



# ***Borough of Chambersburg***

*A full service municipality in Franklin County  
celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service  
over 125 years of community electric and a  
regional wastewater, water, and municipal solid waste utility*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CHAMBERSBURG HIRES FIRST-EVER DIVERSITY, OUTREACH & EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES (DOER) MANAGER FOR BOROUGH GOVERNMENT**

Chambersburg – On Monday, May 6, 2019, the Chambersburg Town Council welcomed Jade Dunhour of Greencastle, Pennsylvania, as the Borough’s first-ever Diversity, Outreach, and Employment Resources Programs Manager to help the Borough of Chambersburg meet three important goals:

- Recruit and retain highly talented young people to become the workforce of the future;
- Engage citizens throughout the community to explain the role, purpose, and mission of Borough government;
- Develop and implement programs for community outreach, social interaction, community engagement, and communication, in order to grow the Next Generation of Chambersburg community leaders.

Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania’s only municipality supplying electric and gas. Chambersburg is one of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate multiple generation stations. Chambersburg is one of two municipalities in Pennsylvania to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is one of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and one of 800 communities to have a natural gas system, but only one of only approximately 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater. Chambersburg has a successful Borough Police Department, a combination Fire Department, which performs fire prevention, fire code enforcement, and emergency medical services. Chambersburg operates a Land Use and Community Development Department; and, last year, Chambersburg opened an extremely successful Aquatic Center, also run as an enterprise. With so many departments and functions, the Borough has a high demand for extremely talented individuals for functions like electric workers, wastewater treatment workers, plumbers, construction, engineering, digital mapping, information technology, and more. The DOER will add a new component to the staff, helping insure both a qualified workforce and outreach and communications to the community.

Jade Dunhour has a Masters in Teaching English as a Foreign Language, a Bachelors in Spanish Linguistics, and has worked in Chambersburg as an interpreter, youth coach, volunteer, and Spanish teacher. According to Jade, “Whether teaching, coaching, interpreting, or volunteering on local boards, I have always had a heart to help my community. I enjoy collaborating with diverse groups of people in an environment that encourages individuals to take intellectual and creative risks. My goal is to ignite a spark of passion for our community, especially within our youth, so that young leaders are nurtured and developed with the assistance of supportive and experienced role models from the Borough.”

The DOER position was discussed for many years, but was only created as a part of the 2019 Budget adopted by Town Council in December 2018. Under the supervision of the Borough Manager, the DOER is a part of the Personnel and Payroll Office of the Administrative Services Department. A committee was appointed to recruit the DOER and the Borough received 39 applications for the position. After several interviews and tests, Jade Dunhour was the unanimous recommendation of the search committee. According to the Borough Manager, “Jade was an outstanding candidate and the perfect mix of passion for the community and young people. Her knowledge and experience will aid us significantly in developing this new program area over the next few years.

Council Member Allen Coffman, who sat on the search committee, said it was “great news that Jade was joining the Borough team.”

Jeffrey Stonehill pointed out “Training that next generation to become the future workforce of the Borough is our goal.” Mr. Stonehill went on to point out that “it is not a strategy to merely hope that there will be skilled and ready workers to take over the reins of this Borough in the future; we need to be proactive as an organization.”

More information can be obtained by contacting Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager, at [jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov](mailto:jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov).

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# Jade Dunhour

## *Biography*

Whether teaching high school Spanish, planning community events, or coaching volleyball, Jade Dunhour’s passion has been to help others cultivate intrinsic motivation and become life-long learners. Jade believes that education and information breeds tolerance and understanding; which are qualities that build a strong foundation for a diverse community and workforce. To that end, Jade’s goal is to build and maintain a safe environment for people of all backgrounds and interests.

Previously Jade had the opportunity to be the International Director of community development and youth leadership in Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. Her team designed programs for U.S. high school students to learn about sustainable development and refine their leadership soft skills that are transferable to all disciplines. Currently, Jade volunteers with the Chambersburg Trojans’ boys’ and girls’ volleyball teams, which has allowed her to remain connected and tuned in to our youth’s needs. Regardless of where she goes, Jade enjoys collaborating with local youth to help them achieve their vision of a great society by taking creative and intellectual risks to explore and develop their own passions. Those passions are contagious and essential to building our community!

In addition to working with youth both abroad and at home, Jade has significant experience training working adults. While completing her Master’s Program at the University of Costa Rica, Jade developed an English course for Civil Engineers and Technicians at the country’s leading engineering lab, by conducting a thorough needs analysis and creating classroom trainings that revolved around authentic materials. Jade also designed and taught workshops on material development to English professors at local colleges and high schools in Costa Rica. More recently in Chambersburg, Jade has been working directly with many of the local Hispanic families as a Family Advocate for Franklin County Head Start (now First Start Partnerships for Children & Families) and as an interpreter with BOPIC, which serves as the Borough’s Elm Street Program partner. Through these most recent experiences, Jade has witnessed community members on both sides of the language barrier make language and cultural efforts to communicate, collaborate, and cooperate in a positive manner. Jade has great hope that the Borough organization can further perform outreach and communication with all peoples and all populations in order to embrace the growing diversity of our community.

Appointed in April 2019 as the first-ever Chambersburg Diversity, Outreach, and Employment Resources Programs Manager, Jade Dunhour looks forward to the opportunity of developing and implementing innovative programs to inspire future community leaders and the Borough workforce of the future.