

New Alliance Wellness Trail Ready for Use



Leadership Hazleton, an affiliate of the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce, has been making a difference in the community since its establishment in 1985. Participants represent a variety of professions, interests, backgrounds, and talents within the community. Those involved with Leadership Hazleton exhibit a strong commitment to developing leadership, social, professional, and team-building skills to ensure a successful future for the Greater Hazleton community—a place they call home.

“Leadership Hazleton's mission is to make the participants aware of the positive aspects and concerns of the Greater Hazleton area. The class members are introduced to current economic, educational, healthcare, and political leaders. They get an ‘up close and personal’ look at the Greater Hazleton area,” said Joe Clark, Executive Director of Leadership Hazleton. “It is the mission of Leadership Hazleton to instill in its graduates a desire to get involved and use their new skills to make the Hazleton area a better place.”

One way this year’s Leadership Hazleton team utilized its skills was through the development of an Alliance Wellness Trail, which was completed in conjunction with the Hazleton Health & Wellness Center. The trail is on the grounds of the Dessen Women’s and Children’s Center adjacent to the Hazleton Health & Wellness Center.

“We appreciate Leadership Hazleton’s commitment to this project. It’s not only a way for them to showcase their talents and skill sets, but also a way to bring the community together. They are redefining our outdoor space. We look forward to seeing people use the trail and are very grateful to Leadership Hazleton for making it all happen,” said Megan Scherer, Assistant Administrator at the Hazleton Health & Wellness Center.

The Alliance Wellness Trail is a beautiful, natural, and safe outdoor environment that promotes fitness and rehabilitation for patients, staff, and local community members. The trail includes a water feature, seating areas, 1/4-1/2 mile wellness trail, adult and pediatric occupational therapy/fitness stations, a labyrinth, sensory garden, and much more. “The trail is a prime example of cooperation working for the betterment of the Greater Hazleton area,” said Clark.

The Alliance sends a special thank you to Barbara Biacco, Director of HPS Business and Revenue, who is a part of this year’s Leadership Hazleton team and project chair of the Alliance Wellness Trail. She and the other teams members were able to tap into their creativity and intellect and present the community with a one-of-a-kind project that is as special as it is timeless.

“Much like the Alliance, Leadership Hazleton has been instrumental in building leaders and caring about the community. It was a collaborative team effort to complete the Alliance Wellness Trail. Thank you to the many area business leaders who have generously donated to the project,” said Biacco.

Alliance Wellness Trail **Leadership Team**

- Barbara Biacco, HPS, Chair
- Debbie Kupsho, Hazleton Area School District, Vice Chair
- William Burke, McCann School of Business, Secretary
- Ignacio Beato, Concerned Parents
- Nina Dei Tos, MMI Prep
- Niurke DeLa Rosa, Concerned Parents
- Brian Robinson, Cargill Meat Solutions
- Dominic Zapotocky, Bimbo Bakery