. PRIDE's Direct Care Workers have a profound and lasting impact on their client's life, often becoming more than just a caregiver. The bond they build can restore hope, inspire confidence, and bring light to even the most difficult days.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Eligibility</u>	<u>Services Provided</u>
Lighthouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be 60+ years of age;• Meet medical eligibility based on an evaluation completed by the agency RN;• Financially eligible, determined by a sliding fee schedule	Provides support in four areas, including: personal care, mobility, nutrition, and environment
FAIR & IIIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The person receiving care must have a diagnosis;• Must have an unpaid caregiver	Provide care & activities for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia; and give family caregivers a break
Medicaid Personal Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must have three deficits in areas of daily living;• Must have Medicaid card	Perform activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living.
Aged & Disabled Waiver Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must first meet the criteria for both financial and medical eligibility;• Must have needs in at least five deficits in areas of activities of daily living	Case Management; Personal Attendant; Skilled Nursing; and Non-Medical Transportation; Personal Emergency Response System provided
VA Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must go through VA Program and be referred to PRIDE	Personal care services & help with activities of daily living.

If you need more information about our In-Home Services Program contact Carla Lukacs — 304-752-6868 or Carla.Lukacs@loganpride.com

Senior Services



Engaging senior citizens in meaningful activities is crucial for their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Regular participation in social, recreational, and cognitive activities helps reduce feelings of isolation and depression, which are common in older adults. It also promotes physical health by encouraging movement and reducing the risk of chronic conditions such as heart disease and arthritis. Additionally, activities that stimulate the brain, such as puzzles and games can help maintain cognitive function and delay the onset of memory-related issues. By staying active and socially connected, senior citizens can enjoy a greater sense of purpose, fulfillment, and overall quality of life. PRIDE Community Services' senior centers play a vital role in supporting the health, independence, and quality of life of older adults. The centers offer a wide range of services and programs, including nutritious meals, evidence-based health promotion, nutritional education, and social activities all designed to meet the unique needs of seniors. By providing a safe and welcoming environment, the senior centers help older adults stay active, engaged, empowered, and foster a strong sense of community and belonging.

Activities & Lunch Served Daily

**Earl Jarvis Senior Enrichment Center
699 East Stratton Street, Logan**

**Tracy Vickers Community Center
68 Boise Street, Chapmanville**

**Chapmanville Towers
647 Main Street, Chapmanville**

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES

SSVF is a program funded by the federal government, U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs. It provides low-income families with services aimed at preventing homelessness and improving their stability.

THESE SERVICES MAY INCLUDE:

- Case management
- Transportation assistance
- Housing counseling
- Financial planning
- Legal services
- Employment search
- Temporary financial assistance
- Assistance getting VA and other public assistance



Eligibility

To receive supportive services from the program, you must be:

- **A member of a Veteran family.** Head of household or spouse of head of household must be a Veteran.
- **Classified as very low-income.** Your income cannot exceed 50% of the area median income in the county you live in.
- **Homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.** You must be in permanent housing, scheduled to move into housing within 90 days, or have exited permanent housing within the last 90 days.

ASSESSMENT

For a full case assessment, contact us to schedule an appointment. Once you have scheduled an appointment, bring the following documents with you:

- State issued photo ID
- DD-214 form
- VA Medical card
- Proof of income
- Social security card (for all living in household)
- Birth certificates (for all living in household)
- Any lease/rental agreements, past due notices and utility bills if seeking financial assistance.



*Eddie Thompson
SSVF Coordinator*

*(304) 752-6868
(304) 784-0677*

*Brandi Browning
Director of Community Services*

Repair & Replacement Program

On April 1, 2025, PRIDE Community Services Inc. RRP crew began the installation of Mrs. Johnson's new heating and cooling system. The team was met with plenty of challenges during this installation to include cold weather, low crawl space, and complete restructure of the trailer trunkline. This job was difficult, but was performed, as always, in a professional and timely manner.



During the two-day installation, the RRP crew started by removing old duct work and installed new boots, trunk line, and flex duct. After modifying the floors to fit new registers, the team applied power to the unit and certified that the package heat pump performed as it should.

Mrs. Johnson stated that the RRP crew was very professional and worked quickly to restore heat to her home. She was very pleased with the new unit and will no longer need secondary heat to help keep her home warm.



If you are in need of heating and cooling repair or replacement, contact Will Rogers — 304-752-6868 or Will.Rogers@loganpride.com

Important Dates to Remember

July 29	Board of Directors Meeting
August 13	Head Start Staff Return
August 25	Pre-K Parent Orientation
August 26	1/2 Pre-K Students Attend
August 27	1/2 Pre-K Students Attend
August 28	All Students Attend
September 1	Labor Day—PRIDE Closed
September 12	No School
October 13	Columbus Day—PRIDE Closed
October 17	No School
October 20	No School

A VERY SPECIAL
“THANK YOU”
TO OUR
DEDICATED
EMPLOYEES!



Empowering Lives. Strengthening Communities.



Did you know...

Amazon donates to PRIDE Community Services Inc. when

you shop @AmazonSmile.

<http://smile.amazon.com/>

#YouShopAmazonGives

Choose PRIDE Community Services
(#NY927) for your

Healthy Habits Corner

- *If you have stairs at home or at work, take them when possible.*
- *Aim for 7,000 steps daily.*
- *Take a walk at lunchtime.*
- *Stock up on healthy foods at home and at work.*
- *Take care of your physical, mental, and emotional health.*

Board of Directors

Jeff Vallet / President

Vallet & Associates

Kathleen Mounts / Vice President

Early Education Advisor

Joseph Mendez / Secretary

Logan County Magistrate

John Turner / Treasurer

Logan County Clerk

Amber Blankenship

Low-Income Sector Representative

John Fekete

Public Sector Representative

Pat Lykens

Senior Advisory Representative

Regina McNeely

Head Start Policy Council

Harold Porter

Logan County Magistrate

Lisa Sigmon

Low-Income Sector Representative

Elizabeth Tackett

Private Sector Representative

Dwight Williamson

Senior Advisory Representative

Tonya Williamson

Woodforest Bank

Christopher Workman

Family Court

Dana Wright

Private Sector Representative

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

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.

- Laura Herndon / 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: Repair and Replacement Program (RRP) 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

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)

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.

PRIDE Community Services
699 E. Stratton St.
Box 1346
Logan, WV 25601
Phone: (304)752-6868
Fax: (304)752-1047
E-mail: pride@loganpride.com

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.