



CSO Connections Newsletter



No-cost COVID-19 Testing

The Community-Accessible Testing & Education (CATE) for COVID-19 made two stops in Northumberland County on Tuesday, November 3. This mobile testing unit offered no-cost COVID-19 testing in Milton and Shamokin. CSO worked with the state Department of Health and city officials to provide these “walk-up” sites to best serve the large walking population.

CATE is funded by the Capital Blue Cross and the PA Department of Health, in partnership with Latino Connection. Staff from The Primary Health Network did the nasal swab test. All results from the tests were processed within 48 hours and participants received their results three to five business days after the tests.

Read more about [CATE](#), access their [schedule](#), or follow them on [Facebook](#).

Winter is approaching fast- let CSO help you take some of the chill out of your bill!

CSO C.A.R.E.S. for Savings *Crisis Assistance Refueling Energy Services* **100 % Match Savings Program**

Start saving for your heating bill this winter

- Save up to \$400 in 10 months
- Receive 100% match
- Paid directly to YOUR heating provider



**Benefits residents of
Northumberland, Columbia,
& Montour Counties**



**For details call 570-644-6575 ext. 113
or ask your CSO case manager**

www.csocares.org



Funding for the CSO C.A.R.E.S. for Savings program is provided by donations & CSO staff fundraisers

Spotlight on Success

Carol came to the Lycoming County PA CareerLink® for help with her job search. Her job was a contracted position that was ending. To gain permanent employment, Carol decided she wanted intensive services, including one-on-one case management with a Career Coach.

Encouraged by her Career Coach, she applied for positions through meetings, phone contacts, and emails that matched her skill set as an administrative assistant.



She said, “Working with the Career Coach at PA CareerLink® helped me to understand the loss of my job was not tied to my ability or work ethic. I was given the opportunity to take advantage of training and job fairs. I had access to online training to brush up on my computer skills. I had a fresh opportunity to look at a new career with positive encouragement.” Carol continued to explore the job market and applied for at least three positions a month. Her end goal was to find permanent employment by the end of January 2019.

Through a networking contact, Carol learned about an open position for the state of Pennsylvania. Her contact encouraged Carol to apply. She interviewed and accepted a Clerk Typist position with the Department of Environmental Protection. Carol said, “I would highly recommend anyone who loses their job to go to CareerLink. Losing a job can be a crushing experience and having someone to be a positive influence while you search for a new position certainly provides hope and opportunities which you may not have been exposed to.”

The continuing collaboration with her Career Coach enabled Carol to improve her employability through online training, attending job fairs, and staying on top of current job openings. After completing services Carol summed up her experience with the PA CareerLink®: “I am very thankful for the positive support, motivating ‘push’, and helpful encouragement PA CareerLink provided that guided me to confidently find a new job that I enjoy and have room to grow in.”

Fresh Food Pantry Over for the Season



Sunnie, doing her part



Fort Augusta Chapter



CSO's Fresh Food pantry ran from May 29, until October 30. Between June and October, the pantry gave food to an average of 205 families and 438 individuals each month. A total of 40,000 pounds of food were given to customers!

Volunteers from the **Red Cross Greater Pennsylvania Rivers Chapter** helped to get things started for the first drive-up pantry of the season. **Great Dane** employees from Elysburg volunteered several times. Members of the **Fort Augusta Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** also donated their time and energy volunteering at the pantry.

Please keep in mind that CSO coordinates 9 food pantries throughout Northumberland County. For locations and times please visit our [website](#).

Volunteers needed!

VITA

Columbia, Montour, & Northumberland Counties

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

- Free training & certification
- Flexible hours
- No experience needed
- Great resume builder



NOW is the perfect time of year to consider participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program as an income tax preparer. By volunteering your time, you can ensure individuals and families receive the tax

credits they are entitled to, avoid costly fees, and receive the money they deserve.

Now is the best time to start. Get your training and certification done and be ready to start when tax season rolls around. Get more information by contacting Sandy Winhofer 570-644-6575 ext. 148 or by [email](#).

This volunteer opportunity runs from January 2021 until April 2021. The commitment time is about three hours each week over those 13 weeks.

CSO is now accepting coat donations. If you know a child who needs warm outerwear, CSO is also taking requests for those in need. Call us today:

570-644-6575 ext. 171

CSO's Annual "Keep Our Kids Warm" Coat Drive!



Drop Off Locations:

228 Arch St.
Sunbury, PA 17801

36 E. Main St.
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

2 E. Arch St., Suite 313
Shamokin, PA 17872

Questions? Contact Leanne Wesner at 570-644-6575 ext 144 or lwesner@censop.com

In conclusion, this year while holiday shopping, why not help CSO help others? Join AmazonSmile today and select Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. as your charity of choice. Even better, these donations are accepted year-round!

SHOP for the Holidays! Support CSO!

When you shop using AmazonSmile, a portion goes back to support Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. Same products, same price, no extra cost to you!

- Join AmazonSmile by signing up in your web browser at smile.amazon.com
- Type Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc., in the search bar as your AmazonSmile Charity
- Open Amazon app on your phone, go to settings from main menu, and tap on AmazonSmile

Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at AmazonSmile and Amazon donates

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Thriving Individuals, Thriving Families, Thriving Communities
Provide Opportunities. Empower People. Strengthen Communities.

Visit our Website

| [CSO/Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc.](#) |

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