

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Entrants must complete all sections for the entry to be considered complete. A copy of this official entry is available at [www.pacounties.org](http://www.pacounties.org)

-Applicant must select the type of facility or program Alternative Programs

Owner/Contracting County County of Bucks, Office of Commissioners  
Address 55 E. Court St.  
City, State, Zip Code Doylestown, PA 18901  
Primary Contact, Title Charles H. Martin, Commissioner Chairman  
Contact Phone 215-348-6426

### PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title Residential Services Unit/Lenape Valley Foundation Collaborative Project

Start Date 1/1/2016

### PROGRAM NARRATIVE

**Enter program narrative that addresses each of the following subject areas, and does so in the order presented below. Entries must be submitting using this form. All sections must be complete. Entries submitted without the required information may be disqualified.**

**Problem Discussion** - Enter comments on the identified need and the background including what programs were in place before the current project, if any, and how it led to this effort. This section is worth 10 points.

Beginning in 1998 the Bucks County Youth Center (BCYC) has operated a public, twenty-bed, residential program for adjudicated delinquents under the jurisdiction of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division. Prior to 2013, the RSU had no ability to provide behavioral health treatment to residents diagnosed with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. The need for behavioral health treatment for RSU residents with diagnosed co-occurring disorders was recognized by BCYC and the Bucks County Juvenile Probation Office (BCJPO) both while in placement and as part of aftercare. Acquiring these services externally presented problems with availability, timeliness of delivery, a lack of continuity post-placement and often had to be purchased as fee-for-service by BCJPO.

**Background** – Enter history of the project, including any evidenced-based approaches to divert individuals from further penetration into the juvenile or adult justice system, community involvement strategies, formation of stakeholder groups, county- wide planning strategies, etc.

This section is worth 10 points.

BCYC partnered with Bucks County Behavioral Health Systems to petition Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania to create an outpatient behavioral health clinic within the RSU to provide behavioral health services to residents diagnosed with co-occurring disorders. On March 3, 2013 the base services unit for central Bucks County, Lenape Valley Foundation (LVF) was awarded the contract to deliver behavioral health services to RSU residents both in placement and as part of aftercare services. Behavioral health services include mental health and substance abuse evaluation, medication management, individual counseling, group counseling and Girls' Circle psycho-educational curriculum. In 2015, the RSU/LVF behavioral health collaboration was evaluated by BCJPO and the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Centers at Penn State University (EPISCenters) using the Standard Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP). The purpose of the evaluation was to determine if the RSU/LVF collaboration was treating youth in appropriate risk categories, was targeting specific criminogenic needs with appropriate evidence-based interventions, was placed in the county's juvenile justice system matrix to address adjudicated youth with specific criminogenic needs and if the program is having a positive impact of recidivism reduction. On January 23, 2017 the RSU/LVF completed the SPEP Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) with BCJPO and the EPISCenters in order to optimize the effectiveness of the program.

**Project Description** – Enter a description of expectations and measurable goals, including supporting data. This section is worth 20 points

BCJPO assesses the recidivism risk and treatment need of all adjudicated youth by utilizing the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Instrument (YLS/CMI). An examination of YLS/CMI scores of all admissions to the RSU in 2015 and 2016 (Chart 1 below) demonstrates that all residents scored in either medium or high levels risk levels and were appropriate for residential placement at the RSU (included below). During the SPEP process, BCJPO and EPISCenters examined the primary behavioral health services provided in the RSU/LVF program and found that the RSU was providing appropriate, evidence-based interventions to address five of the six dynamic, criminogenic needs domains measured by YLS/CMI: Attitudes/Orientation, Personality/Behavior, Family/Circumstances, Peer Relations and Education/Employment. As a result of this evaluation, the RSU/LVF program was the first residential program placed in the Bucks County Juvenile Justice Systems Matrix. As a result of the evaluation the RSU/LVF program received a Basic SPEP score of 51 and a Program Optimization Percentage of 68%. This score indicates that the RSU/LVF collaborative program is having a positive impact on recidivism reduction. Also attached below is aggregate YLS/CMI data for all RSU residents who were successfully discharged from the program in 2015 and 2016 and for whom a post-release YLS/CMI assessment is available. This data shows a reduction in both the criminogenic risk domains and total score (Chart 2 below). The RSU utilizes the Child Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) as a multi-dimensional assessment tool to evaluate the treatment progress of RSU residents. In 2015, thirty-one residents were assessed with CAFAS and found to have an initial CAFAS Youth Total Score of 145. The average CAFAS Youth Total Score on re-

assessment was 90 (-55). A chart is provided below showing the average sub-scale CAFAS Youth Scores at Initial and Most Recent assessments (Chart 3 below).

**Program Evaluation** – Enter a description of how the project was evaluated and any lessons learned. This section is worth 15 points.

As described above, the RSU/LVF collaborative project for delivery of behavioral health services to residents was evaluated by BCJPO and EpisCenters utilizing the SPEP and found to have a positive impact on recidivism reduction. On January 23, 2016 the RSU and LVF completed the SPEP PIP with the technical assistance of BCJPO and the EPISCenters. The purpose of the SPEP PIP was to enhance the effectiveness of the program to reduce recidivism. The specific recommendations addressed by RSU/LVF through the PIP process were to: work with BCJPO to assure that RSU residents met the duration and dosage of evidence-based interventions identified in the academic research to maximize the effect on targeted criminogenic risks, to increase the effectiveness of addressing targeted criminogenic needs by synching RSU Individual Case Plans (ISP's) and LVF treatment plans with the case plans generated by BCJPO through the YLS/CMI, to increase training opportunities between allied agencies to effect the effectiveness of targeted interventions, and to increase the collection of outcome measures. An outcome measurement instrument entitled "Provider Outcomes by Domain" was initiated on February 1, 2017 to collect data on all RSU residents admitted after that date. BCYC will begin implementing Motivational Interviewing (MI) with technical assistance from BCJPO in 2017 with the goal of having all administrative, support and program staff trained by 2018. One important outcome of this process were to increase the communication between the RSU/LVF and the Juvenile Court regarding exposing residents to appropriate dosages and durations of evidence-based interventions. A second important outcome was synching each agencies case plans in such a way that they targeted specific criminogenic needs identified by the YLS/CMI. Finally, LVF has secured a grant to implement an evidence-based gambling intervention at the RSU in 2017-2018.

**Community Involvement** – Enter a description of the community, including a description of key stakeholders, organizations, and county departments that were involved in the project. This section is worth 10 points.

The County of Bucks is a Class 2a county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with an estimated population of 627,249 in 2015. The Bucks County Youth Center (BCYC) is a political sub-division of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division and the County of Bucks. BCYC administers a secure detention program, and a twenty-bed, dispositional, public residential program for adjudicated delinquents called the Residential Services Unit (RSU). In 2015, BCYC provided services to 510 individual youth constituting 13,694 child care days. In 2015, the RSU provided services to over 31 residents constituting 5,100 child care days. All referrals to the RSU program are made by court-order on the recommendations of the Bucks County Juvenile Probation Office (BCJPO) which is also a political sub-division of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division. The BCJPO evaluated the RSU/LVF

collaborative project with technical assistance from the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenters) administered by the Penn State University. BCYC and the RSU are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS). Lenape Valley Foundation (LVF) is the base services unit for central and lower Bucks County and provides services to over 10,600 non-duplicated persons annually.

**Future of the Project** – Enter details describing how the activities included in the project started in the past were altered or will be continued based on experience, including plans for leveraging additional resources. This section is worth 5 points.

As described, the immediate action is to implement the “Provider Outcomes by Domain” data collection tool and to submit that data for all RSU residents admitted after February 1, 2017 to BCJPO. Secondly, BCYC will be training all facility staff in Motivational Interviewing (MI) with technical assistance from BCJPO by 2018. The RSU has implemented a new Individual Service Plan (ISP), Monthly/Quarterly Report and Court report that is closely synched with the LVF treatment plans and informed by the YLS/CMI. The documents include a “State of Change” section for each targeted criminogenic need which will be utilized as an outcome measure once the MI training is completed. The RSU is also utilizing the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (Maysi~2) and Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) as multi-dimensional outcome measures.

**Funding** – Enter a description of any costs associated with the project and how it was funded; cost savings, if any, and any change in community acceptance, reductions in insurance costs, or inspection improvements that resulted from the program. This section is worth 10 points.

The RSU is program-funded by the County of Bucks and the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas. In 2015, 21% (31) of all adjudicated delinquent youth placed by Bucks County Juvenile Court (150) were placed at in the RSU/LVF program. This is part of a policy of decreasing the number of adjudicated youth in placements and decreasing dependence on out-of-county placements, in favor of utilizing community-based services and developing quality in-county resources when necessary. This also allows BCYC to shift reimbursement rates from utilization of secure detention (50%) in favor of the higher reimbursement rate from the Commonwealth for residential placement (80%). LVF is reimbursed for all services in this project through Medicaid, Health Choices of Pennsylvania and private insurance coverage.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

Please include any supporting documentation to demonstrate the impact of the project in cost or population outcomes, or other data to demonstrate the considerations utilized in determining the scope or design of the project. Scoring will be based on factors including the entrant’s description of the problem, the soundness of the approach, and success in meeting goals and objectives. Award submissions will receive consideration for outcomes or best practices supported by data. **SUPPORTING INFORMATION SHOULD BE COPIED AND PASTED**

**DIRECTLY INTO THE FORM USING THE BOX BELOW.**

**2015-2016 RSU YLS/CMI Scores at Admission**

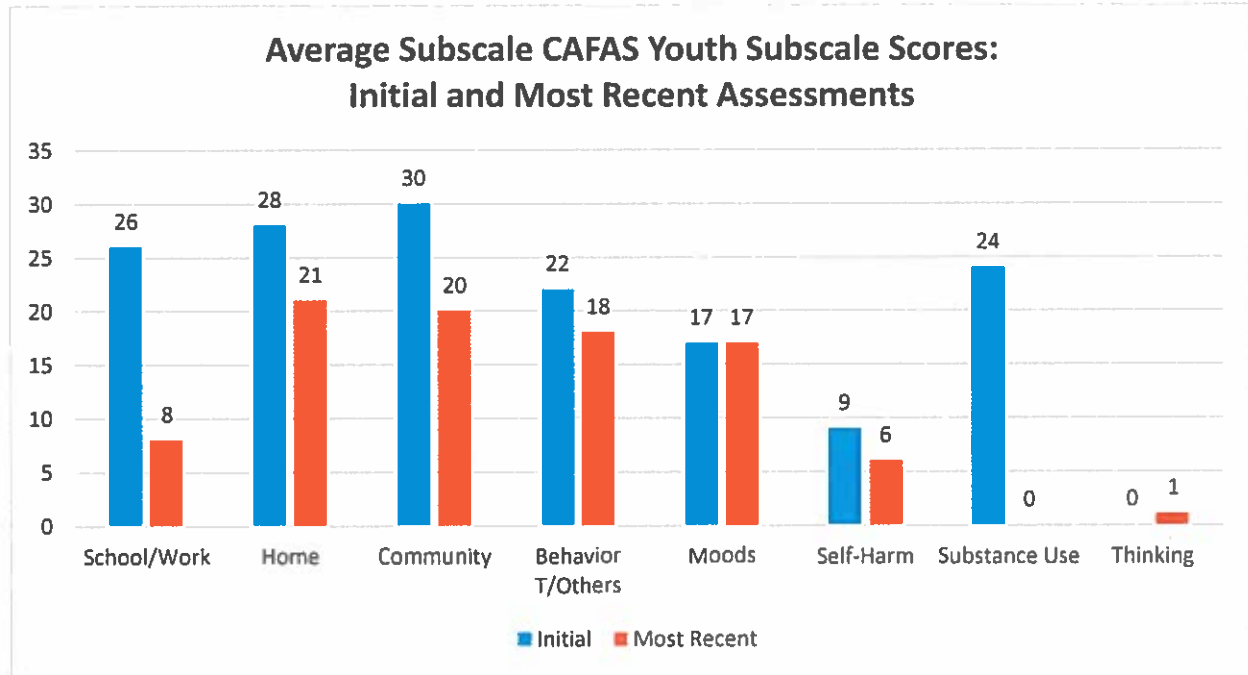
<b>RSU #</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Edu/Emp</b>	<b>Peer</b>	<b>Substance</b>	<b>Leisure</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Attitude</b>	<b>TOT</b>
329	1	6	3	4	2	3	5	1	25
330	0	1	1	2	5	3	4	5	21
331	1	4	2	4	4	2	1	0	18
332	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
333	2	2	0	3	1	3	4	5	20
334	0	1	4	2	1	1	5	1	15
335	1	0	1	4	2	0	1	0	9
336	1	4	4	4	4	1	5	1	24
337	0	1	5	4	2	3	2	1	18
338	3	2	2	2	0	1	4	1	15
339	0	4	2	2	2	2	2	3	17
340	0	3	1	0	0	0	6	1	11
341	0	2	1	4	4	2	2	1	16
342	0	2	5	4	2	0	4	0	17
343	1	4	5	4	3	1	6	2	26
344	0	2	3	2	2	2	6	1	18
345	4	2	4	4	1	3	5	2	25
346	1	4	1	4	3	2	1	0	16
347	1	4	0	4	3	2	4	3	21
349	1	3	2	4	4	2	1	0	17
349	3	5	4	4	2	3	2	5	28
350	0	3	4	2	2	2	2	0	15
351	0	4	0	0	2	3	0	1	10
352	2	2	3	0	0	2	7	3	19
353	0	3	2	2	3	2	3	4	19
354	1	6	1	2	0	2	5	1	18
355	0	3	4	4	3	3	1	3	21
356	0	4	4	2	0	0	3	3	16
357	0	6	5	4	4	3	5	5	32
358	2	3	1	4	3	1	1	3	18
359	1	0	1	4	2	0	1	0	9
360	3	3	3	4	5	3	2	4	27
361	0	5	0	4	2	2	4	0	17
362	0	5	3	0	0	3	0	3	14
363	1	5	6	4	3	2	6	4	31
364	0	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	15
365	1	3	4	3	1	2	4	0	16

366	2	3	3	2	4	0	2	2	18
367	1	1	5	4	0	3	5	5	24
368	1	3	3	4	4	3	5	3	26
369	2	5	6	1	0	2	5	3	24
370	1	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	17
371	1	5	3	2	1	1	5	3	21
372	0	4	5	2	1	1	4	2	19
373	3	6	5	2	0	1	4	1	22
374	3	1	1	2	3	2	2	0	14
375	1	4	1	4	3	2	0	0	15
376	0	2	3	2	1	2	2	0	12
377	3	2	0	4	3	2	1	1	16
378	0	4	0	3	2	2	4	0	15
379	0	5	3	2	2	2	4	1	19
380	3	2	3	4	2	2	5	4	25
381	1	5	1	2	2	0	4	2	17
382	1	2	5	4	3	3	3	3	24
383	1	3	6	3	0	2	4	2	21
384	2	3	0	3	1	3	4	1	17
385	1	3	0	3	0	1	2	4	14
<b>TOT AVG</b>	<b>1.07</b>	<b>3.158</b>	<b>2.59649</b>	<b>2.82</b>	<b>1.964912</b>	<b>1.8421</b>	<b>3.228</b>	<b>1.89474</b>	<b>18.5</b>

### 2015-2016 RSU YLS/CMI Scores at Program Completion

RSU #	Prior	Family	Edu/Emp	Peer	Substance	Leisure	Person	Attitude	TOT
329	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	5
331	2	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	8
336	0	3	0	4	0	0	3	3	13
338	3	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	8
340	0	4	1	0	0	0	6	1	12
341	1	2	0	4	3	1	1	0	12
342	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
344	2	4	2	4	0	2	3	0	17
345	4	1	3	2	0	2	5	1	18
346	1	2	0	4	3	0	1	0	11
347	2	4	0	3	2	0	2	0	13
349	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	6
352	3	3	2	4	3	2	5	3	25
354	2	6	0	2	0	2	3	1	16
357	2	3	0	2	0	2	3	1	13
358	3	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	9
359	2	2	0	4	3	2	1	0	14

360	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
361	1	3	0	4	0	1	3	0	12
364	2	3	1	2	1	0	2	1	12
367	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
369	1	3	6	4	3	3	5	2	27
<b>TOT AVG</b>	<b>1.727</b>	<b>2.2727</b>	<b>0.77273</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>1.235294</b>	<b>0.8235</b>	<b>2.0588</b>	<b>0.58824</b>	<b>11.9</b>



**Each application must be submitted with at least one signatures.** Signatures can be entered electronically, or submitted via fax using a separate form. To sign, right-click on the signature line, select "Signature Setup" from the drop down, and follow the prompts. If submitting signatures on a separate form, enter "FAXING" on the signature line.

X   
Charles H. Martin, Chairman

X  C.O.O.  
Brian Hesselthaler Chief Operating Officer

**SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY – To submit the entry, save a copy of this completed form after all information, including signatures and supporting materials have been added. When saving the form, please assure that the document name includes the county**

X   
John F. Carr,  
Facility Director

**name, the type of project and the year – (i.e. FranklinAlternativeAward2017). Address an email to [bpenyak@pacounties.org](mailto:bpenyak@pacounties.org) and attach the award submission.**