



**E·C·G·R·A**  
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT  
FOR  
OCTOBER  
2020**

**Lucas, Helen**

**From:** Fugagli, Tracey  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2020 9:32 AM  
**To:** Lucas, Helen  
**Subject:** FW: FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

Fyi for gaming. When we find out if we have to give ECGRA their 45% then I will give you the backup. Right now I just wanted you to be aware it was coming and to check for it.

**From:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 1:40 PM  
**To:** Dahlkemper, Kathy <kadahlkemper@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Cc:** Lee, Gary <GLee@eriecountypa.gov>; Fugagli, Tracey <TFugagli@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

All, A real nice surprise. Please see below. I do not recall seeing anything about this. Jim

**From:** Heckert, Jennifer L <jeheckert@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

Dear Mr. Sparber:

In accordance with the Gaming Act 42 of 2017 Section § 13B52 (d)(2)(ii), the Department is to determine whether a county licensing a licensed facility received less than the amount the county received during fiscal year 2017-2018 under section 1403 (c) (relating to establishment of State Gaming Fund and net slot revenue distribution). If the department determines that less was received, the department shall calculate the difference. The department shall make distributions from the restricted receipts account to the county but cannot exceed the difference between the current fiscal year and fiscal year 2017-2018. If more than one county is owed funds and there are insufficient funds in the account to pay each county the entire amount of the decrease experienced by that county, each county shall receive funds in proportion of that county's decrease to the total amount of all decreases.

For fiscal year 2019-2020, an ACH payment in the amount of \$1,072,399.92 should be deposited in your bank account. This payment is in proportion of the county's decrease to the total amount of all decreases.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you.

**Jennifer Heckert** | Division Chief  
PA Department of Revenue  
Bureau of Fiscal Management | Gaming Division  
1147 Strawberry Square | Harrisburg PA 17128  
Phone: 717.346.4004 | Fax: 717.787.6738  
E-mail: [jeheckert@pa.gov](mailto:jeheckert@pa.gov)  
[www.revenue.pa.gov](http://www.revenue.pa.gov)

Erie County  
067-021010-042100  
 $\$1,072,399.92 \times .55 = \$589,819.96$

ECGRA  
067-021050-042100  
 $\$1,072,399.92 \times .45 = \$482,579.96$

Commission is to fairly, efficiently and accurately administer the tax laws and other revenue programs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Fugagli, Tracey**

**From:** Heckert, Jennifer L <jeheckert@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 04, 2020 2:05 PM  
**To:** Sparber, James  
**Cc:** Fugagli, Tracey; Dahlkemper, Kathy; Lee, Gary  
**Subject:** RE: FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

The answer is yes. These funds must be used in accordance with Section 1403(c) of the Act.

Sorry I did not get back to you sooner. After the prior distributions were made, we noticed that there was a misallocation of funds. An additional payment of \$6,975.05 should be deposited in your bank account within 5 - 10 business days. For fiscal year 2019-2020, the total distribution from the Interactive gaming tax according to Section 13B52 of Act 42 of 2017 will be \$1,079,374.97.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you.

**Jennifer Heckert** | Division Chief  
PA Department of Revenue  
Bureau of Fiscal Management | Gaming Division  
1147 Strawberry Square | Harrisburg PA 17128  
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County of Erie  
067-021010-043100  
\$6,975.05 x .55 = \$3836.28  
ECGRA  
067-021050-043100  
\$6,975.05 x .45 = \$3138.77

*Our mission is to fairly, efficiently and accurately administer the tax laws and other revenue programs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.*

**From:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 3:11 PM  
**To:** Heckert, Jennifer L <jeheckert@pa.gov>  
**Cc:** Fugagli, Tracey <TFugagli@eriecountypa.gov>; Dahlkemper, Kathy <kadahlkemper@eriecountypa.gov>; Lee, Gary <GLee@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

Jennifer Would you please verify for me that the funds mentioned below are subject to the same disbursement of funds that takes place when we receive our normal quarterly payment. This includes 45% of the funds being forwarded to ECGRA. Jim

**From:** Heckert, Jennifer L <jeheckert@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** FY2019-2020 Act42 LSA Distribution - Erie County

Dear Mr. Sparber:

In accordance with the Gaming Act 42 of 2017 Section § 13B52 (d)(2)(ii), the Department is to determine whether a county hosting a licensed facility received less than the amount the county received during fiscal year 2017-2018 under section 1403 (c) (relating to establishment of State Gaming Fund and net slot revenue distribution). If the department

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION VIA ZOOM  
AGENDA

WELCOME & BACKGROUND Dr. Perry Wood, ECRGA Executive Director

PROGRAM PROFILES

Sarah Sergeant, Erie Bird Observatory  
Tommy Lenox, Erie Police Athletic League  
Jon DeMarco, Presque Isle Partnership

CONVERSATION

ZOOM PARTICIPANTS

COMMUNITY ASSET AWARDS Dr. Perry Wood

MEDIA Q&A

*Sen. Laughlin  
Rep. Muski*

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*Kim Clear  
Cait Anderson*

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*Dan Bagnoni*

WHAT: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION via ZOOM

DATE: Thursday, October 8

TIME: 11 AM

ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/92132404355?pwd=cFFHMzBPNk81RmVsUG9rYU8zM3Vqdz09>

Meeting ID: 921 3240 4355

Passcode: 129761

**BACKGROUND** Arts, culture, and heritage organizations are a smart investment of ECRGA dollars because they enrich the quality of life for all residents. Each of the participating grantees will discuss how they are creating an experience that makes Erie County a great place to visit and call home for people of all ages. This conversation, focused on the rich community programs evolving around Presque Isle State Park, will help the community understand these investments and expand the reach of these exciting organizations.



## ECGRA Invests in the Community Assets across Erie County; Community Conversation Shows Asset Investments Enhance Presque Isle State Park *14 Grants totaling \$152,000 Awarded*

**CONTACT:** Kate Philips  
[philips@parkerphilips.com](mailto:philips@parkerphilips.com)  
215.850.4647 | mobile

**ERIE, PA (October 08, 2020)** As part of a Community Conversation featuring new programs and infrastructure investments at Presque Isle State Park, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) announced more than \$152,000 in their 2020 Community Assets Grant Program today, which will be distributed to 14 arts, culture, and heritage organizations across Erie County.

“Community Assets are the thread between neighborhoods that draw communities closer together and attract new families to Erie County,” said Dr. Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA. “Conversations like today’s help to expose and elevate these community assets, generating new partnerships and helping the community understand how organizations like this help make Presque Isle and Erie a great place to visit and live.”

ECGRA has invested \$2.478 million in the Community Asset Grant Program, supporting capital improvements and programming, which provide social, educational, cultural, health, recreation, and/or economic benefits to residents of Erie County.

“The 14 grants being awarded are part of strategic investments that seek to advance Erie County as a great place to live and work,” said Kim Clear, Erie County Council (District 1). “ECGRA is an integral part of Erie County’s effort to help sustain our communities and attract new families and businesses.”

The Presque Isle Partnership was a recipient in the 2020 round of grants. For more than 26 years, the partnership has been working to enhance visitors' experience by developing, funding and implementing projects and programs on the Park, while protecting the natural environment.

“The Presque Isle Lights Project offers the community access to all the park has to offer in the hours following each breathtaking weekend sunset in December,” said Jon DeMarco, Executive Director, Presque Isle Partnership. “ECGRA’s Community Asset grants strategically invest in natural assets that help attract more visitors to Erie and make it a great place to call home.”

Erie Police Athletic League (PAL) Director Tommy Lenox talked about an exciting new program aimed at exposing inner city youth to the sport of fishing. ECGRA has invested in Erie PAL since 2016 when the Erie division made its return to the region. Erie PAL has been working to cultivate the cop-kid relationship in Erie, and the growing program is supported by City of Erie Police officers and Erie County Sheriffs who spend time interacting with, coaching, mentoring, and teaching students after school.

“ECGRA’s investment in Erie PAL makes this program possible,” said Lenox. “Programs like the DCNR fishing program open up the cop-kid relationship in Erie County beyond the neighborhood and expand opportunities for kids who may not otherwise experience sports like fishing or the natural beauty of Presque Isle State Park.

“We want kids to know that they can count on us and trust us, and we want to support their development in a meaningful way.”

Also joining the Community Conversation was Sarah Sargent, Executive Director of the Erie Bird Observatory (EBO). Since 2018, the EBO has been dedicated to helping foster enthusiasm for birds and conservation in Northwest PA.

“This funding enables us to continue our bird monitoring at Presque Isle and offer a better birding experience for visitors near and far,” said Sargent. “Our team is excited about the possibility of creating new bird watching opportunities for community members who may not otherwise be exposed to avian life along the shoreline of Lake Erie. Investing in this program supports ongoing conservation efforts and will allow us to plan ways to enhance Presque Isle and surrounding Erie County as a major birding destination in the Great Lakes.”

Below is a breakdown of the Community Asset Grants that were announced at today’s event:

Organization	Project	Amount Awarded
Albion Area Fair	Arts/Crafts/Antique Building Roof	\$9,375.00
AmeriMasala	AmeriMasala Bridge Building Series	\$12,000.00
Erie Bird Observatory	Building a Better Birding Experience in Erie County	\$10,000.00
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	The Nutcracker: The Kingdom of Sweets	\$7,700.00

Erie PAL	Unlocking the Power of the COP-KID Relationship	\$15,000.00
Erie Yesterday	A Collaborative Application of Six Heritage Organizations	\$15,000.00
Impact Corry	Doubling Down on the Arts in Corry: Investing in What is Working	\$14,000.00
Performing Artists Collective Alliance	PACA Arts Business and Education Incubator	\$14,000.00
Presque Isle Partnership	Presque Isle Lights	\$15,000.00
The Goodell Project	Mobile Irrigation Station and Garden Maintenance Cart	\$7,901.49
Waterford Community Fair Association	Agricultural Heritage Projects	\$2,750.00
Wesleyville Area Museum of Armed Forces Small Boats	Security Enhancements for Relocated WAM Museum	\$3,837.50
WQLN Public Media	Erie Eats Video Series	\$12,000.00
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	YADO's 16th Season, Comprising the New COVID19 Prelude Strings Program	\$14,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$152,563.99</b>

####

14 nonprofits

152,563 in awards

Arts, Culture, Entertainment, Heritage & Recreation

## NEWS

# Community Assets Grants to fund fishing, birding and other Presque Isle projects

By Times-News staff

Published 3:03 p.m. ET Oct. 8, 2020 | Updated 7:49 p.m. ET Oct. 8, 2020

Programs and projects at Presque Isle State Park will benefit from Community Assets Grants awarded by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority on Thursday.

ECGRA gave more than \$152,000 to 14 arts, culture and heritage organizations.

Presque Isle Partnership was awarded \$15,000 for its Presque Isle Lights Project.

"The Presque Isle Lights Project offers the community access to all the park has to offer in the hours following each breathtaking weekend sunset in December," said Jon DeMarco, executive director of Presque Isle Partnership.

A \$15,000 grant to the Erie Police Athletic League will help introduce city kids to fishing at Presque Isle.

"Programs like the (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) fishing program open up the cop-kid relationship in Erie County beyond the neighborhood and expand opportunities for kids who may not otherwise experience sports like fishing or the natural beauty of Presque Isle State Park," said P.A.L. Director Tommy Lenox.

The Erie Bird Observatory was awarded \$10,000.

"Investing in this program supports ongoing conservation efforts and will allow us to plan ways to enhance Presque Isle and surrounding Erie County as a major birding destination in the Great Lakes," said observatory Executive Director Sarah Sargent.

Other Community Assets Grants were awarded to:

- Albion Area Fair, \$9,375 for Arts/Crafts/Antique Building roof;
- AmeriMasala, \$12,000 for AmeriMasala Bridge Building Series;
- Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre, \$7,700 for "The Nutcracker: The Kingdom of Sweets";



- Erie Yesterday, \$15,000;
- Impact Corry, \$14,000, for "Doubling Down on the Arts in Corry: Investing in What is Working";
- Performing Artists Collective Alliance, \$14,000, for PACA Arts Business and Education Incubator;
- The Goodell Project, \$7,901, for a mobile irrigation station and maintenance cart;
- Waterford Community Fair Association, \$2,750, for agricultural heritage;
- Wesleyville Area Museum of Armed Forces Small Boats, \$3,838, for security;
- WQLN Public Media, \$12,000, for "Erie Eats";
- Young Artists Debut Orchestra, \$14,000, for its 16th season.