



# McDowell County FACES Newsletter

## The FACES of HOPE

September , 2012

facesfrn.com

email: facesfrn@yahoo.com

### Coal Mining Takes A Hit



As fall is just around the corner, winter on its heels, Consol Energy just idled their 620 Buchanan Mines employees and Amonate is targeted for the next site. This is personal to me as my son works at Buchanan.

According to **reuters.com** the coal miner Consol Energy Inc said on Tuesday it will temporarily idle one of its biggest mines because weak global demand for steel-making coal has sent prices tumbling.

Consol's stock fell more than 4 percent and helped drag down shares of other producers of metallurgical, or coking coal, which is used to fire blast furnaces.

Analyst Dan Scott, of Dahlman Rose & Co, cut the investment ratings for coal miners Peabody Energy, Alpha Natural Resources and Walter Energy to "hold" from "buy." He also cut Arch Coal's stock price target, which contributed to the coal sector's share fall.

"Global steel demand is under pressure and as a consequence, raw materials used to make steel are in less demand," Pittsburgh-based Consol said in a statement.

It said it will temporarily close its Buchanan mine in southwestern Virginia in response to weak conditions in its export markets in Asia, Europe and South America.

Consol said it will also idle at least a portion of the Amonate Mining Complex in southern West Virginia.

Buchanan produces about 5 million tons of metallurgical coal per year -- just less than 10 percent of Consol's total coal production.

The idlings are expected to last for 30 to 60 days, said Consol, which had previously idled operations at Buchanan for a week in July.

Six weeks ago, Consol's second-quarter profit missed Wall Street's expectations as revenue dropped 8 percent from a year earlier and the average realized price for its coal fell 12 percent.

Thermal coal prices have also plummeted this year as demand from electricity producers slumped, with some utilities turning to cheaper natural gas. That has forced many coal companies to cut production and one company, Patriot Coal, has filed for bankruptcy protection.

In afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange, Consol shares were 4.3 percent lower at \$28.88. Alpha Natural Resources fell 7.5 percent to \$5.49, Arch Coal lost 7 percent at \$5.68, Walter Energy was down 5.8 percent at \$30.79 and Peabody Energy was 3.8 percent lower at \$20.80.

\*\*\*\*\*

It is hard to determine just how many mines and miners will be affected by these issues. As always, we are praying for our miners to “keep their jobs”, be able to “feed their families”, “pay their bills so they won’t lose everything”, and hopefully they will “stay in our county” while the mining industries, steel industries, and stock markets make decisions that will inevitably affect the outcomes for those we love so much.

# Community Health Education Resource Person

A Community Health Education Resource Person (CHERP) is a trained community member who provides information, support, and basic health care services to those who need help. A CHERP is a paid or volunteer health specialist that helps friends, neighbors, and community members gain access to health care and develop a healthier lifestyle. A CHERP is trained to answer basic questions about health, disease, nutrition, physical activity and health behaviors. A CHERP is a partner with doctors, nurses, dietitians, personal trainers and others in promoting health.

A CHERP can certify at one or more of six levels:

1. Wellness Specialist,
2. Health Promotion Specialist,
3. Disease Prevention Specialist,
4. Disease Management Specialist,
5. Mental Health Specialist, and
6. Health Counselor.



Anybody 18 or older, with an 8th grade education can certify as a CHERP. No experience is necessary to certify. Training to become a CHERP is provided FREE through a grant awarded to the CRCH. Classes are held at numerous locations throughout the counties of southern West Virginia. The research aspect of the CHERP project is to discover to what extent CHERPs are used in their communities.

## Become a CHERP

The training is open to all individuals and no prior health care experience is required. Learn how you can be a health leader in your community. For more information or to register for future training, contact [Joyce Martin](mailto:Joyce.Martin@wvsom.edu) or (304) 793-6571. You can call 1-800-566-1258, go to [www.wvsom.edu/programs/CRCH](http://www.wvsom.edu/programs/CRCH), or email [crch@oste.wvsom.edu](mailto:crch@oste.wvsom.edu) for more information.

# McDowell County Blueprint for Success

McDowell County HOPE Coalition and FACES is working to put together the updated version of the McDowell County Blueprint for Success. We have completed the Children and Families and Economic Development sections last week and have the Health section scheduled for September 24, 2012 from 4:30—6:30 p.m. at the McDowell Public Library. As we complete the Health component we will begin putting all the pieces together and work with Reconnecting McDowell, the Board of Education, and other agencies to be inclusive of their planning processes. We want this volume to be inclusive of the whole of McDowell but we cannot do that without the help of those working in the county.

We need the following groups to contact us so that their plans can be included in the document prior to printing it:

- ◆ County Agencies including the Commission, County Clerk,
- ◆ Law Enforcement
- ◆ County Board of Education
- ◆ Faith-based Nonprofits
- ◆ Other Nonprofits
- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Mayors

# Speak up WV

## **People with Mental Health Issues or Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities and Their Families**

WV DHHR Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities (BBHFF) is launching a Technical Assistance initiative to assess the statewide treatment needs for children and adults with mental health disorders and intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Technical Assistance is supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). The Technical Assistance parallels the successful process that the Bureau launched in 2009 and completed in 2011 with Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment.

The goals of the Technical Assis-

tance are to: assess un-served and underserved populations to identify and determine unmet needs; review the existing statewide service continuum; determine capacity and needs of the system taking into account regional differences; and develop a 3-5 year comprehensive behavioral health strategic action plan to guide current and future system improvements and development.

Through prior technical assistance and strategic action planning processes, input from colleagues and stakeholders across the state is essential to achieving these goals. Different regions of the state experience sometimes similar, but often, quite different issues. Strategies required to successfully address identified needs also varies. Input and

guidance from our partners is critical to the efforts to development of a final comprehensive plan. Forums will be held as follows:

**Charleston** September 18, 1:00-3:30, Ramada Charleston House  
**Parkersburg** September 19, 1:00-3:30, Grand Pointe Conference Center  
**Morgantown** September 20, 1:00-3:30, the Hilton Garden Inn  
**Beckley** September 21, 9:00-11:30, the Tamarack Conference Center

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vicky Hatfield at  
vicky.e.hatfield@wv.gov  
Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities  
350 Capitol Street, Room 350  
Charleston, WV 25301  
(304)356-4954

# DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Day

**September 29, 2012**

**Kimball Wal-Mart Parking Lot**

**10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

This is the 4th take back day in McDowell County and WV. If you have unused or old prescriptions and/or needles, bring them to the prescription drug take back day so they can be incinerated by the Drug Enforcement Agency. Teaming up together is the McDowell County Sheriff's Office, McDowell County HOPE Coalition and McDowell County FACES to provide this event. We are working to install a permanent drop off receptacle and will keep the County posted when it is installed and operational. For more information, contact Ginger Day, McDowell County FACES at 304-436-5255.

**McDowell County FACES**  
P.O. Box 426  
25 Bank Street  
Welch, WV 24801  
Phone: 304-436-5255  
Fax: 304-436-5256  
Email: facesfrn@yahoo.com  
**Web: facesfrn.com**

FACES Meeting: 2nd  
Thursday of each month at  
noon —open to the public.

HOPE Meeting: 4th Monday at  
10:30 a.m.—open to the public.

Community Collaborative  
Team: 4th Monday at 12:00  
noon —open to the public.

**Location: FACES Office**

This newsletter  
brought to you by funds  
from the WV DHHR.

## Toy Fund Drive

McDowell County is currently considering initiating a Toy Fund for the children in the county that may not have toys for Christmas this year. The second planning meeting will be held this week and as decisions are made, flyers and media will begin to be placed with information about the initiative and how you can help with or participate in the activities. For more information contact: Yvonne Walker at DHHR, 304-436-8302, Tasha Dotson at STH, 304-436-1600, or Kathie Whitt at FACES, 304-436-5255.

## National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

September 2012 is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month recognizes the serious threat obesity poses to the health of America's children and decreasing its prevalence in the United States.

Dedicating at least one month per year to the crisis will help maximize the impact of programs, activities, messaging and campaigns – all aligned to help eradicate childhood obesity.

Presidential and Congressional proclamations established September 2010 as the first National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Governors and mayors around the country followed suit. Organizations of all types sponsored events to raise awareness of the causes and consequences of childhood obesity and to promote solutions.

National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month is supported by leading national organizations. They help educate the public about the need for increased awareness, proactive steps to prevent childhood obesity in the United States and promotion of healthier lifestyles.

Parents, health care providers, educators, civic leaders and organizations are encouraged to observe National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month with programs and activities to help prevent childhood obesity, promote healthy eating and physical activity, and increase awareness of childhood obesity among individuals of all ages and walks of life.

One in three American children is already overweight or obese. They are at greater risk of cardiovascular disease, bone and joint problems, sleep apnea, psychological problems, bullying and more. This is a sobering public health issue, compounding as overweight and obesity continue into adulthood.

The financial implications of childhood obesity are sobering, at \$14 billion per year in direct health care costs alone. Increased awareness and prevention of childhood obesity will save billions of dollars in unnecessary health care costs and promote healthier lifestyles to improve and prolong the lives of the next generation of Americans.

Protecting the health and wellbeing of American children for years to come is a critical endeavor. Adults must ensure that young people receive a healthy start in life. During the past four decades, obesity rates have soared among all age groups, increasing more than fourfold among children ages six to 11. More than 23 million children and teenagers (31.8 percent) ages two to 19 are obese or overweight, a statistic that health and medical experts consider an epidemic. "Childhood obesity is a public health crisis," said Congresswoman Kay Granger, a co-sponsor.

These youngsters risk developing serious health problems in adulthood, such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke and several types of cancer. The financial impact is a sobering \$14 billion per year in direct health care costs alone. The psychosocial consequences can hinder these kids academically and socially.

The effort begins at home. Parents have enormous influence over their children's lifestyles by the example they set and the decisions they make. By modeling healthy eating and physically active lifestyles, we can set our children on the road to a lifetime of good habits.

"Children need information and guidance to make informed decisions about food and exercise. Childhood Obesity Awareness Month supports the goals of families, schools, and communities who are working to ensure we raise a healthier generation. If we keep our kids healthy now it will alleviate a major burden on our health care system while giving millions of young people the opportunity to live longer, healthier lives."

