



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Oct. 26**
Parkesburg Final Friday.
Main Street, 4-8 p.m.
- Nov. 2**
Octorara School Groups. Private event.
- Nov. 10**
Chester County Color Run. Everhart Park, West Union St., West Chester.
9 a.m. registration. Open to the public.
- Nov. 16**
Octorara School Groups. Private event.

NEW ALLIANCES

Three organizations have recently partnered with Kacie’s Cause to support our work. They include Gaudenzia, Inc., Penn Medicine, and The Malvern Institute.

Car Show Draws Record Crowd

A record number of vehicles were on display at the Oct. 6 Cars for Kacie event, prompting increased competition for next year.

Two hundred twenty cars filled the parking lot at Downingtown East High School, and more wanted to participate.

Top 30 floor-size trophies were awarded, along with a 6-foot-tall Best of Show trophy.

Musician and food entrepreneur Tony Luke Jr. gave an inspiring talk about the realities of addiction and ways to combat the stigma and shame surrounding the disease.

Fifty people were given CPR training, and Kacie’s Cause dispensed 75 doses of Narcan.



Due to the overwhelming success, next year’s Cars for Kacie will feature Top 50 awards and 300 dash plaques. It will be held May 11, 2019 at the Auto Mall in Morgantown.

Spotlight On The Board

Dr. John Sanville is one of 11 Kacie’s Cause Board members who oversee the organization. Each month we will spotlight a different member.

Name: Dr. John Sanville, Unionville-Chadds Ford School District superintendent

Background: While an undergraduate at George Washington University, I spent a semester abroad in Rome. That opened my eyes to seeing things from different perspectives.

While looking for a job teaching social studies in the metro DC area, I tended bar, worked at a camera shop, and eventually got hired as a school security officer for Fairfax County Public Schools. After walking the halls in search of errant students for a year, I was hired as a teacher.

Debbie, whom I met while I was teaching, and I got married and continued teaching together at a school with a diverse population that included impoverished families, military families, middle-class

families, and wealthy families — in every race, ethnicity, religion, and make-up you could imagine.

What struck me most was that despite all the differences, middle school kids could all be counted on to be curious, quiet, active, talkative, studious, distracted, funny, serious, happy, and sad — all on the same day!

With Debbie’s encouragement I transitioned into school counseling after earning my master’s at Virginia Tech. That role enabled me to talk to kids more in-depth, and I loved that.

Again with Debbie behind me, I enrolled in the doctoral program at the University of Virginia and in the process got my administrative certificate — soon thereafter I transitioned from counselor to assistant principal.

At that time in semi-rural Virginia, methamphetamine labs were starting to pop up.

While middle schoolers were usually not involved in that yet, many had

siblings, cousins and even parents who were. The toll it took on students was visible and complicated.



When we moved to Pennsylvania I was the assistant principal at a high school in Delaware County. The students were bigger, and so were the problems.

My thinking adjusted in response to issues that were more serious — and that has stayed with me.

In late 2007 I headed west to Unionville-Chadds Ford and have not left. I have the position of my dreams in a caring, connected community.

As superintendent I am privy to the bigger picture in academics, sports, the arts, student wellness, and the problems that impact students and their families — not only in U-CF but throughout Chester

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New Chapter Opens at IUP

Kacie's Cause has opened a new chapter on the campus of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, in western Pennsylvania. The chapter lead will be Victor Garcia.

Indiana County, in which IUP is located, suffers greatly from substance use disorder. Fatal overdoses hit a high in 2016 with 53 deaths. This year so far there have been 14 overdose deaths, according to www.overdosefreepa/pitt.edu.

Males represented 74 percent of the total overdoses in Indiana County, which



is much higher than the state average. Fentanyl and heroin were two of the drugs found most frequently in those who overdosed.

The IUP chapter of Kacie's Cause is solidly supported by the school leadership. Board Member Adam Sledd has stepped forward to bridge their efforts with Kacie's Cause mission and vision with the local recovery community. This is part of the strategic initiative to give support to the collegiate community while on campus and before returning to their hometowns.

Digital Billboard

For one month, Kacie's Cause will have a digital billboard on the Route 30 Bypass between Downingtown and Parkesburg, one mile from the Downingtown exit.

The message is simple — "Narcana Saves Lives." When those who need this



life-saving medication see the board, they go to our website and find out whom to contact.

New scholarship available

Kacie's Cause is awarding its third high school scholarship.

Kacie had very strong ties to the Oxford area, so we are especially pleased to be able to offer a \$1,000 scholarship to the Oxford Area School District.

This scholarship will be administered by the Oxford Chamber of Commerce.

More information will be included in our trifold and other materials.

Contacts/Resources

Looking for help for a loved one?
Looking for support as you deal with addiction in a family member or friend?

There are a number of resources available. **Always call 911** if you see any signs/symptoms of a drug overdose in a friend or family member.

800-662-4357: SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

855-DRUGFREE: Parent hotline by Partnership for Drug-Free Kids.

866-268-3767: Chester County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services

800-917-1117: COAD (Chester County Council on Addictive Diseases)

Spotlight on Dr. John Sanville

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County and beyond.

And that is what drew my attention to the opioid epidemic – and specifically the death toll heroin has taken.

Why I got involved: The loss of young people to addiction is a tragedy that needs to be addressed by all of us.

We are all stakeholders in the well-being of our young people who can effect meaningful changes if we work together.

Towards that end I am both honored and inspired by Kacie's Cause — especially Andy and Donna — who took their unimaginable pain and channeled it into preventing other parents from sharing their status, and other daughters and sons from losing their lives.

What I want people to know about

Kacie's Cause: Heroin is finding its way into homes across and within the bucolic background we all love. The enemy has no preference and targets everyone equally.

That is what makes it so dangerous -- there are as many openings as there are young people.

Kacie's Cause is bringing not only the message but effective strategies for parents, teachers, coaches, and community members to use. It is making inroads by talking to groups, offering support to families, and sharing lifesaving information.

Kacie's Cause is the boots-on-the-ground answer to the opioid epidemic, and that is the best weapon we have in this war.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Parkesburg: Wednesdays 7-8 p.m.
Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church
1121 Octorara Trail (Route 10)
Parkesburg, PA 19365

Kennett Square: Thursdays 7-9 p.m.
First Baptist Church of Kennett Square
415 W. State St.
Kennett Square, PA 19348

CHAPTERS

Each chapter of Kacie's Cause has a Facebook page with information relating to their group.

To contact them, use the information below.

Kennett Square: /kaciescausecom

Parkesburg: /Kaciescauseparkesburg

Exton/Downingtown: /Kaciescauseexton

Oxford: /Oxford-Chapter-Kacies-Cause

Newark, Del.: /Kacies-Cause-Newark-Chapter

Coatesville: /Kaciescausecoatesville

Indiana, PA: Coming soon

Poconos: /poconosregionkaciescause

WHO WE ARE

Kacie's Cause is a nonprofit organization for parents, family and friends of those battling the disease of addiction.



It was founded by Andy and Donna Rumford on March 12, 2013 — the day their daughter, Kacie Erin Rumford, died of a heroin overdose.

The 501(c)3 organization is dedicated to Kacie Erin Rumford, her memory, her love of all of us and her desire to change this world to be a better place to live ... from her family and friends who love her.

To contact Kacie's Cause, e-mail andy.kaciescause@gmail.com or go online at www.kaciescause.com.

Newsletter prepared by First Baptist Church of Kennett Square and in partnership with Kacie's Cause



www.firstbaptistkennettsquare.com