

Building on the Legacy -- The Ricketts Center to Re-Open January 21st

“We are truly grateful to be granted the opportunity to realize the Ricketts Center’s potential and to honor its legacy and storied history,” said Matthew Hovey, President of Boyertown Area Multi-Service’s Board of Directors. In October, Multi-Service was selected to operate The Richard J. Ricketts Community Center in Pottstown. This two-year agreement took effect January 1, 2020.

Hovey added, “We are an organization committed to compassionately helping those in need and building communities. Our Board believes that this will be a transformative moment for both Multi-Service and the Ricketts Center. We intend to be good stewards of the Ricketts Center and fully embrace a partnership with the individuals and families we are excited to serve in the coming years.”

Pottstown residents can expect to see the same type of sports, fitness, health and wellness, homework support, tutoring, art, and music activities they’ve loved about Ricketts Center over the years—offered free of charge. Youth can find a safe space and positive role models to help them become strong stewards of our community. For area residents who have enjoyed the Center at Spring Street, Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Wellness Council programming, and Preston’s Pantry at the Boyertown site, those services will continue without interruption. The Ricketts Center will be focused on providing community center programming to youth, their families, and the community at the Ricketts Center. Multi-Service will not be duplicating case management, behavioral health, a food pantry, or senior service programs that already exist in Pottstown. Instead, they will work with and refer to these valuable, essential community partners who are already providing those successful and much-needed programs. To do this, Multi-Service will need many fabulous volunteers to help. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Heather Lewis at hlewis@boyertownareamulti-service.org.

Multi-Service has begun “Phase 1” of improvements to the Ricketts Center, including fresh paint, new flooring, furniture, features to increase the safety of the facility, and much more, with even more to come. Beginning January 21st, the facility will be open Monday through Friday from 11-8 pm. The weight room is also open with fitness programming and boot camp being offered. Additional weekend programming will begin in March. An open house and ribbon cutting is being planned for April.

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