

New Horizons Peer Support Center  
616 Lincoln Ave.  
Bellevue, PA 15202  
412-766-8060

New Horizons Peer Support Center has been operating in Bellevue since 1994. Peer Support and Advocacy Network (PSAN) is a non-profit agency funded by Allegheny County Department of Human Services, and it runs New Horizons. The staff and members at New Horizons believe in recovery. This does not mean individuals will never experience another symptom but that members know how to manage their illness and live well and responsible lives and contribute to the community like all citizens.

New Horizons serves approximately 70 people five days per week. A member must be a resident of Allegheny County, be over 18 years of age, and a past or present user of mental health services. Members come into New Horizons so they can socialize and be with others who understand what it is like to have a mental health diagnosis. Members can eat breakfast, usually a sweet roll or bagel; have lunch, a hot meal; and play pool or work in the computer lab.

New Horizons staff provide several activities for the members, such as a Wellness and Recovery Group, a Dual Diagnosis Group (for people who have a mental illness and an addiction); Bingo; Arts & Crafts; a Smoking Cessation group; Karaoke, and a Computer Class. New Horizons has outings to Carnegie Museum, movies, Heinz History Center and even took members to Kennywood last summer.

Members and staff from New Horizons have worked with student nurses from Sewickley School of Nursing and also Duquesne University School of Nursing to help them learn about the many available community resources. Staff also help train Pittsburgh Police Offices who respond to calls involving mental health consumers.

There are three advocates on site who help members with a variety of problems including housing assistance, providing bus tickets for transportation, locating professional counselors, helping to get and keep utilities, and offering support through compassionate listening.

New Horizons is a great benefit not only to the members but also to the community. New Horizons has been part of the Toys For Tots program run by the military for several years giving toys to people in the community who are in need during the holiday season. New Horizons distributes tickets to members for Christmas Day dinner sponsored by the Salvation Army. Holiday parties and dinners are offered to members. New Horizons can serve as an extension of family keeping members from being alone not only during the holiday season, but also throughout the year.