

Valley Youth Center
www.valleyyouthcenter.net/ 215-938-5202/Facebook: The Valley Youth Center
E-mail: info@valleyyouthcenter.net

On designated Fridays (see Dates of Operation) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th 5th & 6th 7th & 8th grade children will have the opportunity to come to the Center immediately after school & other designated times. Please check our web site and facebook page. The Valley Youth Center is located at 625 Red Lion Road, in the lower level of the Huntingdon Valley Library parking lot, middle doors. The 2100 square foot facility offers nine arcade machines with over 800 games, ping pong, foos ball, 2 pool tables and a TV with many tables & chairs. Two comfortable lounging areas are also available for your children to unwind and connect with their friends (The Levy Lounge & The Herman Lounge). We have a kitchen counter area & another bar area for the kids to hang out. The Red Lion Gym is also available for the children's use to play basketball, football, jump rope, hoola hoop, soccer or gymnastics. We will also have crafts on some Fridays. We will have organized board games, as well as organized physical games to be played in the Red Lion Gym. For example: Basetkball, football, soccer, hula hoop, jump rope, other competitive games.

The Center also provides an opportunity for older students in grades 7 thru 12 Grade to earn volunteer community service hours and interact with adult board members, as well as incoming younger students. An opportunity exists for 7th grade students if they want to gain community service hours they can help decorate for our big events, straighten out the center weekly, stock up the shelves, cabinets, office, help with computer work, office work, as well as various other duties. These duties help them to ease in and they start to watch the older students and how the Center operates. By 8th grade the students are seasoned and know if they would like to join the VYC team and start to interact with the students and start to learn a leadership role. Most students stay with us and volunteer throughout their high school years. Awards are given out in 8th grade & 12th grade for community service. This unique volunteer opportunity helps students to learn valuable leadership qualities & management skills. These responsible students that live in our community are interviewed and trained to become positive role models for the younger children at the Center. The Center serves as a positive place both for younger students to have fun and for older students to build their college resumes.

The Valley Youth Center has been a safe haven for the children of the Lower Moreland and Bryn Athyn communities for twenty (20) years. The Center originated after the tragic beating and killing of 16 year old Eddie Poled in nearby Fox Chase Philadelphia in 1994, Mark Bellomo joined forces with many community leaders & students and stated "let's give the kids a place other than the streets, a place of their own to hang out."

This year marks our 20th Anniversary serving the children in our community. "The Center is unique to our community and it is wonderful that we have this offering for our children, community and groups to enjoy daily. We are proud to say that we are still all Volunteer run and Operated. " " It's all about the Kids!" Quote from President, Denise Kuritz

Admission (Weekly): \$5.00 admission fee per child per week for all students.

Food/Beverages/snacks: Are sold at the VYC. An appropriate amount to give your child in addition to their admission is between \$8.00 and \$10.00. We have experienced they can get by with \$5.00 but kids have been spending more.

IOU's/Admission money forgotten: Please know that we will not turn your child away from attending the VYC. However, if your child forgets admission/food money, we will be in contact with you upon their arrival and make arrangements for your child's admission/IOU to be paid upon your arrival. Unless special arrangements are made and hardship consideration request is made with our staff prior to attendance. For example: family hardship, divorce, single parent, laid off from a job. We will call you and ask how much you would like your child to spend on food,snacks & beverages. We will allow them to spend that much on that given Friday. Upon your arrival an envelope with an amount due will be at the front desk to be paid to satisfy the balance due for admission/IOU balance. We accept cash & checks written out to Valley Community Outreach or Valley Youth Center. We cannot carry balances from week to week. We are so sorry but the VYC has expenses and puts out all out of pocket expenses for food, cleaning supplies, inspections, supplies so that we can run the Center efficiently & safely for the children.

Emergencies:

Denise Kuritz 267-784-0278, Sally Pitcairn 215-990-6999, Dianne Gallagher 215-915-2016, Yafit Handria 215-327-4511, Rose Miriello 215-292-3638, KC Konen 267-235-2919, Diedre Doneker 267-252-1996, Colleen Lennon 215-694-3664, Jay Sahl 215-350-3925. (See a full list of all of our adult volunteers on our web site).

Pine Road Students (Grades 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th) are transported by Bus to the Center from Pine Road School. Adult volunteers and student volunteers will be riding with the children on the bus to the Center. All children will be checked in prior to leaving Pine Rd. School. We check several times prior to leaving Pine Road. Another check is performed when the children arrive at the VYC. **ALL CHILDREN MUST HAVE AN EMERGENCY FORM FILLED OUT PRIOR TO ATTENDING THE VYC. Your child must also have a handwritten & dated note sent to school each week. IF A FORM IS NOT FILLED OUT, WE WILL CALL YOU FROM PINE RD SCHOOL AND ASK YOU TO BRING IT TO US AT SCHOOL OR MEET US AT THE VYC WILL THE COMPLETED FORM. (NO EXCEPTIONS) YOUR CHILD CANNOT ATTEND OUR PROGRAM UNLESS WE HAVE THIS INFORMATION IN OUR HANDS PRIOR TO THEIR ATTENDING ON ANY GIVEN FRIDAY. THIS IS FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD. THANK YOU!**

6th Grade students – open for this grade every Friday of the month. 6th graders are walked to the Center by Principal Dilks or the Vice Principal and delivered directly to our doors. They are checked in once they arrive. **All children must have a completed emergency medical form, code of conduct & media release form prior to attendance.** 7th & 8th grade students volunteering must also have an Emergency/Medical Form & Student Volunteer Form, Code of Conduct Form & Media Release form completed, be interviewed by staff prior to coming to the Center. We will schedule their volunteer time with us. If the student is not scheduled for that day to attend, they will be admitted as a visiting student.

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Students: 1st Friday of the month & designated Fridays. We will be opening the 1st Friday a month for the students in the middle school. They can come and enjoy all of the services the VYC has to offer. Emergency forms, Code of Conduct, Media Release form must be completed and sent prior to attendance.

Procedure – Please see how your child is able to come to the VYC on a Friday for their designated grade level.

Food, snacks & beverages are sold at the Center on Fridays.

Pick up time: 6 pm unless stated otherwise for special events and parties.

Big Events – we run several big events throughout the year which helps us to maintain the Center and the kids have a blast. See the “Events” pages on the District website as well as our web site www.valleyyouthcenter.net.

Fundraisers – we run some throughout the year. Please see our site.

Volunteers – All Volunteers (adults & students over 18 years of age) must have background checks, be a Mandatory Reporter. You are not required to have any medical training (CPR or 1st Aid but this is a plus) All Adult Volunteers must be interviewed by our staff members prior to working with us.

Volunteer parent’s children are admitted “free” on the weeks their children attend. If you are not in attendance the week your child is present, your child will need to pay for admission on that Friday. Adults that volunteer with us usually make arrangements for payment weekly or monthly and a tab is run for their children. We appreciate all the time, effort and energy that they spend helping us run the center it’s a huge job. We would like to let you know this because if your child tells you a child is getting items “free” because their parent is involved, they are paying for food. Thank you for understanding.

Please consider joining our team of wonderful moms, dads, grandparents, community members and parents. It fills your life with happiness and joy.

If you would like to volunteer, we welcome new volunteers (Adults & students) please call 215-938-5202 or e mail info@valleyyouthcenter.net. Many hands make the job light. This is a fun , great experience but serious. Please come help us out and make a difference in the life of a child and in your community.