

AG and Youth Grant Program Now Accepting Applications

By State Rep Ann Flood
SLATE BELT -The Department of Agriculture is inviting proposals for this year's Ag and Youth Grant Program.

The program provides direct grants of up to \$7,500 and matching grants of up to \$25,000 to support projects, programs and equipment purchases by youth-run organizations, and those with programs that benefit youth or promote development in agriculture, community leadership, vocational training and peer networking.

Grant applications must be submitted online through the PA Department of



PROPOSED ALLENTOWN YOUTH CENTER

COMMUNITY ACTION LEHIGH VALLEY

WHY?

During interviews and public meetings with Allentown residents and community leaders, major concerns were expressed regarding the lack of public spaces for youth to spend their time, especially after school, on weekends, and over summer.

Specifically, community members highlighted the need for a brick-and-mortar youth center.

Existing youth centers are available, but they are located outside of Allentown's Center City area and have a primarily recreational, sports-driven focus. They do not offer the varied programming that residents feel is missing from their community, and are not integrated into the Allentown School District. Additionally, community members noted the lack of arts and music programming, academic support, and vocational training currently available to Allentown youths.

OPPORTUNITY

Community Action hopes to provide these crucial opportunities through the proposed Allentown Youth Center. The complex issues and challenges afflicting youth in Allentown can be addressed by providing a brick-and-mortar community space where youth can feel safe, build trust and self-esteem, and realize their skills, talents and abilities.

THE PROPOSED ALLENTOWN YOUTH CENTER WILL BE A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY SAFE HAVEN THAT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO PROVIDE:



SPORTS FACILITIES
fields for soccer and football, courts for basketball and volleyball



CLASSROOMS
for homework and mentoring



RECORDING STUDIO
for students to create/record their own music



TRADE WORKSHOPS
to introduce students to a variety of vocational trades;



THEATRE SPACE
to engage students in theatrical productions



STUDIO SPACE
for dance classes that includes ballet, jazz, hip-hop, etc.



TECHNOLOGY SPACE
for video and multimedia projects



STUDENT LOUNGE
with games and snacks



COMMUNITY SPACE
with satellite offices for other nonprofits and agencies

Community Action is well-positioned to complete a project of this size and ambition, as evidenced by our dedicated history of improving both Center City Allentown and the Lehigh Valley as a whole. We are able to rely on a wide network of partnerships including the City of Allentown, the Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation, our local elected officials, and more.

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DCNR Announces Investments in ATV and Snowmobile Recreation, Fall Grant Round Open

By DCNR

POCONOS - New grant funding totaling \$1,397,400 has been awarded for all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile facilities and trails in Pennsylvania. There are ten grant recipients.

"Thousands of avid ATV and snowmobile riding enthusiasts recreate in Pennsylvania annually and DCNR supports projects that improve upon and expand these types of motorized recreation opportunities across the Commonwealth," Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn said. "The fall grant round opened earlier this month and we encourage municipalities and organizations to apply before the September 29 deadline."

The department can award grants two times each year to municipalities and organizations for development of publicly accessible ATV and snowmobile trails and facilities.

Proposed snowmobile and ATV related projects eligible for these grants include planning, land acquisition, development, rehabilitation, maintenance, maintenance and construction equipment, and educational programs related to snowmobile and ATV trails and facilities

WALDEN III
Senior Living Community

Mom is happy and I finally have some peace of mind!

We were at an impasse. We wanted Mom to consider Personal Care but she was dead set against it. She can manage just fine, she insisted. I love her dearly but worry constantly. She reluctantly agreed to visit Walden III and they suggested a compromise. Independent Living! She gets to retain her independence and her dog and I enjoy the comfort and security knowing that help is **always** on hand.



Walden III Senior Living Community, Wind Gap, PA
Personal Care/Independent Living

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www.Walden-3.com for a complete description of charges for optional services. Or call
610-863-7059 and schedule a tour.

Base Rate One Bedroom apt. \$1,505 per mo.
One Bedroom with all services \$2,300 per mo.
Base Rate Two Bedroom apt. \$1,655 per mo.
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