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23  
*January*



*Winter Bulletin*

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH



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Ed Meehan

Photo courtesy of Peter Keady/PK3 Photography

# LVHN holds inaugural Community Health Symposium

On November 16, 2022, we were overjoyed with a full day's worth of engagement and meaningful conversations with over 100 local community leaders. In our inaugural Lehigh Valley Health Network Community Health Symposium, talented leaders conversed about social determinants of health in the Allentown community. Breakout sessions were held with topics focused on safe housing, cradle to college education pipelines, localized data, and more. We sincerely extend thanks to Dr. Brian Nester and Mayor Matt Tuerk for their keynote remarks, and to all of our attendees and participants.

**“** *The topics discussed created a day's worth of insightful and engaging conversations. Although we feel the event's objectives were successfully met, there is a collective understanding that this needs to be just one of many on-going conversations.* **”**

- Leonard Parker Pool Institute for Health Executive Director, Ed Meehan

**Scan here to view more photos from the LVHN Community Health Symposium**



## Benches make awaited return to Franklin Park

The community asked, and the community has been heard! Surrounding neighbors at Franklin Park at St. Stephen's Outreach Center have previously requested sitting benches, new recycling and trash bins, as well as better lighting for the park. On November 19, 2022, an important first step was made with benches being installed at Franklin Park. We are thankful for community voices being heard, and we for leadership from Reverend Maritza Torres Dolich at the St. Stephen's Outreach Center, who is dedicated to improving our local resources that also impact our social determinants of health.



Photo courtesy of Peter Keady/PK3 Photography

Allentown Mayor Matt Tuerk (L) observes the newly constructed benches at Franklin Park, as an emotional Reverend Maritza Torres Dolich embraces City of Allentown Recreation Program Specialist, Ryan Griffiths (R).

# FELLOWSHIP FOR HEALTH



*Photo courtesy of LPPIH*

Shawn Duncan (L) and David Park (R) from Focused Community Strategies (FCS) meet with Collective Impact Fellows in November

## Fellows Engage with FCS, The Systems Sanctuary

Members of our eighth cohort of the Pool Fellowship for Health continue to meet in monthly workshop sessions. On November 9, 2022, Pool Fellows learned about Authentic Community Engagement from Shawn Duncan and David Park representing Atlanta's FCS - Focused Community Strategies. Founded by Bob Lupton, author of the widely read book "Toxic Charity," FCS partners with under-resourced neighborhoods to provide innovative and holistic development that produces flourishing communities.

In December, Cohort 8 continued their learning with faculty member Rachel Sinha, co-founder and Director of The Systems Sanctuary. The session's focus was to understand systems change and when it was needed for creating long-term, sustainable change. The learning objectives included understanding the mindset of a systems practitioner and reflecting on our own existing capacities around change practice, as well as understanding the purpose of systems mapping.

Honoring the philosophy of Leonard Parker Pool, our staff is committed to learning from the very best minds in our country. Thanks to FCS and The Systems Sanctuary for leading and facilitating our Fellowship's workshops, we continue to act on our goal of creating authentic community engagement in our region.

## Meet Cohort 8

<b>Tommy Acevedo</b>	<i>Director of Integrated Behavioral Health Services</i>	Valley Health Partners
<b>Cheryl Arndt</b>	<i>Community Partnership Data Strategy Analyst</i>	Pool Institute for Health
<b>Darian Colbert</b>	<i>Executive Director</i>	Cohesion Network
<b>Chloe Cole-Wilson</b>	<i>Program Coordinator</i>	Project Silk Lehigh Valley
<b>Yusuf Dahl</b>	<i>Executive Director</i>	Century Promise
<b>Yorman De La Rosa</b>	<i>Community Liaison</i>	Lehigh County Department of Community and Economic Development
<b>Ramona Hollie-Major</b>	<i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	COI Energy
<b>AJ Lemheney</b>	<i>Vice President &amp; Executive Director</i>	Muhlenberg College Division of Graduate and Continuing Education
<b>Matt Tuerk</b>	<i>Mayor of Allentown</i>	City of Allentown
<b>Deidra Vachier</b>	<i>CEO/President</i>	Community Services for Children, Inc.
<b>Max Weintraub</b>	<i>CEO/President</i>	Allentown Art Museum
<b>Missy Wise</b>	<i>Empowerment and Engagement Director; Resiliency Project Coordinator</i>	Valley Against Sex Trafficking; United Way



*Photo courtesy of Peter Keady/PK3 Photography*



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