

**District Office:**

3496 E. Lincoln Highway  
Thorndale, PA 19372  
(484) 200-8256  
Fax: (484) 200-8257

**Satellite Office:**

Coatesville City Hall  
1 City Hall Place  
Coatesville, PA 19320

*Please call (484) 200-8256 for satellite office hours.*

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## *My police reform bill signed into law.*

My H.B. 1910, now Act 59 of 2020, will update police training in several areas, including recognizing and reporting child abuse; de-escalation and harm reduction techniques; interacting with individuals of diverse racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds; and appropriate use of force.

The impetus for the bill and its passage is the racial justice movement that began protesting George Floyd's murder and the murder of other Black Americans at the hands of the police.

This bill, and another police reform bill, were passed so quickly because of YOU! You told us that after 40 years of the passage of the last police reform bill, after 400 years of racial oppression, the time for change had come.

The enactment of these bills will tell the voiceless and the powerless in our society that "We, your representatives, hear your cries for justice."

This is a good first step, and there's much more work to be done. I'm counting on you to keep fighting the good fight so Pennsylvania and our nation lives up to the ideals on which it was founded.

State Representative | 74th Legislative District

# DAN WILLIAMS



Email: [RepWilliams@pahouse.net](mailto:RepWilliams@pahouse.net) | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) @RepDanWilliams

## DEAR NEIGHBOR,

Since my last newsletter, life in Pennsylvania has changed profoundly.

We have been reckoning with a global pandemic and a nationwide social justice movement for equality.

The pandemic has taken loved ones from us and devastated the economy.

The murder of George Floyd showed the nation the unequal treatment of communities of color by the police and the need for change in our laws and our institutions.

To save the life and soul of our commonwealth, we had to take decisive action to mitigate the spread of the pandemic and rectify the iniquities in the criminal justice system.

We were able to make progress on both by coming together as a community.

Out of concern for each other's health, we followed reasoned health directives that have helped us flatten the curve.

Out of a concern for each other's welfare, we've reached out to others in our community who are in need.

Out of a deep-rooted belief in the equality of all Americans, we've brought about some needed changes in our criminal justice system.

Out of a sense of solidarity, Black and white Pennsylvanians from all walks of life have taken to the streets in non-violent protest demanding justice for all under the law.

We don't know what the future will bring, but I know it is as a community united in common purpose that we will make our way out of the darkness.

We need now, more than ever, to remain connected and supportive of each other.

We must continue to follow social distancing practices and wear a mask in public.

We must continue to fight for racial equality.

As our community's representative in Harrisburg, I've been working with the administration and other legislators to better Commonwealth processes and enact legislation that will improve your economic situation, strengthen the social safety net, remove inequalities in our criminal justice system and protect your health.

My dedicated staff and I have been working hard, trying to make your life a bit easier. We are fighting for you every day in the district and in Harrisburg.

Call or email us for an appointment to help you with your needs.

We are here for you.



# PANDEMIC RESOURCES

Pennsylvania took quick, decisive action to successfully slow the spread of the coronavirus in our communities. However, many of us were negatively impacted by the virus. Our commonwealth marshalled resources to help those affected by the pandemic, many of which I've listed for your easy reference. If you need help with these or any other issues, please contact my office.

## CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Jeanne E. Casner, MPH, PMP  
County Health Director

601 Westtown Rd., Ste. 290  
West Chester, PA, 19380-0990

Phone: 610-344-6225

Fax: 610-344-6727

[www.chesco.org](http://www.chesco.org)

## COVID-19 Questions? Call 610-344-6225

After hours, you can be connected to the Greater Philadelphia Coronavirus Helpline, 1-800-772-7112, which is staffed 24/7.

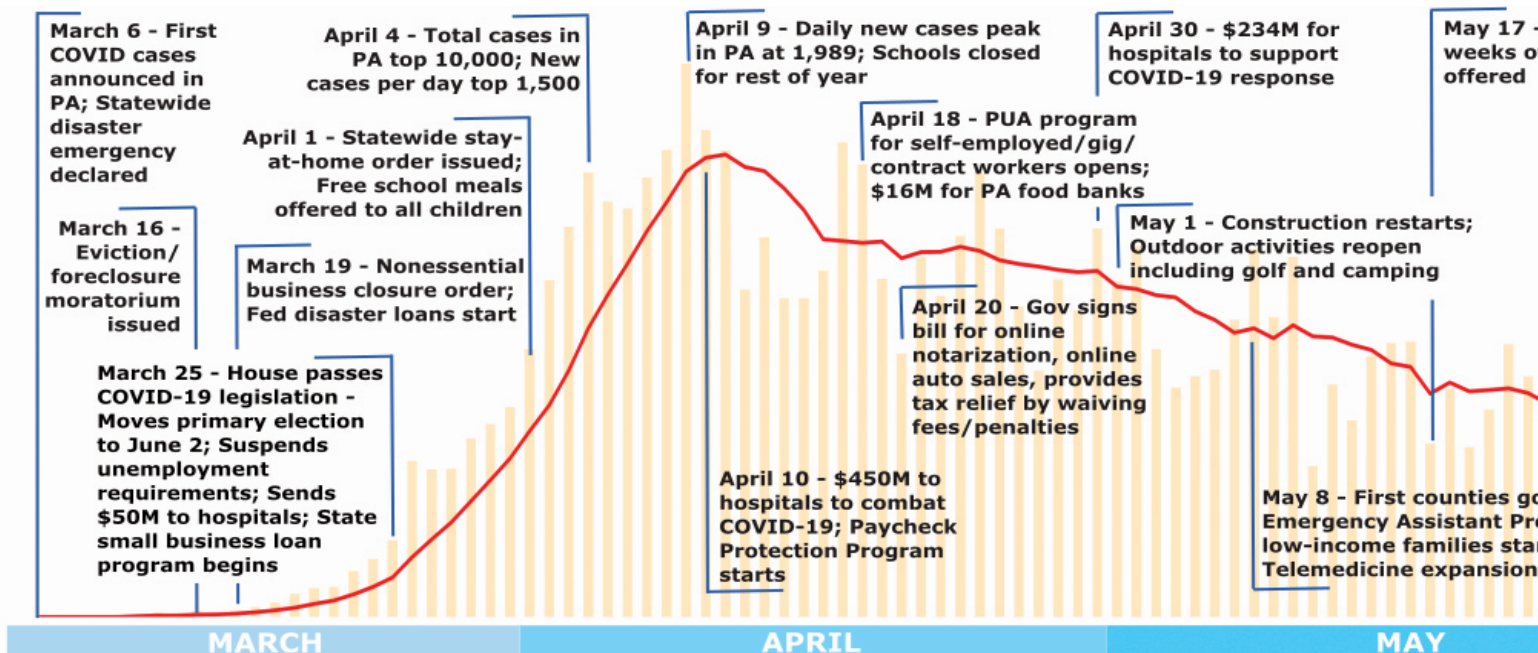
### COVID-19 Testing

Chester County is currently offering PCR (nasal swab) diagnostic tests. Testing is available for individuals who have COVID-19 symptoms or who have had a known exposure to someone with COVID-19. Testing will be offered at multiple sites throughout the week. Go to <https://www.chesco.org/4376/Coronavirus-COVID-19>.

# IT'S OK TO REACH OUT FOR HELP

This health crisis has created additional stress for many.  
Please know that it's OK to ask for help.

## Pennsylvania's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic:



# RENT, MORTGAGE AND HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The **Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency** recently announced that help is available for renters and homeowners financially impacted by COVID-19.

Full details on eligibility and more are available at [www.phfa.org](http://www.phfa.org).

## Feeding families

The **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** helps Pennsylvanians buy food.

Apply online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us).

### Chester County Food Bank and Pantries

There are many resources in Chester County if you are food insecure.

#### Chester County Food Bank

Phone: 610-873-6000

Fax: 484-359-4346

Email: [contact@chestercountyfoodbank.org](mailto:contact@chestercountyfoodbank.org)

<https://chestercountyfoodbank.org/>

A list of **Chester County food pantries** can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3hDB3Xk>.

## CHIP - Health insurance for kids and teens

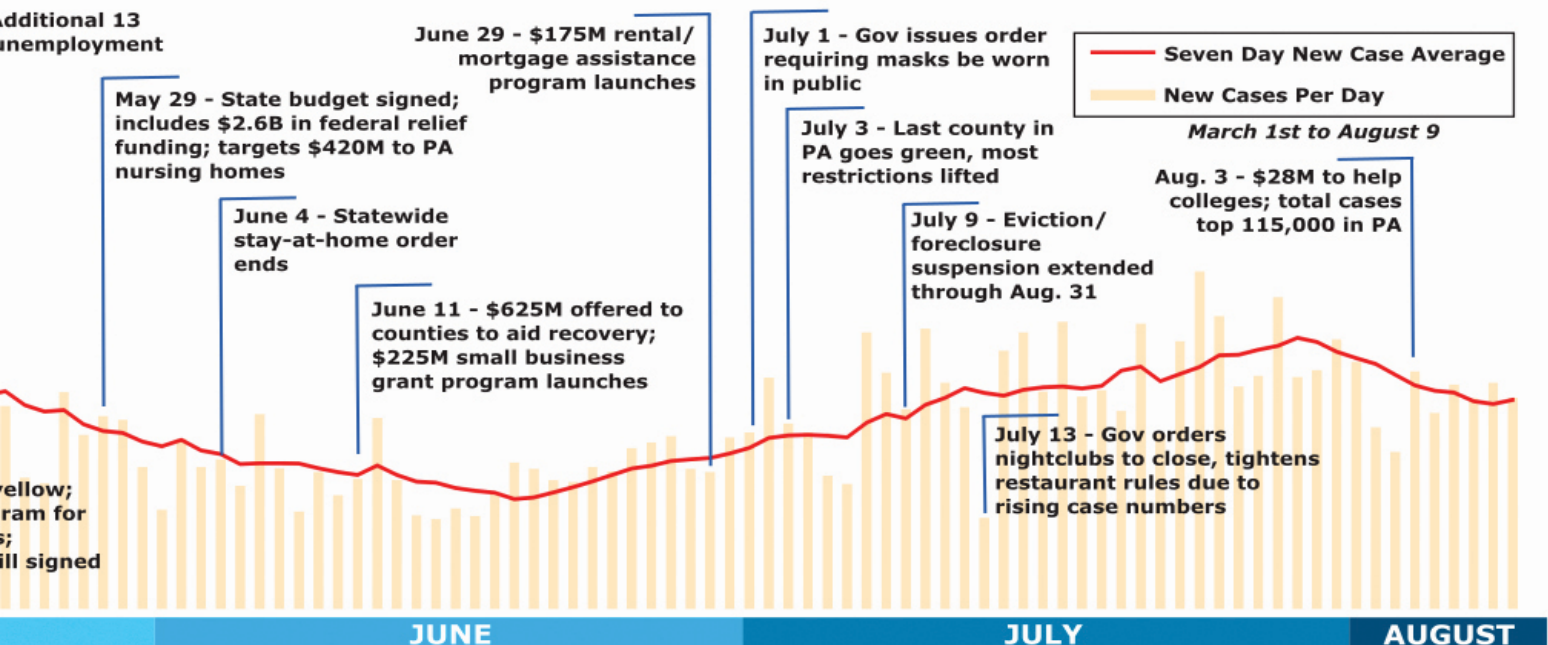
The **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)** is designed to provide health insurance to uninsured children and teens who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance. You can apply online at [www.chipcoverspakids.com](http://www.chipcoverspakids.com).

## Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

From June through November, the **Pennsylvania Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** and **Senior Farmers Market Nutrition programs** provide low-income seniors and eligible WIC participants with vouchers to purchase Pennsylvania-grown fruits, vegetables, and fresh-cut herbs from approved farm markets and farm stands across PA. Vouchers are distributed to participants via mail from WIC clinics and Area Agencies on Aging.

Learn more at [www.agriculture.pa.gov](http://www.agriculture.pa.gov).

# Decisive Action Saved Lives and Flattened the Curve





# PA ED. DEPT. OUTLINES SCHOOL GUIDELINES, REQUIREMENTS FOR PANDEMIC



Pennsylvania Department of Health Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine and Education Secretary Pedro Rivera outlined updated guidance to help Pre-K to 12 schools prepare to reopen and safely educate students. Each school entity will determine if classes resume in person at school buildings, remotely or a combination of both options.

In instances when someone from a school tests positive, state public health staff will immediately assist the school with risk assessment, isolation recommendations, and other infection control assistance.

[www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov) provides a full list of best practices for schools to consider before the start of in-person classes.

## \$24K in Pennsylvania Department of Education School Grants

The COVID-19 pandemic has made clear that direct access technology is necessary for an equitable education. I'm very glad the Coatesville Area School District was selected to receive \$14,150 and Oxford School District \$9,500 to purchase computer equipment such as laptops, tablets, and internet hot spots, or use toward providing instructional materials such as paper lessons and coursework. This money will help close the achievement gap that exists between richer and less affluent school districts.

## Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

I supported the bipartisan legislation that ensured the state quickly sent Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program rebate payments during the coronavirus crisis, which benefitted many people in our community. The program provides a maximum standard rebate of \$650 (which could be boosted to \$975 through supplemental rebates) to eligible Pennsylvanians 65 or older, widows and widowers 50 or older, and people with disabilities 18 or older. I urge seniors to apply or go online to check the status of your claims. Contact my office for help applying.



### Municipal Contact Information:

#### City of Coatesville

Phone: 610-384-0300

[www.coatesville.org](http://www.coatesville.org)

#### Caln Township

Phone: 610-384-0600

Email: [info@calntownship.org](mailto:info@calntownship.org)

[www.calntownship.org](http://www.calntownship.org)

#### East Caln Township

Phone: 610-269-1989

<http://eastcalntownship.com/>

#### East Fallowfield Township

Phone: 724-483-8700

<https://www.eastfallowfield.org/>

#### Sadsbury Township

Phone: 610-857-9503

<https://sadsburytwp.org>

#### Downingtown Borough

Phone: 610.269.0344

Email: [info@downingtwn.org](mailto:info@downingtwn.org)

[www.downingtwn.org](http://www.downingtwn.org)

#### Borough of Modena

Phone: 610-384-6777

<https://boroughofmodenapa.org/>

#### Parkesburg Borough

Phone: 610-857-2616

Email: [admin@parkesburg.org.com](mailto:admin@parkesburg.org.com)

<http://parkesburg.org/>

#### South Coatesville Borough

Phone: 610-384-1700

<https://south-coatesville.org/>

### School Districts

#### Coatesville Area School District

Phone: 610-466-2400

<https://www.casdschools.org/>

#### Downingtown Area School District

610-269-8460

[www.dasd.org](http://www.dasd.org)

#### Octorara Area School District

610-593-8238

<https://www.octorara.k12.pa.us/>

# UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

It's not uncommon to experience delays in navigating public resources, as the commonwealth and the U.S. are experiencing overwhelming levels of demand. Since mid-March, more than 2 million Pennsylvanians have filed for unemployment benefits.

There are two unemployment programs available: traditional **Unemployment Compensation (UC)** and **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)**. UC covers most people, while PUA is a new program for self-employed, 'gig' and contract workers, as well as many others that may not have qualified for traditional unemployment.

Information and applications for both programs are at [www.uc.pa.gov](http://www.uc.pa.gov).

# COOLING AND HEATING YOUR HOME

The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Recovery Crisis Program** runs through August 31 or until all budgeted funding is expended. More information about the LIHEAP Recovery Crisis Program, including income limits, can be found at [www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov) or by calling 1-877-395-8930.

## STATE AND NATIONAL *resources*

- **PA crisis text help:** Text 'PA' to 741741 for help 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **PA crisis helpline:** Administered by the PA Department of Human Services 855-284-2494.
- **Disaster distress helpline:** Experiencing emotional distress due to the pandemic? Call 1-800-985-5990 or text 'TalkWithUs' to 66746 to connect with a trained crisis counselor.
- **Get help for substance use disorder:** Reach out for support from the PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs by calling 1-800-662-4357.
- **Mental Health Crisis Intervention Services:** 1-800-499-7455
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 1-800-273-8255
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA):** 800-662-HELP (4357) [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

# HELP FOR BUSINESS OWNERS

## COVID-19 RELIEF SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

A website has been set up to help small businesses with a new state-run grant program. Businesses must apply through a partnering Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Visit [www.pabusinessgrants.com](http://www.pabusinessgrants.com) for resources, including an application checklist, eligibility details and a full list of participating CDFIs.

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Find resources including detailed pandemic guidance for businesses, information on state and federal programs, and more at [www.dced.pa.gov](http://www.dced.pa.gov).

## U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Find information on federal funding and resources, including the Paycheck Protection Program, a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll, at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).

## COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

**Chester County's Warm Line**

1-866-846-2722

**Valley Creek Crisis Center**

610-280-3270

## Child Care and School

Child care centers have reopened, while adhering to certain restrictions and CDC guidelines. Answers to frequently asked questions for parents and caregivers are at [www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov).

If you are looking for child care, visit [www.findchildcare.pa.gov](http://www.findchildcare.pa.gov).

For the latest updates on reopening PA schools, visit [www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov).



State Representative

**DAN WILLIAMS**

3496 E. Lincoln Highway  
Thorndale, PA 19372

lpo.ad.0820

## DISTRICT OFFICE OPEN BY APPOINTMENT

My district office is open by appointment only. Please call (484) 200-8256 or email RepWilliams@pahouse.net to set up an appointment. My district office is located at 3496 E. Lincoln Highway, Thorndale, PA 19372.

When you come to my office, please remember to wear a mask.

# VOTE BY MAIL

 GO TO [WWW.VOTESPA.COM](http://WWW.VOTESPA.COM) TO APPLY FOR YOUR MAIL-IN BALLOT.

### 2020 GENERAL ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES

- OCT 19** Last day to register to vote for the general election.  
[register.votesPA.com](http://register.votesPA.com)
- OCT 27** Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot.  
[votesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot](http://votesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot)
- NOV 3** Voted mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by the county by 8pm.  
[votesPA.com/County](http://votesPA.com/County)
- NOV 3** General election day. Polls are open from 7am to 8pm.  
[votesPA.com/Polls](http://votesPA.com/Polls)

**VotesPA.com**

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