

Bill No. 4225-08

## APPOINTMENT

Approving the appointment of Dr. William Geisler to serve as a member of the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31, 2010.

In Council September 23, 2008.

Read and approved by Motion of Council.



Rich Fitzgerald  
President of Council

Attest:



John Mascio  
Chief Clerk of Council



DAN ONORATO  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

# COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

4225-08

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

101 COURTHOUSE • 436 GRANT STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219  
PHONE (412) 350-6500 • FAX (412) 350-6512  
WWW.ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

August 14, 2008

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Honorable President and Members  
Allegheny County Council  
119 Courthouse  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Dear Council Members:

Please find the attached resume of Dr. William Geisler, whom I am recommending for appointment to the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council of Allegheny County.

The Council's purpose is to aid and assist, as the statutory and County Executive's approved citizen body, the County Executive and the Allegheny County DHS Director in the planning, development and implementation of the provision of services for individuals with addiction problems who are residents of Allegheny County. I am recommending that Dr. Geisler serve a three year term, ending on December 31, 2010.

Dr. Geisler brings over two decades of experience in social service, in both the professional setting and also the local faith community. He has spoken nationally and internationally on the subject of addiction.

I appreciate your consideration, and ask you to act on this appointment as quickly as possible. Dr. Geisler will make himself available for review before the appropriate committee if members of Council wish to speak with him.

Sincerely,



Dan Onorato

**Dr. William "Jay" Geisler  
(412) 414-3337**

**EXPERIENCE**

Over 2 decades of experience in social service either in a professional setting or in a local faith community. I have spoken nationally and internationally on the subject of addiction.

**EMPLOYMENT**

Diocese of Pittsburgh	1997 - current	Priest and Pastor
Heartland Hospice	2005 - current	Chaplain to the Terminally Ill
Greenbriar Treatment Center	1996 to 1998	Director - Christian Recovery Program
St. Francis Medical Center	1988 to 1996	Supervisor - Community Mental Health
St. Titus Church	1985 to 1988	Parochial Vicar
Aliquippa Hospital	1985 to 1988	Hospital Chaplain
La Roche College	1986 to 1987	Campus Minister
J&L Steel Corporation	1978 to 1981	Production Planning Supervisor

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

Elected to the Board of the National Network of Episcopal Clergy, 2006; President of District 8 of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, 2003-06; President of the Pittsburgh Clergy Association 2004-06; Leader of Solidarity USA and participant in the 1987 Pension Reform Act with Senators Heinz and Metzenbaum which lead to the June 1990 Decision of the U.S Supreme Court ruling against LTV in this pension liability case – Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. vs. LTV Steel Corporation); Founder of the Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference 2001-2006; A founder of Faith Tech, Faith based computer training, 1999-05; Founder and Executive Director of the Pittsburgh Recovery Center, 1989 to 1999 (a free walk-in Drug and Alcohol Center for the addicted homeless, poor, incarcerated, and mentally ill); Founding member and President of the Board of Directors for FoodSHARE (Self-Help and Resource Exchange), 1987-88; Founding member and advisor for Solidarity USA, Aliquippa Chapter (defends worker's rights), 1986-88; Board Member of the Aliquippa Alliance, 1985-88; Founding member and Advisor to Beaver County Unemployment Committee, 1985-88; Founder and President of the Pontifical College Josephinum United Nations Debate Team, 1982-1984; La Roche College United Nations Team, 1977-1981.

**EDUCATION**

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary - Doctorate in Ministry - Pastoral Counseling Track, 1999. Pontifical College Josephinum - 3.94 QPA overall, 4.0 QPA in Biblical Studies Concentration; Master of Divinity Degree - Master of Theology Degree (Summa Cum Laude), 1981-1985. LTV Steel Corp. (formerly J&L Steel Co.) - Management and Supervision Trainee - 1978-1979. La Roche College - Bachelor in Science - History (4.0); 3.3 QPA overall, Dean's List, 1977-78. Concentration in Administration and Management.

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

Who's Who Among Rising Young Americans, 1991; President of the Beaver County Drug and Alcohol Planning Council, 1987; Parent-Teacher Associations, Beaver County Council Scholarship Honor Roll, 1987; Outstanding Young American, 1987; Best Delegate, Harvard University, 1979, 1983-1984; founder and President of the Pontifical College Josephinum Social Justice Committee, 1984; Best Delegate, Cleveland University, 1983; Outstanding Delegate, Princeton University, 1980; Best Delegate, University of Pennsylvania,

## TEACHING ON PASTORAL CARE

### Certified Allied Addiction Practitioner – 1993 -1999 PA Chemical Abuse Certification Board

1997-2005	Adjunct Professor	Pastoral Care and Counseling – Trinity Episcopal Seminary
1994	Field Instructor	Dept. of Social Work - University of Pittsburgh
1993	Field Instructor	Dept. of Social Work - University of Pittsburgh
1992	Professor	“Addiction and Recovery” - Trinity School for Ministry
1991	Field Instructor	Dept. of Clinical Psychology - the University of Pittsburgh in cooperation with the University of the Philippines
1990	Field Instructor	Department of Social Work - University of Sweden
1989	Field Instructor	Dept. of Rehabilitation Counseling - University of Pittsburgh
1988	Field Instructor	Dept. of Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh

## LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PAPERS

2007	Article	“What the Faith Community Can Learn from the 12 Steps.” Faith Partners Journal Winter 2007
2005	Participant	The Rush Center of the Johnson Institute Summit
2004	Faculty	National Gathering of Religious Leaders to Address Addiction “The Spiritual Discipline of the 12 Steps” Isaac Conference – El Escorial, Spain
2003	Faculty	“The Spirituality of Recovery” New Mexico State Mental Health Conference
2001	Faculty	Pastoral Care and Spirituality Rush Recovery Conference, The Presidio, San Francisco
1999	Faculty	The Christian Origins of the 12 Steps Princeton Seminary, Princeton New Jersey
1996	Faculty	“Spirituality, Mental Illness and Recovery.” National MISA Conference-Medical College of Pennsylvania
1996	Faculty	“Dual Diagnosis with the Forensic Patient” Farview National Forensic Conference
1995	Faculty	“Developing Self-Help Groups” National MISA Conference -Medical College of Pennsylvania
1994	Faculty	“The Dynamics of Dual Recovery” National MISA Conference -Medical College of Pennsylvania
1994	Faculty	“Dual Diagnosis” Tenth Annual Drug and Alcohol Conference of Kentucky
1993	Faculty	“The Recovery Center Concept” MISA Conference - Florida Mental Health Institute
1993	Faculty	“The Recovery Center Concept” National MISA Conference - Medical College of Pennsylvania
1993	Faculty	“Dual Diagnosis” Fifth Annual Mental Health Conference of Kentucky
1993	Presenter	“Developing a Dual Recovery Program” 2nd National Case Management Conference
1993	Editor	ICM Consumer’s Handbook - St. Francis Medical Center
1992	Faculty	“Dual Diagnosis and Intensive Case Management” MISA Conference - Medical College of Pennsylvania
1992	Co-Presenter	“Cocaine and Schizophrenia” - United Mental Health
1990	Article	“The Homeless Project” - The Pennsylvania Addiction Journal



# COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

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PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

PHONE (412) 350-6490 • FAX (412) 350-6499

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September 2, 2008

Dr. William Geisler  
408 Howard Street  
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

Dear Dr. Geisler:

This is to inform you that an Appointment Review Committee Meeting has been scheduled for **4:00 PM, Thursday, September 11, 2008** in Conference Room One, 119 County Courthouse.

Your presence has been requested to discuss your nomination for appointment to the Drug and Alcohol Planning of Allegheny County.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact me at 412-350-6495.

Sincerely,

John Mascio  
Chief Clerk  
Allegheny County Council

JM/fb