



July 1, 2013

It is with great pleasure that I announce the merger of The PEAK Center in Lansdale and Encore Experiences at Harleysville. Both organizations have the same ultimate mission of providing programs and services that help older adults remain active and independent. The boards of the two organizations, chaired by Sheri Strouse at The PEAK Center, and Andrew Santana at Encore Experiences, authorized the merger at their respective meetings held in June 2013. The merger will be effective on July 1, 2013.

We are very excited to create a shared vision for a new senior center management model to better serve older adults throughout the greater North Penn and Harleysville Communities of Montgomery County, PA. Our mutual goal is to provide high quality and efficient integrated senior services to the communities we serve. The new organization is expected to provide greater opportunities for senior center programming to meet the increasing demand.

The senior services arena is constantly changing and the influx of the "Boomer" generation will continue to change the face and purpose of organizations serving seniors for many years to come. To that end, the newly-merged entity will be proactive in researching and providing a full range of programs and services to create positive experiences and outcomes for the people we serve. At this time it is our intention to be one merged management entity while maintaining two locations, one in Harleysville, and the other in Lansdale.

This merger is the final step in a process that began in April of 2012 with a memorandum of understanding agreement between the two boards for shared executive director services.

I am honored and privileged to be the first Executive Director of the new merged organization. It is with great pleasure that I announce the Assistant Director position at Encore Experiences will remain under the caring and careful watch of Kathleen Pagni and the Assistant Director position at The PEAK Center will be filled by Jennifer Metzger. Together, we will aspire to create a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve by providing social service coordination, a meal program, health and wellness programs, life-long learning, and volunteer opportunities.

We are excited about the future and the promise that this new partnership will bring to our communities and organizations.

*Robin Burstein*

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Executive Director

## Questions and Answers:

### Merger of The PEAK Center and Encore Experiences

1. What is being announced?

The boards of directors of The PEAK Center and Encore Experiences are announcing official merger between The PEAK Center and Encore Experiences will take place as of July 1, 2013

2. Why is this happening now?

The due diligence conversations have been ongoing since the Spring of 2012. It was decided a July 1 merger date would be best to accommodate the closing of the fiscal year books for each organization on June 30.

3. What will happen to the current facilities and locations?

The boards remain committed to maintaining two facilities. One, DBA The PEAK Center will remain serving the Greater Lansdale/North Penn area and the other, DBA Encore Experiences will remain serving the Greater Harleysville area. The PEAK Center has recently moved to a temporary location at the Advance Living Communities Campus known as Schwenckfeld Manor and will remain there until the construction of the collaborative human services center project to be known as North Penn Commons on the property adjacent to the North Penn YMCA. North Penn Commons is anticipated to open in the Spring of 2015. Encore Experiences will remain at its current location of 312 Alumni Avenue in Harleysville.

4. What is expected to change at each organization?

The organizations management will become more streamlined, allowing us to operate more efficiently and effectively. To the community we will offer a variety of consistently high level quality programing.

5. What will be the new organizations name?

The new organization will be named "Greater Harleysville and North Penn Senior Services". The new organization will retain two DBA's: The PEAK Center and Encore Experiences to maintain a consistent face to the community and the people we serve.

6. How will the community benefit?

Together we will find efficiencies that will allow us to save on back end, management expenses and use the funds we receive to provide a consistently high level quality programing.

7. What changes can employees expect?

Encore Experiences will ultimately be the "surviving entity". It is Encore Experiences 501(c)3 and tax ID number that will remain, employees of Encore Experiences will have minimal change. The new organization will have some duplication of employees for programing at each site allowing for a richer conversation and better programing to emerge. The PEAK Center

employees will be rehired under the new organization for ultimately the same positions as prior to the merger. In addition PEAK Center employees will maintain their level of seniority in the new organization.

8. What will happen to the boards of directors of each organization?

The boards will merge together into one. There have been several members of the board of The PEAK Center who have expressed an interest in remaining on the new board. All Encore Experiences board members will remain on the board.

**For more information on The PEAK Center or Encore Experiences, visit our websites at:**

[www.PEAKCenter.org](http://www.PEAKCenter.org)

[www.EncoreExperiences.org](http://www.EncoreExperiences.org)