

**Clinical Outcomes Group, Inc.**

*Improving the Health of Our Communities*

2023

# Annual Report

Clinical Outcomes Group, Inc.  
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# Company Profile

Clinical Outcomes Group, Inc. (COGI) is a dynamic, public health non-profit that exists to meet the unmet needs of vulnerable populations. In our community, these populations may include individuals suffering from addiction disorders, pregnant women, veterans, children and others susceptible to public health issues. COGI strives to provide high quality, low cost, easily accessible health services to any individual or community in need in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania and surrounding areas.

Originally established as a sole proprietorship in 1997, COGI received 501(c)(3) non-profit status in 2004. Our agency has been uniquely successful in designing and implementing meaningful projects that address the root causes of social and health issues in central Pennsylvania. COGI receives financial support from various sources including governmental agencies (federal, state, local), as well as national and private foundations. COGI's annual operating budget is over \$2,000,000 with unrestricted reserves of \$250,000. We employ 31 dedicated staff members with advanced degrees and professional licenses specializing in behavioral and public health service delivery.

In 1997, COGI was awarded a contract for tobacco control services in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. With a long term plan to become a regional well-rounded public health entity, COGI's charter documents were developed in a broad way to lay a foundation for the organization. A target population was never specifically defined; rather the founders left that to be determined by the changing needs of the communities we serve. COGI opened its doors as an outpatient/intensive outpatient drug and alcohol clinic in 2010 and added medication-assisted treatment in 2012. In 2018, COGI was designated as a "Center of Excellence" (one of only 45 statewide) charged with battling the current opioid crisis.

In 2021, COGI continued to increase internal capacity to serve our community by initiating a strategic planning process, expanding prevention programming with the Strengthening Schuylkill County Communities program, and adding veterans focused programming. You will learn more about learn these exciting developments in the following document.



# Board of Directors

**Ms. Christianne F. Bayer**, Ed.D., LPC, NCC, President, Psychological Associates, LLC  
Dr. Bayer is licensed as a Professional Counselor by the Pennsylvania State Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (2002), and is a Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC) through the National Board of Certified Counselors.

**Mr. Tom Scranton**, Vice President, Pyramid Healthcare  
Mr. Scranton is a founding Member of COGI's Board of Directors.

**Mr. Eric M. Prock**, Esquire, Secretary, Fanelli, Evans & Patel, P.C.  
Mr. Prock is Co-Chairman, Schuylkill County Bar Association; and a member of Schuylkill Young Professionals, Pottsville Lions Club, YMCA Fundraising Committee

**Mr. Daniel McGrory**, Behavioral Health Consultant, Treasurer, Mr. McGrory is retired and currently a consultant to state-wide membership entities. He has been a therapist, a director of clinical programs, and a vice-president of a multi-program mental health agency. He completed his full-time career as the Schuylkill County Administrator of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disabilities Programs.

**Ms. Jean Elberfeld**, MD, LSW, Member at Large. Ms. Elberfeld is a licensed social worker, educator, trauma specialist and retired physician. She currently works with NeuroLogic by Lakeside supporting teachers in brain-based strategies for classroom management. She is also an adjunct instructor for Marywood University and is active with HEAL-PA, helping to move Pennsylvania to become a trauma-informed commonwealth.

**Mr. Carl McBreen**, Ed.D, Member at Large. Mr. McBreen is a hands-on superintendent who wants every child that enters the school to be afforded the opportunity to be successful. He is very passionate about education because of the doors it opens for the individual that embraces it.

**Dr. Richard B. Russel**, DO, Member at Large. Dr. Russel is a primary care and family medicine provider for the Lehigh Valley Health Network. His offices are located in Pine Grove.

**Rev. Dennis Snyder**, M. Div., M.A., MFT, Member at Large, Pastor, Bethany E.C. Church. Reverend Snyder is Assistant Fire Chief, Cressona, PA; and is active in Outreach Club Facilitation, Schuylkill Haven High School, Schuylkill Haven, PA



# Staff

## Administration

*Alicia Fleischut*, MA, LPC, CAC, NCC, Executive Director  
*Kelly Examitas*, Director of Fiscal Operations  
*Courtney Tamagini*, MS, NCC, LPC, Clinical Supervisor  
*Tina Staller*, Administrative Coordinator  
*Kimberlie Gridley*, Grant Writer  
*Ben Fleagle*, Billing Specialist  
*Angelica Harkins*, Administrative Assistant  
*Abigail Quick*, Seasonal Intern

## Direct Care

*Jennifer Brant*, Drug and Alcohol Counselor  
*Marie Coombs*, Center of Excellence Community Based Care Manager  
*Christopher Cooper*, Drug and Alcohol Counselor  
*Lisa DeHaven*, Prevention Educator  
*Pate DuBois*, Drug and Alcohol Counselor  
*Annette Fleming*, Lead Drug and Alcohol Counselor  
*Linda Hanson*, Drug and Alcohol Counselor  
*Kaitlyn Herndon*, Drug and Alcohol Case Manager  
*Karen McCloskey*, Supervisor, Medication Assisted Therapy Program  
*Sarah Mohl*, Certified Recovery Specialist  
*Morgan Murphy*, Drug and Alcohol Case Manager  
*Jamie Nabholz*, Assistant, Medication Assisted Therapy Program  
*Brandon Radziewicz*, Drug & Alcohol Counselor  
*Helen Rebuck*, Drug and Alcohol Counselor

## Physicians

*John W. Stefovich*, MD, Medical Director  
*Ilene K. Weizer*, MD



# Staff Event - Red Ribbon Week 2023



COGI Staff participate in Red Ribbon Week every year to raise awareness for Drug Abuse Prevention. In 2023, staff participated through the last week in October (23rd - 31st) by wearing themed outfits to work.



Mon - "Rally In Red: Help Kick Off Red Ribbon Week" - COGI will wear red.

Tues - "Team Up Against Drugs" - COGI will wear favorite sports team clothing/accessories

Wed - "Black Out Drugs" - COGI will wear all black

Thurs - "I'm Too Bright for Drugs" - COGI will wear neon and/or sunglasses

Fri - "Put Drugs to Sleep" - COGI will wear pajamas

Mon - "Say Boo to Drugs" - COGI will wear Halloween shirts/orange and black

Tues - "Don't Be Tricked By Drugs" - COGI will wear Halloween Costumes



Teddy Bear showed his support for the Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday for "Team Up Against Drugs"



COGI Staff took it to another level for "Don't Be Tricked by Drugs" and chose costumes based on TV commercials / product advertisements.



# Staff Event - International Overdose Awareness Day 2023



COGI celebrated International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31, 2023 as follows:

- Social Media Posts
- Staff wore purple or Overdose Awareness Shirts
- A message board was placed in the lobby for anyone to write messages of hope and encouragement based on COGI's theme of "Peace, Love, Care"
- Narcan Distributions were held outside of the COGI office as well as at Hope & Coffee in Tamaqua



# K-9 Crew



**Teddy  
Bear**



# Client Demographics 2023

## Marital Status

divorced: 103  
common law: 1  
live in partner: 5  
married: 72  
never married: 531  
separated: 70  
widowed: 14  
unknown: 135

## Race

asian: 1  
black: 26  
other: 4  
other single race: 3  
two or more races: 11  
white: 565  
unknown: 321

## Education

Grade 8 or below: 22  
Grade 9: 29  
Grade 10: 61  
Grade 11: 73  
Grade 12 - no diploma: 40  
GED: 144  
High School Diploma: 278  
Associates Degree: 51  
Bachelors Degree: 31  
Graduate Degree: 3  
Some College: 127  
Certification Post HS: 6  
unknown: 66

## Gender

male: 500  
female: 417  
unknown: 14

## Age

under 18: 6  
18 - 29: 143  
30 - 64: 760  
over 64: 22

## Employment

disabled: 81  
full-time: 192  
homemaker: 2  
part-time: 80  
retired: 10  
student: 4  
unemployed: 498  
unknown: 64

## Ethnicity

Hispanic: 9  
Not of Hispanic: 429  
Other spec. Hispanic: 7  
Puerto Rican: 6  
Unknown: 480

## Outpatient

total clients: 931  
1EOC: 495  
MEOC: 89  
Active @ year end: 397  
Both OP & MAT: 279  
Assess Only: 58

carry over: 436  
1EOC: 394  
MEOC: 42

started services: 495  
1EOC: 448  
MEOC: 47

2023 MAT clients: 408  
carry over: 273  
started services: 135  
Active @ year end: 267  
MAT Only in 2023: 129

2023 WHO clients: 96  
started services: 21

*1EOC = Single Episode of Care*  
*MEOC = Multiple Episodes of Care*  
*MAT = Medication Assisted Treatment*  
*WHO = Warm Hand Off*

*Our average client is male, between the ages of 30 and 64, unemployed, unknown ethnicity, never married, white, and has a high school diploma.*





# Prevention Programs

## *Strengthening Schuylkill County Communities (S2C2)*

COGI received a grant from the State of Pennsylvania to offer the SFP 10-14 to families of students between the ages of 10 and 14 in the Minersville, Pottsville, Saint Clair, and Schuylkill Haven school districts. Our program named Strengthening Schuylkill County Communities (S2C2) was designed to provide participating families with 7 weeks of programming. In 2022, 2 cohorts were held and a total of eight families participated in the SFP 10-14 program. In 2023, a cohort that began near the end of 2022 was completed. No new cohorts for the Strengthening Family Program for Parent and Youth age 10-14 were held and the grant concluded in 2023.

## *PROMISE (Preventing Raiders Opioid Misuse in a Safe Environment)*

### *SFP (Strengthening Families: For Parents and Youth 10-14)*

The PROMISE Project (Preventing Raiders Opioid Misuse in a Safe Environment) worked tirelessly in 2023 to recruit families to participate in the SFP 10-14 Cohorts. We were unsuccessful in holding a cohort and despite our efforts it appeared the this portion of the project did not regain popularity after COVID-19.

### *LST (Botvin Life Skills Training)*

2022 was a great year for Botvin Life Skills Training (LST) in the Tamaqua Middle School. At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, COGI hired a teacher to facilitate the Life Skills Training Program in the middle school, since the teachers were now unable to do so. As a result of this new hire, and having one person solely responsible for teaching LST, it was able to be incorporated into all students' schedule for a 30-day cycle. All sixth graders received Level 1 of LST, 7th graders received level 2, and 8th graders received Level 3. Therefore, by the end of the school year, every student in the entire middle school received the full LST curriculum for their level. Our teacher, Janice Maher remained with the project for the 2023-2024 school year and again successfully implemented the LST curriculum to a total of 452 students in grades six to eight. (Level 1 Grade 6 = 164, Level 2 Grade 7 = 152 and Level 3 Grade 8 = 136).

### *SDS (Social Development Strategy)*

Micah Gursky continued to implement the SDS curriculum to the Tamaqua community. A total of 62 adults comprised of teachers, coaches and youth volunteers were trained in 2023.

### *PPMC Messaging*

The PROMISE Project continued to work with BOOM Creative to develop positive messaging to utilize throughout the Tamaqua community and as a way to promote prevention. We continued to utilize billboards that were created during a previous year. These billboards are placed throughout the local community. In 2023 we focused on recruitment for SFP 10-14 and utilized various marketing strategies. Yard Signs were placed in various locations within the Tamaqua Community. We collaborated with Hope and Coffee in Tamaqua and created and disbursed 2,000 coffee sleeves containing contact information to register for SFP 10-14. Door hangers and table tents were placed at other locations as well. As always, we utilized Social Media to inform the community of upcoming programs.



# Programs

## **Center of Excellence (COE)**

COE is focused on individuals suffering with opiate addiction. The case manager works with clients holistically, to provide services beyond drug and alcohol treatment. Non treatment needs and external stressors often create a barrier for individuals attempting to maintain sobriety. Custody issues, housing issues, transportation needs, financial problems, unaddressed mental health, and trauma issues are a few of the areas that are addressed in COE case manager/client relationship. By linking clients with other community agencies, providing supportive services, and helping individuals to obtain documentation (birth certificates, state ID or social security cards), the COGI COE strives to remove as many external burdens as possible for the client so that they can concentrate fully on their sobriety.

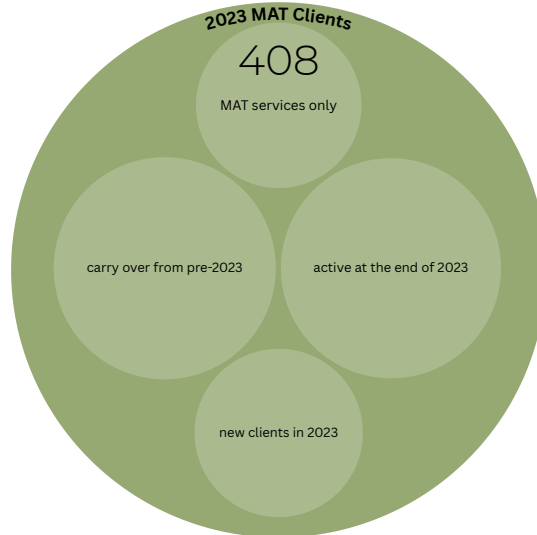
## **Veterans Alliance for Learning, Outreach, and Resources (VALOR)**

The Veteran's Alliance for Learning Outreach and Resources is a program set out to combat the many challenges veteran's face in their reintegration and longevity in civilian life. The program is designed to assist veteran's in need of personal supplies, food, or clothing, as well as with rent assistance. In November 2023 a final report was submitted upon the conclusion of funding through the Veterans Task Force Funding and reported the VALOR program worked with 2 veterans to offer rental assistance. One of our veteran participants also received utility bill assistance and one received assistance with personal items. In calendar year 2023, funding from the VTF resulted in the following:

- 4 Veterans receiving assistance with Employment Benefits
- 6 Veterans receiving housing assistance / rent assistance
- 3 Veterans receiving VA Claim Referrals
- 3 Veterans receiving assistance with other referral needs
- 4 Veterans receiving financial assistance



# Programs



## Medical Assisted Treatment

Clinic is held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with treatment being offered by Dr. John Stefovic and Dr. Ilene Weizer.

The MAT program provides prescriptions for Buprenorphine (Suboxone, Subutex, Sublocade – the 1x/month injectable form of the medication) and Vivitrol.

Our doctor's continue to stay up to date on the current drug trends and we work closely with our lab to make sure that we are testing for new substances as they become available. In addition we can also discern if a sample is synthetic or human. Our doctor's continue to prescribe other medications as needed to patients until we can get them set up with a PCP or MH. We continue to provide medications to patients coming out of rehab until we can get them set up with other services. We also continue to help patient's get set up for other medical services – ex. Xrays, ultrasounds, ob/gyn appts, other specialty appts. We continue to request labs and medical records from other physicians for continuity of care.

In 2023, our MAT team began to see patients suffering from wounds related to the use of drugs containing Xylazine and have been treating those wounds.



# Programs

## Warm Handoff

In 2016, the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) implemented the Warm Handoff which was designed to help overdose victims who are brought into the emergency room. This program gives the emergency department personnel a contact to handoff the patient to a drug and alcohol provider to get the patient right into treatment for their addiction. DDAP has put the responsibilities on the Single County Authorities (SCA) to create a process whereby patients receive a direct treatment referral from the emergency department.

Schuylkill County Drug & Alcohol (SCA for Schuylkill County) has contracted with COGI to coordinate Warm Handoff for Schuylkill County. COGI team members rotate being on-call 24/7/365 to conduct Warm Handoff services during non-business hours. Emergency room referrals come from Geisinger / St. Luke's Hospital in Orwigsburg, Lehigh Valley Health Network in Pottsville, and St. Luke's Miners Memorial Hospital in Coaldale. Our on-call staff report to the emergency room and do a brief screening with the patient. Depending on the situation, staff can do a direct referral to detox or rehab treatment or, when required, our staff will do a complete assessment and referral. In 2023, COGI staff had interactions with 96 Warm Handoff clients, 21 of which entered services at COGI.

## Harm Reduction

COGI has participated in the Narcan Distribution program for several years and completed its designation as the Centralized Coordinating Entity for Schuylkill County at the end of 2023. The state is changing the program and in 2024, COGI will be known as a recognized entity. Additionally in the summer of 2023, COGI was awarded a Narcan Expansion Grant by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). This award allowed for the expansion of COGI's Harm Reduction Program.

As part of the Narcan Expansion Grant, COGI was given the opportunity to create and purchase post cards that are provided to emergency responders to distribute to individuals that they treat for an overdose. Rack Cards titled "Recovery is Possible" were also created to provide resources to individuals in any situation and for distribution at public events. Both of these items contain information on how to administer Narcan and QR codes to scan for information about treatment providers, locations of Narcan, information on meetings and recovery services, etc. Materials to make resource bags were also purchased for distribution of Harm Reduction kits at public events. Another big purchase made available through this funding was the ability to purchase Narcan Cabinets. These were customized to not only hold Narcan kits, but also a holder for the Rack Cards and a holder for both Fentanyl and Xylazine testing strips. A marketing campaign was also started to provide additional agencies information about Narcan and Harm Reduction. This work continues into 2024.



# Programs

## 2023 NARCAN DISTRIBUTION



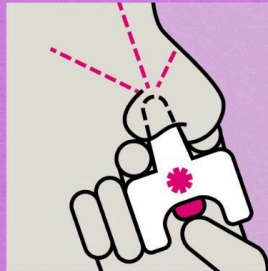
### # of Kits Distributed

**1049 total kits were distributed in 2023**

- 407 Single County Authority**
- 120 Medical Facility**
- 41 Law Enforcement**
- 34 Fire Department**
- 24 Faith Based Organizations**
- 92 EMS**
- 13 Educational Institutions**
- 6 Drug Treatment Provider**
- 38 Correctional Facility.**
- 264 Center of Excellence**

### Administration of Narcan

**91 Doses of Narcan were reported as being administered to 60 individuals in 2023 resulting in 59 overdose reversals**



### Leave Behind

**822 Doses were left behind or redistributed in 2023**



# Fundraising

## Fundraising

As part of COGI's Strategic Plan, a formal Fundraising Committee was formed. The committee was charged with determining which fundraisers we would conduct and recruit additional staff and volunteers to assist with special tasks.

Initially the committee focused on the creation of in-house raffles. Chances were sold and a variety of baskets were raffled off. In 2023, we started with a Valentine's Basket and followed with an Easter Basket, and a Summer Fun Basket. In November we did a Gift Card Ticket where several gift card prizes were drawn. In October, COGI kept the annual tradition of participating in Boscov's Friends Helping Friends. Lastly, we stepped out of the box and participated in the Walk In Art's Center's Festival of Trees. Handmade ornaments were created and a Tree of Hope for Recovery was created and entered into the contest. Money was earned by individuals donating money to "vote" for their favorite tree and also bids were made to purchase the tree. COGI Staff fell in love with the tree and pulled together to make a bigger bid and win back the tree which now decorates our MAT hallway.



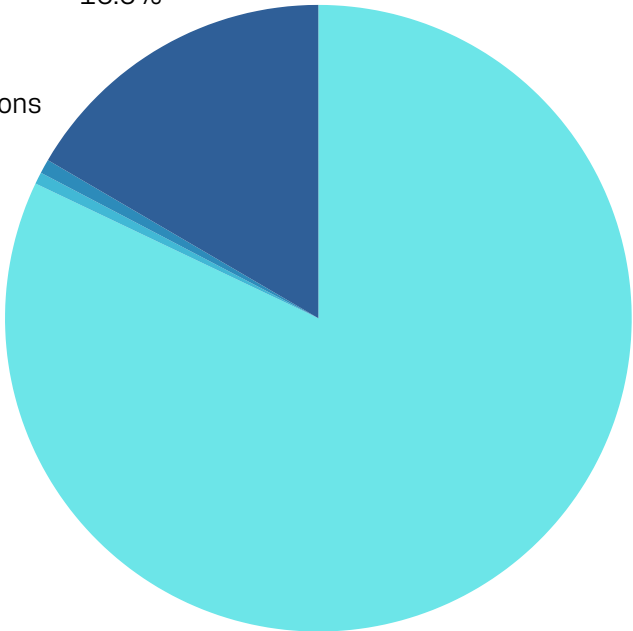
COGI continued its efforts to raise money for VALOR (our Veteran's program). Once again we hosted an outdoor music event at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds with The Amish Outlaws headlining the show. Prior to them taking the stage a local band, The Boys Upstairs, entertained us in the afternoon. Food Trucks attended the event and COGI held a small prize raffle to earn additional funds. Mother Nature did not cooperate and attendance was not as expected however those who braved the weather had a great evening.



# Financial Summary

Grants and Awards  
16.6%

Contributions  
0.7%



Program Service Fees  
82.1%

**REVENUE = \$1,555,982**

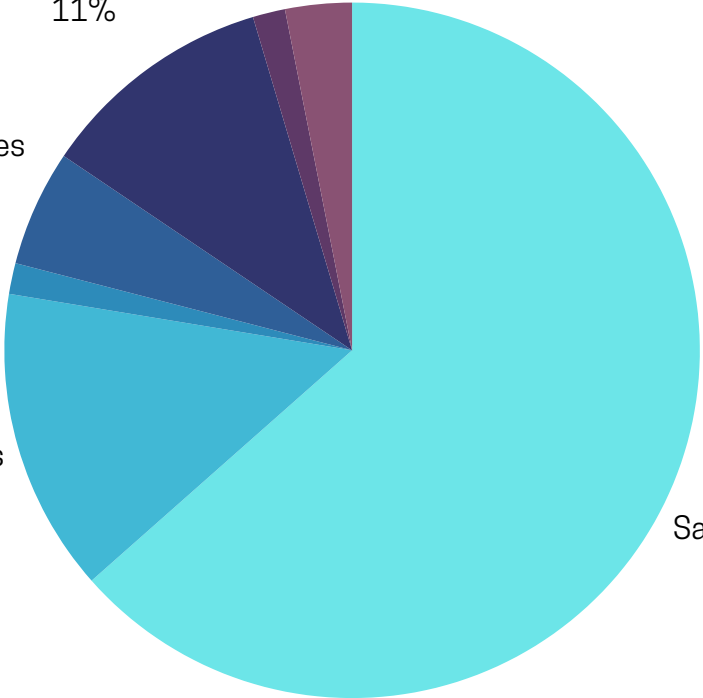
Program Expenses  
11%

IT  
1.5%

Rent/Utilities  
5.4%

Insurance  
1.4%

Consultants  
14.1%



Salaries/Benefits  
63.5%

**EXPENSES = \$1,639,013**

