



THE EDGE

January 2014



Connecting2Tomorrow, Inc. Newsletter

"SKILLS TAUGHT TODAY CONNECT US TO A BETTER TOMORROW"

"Butler Strong" Program

Connecting2Tomorrow's new employment initiative program partners with select local businesses to provide employment for C2T graduates. It is our pleasure to welcome **Friedman's Freshmarkets** to the program. Friedman's is committed to making Butler a strong & growing community. Here is how it works: teens that complete C2T's "Life Coaching Skills" and "Work Ethics" workshops will receive a priority application status when applying to these select local businesses. Once hired, the graduates will receive C2T mentoring during their probationary work status to assist with job challenges and reward their achievements. If you are interested in learning more about the program, please call 724-431-6025.

Partnerships with Butler High School Life Skills Class and BC3 Social Work Program:

We are excited to announce 2 new partnerships within our community with Butler High School Life Skills Class and BC3 Social Work Program. The students in the Butler High School Life Skills class learn

vocational skills while helping C2T with clerical needs and mailings. The students in the BC3 Social Work Program must complete 40 volunteer hours per semester. C2T is pleased to have a few of these students volunteer with us.

"Autumn Evening Benefit":

Our fall fundraiser this year included a German cuisine of pork & sauerkraut, applesauce, beverage and dessert. The event was well received and raised over \$2000. We **thank** all of the volunteers, cooks, and especially those who attended and supported this event.

Recognition of 2013 Donors and Sponsors:

We thank the many wonderful people of our community that have been so generous with their donations this year. Your generosity helps Butler County teenagers learn skills to prepare them for adult life. In addition to the many individual donors we also acknowledge our sponsors:

EMPOWERING THE FUTURE!

Drs. Michael & Jodie Vero
Walmart

HighMark BC/BS

Bear Metallurgical

Butler Elks Lodge #170

AGR International, Inc.

NexTier Bank

Farmer's National Bank

Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter &

Graham, LLP

Ziegler Chiropractic & Wellness Center

Butler Health & Fitness

Dr. William Dicuccio

HRC Property Management & Appraisal

Crossroads Veterinary Hospital

Judson Auto Body

Jelly Stone Park @ Kozy Rest

Quality Life Services

James Austin Company

Friedman's Freshmarkets

The Thinking Cap

StandTall

Elliott Acres Therapeutic Riding



New Board Members:

We welcome our newest Board Members:

Josh Taylor, Board Member
 Josh Croup, Student ex Officio Member
 Emily Scott, Student ex Officio Member
 Cole Miller, Student ex Officio Member

We also thank retiring Board Members Mary Lee Hart and Patrick Hammonds. Your years of service and commitment have helped with the development and growth of C2T. We appreciate Patrick Hammonds continuing as C2T's legal counsel.

WHO WE ARE**Board of Directors**

Anthony Stagno, President
 Al Lane, Vice President
 Fred M. Vero, Treasurer
 Ernie Francestine, Secretary
 Kevin Finley
 Judy Zarnick
 LuAnn Byrnes
 Michele Miller
 Mary Lee Hart
 Carol Reed
 Deanna Miller
 Patrick V. Hammonds, Esquire

Program Advisory Committee

Matt McClelland
 Paula Opalka
 Diane Pelusi
 Rev. Sekinah Hamlin

Organizational Staff

Michael Liebler, Founder/Executive Director
 Rita Lane, Volunteer Fundraising Coordinator
 Lisa Moser, Workshop Facilitator
 Benoit Kihumbu, Workshop Facilitator
 Beth Bittner, Workshop Facilitator
 Theresa Mortimer, Workshop Facilitator

BOARD UPDATES

Our Board of Directors, Organizational Staff and Volunteers are working hard in developing a new mentoring model for Butler County teens to assist them in empowering their own futures and becoming successful community members. In 2014 our workshops and employment initiative programs will be streamlined into a mentoring model partnering with the National Mentoring Partnership. More details to come!

**Teen Life Coaching Skills for Success**

A seven (7) week workshop series for ages 14 to 18.
 Topics include: Creating a Vision for Your Future; Motivation; Team Building; Leadership; Conflict Resolution; Taking Barriers and Making them into Resources; The Secret to Succeeding

Banking and Budgeting Workshop

A four (4) week workshop for 18 to 24 year olds.
 Skills include: Managing Checking and Saving Accounts; Creating and Maintaining a Personal Budget; Dealing with Credit and how to Protect Yourself

Work Ethics Workshop

A four (4) week workshop for 18 to 24 year olds.
 Skills include: Professionally Completing and Submitting Applications; Improving Occupational Skills; Communication Styles and Interpersonal Skills; Resume Development; Sharpening Interview Skills; Preparing to Enter the Workforce

Workshops are planned and scheduled in various locations in Butler County. To register for an upcoming workshop, please call 724-431-6025, and we can let you know when the next available workshop is in your area.



"There is no lack of knowledge out there...Just a shortage of asking for help."

Volunteer!**We can't do it without you!**

We always have room for more! Volunteer a few hours a week or a month.

*Mentoring
 Fundraising
 Graphic Design
 Marketing/Publicity
 Clerical Help
 Program Advisory Council*

You can make a difference in the life of a local teen by empowering his/her future through volunteering!

Call today: 724-431-6025

**Calling All Amazon Shoppers!**

We are now an Amazon.com affiliate. If you shop at Amazon, please visit our website www.connecting2tomorrow.org and click the Amazon banner on any of our pages. The banner will take you to Amazon.com; our organization receives credit for every purchase you make, and Amazon then pays us advertising fees. There are no additional costs to your order. It's an easy way for you to shop, and your purchases credit a worthy, local charity.

CONTACTING US

For more information about Connecting2Tomorrow, please visit us on the web:

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