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Operation Our Town Reporter

A monthly newsletter about our efforts to help prevent
and reduce drug abuse and crime in Blair County

Volume 18, Issue 6 - June 2026



OperationOurTown.org

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Operation Our Town - Annual Funding Opportunity

Grant Application Deadline:
June 5, 2026

Funding Announcement: 2026 Prevention Grant Cycle

Funding Available: A total of \$75,000 is available to fund programs aimed at preventing and/or reducing drug abuse and/or crime in Blair County.

Eligible Applicants: 501(c)(3) Non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies in Blair County. Previous grant recipients are also eligible to apply.

There are two grant applications to choose from:

- Funding requests under \$3,000 or
- Funding requests over \$3,000

Grant Application: Visit www.OperationOurTown.org go to the "Grants" tab on the homepage, click on "Apply Now" in the drop-down menu to download the grant application.

***** The updated versions of both grant applications
(with the revised date of 4/27/2021 in the bottom right corner)
must be used to apply for funding *****

Due Date: One (1) original and ten (10) copies of applications must be delivered or mailed to Operation Our Town (5508 6th Avenue, rear Altoona, PA 16602) by **June 5, 2026**. Any applications that are mailed must be postmarked by this date.

Grant Application Notification: Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by the middle of August.

For questions, please contact:
(814) 296-8730 or
shawna@operationourtown.org

Mission

To facilitate partnerships between community and business to fight drug abuse and crime through proven law enforcement, treatment, and prevention techniques.



REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY
PUSH OUT THE PUSHER
 814-693-3020

BLAIR DRUG & ALCOHOL PARTNERSHIPS
 Empowering Healthy Lifestyles
 814-381-0921

Area police departments give year end review - A4
 AI: THE CHATGPT IMPACT AND THE ROLE OF OOT: A22

OUR TOWN TIMES

2026 ANNUAL REPORT | VOL. XV

The First 20 Years
 HOW IT ALL STARTED

Click on the image above to view the 2026 OOT Annual Report!

Month of June - Meetings

6/1	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Recreation & Park Commission
6/2	Northern Blair Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	The Bull Pen restaurant
6/4	Early Childhood Education Roundtable meeting	10:00am	Blair County Chamber
6/11	Faith-based Roundtable meeting	1:00pm	Blair Drug & Alcohol Partnerships & Zoom
6/12	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom
6/25	Housing Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	Marzoni's - Duncansville

2026 OPERATION OUR TOWN FUNDRAISER AT PNG FIELD

THURSDAY, JUNE 25 – 6:30PM

Altoona Curve vs. Reading Fightin Phils
 BENEFITING OPERATION OUR TOWN



BUSINESS PACKAGE

Share your product or service with thousands of Curve fans on Operation Our Town Night!

PLATINUM PACKAGE

\$550 (\$100 Donation)

Have two members of your company participate in an on-field promotion (based on availability), first pitch before the game (based on availability), receive a public address/scoreboard & program "thank you" for being a community sponsor and supporter, a concourse table to display your company's information/products & 50 Grandstand game tickets for June 25.

GOLD PACKAGE

\$350 (\$75 Donation)

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter, first pitch before the game (based on availability), a concourse table to display your company's information/products and 25 Grandstand game tickets for June 25.

SILVER PACKAGE

\$175 (\$50 Donation)

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter, first pitch before the game (based on availability), a concourse table to display your company's information/products and 15 Grandstand game tickets for June 25.

BRONZE PACKAGE

\$85 (\$25 Donation)

Receive a public address/scoreboard recognition as a community supporter and 10 Grandstand game tickets for June 25.

INDIVIDUAL GRANDSTAND TICKETS

\$7 (\$1 Donation)

OPERATION OUR TOWN NIGHT

- I am a PLATINUM supporter
- I am a SILVER supporter
- I am a GOLD supporter
- I am a BRONZE supporter

Company Name: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Method of Payment: (circle one) Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name on Card: _____ Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration: _____ Security Code: _____

IF PAYING BY CHECK, PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO: ALTOONA CURVE Check Number: _____

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT NATE BOWEN AT (814) 283-3118 or NBowen@AltoonaCurve.com

Grant Recipient Highlight: The Door Student Services, Inc. Stars Program

By: Nick Gordon, Operation Our Town
Community Outreach Coordinator



The Door Stars Program, operated by The Door Teen Center in Bellwood, serves at-risk youth in grades 5 through 12. Running year-round on weekdays from 3-7 p.m., the free after-school program provides a consistent, supportive environment where participants receive homework assistance, enjoy daily activities, and share a free dinner. The Stars Program centers on two key goals: keeping students current with school assignments to prevent failing grades and dropouts, and shifting mindsets from entitlement to contribution by teaching care and responsibility for the teen center itself.

Beyond daily after-school programming, The Door offers field trips, summer and winter camp experiences, and incentives tied directly to participation in the Stars Program. These rewards motivate consistent effort in schoolwork and positive behavior at the center. The program's standout feature is its star-based incentive system, which provides structure, accountability, and tangible rewards, which are especially valuable for youth who may lack scholastic support at home. Teens earn a daily star on their monthly chart by showing completed homework, with bonus stars available for volunteering on chores around the teen center.

Earning stars qualifies them for a spin on the weekly prize wheel to win various gift cards, Bluetooth earbuds, phone chargers, bicycle speakers, fishing rods, and more. Students who earn a perfect 25 stars in a month win a customized Door sports jersey with their name and number (10 were awarded this year).

Since launching the Stars Program, The Door has experienced its best-behaved year in 28 years of operation. David Taylor, who runs The Door, notes it as the most positive change observed in his 24 years, with youth showing dramatically improved behavior, participation, and ownership of the facility. Teens now eagerly complete chores and take on responsibilities. For more information about any of the services The Door offers through the Stars Program or to learn more, please check out their info below.



The Door Student Services, Inc.
Contact: David Taylor, Executive Director
Email: thedor@mail.com
Address: 521 Main Street Bellwood, PA 16617
Phone: 814-935-9971
Website: www.thedoorkids.com
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm

