



PSEC Addiction & Recovery Taskforce Report

2025 PSEC Spring Meeting

The mission of the PSEC Addiction & Recovery Taskforce is to share God's love with people suffering from the destructive disease of addiction and their affected family members and friends. Our goal is to decrease stigma surrounding addiction by broadening individual knowledge, awareness, and understanding while providing support, resources, and other vital information about this disease to ministers and congregations.

- **Prisoner Pen Pals**: The Pen Pal Program continues to be a success, through a group of individuals paired up with inmates at Phoenix Maximum Security State Prison in Graterford. These pen pal relationships are formed over time and provide both individuals an opportunity to share the love of God with each other. People dedicated to this Ministry report sharing in theological discussions, life-stories, the joys and trials of everyday life, and so much more. We look forward to continuing these vital relationships!
- **Sync Recovery**: The program 'Sync Recovery' is established at Trinity Telford UCC, holding monthly events offering snacks, activities, games, various recovery meetings and fellowship. This is open to anyone and is not bound by any one specific recovery program.
- **PSEC eNews**: Weekly articles surrounding topics of addiction and various resources have been published in the eNews for more than 200 weeks! We pray these articles reach beyond our wildest expectations.
- **Narcan Distribution Points**: We currently have two churches that are established as dedicated Narcan Distribution Points. These are: Trinity Telford UCC & Trinity UCC Pottstown. A third church is setting up to join in this mission within the next month. Does your church have a heart for this? Contact us!
- **Recovery Books**: The Task Force retains a number of Recovery books, free for anyone who would like one for themselves, a loved one, or someone they know who might benefit from it. Available books are AA Big Books (Alcoholics Anonymous), NA Basic Texts (Narcotics Anonymous) and Recovery Dharma. Please email Cheryl @ psec.ar.taskforce@gmail.com if you would like a book!
- **Caron Foundation**: The Task Force has been invited to lead an Interfaith Chapel Service at Caron Foundation towards the end of summer. During this service, Alumni and families join with patients to celebrate the ongoing work of healing individuals and families. We are honored to have the opportunity to share God's love and message.
- **Speaking Events**: Task Force members participated in an Addiction Crisis & Narcan Training Event sponsored by Epler's UCC on March 22nd. This event was held in conjunction with Berks County Behavioral Health. Status of the current addiction crisis and training for the use of Narcan was presented by BCBH. Personal testimonies were presented by the Addiction & Recovery Task Force. This was a powerful time of resources and reflection.
 - Additionally, the Task Force has presented a number of speaking events on topics like Harm Reduction, Grandparents raising Grandchildren, and sharing of the Mission in various worshipping congregations.

Would your church like a presentation by the Task Force? Contact us!



PSEC Addiction & Recovery Taskforce Report

2025 PSEC Spring Meeting

(con)

- **Web Page**: The Taskforce webpage contains useful information for Clergy, Family, Congregations, Addicts, and other caring individuals. This includes personal stories, 12 Step breakdowns, theological and personal essays, helpful videos, Narcan information and other links and resources. Member contact information is also available.
Website: <https://psec.org/missions-ministries/justice-witness/addiction-and-recovery-task-force/>
- **Taskforce Membership**: The Task Force has held many discussions since the vote affirming the merger into one Keystone Conference. As the members look to the future towards next year's merger, there have been many reflections on the work that has been done, as well as what the Task Force will become.

While we will no longer be the 'PSEC Addiction & Recovery Task Force', we recognize with deep passion and dedication, just how important this God-given Ministry is.

Having unanimously decided that this is too important to let go of, we are in the process of contacting individuals in the other three conferences to measure interest and start conversations regarding specific needs for their areas. As the other conferences do not currently have any addiction & recovery mission groups, area needs may include the creation of smaller 'satellite' task forces, the culmination of much-needed resources and hosting events like those established in the PSEC.

Contemplating the formation of a Keystone Conference Addiction & Recovery Task Force, with area-specific satellite groups forming under one parent group is a dream yet to be realized.

Praying for God's will and the power to carry it out is the focus of the current members and we look forward to seeing what He has in store!

Respectfully submitted by:

Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens, Chair of the PSEC Addiction & Recovery Task Force

Task Force Email: psec.ar.taskforce@gmail.com