

# Highlights 2025

MARSHALL  
COUNTY FRN



Volume III, December 2025



## Season's Greetings, Friends of the Marshall County FRN:

As 2025 comes to a close, I want to take a moment to thank you for being a part of our journey.

Through the dedication of our team, partners and volunteers, the FRN continues to address key community needs, including family stability, workforce development, food access, and community engagement.

Together, our collective efforts made a measurable difference. We served over 400 families with direct assistance and referrals to local resources, reached more than 4,000 community members through trainings and events, engaged over 200 volunteers who shared their time and talents to support FRN programs, and collaborated on over 100 projects. Every number represents a story of hope, support, and positive change made possible by our shared commitment to Marshall County.

I am deeply grateful to our community partners, volunteers, and donors whose ongoing support fuels our mission.

Your generosity allows us to serve more families, reach more neighborhoods, and continue building a network of care that strengthens every corner of Marshall County.

Special thanks to our dedicated team and board members for their unwavering leadership and compassion throughout the year. As we prepare for the year ahead, the Marshall County FRN remains focused on growth, collaboration, and innovation. Together, we will continue building a stronger, healthier, and more connected community.

Thank you for being a part of the Marshall County FRN family. We wish you a joyful holiday season, and are looking forward to continuing our work with you.



*Kimberli Green,  
Executive Director*

### In this newsletter you can expect:

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## Meet Our Team

The Marshall County FRN has a dedicated team to help carry out its mission of “making Marshall County a better place to live and work.” Read on for some of our favorite moments from this year.



### Traci Kinney

Family Support Center Director

“My favorite project of the year is the ‘Back to School Shopping Spree’. This project allows students to be nominated by a teacher and rewarded for something positive they have done in their school environment. I love that this project allows the students to “shop” for new items to begin their school year just like their peers. Many parents have shared how beneficial this project has financially been for their families.

Hearing students say things like, “this is the first year I will have new shoes to start the school year,” or “I wanted these exact shoes for school, but we couldn’t afford them last week at the store,” shows how impactful this project can be to students’ self-esteem and confidence as they enter a new school year.

I also believe that letting the students have choices in their clothing style preferences and sizes is important as they are encouraged to pick items that make them comfortable and feel good about themselves.”



### Jodi Clark

Family Support Center Coordinator

“The most impactful event of my year was our Family Fishing event during West Virginia’s Free Fishing Days. Every child went home with a brand-new fishing pole, and with support from West Virginia DNR officers, families learned how to set up their gear, bait hooks, and confidently catch and release fish from the Ohio River. Seeing families bond outdoors, build new skills, and discover a low-cost way to enjoy time together made this a standout moment of my year!”



### Sara Wood-Shaw

Outreach Coordinator

“My favorite project is managing the FRN social media platforms and using it as a tool to highlight the important work the Marshall County FRN does in the community. Sharing our projects, programs, events, and partnerships helps us connect with families and show the real impact of our services throughout the county.”



*The Marshall County Family Support Center (FSC) is one of the FRN’s programs and is funded by the Department of Human Services. FSCs are warm and welcoming places in the community where any family member with children up to age 18 or pregnant families can go, not only in times of need, but as a regular part of day-to-day life.*

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## Nikki Hill

Parents As Teachers  
Program Supervisor

“The most impactful event of my year was completing the Child Passenger Safety Technician Training. This certification allows me to bring safety to the community. Whether it be educating parents or guardians on car seat safety, or completing a car seat check event to ensure children are fitted properly, I know that the correct knowledge is getting in the hands of the community and keeping those children safe and families at ease.”



## Tammy Brandon

Parents As Teachers  
Parent Educator

“My favorite event this year was the Ms. Rachel event. The sing-a-long activity was very interactive. I loved watching the children sing and to my surprise, know all of the songs. It was a great meet and greet event that brought happiness to the room. I look forward to holding another event in the near future and welcoming new families.”



## Rachel Hensley

Grant Management

“The most impactful part of my year was helping the FRN with grant and funding proposals to ensure the successful continuation of programs, projects, and services. We are always searching for ways to improve and increase our impact, and I love being able to lend my skills to help do just that!”



*Congratulations to our Parents As Teachers program for maintaining their Blue Ribbon Affiliate status! The Blue Ribbon Affiliate designation recognizes programs that have earned the Quality Endorsement and are providing high quality services to children and families.*

*The Marshall County Parents As Teachers program is an in-home parenting education program. Parents As Teachers (PAT) is a parent education program that has been adopted in all 50 states, and focuses on helping children learn, grow, and develop to their fullest potential. The program is delivered in the family's home by trained parent educators, and is based upon an evidenced-based curriculum.*

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## East End Park Story Walk

In early 2025, we received a mini-grant from Try This WV for a Story Walk project at East End Park in Moundsville. A Story Walk involves fixtures placed at regular intervals along a path that hold the pages of a story book. The idea is to promote both literacy and physical exercise through walking the path and reading the story along the way. The Story Walk will feature new stories each quarter.



The Story Walk was completed and installed over the summer months with assistance from the City of Moundsville. A special ribbon cutting ceremony was held in September to officially open and recognize the Story Walk. The FSC and Parents As Teachers (PAT) program have each held programming at the Story Walk. It is now open to all parkgoers and residents.



## Fishing with Dad

One of the guardian-child events organized this year was a family fishing outing. The family fishing was held at Riverfront Park on one of the free fishing days offered by the state. Outdoor games, snacks, and gardening activities were made available for families to utilize as desired. Fishing poles and gear were provided to families in attendance. DNR Officers were on hand to provide fishing instruction and demonstrations. The Fishing with Dad event was a success and enjoyed by all who attended.



## Circle of Parents: Homesteaders

Circle of Parents: Homesteaders is a new group that began following a canning and pickling class offered in the summer. Those that attended the canning and pickling class had interest in similar, DIY and self-sufficiency offerings. Based on this interest, a series of related programs were planned. They have made fresh salsa, homemade laundry detergent, and more. Due to continued interest, additional activities like this will be offered in 2026.



## Marshall County Chamber of Commerce Tree Gala

The Marshall County Chamber of Commerce holds an annual Tree Gala event and fundraiser that benefits a featured nonprofit each year. Local organizations and businesses that participate each theme and decorate a tree to be auctioned to raise funds. This year, the FRN was honored to be selected as the nonprofit recipient and receive a portion of proceeds from the event.

Additionally, the FRN decorated its own tree for the Gala. The tree was a "Cat-in-the-Hat" theme (pictured above), and decorated with classic red, white, and black, like the Cat himself. Our tree harkened the magic of families spending time with one another and the reminder that imagination, laughter, and connection bring families closer.



## OV Special Needs Parent Support Group

A partnership was formed with the Ohio Valley Special Needs Parent Support Group, which is open to local families and children with special needs. The group meets for various activities and support. In October, we helped plan and hold a sensory safe Halloween event for families, which went very well. A similar holiday group is being planned for the end of the year, along with future partnership opportunities.



## Limestone Presbyterian Church Preschool

For a few years now, we have been partnering with Limestone Presbyterian Church Preschool, holding various activities and groups for students and their families. One activity this year was a Cat in the Hat themed story and craft hour. Students colored Cat in the Hat hats, read the book, crafted and presented an "All about Me" poster, and played "pin the tie on the cat" to wrap up the story and craft hour.



**NURTURING PARENTS PROGRAM**  
Spend quality time with your child and learn new tools!  
Wednesdays 5:00 - 7:00PM  
May 7th - June 11th  
Feeding Body & Soul Community Kitchen

- Connect with your child
- Build trust and safety
- Communicate more effectively
- Feel great about your abilities as a parent!
- Class meets weekly for 6 weeks
- Parents and children of all ages welcome!

Scan the QR Code or call 304-845-3300 to RSVP.

**BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES WORKSHOP SERIES**  
Parenting is a journey. Sign up for our workshops to learn practical tools and build positive parenting strategies. RSVP is required.

- ✔ Strong Families Eat Together with Cheryl Kaczor - September 11th
- ✔ Budgeting with United Bank - October 9th
- ✔ First Aid/CPR/AED with Chris Earnest - November 13th \*5:00PM\*
- ✔ Stress Less with Mindfulness During the Holidays with Cheryl Kaczor - December 11th

Scan the QR Code to RSVP.

Dinner and Child Care provided.

Call Us 304-845-3300 | Email Us mcfrn.director@gmail.com

## Building Strong Families Training Series

The “Building Strong Families” training series is offered on a regular basis by the FSC. This training series offers parent education on a variety of topics related to parenting, child development, and more. All workshops offered are free to attend and provide both childcare and a meal. Offering childcare and a meal reduces barriers to attendance that families may otherwise have. The FSC offered a series during the winter, spring, and fall.

The workshops have been well-attended and feedback from families indicates they are beneficial and helpful. In addition to parent education, the FSC also offers mobility mentoring and Workforce Workshops. Workforce Workshops are brief sessions to aid in obtaining employment, while mobility mentoring is a longer, evidenced-based coaching process for family-led goal attainment, with a focus on economic independence.



## Ladies Luncheon

The Ladies Luncheon is an annual event held by the Marshall County Chamber of Commerce. It features guest speakers, a catered meal, door prizes, raffles, and more. Kimberli served on the planning committee for the event and also served as the emcee. Traci, Sara, Jodi, Nikki, and Tammy also attended the event. This year featured Amanda Mossman, Amy Dobkin, and Alex Weld as the speakers. The event was well-attended and enjoyed by all.



## Healthy Classroom Essentials

The purpose of Healthy Classroom Essentials is to provide all schools in the county with lice treatment kits and related items because head lice is an ongoing issue in the schools and treatment kits can be costly for some families to obtain. Each school in the county, along with the Health Department and local DoHS office, was provided with five packages, containing a lice treatment kit, laundry detergent, trash bags, and tip sheets.



## Blessing Box Refresh

There are 11 Blessing Boxes located around Marshall County, which are community-based mini pantries open to all. The FRN frequently checks in and stocks these mini pantries to help make sure there is accessible food available. This year, we noticed some of the Blessing Boxes were in need of minor repairs or touch ups. Nine volunteers from EQT graciously donated their time and labor to refinish, repaint, and repair the Blessing Boxes as needed.



The volunteers checked and fixed each Blessing Box location around the county. After, the boxes were again stocked with shelf-stable and nonperishable food items. Throughout 2025, the FRN restocked the Blessing Boxes with non-perishable food items 23 times.



## Mobile Food Pantries

Over the course of 2025, the FRN coordinated six mobile food pantries in Marshall County with the Mountaineer Food Bank. These mobile food pantries provide food in a drive-thru distribution to those in need. Food items distributed include a mix of fresh produce and meats, along with shelf-stable pantry items. The six pantries served a total of 1,281 households combined. Additional pantries may be scheduled in 2026, depending on availability and funding.



## WVDNR Comfort Kits

Marshall County DNR reached out to us after their department participated in an autism training course and realized that they are not equipped for a situation where they might need concrete or sensory supports. Six "Comfort Kits" were created for the DNR Officers who cover Marshall County. These kits included fidgets, games, toys and other misc. items for support for not only children, but possibly adults in need of something to help calm and comfort them.

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## Impact by the Numbers



## Impact Stories

*"These were probably meant for kids, but my favorite part of morning walks with Atlas is now stopping to read the story board at East End.*

*'I can stand up for me. I can stand up for others. I can stand up for peace.'  
'I close my eyes and make room in my mind, in my heart, to create and imagine.'  
'I tell my wriggling body: be still. I tell my thinking mind: be quiet.'"*

*-Community member on the East End Story Walk*

*"This is the first event where I didn't have to stress and could just sit back and enjoy."*

*"It was amazing being a part of a fun activity and know that no one was judging."*

*"When is the next event?! We can't wait!"*

*"My son doesn't want to leave, he had so much fun!"*

*-Parents of children that attended the OVSN Halloween Party*

*"Before I get into their size/preference details, I just want to thank you. I love working with others who care as much as I do. I appreciate you going back to the office and seeing if there are any other ways to help this family. I have several seniors this year that are pulling at my heart strings and it's nice to have someone I can go to for extra support."*

*-Local school personnel on student support provided*

*"We are so thankful to the Family Resource Network for putting these care boxes together so we can better serve families in the community. We recently attended training through the Autism Training Center with Marshall University and were given some tools and techniques to interact with folks on the spectrum. These boxes will be a great asset as we continue to serve our community."*

*-Local WV DNR Officer on the Comfort Kit project*

*"I'm pretty pleased he got this award and very proud of him."*

*"I haven't had a new pair of shoes since 8th grade."*

*"My daughter is super excited, usually I just go to Once Upon A Child and bring home a bag of used clothes for her. This year she is excited to pick out her own clothes."*

*"Very pleased with our experience. She wasn't sure she would find anything she likes and she hates to shop. She seemed to enjoy herself and find an outfit too."*

*-Parents and student recipients of Back to School Shopping Sprees*

*"Thank you so much for a healthy food class. I plan to attend the next one in June with cukes."*

*-Local community member participating in Circle of Parents: Homesteaders*

*"With me being a foster parent, I am learning a lot in these classes."*

*-Local foster parent on Building Strong Families training series*



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## How You Can Help

The FRN strives to diligently seek additional resources to support its mission and growth and has a strong network of partners, donors, and collaborators that provide support for its programs and projects. However, additional support will always enable the FRN to serve additional individuals and increase its impact.

Monetary gifts are always welcomed to support the work of the FRN and its programs. Donations can be mailed to or dropped off at the FRN office, located at 1501 Second Street, Moundsville, WV, 26041. Additionally, online donations are accepted at: <https://marshallcountyfrn.com/donate/>

High need items regularly used for programs and projects include:

- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Body Wash
- Shampoo and Conditioner sets

Donations of new, unopened products are also accepted. Other needed, specific items vary throughout the year; contact the FRN for more information.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS: OUR WORK WOULDN'T  
BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!**

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## Board Members

**Lisa Zukoff**  
Board President

**David Allender**  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Karen Coffield**  
Secretary/Treasurer

**JoAnn Dobbs**  
Board Member

**John Gruzinskas**  
Board Member

**Shelby Haines**  
Board Member

**Scott Reager**  
Board Member

**Dana Schrack**  
Board Member

**Kathy Shreve**  
Board Member

**Christopher Turak**  
Board Member

**A big thank you to our Board Members for their  
commitment and leadership!**

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MARSHALL COUNTY FRN	304-845-3300
<a href="http://www.marshallcountyfrn.com">www.marshallcountyfrn.com</a>	1501 Second St., Moundsville, WV

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**Stay tuned and get connected for all of our  
upcoming and exciting events in 2026!**



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Marshall County FRN



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