

DELAWARE COUNTY

State drug, alcohol agency head tours MVP Recovery sites

Daily Times

Leaders from the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs made stops in Delaware County on Thursday “to support communities battling substance use disorder and the opioid epidemic, making investments to assist licensed recovery houses in making health and safety upgrades.”

“Stable, safe, and accessible recovery housing makes a lasting difference in an individual’s recovery journey, and I am proud the Shapiro administration is investing in homes like this,” said DDAP Secretary Dr. Latika Davis-Jones in a press release.

Davis-Jones joined officials and residents of MVP Recovery at an MVP recovery



COURTESY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAMS

Pennsylvania DDAP Secretary Dr. Latika Davis-Jones, center, with MVP Recovery staff during a two-stop tour Thursday of an MVP Recovery recovery house and MVP’s S.T.A.R. Center.

ery house to announce a \$41,000 investment from the commonwealth and how it made upgrades possible, including installing

additional LED motion lighting throughout the property; repairing or replacing flooring, stairways, handrails, and sidewalks;

and painting the interior and exterior of the house.

“We are dedicated to creating recovery homes that reflect the highest levels of safety, structure, and support, environments where meaningful, lasting recovery can take root,” said Brian Corson, founder and CEO of MVP Recovery. “We are incredibly grateful to DDAP for awarding us this funding to support continued improvements to our recovery homes. It is a powerful investment in our mission ...”

MVP Recovery is the largest provider of DDAP-licensed recovery houses in Pennsylvania, with all of its 22 recovery houses being licensed, according to the state agency.

The \$41,000 was from federal funding awarded

to Pennsylvania by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and administered in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

DDAP is accepting applications for recovery houses seeking licensure. Currently, there are more than 400 DDAP-licensed recovery houses in Pennsylvania.

Recovery houses can find more information regarding the licensure application process on the DDAP website. Drug and alcohol recovery houses are required to be licensed to receive referrals from state agencies or state-funded facilities, or to receive federal or state funding to deliver recovery house services.

Later, Davis-Jones joined

the Delaware County Department of Human Services Office of Drug and Alcohol, the county’s drug and alcohol office also known as the Single County Authority, at the S.T.A.R. — Screening, Triage, Assessment, and Referral — Center, the region’s first and only 24/7 behavioral health urgent care center.

Through a DDAP-funded \$3 million two-year grant awarded to the SCA, MVP Recovery launched the S.T.A.R. Center in 2024 to provide immediate stabilization and connection to care for individuals experiencing mental health and substance use crises. Since opening its doors, the S.T.A.R. Center has quickly become an essential access

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point in the region’s behavioral health system.

According to DDAP, in the last year, the S.T.A.R. Center has:

- Served 240 individuals

in crisis.

- Linked 91% of those individuals directly to treatment.

- Diverted individuals from hospital emergency rooms, leading to an estimated \$403,000 in health care cost savings.

“Recently, with the clo-

sure of Prospect Medical Holdings Crozer-Chester Medical Center and Taylor Hospital, the S.T.A.R. Center has become even more essential in ensuring individuals have continued access to these services. These services would not be possible without the support

from the grant funding awarded to the SCA by DDAP and continued collaborative partnerships with our state, county, and provider partners,” said Pamela Bell, drug and alcohol administrator, Delaware County Department of Human Services in a press release.