



## Stepping Up Pennsylvania 2023

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania  
2789 Old Post Rd., Harrisburg, PA  
*Independence Hall, Constitution Room*

- 9:30 a.m. **Pre-Event Viewing: *Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops***  
For those interested and able to arrive before the official event start, we will be showing a 25-minute clip of the documentary, *Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops*.
- Continental breakfast will be provided
- 10:00 a.m. **Welcome Remarks**
- 10:10 a.m. **Keynote: Ernest Stevens**  
Ernest (Ernie) Stevens, deputy division director of the CSG Justice Center’s behavioral health division, spent over 28 years in law enforcement helping develop new programs and policies for the San Antonio Police Department. Ernie was featured in the Emmy Award–winning documentary *Ernie and Joe: Crisis Cops* and wrote *Mental Health and De-Escalation: A Guide for Law Enforcement Professionals*.
- 11:10 a.m. **Centering Racial Equity in Stepping Up Work**  
Representatives from Philadelphia will discuss how they got started collecting and analyzing accurate race and ethnicity data and how they have applied information learned to implement interventions. CSG Justice Center staff will also speak about a new guidance document available and upcoming webinar on applying the Stepping Up framework to advance racial equity.  
*Speakers:*
- Sierra Akers, *Stepping Up Coordinator, Behavioral Health and Justice Division (BHJD), Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disability Services (DBHIDS)*
  - Mark O’Dwyer, *Policy, Planning, and Development Manager, BHJD, DBHIDS*
  - Kate Reed, *Project Manager, Behavioral Health Division, CSG Justice Center*
- 12:10 p.m. **Lunch**  
Lunch will be provided for all attendees. Please reach out to Gretchen Frank, [gfrank@csg.org](mailto:gfrank@csg.org), if you have any dietary restrictions.
- 1:00 p.m. **Responding to the Call: Working Toward Comprehensive Crisis Systems**  
Facilitated discussion with sites about how they have developed and implemented their different models for crisis response and stabilization, and what they are doing to operationalize coordinated responses.  
*Speakers:*
- Scott Berry, *Mental Health Director, Washington County Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*
  - Chad Hamilton, *Lieutenant, State College Police Department*
  - Ivone Kovalsky, *Community Engagement Officer, Bucks County Human Services*
  - Amanda Mittan, *Police Civilian Social Worker, State College*



- Rachael Neff, *Director of Human Services, Bucks County*
- Katlyn Wildberger, *CIT Coordinator/Criminal Justice Planner, Lancaster County*

*Facilitator: Ernest Stevens, Deputy Division Director, Law Enforcement, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center*

2:00 p.m.      **Break**

2:15 p.m.      **The Court's Role in Improving Responses to People with Mental Illness**  
Representatives from Dauphin County will discuss how their court system engages in the county's efforts to reduce the prevalence of mental illness in the jail, challenges, and lessons learned.

*Speakers:*

- Judge Edward Marsico, *Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas*
- Dr. Ashley Yinger, *Criminal Justice Programming Administrator, Stepping Up Coordinator, Dauphin County District Attorney's Office*

*Facilitator: Gretchen Frank, Senior Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center*

3:15 p.m.      **Reflections and Closing**

3:30 p.m.      **End**

### **Post-Event Connections**

Those interested and able are welcome to stay after the event to connect with other attendees.