



# FCS Community News

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## SCOUT MAKES 'GREEN' THINGS HAPPEN FOR FCS !

Achieving Eagle Scout status is no small thing—in fact, it's the highest level of achievement attainable in the Boy Scouts of America organization. In order to become an Eagle Scout, candidates must select projects that will

and self-sustaining geo-thermal energy controls. But he was also aware that no one had yet created a green outdoor space for employees, guests, family and friends of FCS to enjoy.

With that in mind, Matthew approached Elizabeth Koster, President & CEO of FCS, with his ambitious vision of a picnic grove. Matthew was able to acquire a \$500 United Way Teen Works Grant. He also received assistance and donations from Stroud Township, the Masotti family, and Sgt. Riley of the Pocono Township Police Dept. With additional support from his



*Matthew Lutz reviewed his plan with FCS President and CEO, Elizabeth Koster.*

*When the project was completed, Matthew posed with his parents in a shady spot.*



be enduring and beneficial to the community.

Matthew Lutz, son of FCS Fiscal Assistant Barbara Lutz, found a very special opportunity to make a difference as he sought to join the rank of Eagle Scouts. Because of his mother's work at the new FCS Administration Building on North 5th Street in Stroudsburg, he was well aware of the building's unique "green" design



parents and his fellow Scouts in Scout Troop 80 of Tannersville, the plan became a reality and a new out door green space was born!

## "BATTER UP" FOR BASEBALL & BBQ!

On June 10th nearly 100 consumers and FCS staff enjoyed FCS Annual Baseball BBQ at Dansbury Park in East Stroudsburg. The event brings consumers and their support staff outdoors for a friendly game of baseball. Staff and Consumers enjoyed the day that included several home runs. There were also a few strike-outs as some "ace" pitchers and batters took the mound! Following the game, everyone enjoyed a great barbeque.

*See you next year!*



*"Bringing Out The Best In People"*

## An Essential Piece of the Puzzle...



On Thursday, July 22nd the FCS Wallace staff, management, and consumers were surprised with the entrance of President and CEO, Elizabeth Koster, Executive VP, Deb Scocozza, V.P. of Behavioral Health, Beth Booterbaugh, V.P. of Developmental Disabilities, Lynn Scocozza, and Sr. Program Director, Chris Bumford. Each staff member received a \$100 Visa Gift Card, a Bronze Puzzle Piece Pin, and a Certificate of Appreciation.

The nomination for the recognition was submitted by the VP of Behavioral Health, Beth Booterbaugh. The Wallace staff sprung into action as a consumer at the program was unable to breathe, choking on food. Two team members immediately began CPR as the other staff member contacted 911. The consumer was slumped over in his seat, not breathing. The team members were able to clear the obstruction, and as the EMS arrived, the individual was breathing normally again. It was not necessary to hospitalize the individual thanks to the Wallace St. Team's quick reaction to the signs of choking.

Congratulations to the staff of FCS Wallace Street Program for receiving special recognition as the Second Quarter, 2010 Piece of the Puzzle Winners! This recognition qualifies them to be in the running for Employee of the Year, which will be presented in November.

*Congratulations to 2nd Quarter Important Piece of the Puzzle Nominees!*

**3rd St. Team: Janet Schild and Nichole Padula,**  
**Wallace St. Team: Jamie Kovacs, Program Director, Tiffany Dixon, Renee Cave,**  
*Lifesharing Specialist: Marlene Moliere.*

## Educator in the Workplace & Luzerne County Community College Partners with FCS...

Each year, FCS teams up with Luzerne County Community College to host an "Educator in the Workplace." This year, FCS hosted two special education teachers from the Pleasant Valley school district.

Elizabeth Watson and Kristen Matweecha joined the FCS team on Monday,

June 22nd through the 24th to shadow some of our exceptionally skilled staff members supporting our Developmentally Disabled clients. The job shadowing included working directly with a Residential Program Manager being directly involved with our clients, accompanying a Supported Living Specialist who supports clients living independently within our community, and also attended quarterly Individual Support Planning meetings.



The goal of Educator in the Workplace is for educators in our community who teach children with special needs interact with businesses, industry and community partners who support the adults with developmental & behavioral health disorders. The educators are exposed to new ideas, management strategies and requirements for success in hopes to make the classroom learning and curriculum more relevant and prepare students for success in the world of work and current skill demands.

## FCS "STRIDES" FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Employees and Consumers of FCS joined the MH Walk on Friday, May 21st to help raise awareness for individuals with Behavioral Health Disabilities, and Mental Health Disorders. The Carbon-Monroe-Pike MHMR organizes the "MH Walk" event each May during Mental Health Awareness Month.

It is estimated that 1 in 17 people in the US have a diagnosable and serious mental disorder. FCS, along with doctors, counselors, and the families of those with mental illness come together each May to raise awareness of known mental disorders.

This includes addiction, anxiety, and autism, as well as depression, eating disorders, and many other conditions.

In Monroe County, walkers met at the Clubhouse at 8th and Main Streets in Stroudsburg, and walked along Main Street to Dansbury Park in East Stroudsburg. After the walk a barbeque was enjoyed by all.





# Camp Canadensis – *What a Great Summer!*



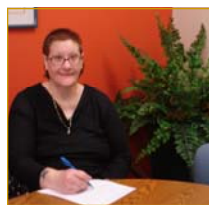
## FCS Behavioral Health Informational Video “In Their Own Words...”

With the recent closing of several state hospitals for the mentally ill, FCS decided to offer a video to consumers with Behavioral Health Disorders to highlight FCS Services. FCS teamed up with George Roberts Productions to prepare a documentary in which FCS consumers share their stories.



James Harris, now an Independent Living Client, spoke of how he’s achieved independence, structure and a quality life because of the programs at FCS. After his video interview, James shared that he thought he would never be the one to speak in front of a camera. He expressed a hope that his story may help other consumers on their road to recovery.

Holly Koehler, is a Lifesharing Consumer who has lived with the Heller family for over six years. She expressed her gratitude to FCS for thinking of individuals coming out of the hospital into the community as she, herself, was quite



unsure of what to expect. She spoke of her time in an FCS Group Home, finding her first permanent job and FCS assisting her with a job coach, then finally moving in with her family — the Hellers. Holly explained that she is now very independent and confident. She enjoys her family, and continues to watch the Heller children (and grandchildren) grow along with her. Cesar Coley, a group home consumer explained how he recently went from a

hospital setting, and how FCS is assisting him in becoming more independent within the community. Craig Griffith from West Hills Apartments gave his perspective on living independently in the community after receiving services from FCS.. Craig also had the opportunity to give a tour of the garden that he has been caring for. Everyone involved expressed pride, gratitude and a sense of achievement on



being able to share their stories of hope, recovery, independence and health.



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*Philosophy "Bringing Out The Best In People"*

PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
 PERMIT NO. 222

**Mission Statement:** Fitzmaurice Community Services, Inc. is an organization dedicated to building bright futures for people with special needs and the individuals who support them in reaching their goals.

Fitzmaurice Community Services, Inc. creates an environment that fosters Independence, Individuality, Productivity and Inclusion in the community through customized services provided by highly-qualified and motivated employees.

**Vision Statement:** As the Provider, Employer and Charity of Choice in our community, Fitzmaurice Community Services, Inc. is committed to continually expanding services through innovative projects.

## The New Place to Be! **New!**

### ADMINISTRATION

ELIZABETH KOSTER	CEO/PRESIDENT
DEBRA SCOCOZZA	EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
ELIZABETH BOOTERBAUGH	VICE PRESIDENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
LYNN SCOCOZZA	VICE PRESIDENT DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES
SHERRI SCHENKE	VICE PRESIDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

FCS recently moved its **Drop-In Center** to a new, centralized location on West Main St. in Stroudsburg.

The Drop-In Center is a place where individuals with a Behavioral Health Diagnosis can go during the day to socialize and enjoy stimulating recreational activities with peers. The Center is consumer run and has much to offer, including: a Pool Table, several PC's with Internet Access, and a Wii Gaming system. The Drop-In also organizes Bingo, and holiday gatherings such as the recent Memorial BBQ that also served as a Grand Opening for the Center.

The Behavioral Health program is funded through MHMR of Carbon-Monroe-Pike. **If you would like more information about the Monroe Drop-In, please contact [dasmith@fitzmaurice.org](mailto:dasmith@fitzmaurice.org), or call 570-213-4332.**

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