

**Recovery Advocacy Day  
Tuesday, September 22, 2015  
Pennsylvania State Capitol  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

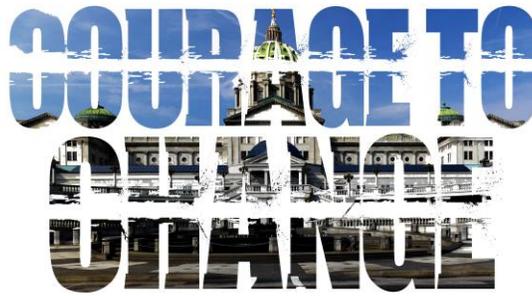
Please join Pennsylvania's recovering community for a day of advocacy in Harrisburg. We will be visiting the capitol in the morning to share stories of hope and recovery with legislators. The day will conclude with a media event in the Rotunda at 3:30 p.m. Recovery Advocacy Day is an opportunity to celebrate National Recovery Month and to thank legislators for their support of Act 139 (Good Samaritan and Naloxone).

On September 22, PACDAA staff will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Rep. Gene DiGirolamo's office located at 49 East Wing near the cafeteria. Staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have and we can provide you with tips and talking points for your visits. Additionally, we will have two large posters that you are welcome to sign. These posters will be put on display at the 3:30 p.m. media event. Event pins featuring the Courage to Change logo will also be available for you to wear during your visits.

In order to promote Recovery Month, specifically as it applies to Pennsylvania, PACDAA will hold a media event from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Capitol Rotunda. This event will feature an announcement from Representative Thomas Murt and an address by Representative Gene DiGirolamo. In addition, a member of PRO-A and the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance will speak along with members of the Recovery Advocacy Day Planning Group.

We are asking that you spend your time in Harrisburg visiting with your House and Senate members and their staff. The Senate is scheduled to be in session on September 22. For the House, September 22 is scheduled as a non-voting day meaning Representatives may not be present in the Capitol. If you cannot get an appointment to meet with legislators, please meet with their staff. Try to set up an appointment with them; however, let them know that you plan on dropping by even if you cannot get an appointment. Also, please coordinate with other participants from your county and regionally as applicable.

During this time it is important that you share your story and focus on recovery rather than addiction. Make it known that recovery is possible and try to convey a message of hope and that people can get better. In addition, make a local connection by talking about recovery events or other special initiatives occurring in your area. Finally, be sure to thank your legislator for Act 139 and, if possible, share any stories you may have that are related to this legislation's impact in your local community.



PACDAA Staff will be on hand in the capitol and can be reached via cell phone. To reach Michele Denk, call 717-877-7525; to reach Tom Stark, call 570-582-8657.

Lunch is on your own, and there are many choices nearby. The Capitol Building has a cafeteria located onsite and it can be found in the East Wing near the Visitor's Center. A short walk through Capitol Park will bring you to Strawberry Square, which features a food court on the second floor. There are also a number of restaurants near the capitol. If you would like additional suggestions, please ask a PACDAA staff member.

### **Main Talking Points**

- **Share Your Story:** Be brief and focus on recovery rather than addiction.
- **Recovery Is Possible:** Convey a message of hope and the fact that people can and do get better. Feel free to talk about recovery events or special things happening in your area.
- **Thank for Act 139:** This Act provided for Naloxone Access and Good Samaritan Immunity. Please share any stories that you may have about how this legislation is impacting your local community.

### **Schedule of Events**

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Legislative Visits
3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Gather in Rotunda
3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Media Event
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Departure

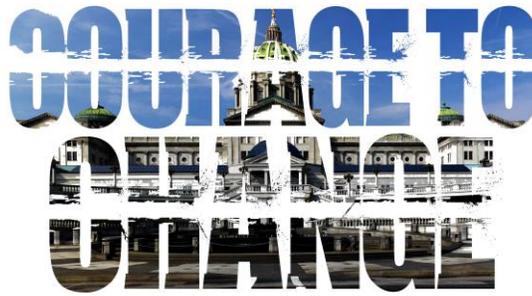
### **Media Event**

Introduction	Judy Rosser, Chairperson, PACDAA
House Resolution 421	Representative Thomas Murt
Recovery Address	Representative Gene DiGirolamo
PA STOP Campaign	Jeff Hanley, Co-Vice President, CPA
Recovery Advocacy	Bill Stauffer, Executive Director, PRO-A
Recovery Advocacy	Ashley Potts, Team Leader, SPHS
Closing	Mike Krafick, CRS Supervisor, AICDAC



## How to Make Your Legislative Visit a Success

- **Offer to be a Resource:** Legislators and their staffs usually are not experts in all areas and often turn to trusted outside experts. Knowing that there's someone in the district who understands Drug and Alcohol, specifically Recovery, can be very helpful. Let your legislator's office know that you are such a person and are willing to answer any questions they may have.
- **Know "Who's Who":** Make sure that you know "who's who" in the meeting, and take down the names of any staff people you may need to deal with in the future.
- **Be Polite:** Treat the staff and the office with the same respect you expect. If you are disagreeable, it will make the staff far less likely to want to work with you in the future. You can be forceful about your views and opinions without being rude.
- **Always Tell the Truth:** Again, staff constantly turns to outside individuals for advice and assistance on important policy issues. They must feel that they can trust the individuals with whom they are dealing. If you don't know the answer to a question, tell the person you will find out and get back to them.
- **Be Patient and Follow-up:** You should not expect an immediate response to your comments or concerns. In many cases, the issue may be one about which the member has not yet formed an opinion. However, do ask when you should call back to see if the member has taken a position. Send a thank-you note to everyone in the office who participated in the meeting and be sure to follow-through with any promises you make during your meeting.
- **Stay on Point:** Please see the talking points above. Use these talking points as a guide during your conversation(s). Please remember that Recovery Advocacy is a day to share stories of hope and to make the point that recovery is possible.



## **RECOVERY ADVOCACY AND COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

As county, state and federal legislators are charged with making critical budget and policy decisions that affect constituents it is imperative that they are provided with accurate, detailed information to assist them in making informed and responsible choices. The County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) encourages counties to communicate directly with their state and federal legislators to keep them informed. When human services issues are discussed, Commissioners and key county human services staff should make joint visits and contacts with their legislators. County employees covered by the Hatch Act and/or the Civil Service Act are able to assist Commissioners in presenting county human services facts and needs to state and federal legislators. The Hatch Act covers state, county and municipal executive agencies in connection with programs financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency. The Civil Service Act covers all state and county employees that are currently employed under Civil Service status.

### **What are Covered County Employees Permitted to Do?**

- Prepare and Deliver Testimony
- Educate Legislators, in Writing or in Person, about Human Services Funding and Policy Issues
- Host and Attend Legislative Events such as Human Services Advocacy Day or Candidate Forums

### **What are Covered County Employees Not Permitted to Do?**

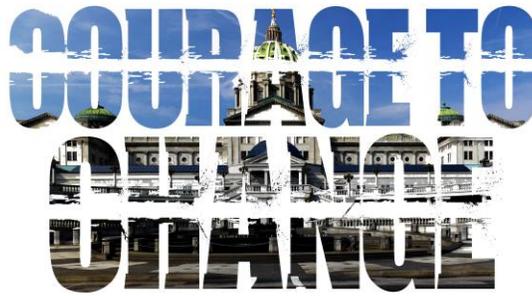
- Be Candidates for Public Office in a Partisan Election
- Use Official Authority or Influence to Interfere with or Affect the Results of an Election or Nomination
- Directly or Indirectly Coerce Contributions from Subordinates in Support of a Political Party or Candidate

The Hatch Act can be found on the internet at [http://www.osc.gov/ha\\_state.htm](http://www.osc.gov/ha_state.htm).

The Civil Service Act is located on the State Civil Service Commission website at <http://www.scsc.state.pa.us>.

For additional information contact Michele Denk, Executive Director, PACDAA at (717) 526-1010 Ext. 3104 or [mdenk@pacounties.org](mailto:mdenk@pacounties.org).

**CCAP ENCOURAGES MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES TO MAINTAIN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH LEGISLATORS ON ISSUES FACING DRUG AND ALCOHOL SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**



## Driving Directions

### **From Interstate 81:**

Take Exit 66 (Front Street South). As you are traveling on Front Street the river will be on your right. Make a left onto Forester Street. Continue on Forester Street for three lights. Make a right onto Commonwealth Avenue.

### **OR**

Take Exit 67 (Cameron Street). Follow Cameron Street past the Farm Show Complex and into Harrisburg. Make a right onto Herr Street. Follow Herr Street to first light and make a left onto 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Bear right onto Forester Street to first light. Make a left onto Commonwealth Avenue.

### **From Interstate 83:**

Take Exit 43 (2<sup>nd</sup> Street). Follow 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to Forester Street. Make a right onto Forester and continue for two blocks. Make a right onto Commonwealth Avenue. Capitol will be on your right.

### **From Interstate 76 – Turnpike:**

*From the East:* Take Exit 247. Follow signs for Harrisburg via Interstate 283 North and Interstate 83 South, then follow directions from Interstate 83 above.

### **OR**

*From the West:* Take Exit 226. Follow signs for Harrisburg via Interstate 81 North, then follow directions from Interstate 81 above.

**For GPS purposes, you may use 600 Commonwealth Avenue, Harrisburg, PA**

## Bus Parking

Bus parking is available at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex. Drivers are permitted in the North Lot of the complex. Please avoid areas designated for the PA Farmers Open Air Market. For more information contact the complex at 717-346-4233.

Also, if you are arriving by bus or in a large group, please use the East Wing Entrance to the Capitol as this area is better equipped to screen visitors.

## Vehicle Parking

Parking garages for smaller vehicles are conveniently located in areas surrounding the Capitol Building. Please see the following link for additional information.

[www.parkharrisburg.com](http://www.parkharrisburg.com)





## Capitol Security Screening Procedures

**PLEASE NOTE: Due to Budget Advocacy, School Trips and other interests, it is possible that a large number of groups are expected to be at the Capitol for visits with legislators. Therefore, allow plenty of time in your schedule for processing into the Capitol, as delays are likely.**

- Visitors must use the public entrances – East Wing Entrance at the Fountain on Commonwealth Avenue and the Main Rotunda entrance at Third and State Streets. The Irvis Office Building has a public entrance on the side of the building facing away from the Capitol. There are no security checkpoints in public areas of the Commonwealth Keystone Building.
- All visitors – no exceptions – to the PA State Capitol will be processed through metal detectors. All persons with **pacemakers, defibrillators, or other medical devices** are to notify the officer and a search will be conducted with a hand-held metal detector.
- All bags and packages will be x-rayed, and are subject to hand inspection. Personal items may be hand-inspected. Security screening may require whole body pat-down.
- No weapons, firearms, explosives, knives, mace, pepper spray, or hazardous materials are allowed in the Capitol Complex. Confiscated materials will NOT be returned.
- Persons have the right to refuse any or all of these security screening procedures. Entry to the building will be denied. Items may not be delivered or left behind.
- Visitors exiting the Capitol must be reprocessed for return entry.