

The Bright Side with BDT



Butler Downtown is a grassroots group of **volunteers** that roll up their sleeves to revitalize & restore the Main Street corridor of Butler City.

Upcoming Events:

- **Butler City Farmer's Market: Extended through November!!**
 - Every Saturday 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- **BDT's Annual Celebration: 11/8**
 - Butler's Grand Ballroom 5-9 PM
- **Small Business Saturday: 11/25**
- **Spirit of Christmas Parade: 11/25**
 - Main Street 5:30 PM

SRU SUCCEED Events:

- **Butler Hip Hop & Rap Community Meeting**
 - 11/9 5:30-6:30 PM
- **Dress for Success**
 - 10/24 & 11/21 from 10 AM-2PM
- **Trilogy Wellness Narcan Distribution**
 - 11/4 12-4 PM
- **Community Voices Breakfast Series (must pre-register with QR code)**
 - 11/2 at 8 AM: Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
 - 12/7 at 8 AM: Youth
- **Vision to Learn**
 - 8/10 from 10 AM - 4 PM



For further details call 724-841-0477

ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2023 WINNERS!

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - **ROSANNE NATILI**

SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR - **CLEAR CHOICE ENTERPRISES**

ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD - **ARMSTRONG**



EverGreen Accounting

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Butler, PA 16001

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W S W

omen supporting omen

OUR GOAL: is to provide a safe and supportive space for women in our community to join together to lift each other up.

Whether you're going through a tough time or just need a listening ear, our team of **Certified Peer Specialists** cannot wait to connect with you. We are here to help you navigate any challenges you may be facing and are eager to hear your story.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

When: We will meet EVERY Tuesday at 1:30 pm

Where: Butler SUCCEED. 150 North Main St. Butler, PA 16001

Who can YOU call:

Jill Dettro, CPS
(c) 724-841-5504
Jill@robinshome.us

Karen Triscas, CPS
(c) 724-406-5804
Karen@robinshome.us

Join us for light refreshments as we **encourage, support,** and **love** one another for the **strong women we are.**



SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

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President's Remarks

This summer certainly wasn't boring in downtown Butler and there seemed to be an event around every corner. I can't believe we are nearing the end of the year but we have a few more activities and events coming up.

We will be honoring the 2023 award winners and updating the public on what BDT has been working on at our Annual celebration on November 8th. Everyone is welcome to attend this event and join in on the fun of our "diamond" theme. 'Tis the season to enjoy the ambiance of the snowflake lights on Main Street as we look forward to getting volunteers together to hang those up in November. I am excited for our next new adventure partnering with the Butler AM Rotary Club on the "Butler City Bantam Jeep Installation". This life-size Jeep sculpture will be commissioned by local artist, Bill Secunda, and promote our unique part of history, revitalize our downtown, and help attract more visitors.

I have been hearing comments lately about how Butler has been changing for the better and they are excited to see more of what's to come. I couldn't agree more and I am very proud of our all-volunteer group for the never-ending to-do list of projects that we are working on. Many wishes for a prosperous and peaceful holiday season!

-Audrianna Bly



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DOWNTOWN

Butler AM Rotary 



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SRU's Bonner Program Connects Students with Butler City

Not many know about the nationally recognized Bonner Program for undergraduates at Slippery Rock University and the impact it has on several downtown Butler organizations. According to the Bonner Program's website, "The founding mission for the Bonner Program is to provide diverse low-income, under-represented, and first generation students with the opportunity to attend college, while engaging their talents and educations in building and supporting communities." Students must apply and be chosen for the program in which they receive financial support along with "leadership programming, academic support, engagement opportunities, and a social network."

Josette Skobieranda Dau, Associate Director of SUCCEED located on Main Street, explains the Bonner Leaders as "students volunteering with different sites to complement their academic pursuits and volunteer interests. At each location, the students work with the organizations to assist in any way they can to serve the community and community members." Josette touts the student's ability to impact the organizations they are involved with. "There are currently eight student service leaders placed in Butler. Here's how their learning and service involvements contribute to our community:

- **Butler Downtown** works with two Bonner Leaders, **Jordyn and Kashia**. At BDT they encourage cooperation between business and community leaders, strive to improve the appearance of downtown, create and promote events to drive foot traffic and show that downtown is an exciting place to live, shop and invest.
- Bonner Leader, **Jamar** works with **United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania** in Butler County where they work to improve lives and create positive, sustainable change in the county.
- Two Bonner Leaders, **Naydelin and Aundalynn** volunteer with the **Butler Area Public Library**. At the library, they help manage and coordinate events.
- Bonner Leader, **Carlyne**, works with the **Butler YWCA**, towards the mission of eliminating racism and empowering women.
- Haverlack scholar, **Delon** works with **Butler SUCCEED** which leverages university resources for mutually beneficial relationships, with a goal of retaining and attracting youth in Butler County.
- **Butler's Community Arts Center** works with Haverlack Scholar, **Ella**, where she assists with the gallery space, located on the Main Street.

Each of these students contributes ideas and creativity while promoting the mission of each of their Butler-based service sites. If you see positive change happening in downtown, an SRU Service Leader may just be a part of it!"

Jordyn Ponchione (below) was BDT's first Bonner Leader, starting with us in the Spring of 2022. Her involvement was so valuable we decided to bring a second student into the mix! Jordyn said "Butler Downtown's entire focus is making downtown a better place to be. We work to bring in activities and experiences that draw people to the area in hopes they'll return. It's so nice to see the community come together to work towards making their town better in every way possible, and I'm glad I can be a part of that. "



Bonner Leader, Kashia Smith (above), has worked with Butler Downtown for 3 semesters as our Social Media Coordinator. When asked about her experience Kashia said "Butler Downtown has been an amazing gateway to step my foot into a more professional environment, while offering real world experience for a field I would like to pursue. Creating content to keep in touch with the community has been so rewarding and has sparked a new world of creativity for me."



Bonner Leader, Ella Malogrino (below), told BDT "The Butler Art Center and Gallery is an amazing place filled with wonderful people! Their work has helped countless artists all across the city of Butler."



BDT Board Members

- **Audrianna Bly**- President (SpringHill Suites by Marriot Butler-Centre City)
- **Lance Calvert** (Branded In Butler)
- **Lisa Campbell**- Economic Restructuring Committee Chair (BC3)
- **Jeff Geibel**- President (Edward Jones)
- **Nicole Glasgow** (Howard Hanna)
- **Tom Graham** (Frames & Pixels)
- **Amanda Green**- Treasurer (Evergreen Accounting)
- **Timothy Hawk**- Design Committee Chair (Community Options)
- **Nick Leturgey** (Community Partnership Inc)
- **Mikayla Moretti** - Organization Committee Chair (BC3 Education Foundation)
- **Amber Omstead**- Promotions Committee Chair (Butler Technologies)
- **Hannah Shannon** (NextTier Bank)
- **Krista Washkau** - Secretary (Edward Jones)

Get Involved!

Our success relies on the hard work of volunteers, but we have SO MUCH fun doing it! The best way to start making a difference in the community is by joining a committee. The Design, Organization & Promotions committees need your help!

All meetings are open to the public. See the monthly meeting dates and locations on our website at butlerdowntown.org/events.

Scan or follow @ButlerDowntown on Facebook & Instagram



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OPEN HOUSE

BC3 Main Campus

Oct. 24 | 5 - 8 PM

RSVP at

BC3.edu/open-house

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