# BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

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Brandywine Heights Community Task Force is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible.

General meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM, at the Brandywine Heights Intermediate / Middle School library.

To learn more about the Brandywine Heights Community Task Force and upcoming community events visit www.bhctaskforce.org



- And www.facebook.com/
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The Brandywine Heights Community Task Force was formed in April 2014 with community volunteers from within the Brandywine Heights School District area and from surrounding communities. Our mission is to make a difference by building a stronger community through Education, Engagement and Outreach. Many in our area are faced with extreme life challenges and the BHC Task Force wants to provide a connection to services, events and resources that will support all of us and provide safe alternatives. Fellowship and community involvement strengthen our ties in the community and helps change lives.

Many in our area have faced tragedies in their families or amongst their friends due to issues of addiction. This is something we need to face and talk about. We cannot act as if these issues only happen somewhere else as they ARE happening here. So what have we been doing? Many impactful things:

# After School Program

- Established for Middle School aged children grades 6 8 in spring semester 2015 with great response. This program has continued through the 2016-17 school year and serves an average of 30 youth, four afternoons a week.
- Provided at no-cost to students and serves as a safe alternative for this age group.
- Future funding will be used to continue this program and build its influence

# • Community, Youth, and Parent Education

- o The Anonymous People Movie Viewing & Expert Panel Discussion October 2014
- Paraphernalia Search Mock Bedroom with the Berks County District Attorney's Office
   Middle School and High School Open Houses September 2014 and September 2015
- Time to Talk Event April 2015
- Education and Panel Discussion with Experts June 2015
- Start the Conversation How Do You Talk To Your Kids About Drugs March 2016
- Too Good For Drugs Curriculum K-5 Implemented 2015-16 through 2017-18
- Too Good For Drugs Family Fun and Education Event March 2017

#### Safe Alternative Community Actions and Activities

- Take Back Our Park June 2014
- Outdoor Movie Night and Potluck Picnic June 2014
- Line Dance Ages 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Co-sponsored with Kutztown Strong November 2014 and January 2015
- Battle of the Bands Event 3rd Annual event scheduled for September 2017
- o Red Ribbon 5K & Fun Run 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual scheduled for October 2017
- o Community Christmas Caroling 4<sup>th</sup> Annual scheduled for December 2017
- o Task Force Anniversary Community Concert & Ice Cream 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual June 2017

Volunteers in our community have given hundreds of hours of service in support of our efforts. We want to reach out more and help more people. We want to continue to offer programs that promote positive environments, community education, and safe alternatives. We want to provide scholarships. We want to engage more community members, partner with support groups, and establish on-going dialog for the positive and benefit of everyone.

What can we do together? All this and so much more. That's why we need your help. Generous friends and businesses like you enable us to continue to meet our minimal financial needs. Your support today can help us do more, reach out, and help open a world of opportunities for a child, youth, or even an adult you know. Thank you in advance for helping us work toward changing lives, one individual at a time. Any gift amount will help.

**Brandywine Heights Community Task Force Board**