

Collaborative Board Minutes 9.9.20

Attendance 36

The meeting called order 9:02 AM.

All were welcomed by Commissioner Nothstein. We hope to be in person soon but expect to meet by Zoom in November.

Approval of the minutes from June 13th meeting by Zoom. Does anyone oppose or abstain? No. The minutes were passed.

Treasurer report was presented by the Treasurer. There was no change to the account balance which remains at \$2499.64.

No speakers presented.

Old Business:

Human Service Priorities breakfast Committee: We plan to sit down next month for a review and to discuss a topic for 2021. If you want to join the group please let Executive Board know.

State of the Child and Family Committee: Kira reported that she got feedback about proof reading. This can be all fixed quickly. A final copy can be sent to the secretary to distribution at the end of the week. Motion made to accept the state of the child and family report with corrections by Carolee Boyer, second by Evelyn Kuehler. The next plan is due in 2 years. All members and Kira Kuehler and Amber Breiner were thanked for their time and effort.

Strategic Planning Committee: no report

Transportation Committee: We held a meeting on 8/14/20. Minutes posted in chat. Just to note that commuter services, Michele and Eric are no longer able to represent our area due to low enrollment. The program is still up and running. Survey presented by the transportation committee also posted in the chat. Please ask your staff to help us get the survey out into the community. This is due back on November 20th for data review. Please see the links in the chat. September 30 for the next meeting 1:30 PM by Zoom. But your email in the chat to join our committee.

By-Laws committee: nothing new to report.

Nominations Committee: Secretary position open for next year. We are asking for volunteers please. Committee will reach out to members as needed. Committee needs an updated roster for the organization.

Commissioner report: CARES funding still available. Grants were given out during the COVID virus due to a loss of income during this pandemic. Still working on approving and granting funding. Information on second grant round available in October.

Gabbrell James from self determination Housing- we work with prep training in housing, help tenants and those moving and those facing eviction. I am reaching out the churches across the state, to get ready for the housing/rent moratorium ending. There could be a run for housing. gjames@sdhp.org

Kerri Miller from Lehigh School District. Today is the second day in school. This is new to us all. Things are going smooth and kids are adjusting well.

Rebekah from Weatherly School District. We are all virtual. Our teachers are in the school. The children are resilient.

AHEC-Current programs are Community health worker, medical secretary program, LCCC info session, diabetes prevention program. Ms. Schaffer is delivering the trainings online. Please visit our website for more info and see post in Chat.

MHDS- Systems of Care is working to promote and post suicide prevention signs. Aired on TV. Grant approved to fund Systems of Care. Trying to create a drop in center for youth 14-22, build supports and fill in the gaps in services.

LINK- There is a lot going on. We scheduled with all the carbon Senior centers partnering with DVSC regarding senior bullying sessions, for a new take on things. We also talk about mask wearing. We are working on a grant for 3.5 million to help with technology support. The aging community in general do not have laptops, iPads. This will support ordering 300 of these items to loan out to seniors. Also, working to educate about social isolation and providing grocery delivery. George Dillman from banking and securities will present a virtual web meeting on September 23 talking about how to make good passwords and not getting involved in scams. This will focus on our security.

Children and Youth has 90 children in placement, we are seeing serious cases relating to concerns with mental health and drug and alcohol use by parents. We are building our team and still seeking local foster parents.

Careerlink- offering employer services and virtual job fairs and workshops. Call us if you need training, are employers that are hiring. We are helping with unemployment claims. I will offer info in the chat.

Pocono Counties Workforce Development - appointments only. I am working with community resources through the task force for re-entry committee. This can be a topic for speaking at next meeting.

Office of Aging is chaotic as there has been an increase in protective services reports and exploitation. We are seeking 2 protective services workers. We are having a Medicare workshop October 15 and December 7. The SHARE program is an affordable housing program which was placed on hold. We hope to start implementation soon.

St. Luke's- Kerry Quick is the community coordinator resource for all school districts, and participates in wellness committees for all districts. She was working on a Vaping presentation that she can present to schools. With Step up Panthers on social media, they promote positive messages. Also Mental health Mondays help with posts of mental health tips on Twitter. Some Students can connect through virtual platform. Shout out to AHEC and that their programs benefited me!

Turn to Us- We assist families who are impacted by disability, illness such as cancer. We have meal boxes for families in need. Autism Sensory Gym available. There was a reduction in demand as families were prepared for trying times, but we are here and appreciate all support.

Penn State Extension- master gardeners are present on Tuesday and Thursday. Penn State employees working remotely. Students are back at the university.

Highway Safety Network-Articles for newsletters and coloring pages were given out. Thanks to those who reached out! Bike helmet distribution at CareNet and Lehighon Pool through a safety survey was a success. Click it or ticket and car seat safety starting on September 13 thru September 26th. Kids Zone Car Seat check will be held on Friday September 25th, 10am-2pm at Lehighon Police Station. 20 minutes check. This is free and this can find seats that are re-called or unsafe. CareNet car seat education class will be held via Zoom. Will be held Monday 10/5 at 10:00 AM. Register through CareNet. Check us out on social media, links are on Carbon County website.

Right From the Start- report attached, 95% retention rate with families. Funding through United Way. Summer bags for kindergarten supplies given out. We hosted virtual field trips with the parents and children to see Zoos and Museums. We served 21 families, 30 children in past year. Our phone number changed and board secretary will send out a lead sheet to the group.

Denise Corcoran- Anthracite Region Center for Independent Living is working on Housing Assistance, We are expecting evictions in October. Seeking emergency housing to get ahead of this. Currently we are out getting people to vote, by requesting ballots and working with youth turning 18. Call me at (Cell) 570-436-3637 or office 570-455-9800 1003

Independent Living services- we are seeing an increase in need. Seniors do not want to stay in the hospital and nor go to nursing home. Working on waivers and in home care. We are hiring for caregivers.

Domestic Violence- Our emergency shelter and hotline are available. We are doing in person counseling in office, October is Domestic violence awareness month, reach out if you are interested in having your staff trained on effects of domestic violence. PFAs are going up. 570-823-7312

MHDS- is providing CASSP services, systems of care, and we are open for case management. Still mostly working from home. QPR suicide prevention training flyer posted in the chat. (attached)

Family Promise- Cycling out Homelessness in the park (flyer) posted in chat (attached). We have one family will us. We have a wait list. Day center is open and one driver is working. Getting our property is taking awhile, but we are hopeful things will be settled soon.

SHINE – Jen C- There were 608 students served through May 2020, using online mediums like Google classroom. Summer months had 262 participants. 3 STEM distribution bags were given out. October 5 we hope to be open for centers in schools that are face to face offering a hybrid or virtual. Meals are provided to children during this time.

Tom Miller from Catholic Charities – We are working on CARES Applications. Carbon paid out \$50,000 in back rent and were are receiving Application's daily. Anticipated crisis is upon us when eviction moratorium goes away. In Lehigh, 169 evictions were filed in August when it started. Unknown number in Carbon.

Doyle Heffley's Office- We are open by appointment and taking walk ins. Still working with unemployment claims This got harder as we could send emails on behalf our constituents. Now we can only send a spreadsheet. Senior Fest has to be canceled this year. Hoping for 2021 to be able to host this event. Carbon County Harvest Festival in October we will participate in.

Drug & Alcohol- We are doing telehealth or by telephone sessions. We see an increase in numbers seeking treatment and are offering suboxone program which is rebuilding. 2 counselors left and we are currently working with new staff hired. Working on a November Narcan distribution. We went to Children and Youth and spoke to their staff about Narcan.

BHA- all schools open, medical office is open. Virtual visits are happening as well. Reach out as needed.

Dept. of Health- We are very busy. Our office is closed. We have immunizations for children that need them, call for an appointment. We had a small spike in cases in Carbon but things are stable.

LLCC- no updates.

Secretary read updates from those absent or not able to share:

PathStone Carbon County Head Start- Our center opened on Sept. 2nd. We currently are doing both limited center based and remote. Our center is currently full, we do have some remote spots still open. We are always enrolling throughout the year. Since both BHA and the CCIU is no longer providing TSS services, we are in need of resources for mental health and TSS services for children. If anyone has any that they would like to share it will be greatly appreciated.

St.Peter's Parish- SPCRC is still holding the bare necessities & food pantry monthly and currently fundraising for a new roof to expand services for future programs.

Next meeting the 2nd Wednesday in November.

Meeting adjourned 10:16 AM.