

## Carbon County Collaborative Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2020

This meeting was held via Zoom

Attendance: Wayne Nothstein (Co-Chair); Sue Zeigler (Co-Chair, Carbon County Agency on Aging) Jen Pantella (Vice Chair, Community Member/St. Peters), Cindy Lynd (Treasurer/AHEC), Jill Geissinger (Secretary/Children and Youth Services); Carolee Boyer (CMP Drug and Alcohol), Garry Wentz (Community Development), Donna Trimmel (BHA), Sharon Alexander (Carbon County Foundation), Becky McFadden (Weatherly Area School District), Tammi Burke and Amanda Kroening (Domestic Violence Service Center); Krista Brownly (Family Promise), Evalynn Kuehner (Right From the Start/SHINE); Sharon Alexander (Carbon County Foundation), Kerri Miller (Leighton School District), Natalie Boyko (LCCC), Alicia Kline (Turn to Us), John Card and Ashley Highland (CMP MHDS), Tiffany Bryant, SDHO, Barbara (Self Determination Housing Development); Michele Scribbick and Eric Ziegmont (Commuter Services), Heather Mullen (United Way), Tracy Fox (Highway Safety Network), Mindy Graver (Penn State Extension), Kim Whitney (Pathstone); Julie Mann (LINK), Kira Kuehner (LCCC), Heidi Mercado (Catholic Charities), Rose Marie Lister (St. Luke's), Iris Delgado (Amerihealth Caritas); Unknown, (Panther Valley)

9:02 AM Meeting called to order by Wayne Nothstein. It was decided to dispose of the pledge of allegiance in the interest of time.

Minutes from last meeting were sent by email. There was no motion to accept the minutes and this was tabled.

Treasurer's report by Cindy Lynd. Nothing new in or out of the account. All checks received for canceled breakfast and sponsorship were returned. Carolee Boyer made a motion to accept the report and second by Garry Wentz. None opposed. Report attached.

Old business:

Annual Human Services Breakfast was canceled for April 2020. Discussion lead by Wayne Nothstein about holding off on the breakfast or scheduling it later in the year. Large gatherings are on hold as of now. Motion to schedule for the last Friday of April 2021 for the next breakfast was made by Donna Trimmel and second by Tracy Fox. None opposed. Cindy Lynd will book the date at Whispering Pines Banquet Hall for 2021. Topic may change for next year based on the pandemic. No breakfast meeting is planned.

By-Laws Committee discussion lead by Jen Pantella. They are approved and the changes will be made and send out. Adjustments will lead to strategic planning committee planning.

State of the Child and Family Committee: report being drafted by Kira Kuehner of LCCC with the help of Amber Breiner. Draft of the 20-21 report may be ready by the end of the month. No questions or concerns raised.

Strategic planning Committee has been on hold since the last meeting. Meeting will pick up after the state of child and family report completed.

Commissioner's report: COVID 19 has possibly led to the increase of suicides and EMT and police responses. Overdoses are up and there are serious effects from shut down. Technology has changed and been upgraded for the county to keep up.

County may move from red to yellow, 13 deaths and 9 in nursing homes. Governor's office will be notified of this request made by Commissioners, PA Senator Yurdichak's Office and other officials who partook in drafting the letter. The governor has threatened to take business licenses away and liquor licenses away if the move is made without approval. Tuesday at 9:00 AM there is an Opioid Task Force call with John Nesfoli. Commissioner Nothstein will add CMP D&A, Aging, CYS and Mindy Graver to the invitation.

New business: Next meeting will be a Zoom call on July 8, 2020 at 9:00 AM. Zoom Information to follow.

Weatherly School District- Minimal staff at school. Still have to wait and see for what occurs in the fall, we are providing info to families such as food distribution and mental health services.

Highway safety network- We are working from home, writing newsletters and articles. May is motorcycle and bicycle month and National Police Officer month, please thank a police officer. Notes shared in chat: If anyone is looking for bike safety information, I have activity sheets I can email out. Email me at [tfox@hsnetwork.org](mailto:tfox@hsnetwork.org).

Careerlink- internship opportunities available on the website.

Carbon County Drug and Alcohol – Currently there is low amount of staff in the building. We are phasing people back in. Our outpatient staff is doing counseling by phone. Assessments are being completed from home. Census has dropped a bit. Last week there was an increase in overdose deaths. People are reaching out for help.

Carbon County Foundation. Sharon Alexander is new director. I am learning everything and enjoying the interactions! Please reach out to me at [[director@cccfoundpa.org](mailto:director@cccfoundpa.org)]

United Way -AmeriCorps program has board approval this week. We are still looking for members. I will forward link to our website on this. Our living stipends seem low, but it is about \$10 an hour, and the education award and benefits are great. Chat notes: From Heather Mullen UWGLV CarbonCorps to Everyone: 09:40 AM the link for the positions opening in Carbon County can be found here:

<https://unitedwayglv.gethired.com>

Full-Time with benefits is here: <https://easyapply.co/m/apply/8ac87f3d-5dd0-40a0-92a4-466378962879>

The positions may go remote dependent on the schools reopening.

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eh2bu5q0d6632295&llr=qrj5g9cab>

COVID-19 Nonprofit Preparedness Community Conversation - This weekly virtual conversation allows members of our Greater Lehigh Valley nonprofit community to share ideas and resources and

coordinate efforts to best serve our residents in response to Coronavirus Disease 2019, also known as COVID-19. Please join the conversation Mondays at 4 p.m.

Penn State Extension- essential and working from home due to the agriculture, vamping up our website and dumping food and animals, labor at the processing plants, really good articles on the website. We were sad to cancel to community safety day, May 1 2021 for Safety Day. Notes from chat: Penn State web is <https://extension.psu.edu> for great articles on food supply and food safety. Thanks Mindy

AHEC- Zoom meetings occurring, community health care worker sessions cannot occur now.

Headstart- Pathstone is doing remote learning, Pre-K for the next 2 weeks; enrollment is on hold as we are working from home. Call the office to leave a message for enrollment.

Community Outreach Specialists for Commuter Services of PA- We are working at home, offers teleworking free resources, please note that rewards still being giving out for teleworking! Notes shared in chat: Michele Scribbick and Eric Ziegmont, Community Outreach Specialists for Commuter Services of PA, non-profit program that offers FREE transportation resources for all green commutes: walking, biking, transit, carpooling/vanpooling, teleworking/telecommuting! Contact us with any questions or for more information: [michele.scribbick@aecom.com](mailto:michele.scribbick@aecom.com) and [eric.ziegmont@aecom.com](mailto:eric.ziegmont@aecom.com) and/or check out our website: [www.PaCommuterServices.org](http://www.PaCommuterServices.org). We want to help our communities move forward!!!! Thank you!!!!!!!! 09:44 AM Just a reminder from Commuter Services of PA...you can get rewarded for what you are already doing...download our free app: CommutePA, create a profile and record your teleworking days or any green commutes to earn points to redeem in our Rewards Program for coupons for dining (for take-out), shopping (online), entertainment, etc. Thank you!!!!!!!! If anyone who is now working from home needs to compose a teleworking policy; we have FREE sample policies that could assist you. Just email us for information. ([eric.ziegmont@aecom.com](mailto:eric.ziegmont@aecom.com) or [michele.scribbick@aecom.com](mailto:michele.scribbick@aecom.com))

Community Amerihealth Caritas- We are working from home, contacting our members on a daily basis and working with school to focus on medical needs. Mental health concerns during this time, we have resources for everyone who is a member of our community. We can provide the closest place to assist our members. People may need someone to talk to. We are working on a community Garden for June.

Children and Youth- we have 77 children in care. We are seeking foster homes for children in need.

Mental Health and Developmental Services- We are working from home and having telephone contact we community. We are open for TCM and case management also by phone. We are open for referrals, which can be virtual sessions and phone calls.

BHA- children are attending schools through the phone/video. Partial groups meeting 3-4 times a week, outpatient is occurring through computer and telephones.

Right from the Start: We are engaged in Zoom visits with the parents and the parent educators for weekly visits. SHINE all of programs are at home but supports families 12 hours a week through Zoom or

Google classroom. We have really good attendance. Enrollment for Right From the Start Referrals can be sent to [ekuehner@jtasd.org](mailto:ekuehner@jtasd.org). We can take referrals of prenatal to kindergarten entry in Carbon County.

St. Luke's – St Luke's Lehighon Campus meeting needs assessment and providing access to mental health and abuse prevention and collaboration. email added 12:30 PM

Aging- We are monitoring our nursing homes and personal care homes. We are offering smart phones to talk to their family members. We have phone contact with consumers to reassure them and to check on that they have basic care and needs. We are operating on minimal staff and remote staff. No one wants their care on hold. Our adult day care is closed. Senior centers are still closed.

Tammi Burke Victim's Resource Center- hotline is running but we are training for responding to Human trafficking, mandated reporting, Notes from the chat: [tburke@vrcnepa.org](mailto:tburke@vrcnepa.org) 610-379-0151 Services to victims of crime, Trainings are available for agencies, programs to agency clients, educational programs for school age children

Family Promise- We are open and screening families. We have one family in shelter. Social distancing is difficult with transportation. The day center is open. Our purchase in Nesquehoning is still not open, but we are hoping soon. Staff is back to work.

LINK- We are teleworking. We are offering 2 webinars in June. We have hoarding presentations by Linda Shoemaker and suicide anxiety and depressions in older adults and those in need. These are free, 2.5 hours of training for licensure. Email me for info. Mental illness in this climate is on the rise. We received a 3 million dollar grant to cover things for the COVID outbreak. We are offering counseling and working with technical assistance. We are working with community to get PPE to nursing homes. For our next meeting date or questions, contact me at [Ccaging14@ptd.net](mailto:Ccaging14@ptd.net)

Catholic Charities from Allentown- We offer case management and housing assistance. We are working during this time.

Jen Pantella- if anyone has any stats available on how COVID 19 has affected your agency please send it to me at [jenpantella@gmail.com](mailto:jenpantella@gmail.com). St. Peter's church is expanding from Lehighon into Jim Thorpe. We are still trying to tackle the homeless issues, they really have nowhere to go. We are looking for partner organizations contracted for overnight facility. Please reach out to me if you can help.

Domestic Violence Service Center- We are still sheltering victims of abuse. Court is 2 days a week in Carbon, conferences and counseling available by phone. Notes from chat: [akroening@dvsclc.org](mailto:akroening@dvsclc.org) Domestic Violence Service Center. Available for trainings via conference call, hotline is open 570-823-7312 24/7 as well as counseling, still accompanying and assisting with PFA's for the county, and we are still accepting into shelter those in need.

Kerri Miller- Lehighon School District- will pass on resources and grant opportunity

Turn to Us- Facebook groups delivered to our families to those who are in need an Easter delivery. Our community garden is planting soon. Oncology program in Lehighon starting. Sensory Gym opening soon. We are still receiving equipment.

Notes on Zoom Chat:

From SDHP - Barbara Huggins to Everyone: 09:37 AM

I sent Jill some webinars from Self Determination Housing of PA! (emailed out to collaborative 5/14/15)