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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN CUMBERLAND AND PERRY COUNTIES

CARLISLE, PA – Since 1949, the month of May has nationally been recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month. The Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program today announced the events which they are planning for this year's celebration of Mental Health Awareness Month in Cumberland and Perry Counties.

Mental Health Awareness Month will begin with the <u>Mental Health Awareness Walk</u> on <u>Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015</u>, which will begin at <u>10:00 am at Letort Park in Carlisle, PA</u>, with lunch to follow back at the park following a rally at the Old Cumberland County Courthouse at the square in Carlisle. The theme of the Mental Health Awareness Walk is "Celebrate Our Victories".

On <u>Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015</u>, Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program & Dauphin County Community Support Program will be holding a <u>Recovery Conference</u> at the <u>Holiday Inn Harrisburg East, 4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111</u>. The theme for this year's conference is "Envision a WHOLE You – Live Life Fully".

On <u>Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015</u>, Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program will be offering a free screening of the movie <u>"Canvas"</u>, starting at <u>6:00 pm</u> at <u>Highland United Presbyterian Church, 11</u>
<u>Church Road, Newport, PA 17074</u> directed by Joseph Greco, and starting Joe Pantoliano and Marcia Gay Harden. The award-winning 2006 movie "Canvas" realistically shows the effects of mental health challenges on the entire family, and centers around an average all American blue collar family which is affected by Schizophrenia. "Canvas" is based on Joseph Greco's personal experiences growing up.

Cumberland & Perry County residents interested in participating in any of these events may contact the Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program office at (717)254-6060, for more information.

The Mental Health Awareness Month events allows our community to illustrate that recovery is possible, and supporting recovery-oriented services and support systems benefits everyone within our local communities, making our communities richer and more fuller.

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The Cumberland/Perry Community Support Program (CSP) Advisory Committee is comprised of individuals living with mental illness, family members, providers, professionals, and community members who work together as committed equal partners and apply CSP principles to offer hope and assure that every person with a serious mental illness will enjoy the highest possible quality of life. The Committee advises the Cumberland/Perry Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (MH/IDD) office on how to improve the quality of services and supports, and the Committee facilitates cooperation between providers, community organizations and stakeholders.