

Carbon Collaborative Minutes

May 8, 9-10 AM

In Person or Microsoft Teams meeting

Carbon County EMA/911 Office, 1294 Emergency Lane, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

[Click here to join the meeting](#) Meeting ID: 276 901 481 825 Passcode: 6iMxfo

1. Welcome
2. Approval of March 13, [2024 minutes](#) : Julie Mann, Larissa Kimmel
3. Treasurer Report: Cindy Lynd (AHEC): \$3,115.64, Theresa Hall, Carol Etheridge
4. Speaker: no speaker this month to allow more time for networking and collaboration
5. Old Business:
 - a. **13th Annual Human Services Breakfast, April 19, 2024:** Homelessness; Homeless not Helpless, Finding Your Way Home, 100 registered, 97 attended, process improvement for next year, pre- speaker education/instructions on how to use the microphone and why it is important, sensitivity of the topics
 - b. **Carbon County Community Forum, April 24, 2024:** Collaborating for Our Community's Healthy Future; spotlighted organizations and projects in the county. Round table discussion and notes:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d80deKEuNaw886sGSLHs4qYHcdRZ1TNS?usp=sharing>
 - c. **Carbon County Community Foundation:** Sharon Alexander
 - i. PPL empowering communities applications due June 15,
<https://www.pplweb.com/communities/ppl-foundation/pa-grants/>
 - ii. Appalachian workshops <https://www.arc.gov/event/exploring-funding-opportunities-with-arc/>
 - iii. Volunteers: The Society of Volunteer Administrators (SVA) invites you to attend a free mini-conference designed to provide valuable insights and networking opportunities for those involved in volunteer management while learning about embracing volunteer diversity! Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley, 944 Marcon Blvd, Allentown, PA 18109, Reserve by emailing takyra.batz@cedarcrest.edu
 - d. [Grandparents Raising Grandchildren supports](#) Wednesday's at 9:30, BHA, office on Area Agency on Aging reimbursement program to reimburse grandparents for seasonal clothes and supplies by calling 610-824-7820
 - e. Subcommittees
 - i. **Homeless Task Force:** Commissioner Nothstein: meeting on May 10 to further discuss plans and committee updates; Cathy Lamm and Tina Clymer shared case management connections for the homeless; Jamie Drake from D&A will speak, meeting link: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MjQ5YmE0OTktYzUyZC00Mjg1LWE3ZWYtMDJkM2E3ODQ1N2Zm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2292138299-22d0-4d49-8d30-7170d5896d98%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a98404a9-4fbc-4b04-8112-51b2d99dd5a8%22%7d anyone interested in Homeless Task Force email me at director@familypromisecarboncounty.org for more info
 - ii. **Transportation:** Larissa Kimmel will discuss the ride along and ambassador feedback at the transportation meeting today, Ambassador meetings will have different topics, please reach out to Larissa with any questions

- iii. **Kids Zone:** Jill Geissingering on behalf of Mindy Graver and Kidszone: Attached flyer for FREE Car Seat Check, please post where you can for May 20th at Lehighton Ambulance from 10- 2 CYS
- iv. **Early childcare education:** status of existing services and how we can further connect families in Carbon, Children and Youth: We have 83 children in care. We have 11 Casework staff out of possible 17. We received over 650 reports of neglect and abuse so far this year, which is up from last year by 4%. We continue to contract out for ongoing services, foster care and fiscal services. We still need Advisory board Members to assist with community relations. Contact Audrey at 570-325-3644 x5220 if interested, Kerri Quick shared how the Family Development Specialist at PVSD is working with families to connect to services
- v. **Literacy:** [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#), [Reach Out and Read/Brush, Book, Bed](#), [Talk-Read-Sing](#), Ready4K, [Palmerton Library Baby and Me](#)

6. New Business:

- a. 2025 Annual Human Services Breakfast: April 4, 2025
- b. **Food access partners:** *Second Harvest is asking us for recommendations on how we can keep food pantries sustained as food pantry directors are retiring; please reach out to Nicole Folino at NFolino@caciv.org; we can ask Nicole to speak in September*

7. Self-introductions and agency reports

- a. Chat updates: chat updates can be placed in meeting chat and then saved into minutes
- b. Email updates to Secretary and include “Carbon Interagency Collaborative” in title
- c. Post community event flyer on CCCF Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/covid19.carbon/>

Area Agency on Aging, Sue Ziegler senior games update

PA Link, Julie Mann: Spring aging ID workshop focus on case managers and social workers

St. Luke’s Carbon Campuses and Community Health: Community Health (Suzanne Smith, Kerri Quick, Rosemarie Lister): Our [CHNA survey \(redcap.slnh.org/surveys/?s=APEFK83KKDXFD7R4\)](https://redcap.slnh.org/surveys/?s=APEFK83KKDXFD7R4) is now available and may be taken by anyone 18 years of age or older. A QR code is also available to access the survey, which can be found in the image below. If you would like printed copies of the document to distribute (available in English, Spanish, Arabic, Portuguese), please let us know. We encourage you to share the survey throughout our local community so everyone has the opportunity to have their voices heard!

John Nespoli: senior Meals 60-70, 4-6 pm at the St. Luke’s Rick’s Café at the St. Luke’s Carbon Campus, attend and they will begin fireside chats, if you have ideas, please let us know, Larissa Kimmel will reach out to discuss transportation and MH, SHARE office is also speaking

Systems of Care Mental Health, Larissa Kimmel, May is Mental Health Month, please wear and show green to support those with MH concerns and needs. Upcoming Trauma Training with social media, grief, etc., **Tina Clymer,** send pictures of any business/organization in green

Doyle Heffley’s Office, Theresa Hall: Rebates scheduled to end on June 30 due to the amount of applicants received, if someone needs assistance please contact the office, May 28 Palmerton Public Works license event if you have a faded license plate. Senior Expo, Wednesday September 4 at Franklin Township

Susan Wild Office, Carol Etheridge, received 10 applicants for over 10 million for grants; they will provide updates

Pocono Workforce, Sam Hellen and Ben Winn, applications for summer youth program in Carbon County coming summer for TANF eligible of lower income or barriers students 14-24, please contact Career Link

LCCC Tamaqua, Amber Zuber, NAMI spoke, PA Hunger Grants two lunch and learns where attendees were able to receive a gift card, food truck and family fun day

Commissioners: Drug Treatment Court May 15 graduation

AHEC, Cindy Lynd, Liz Schaffer, Poverty Simulation July 18 in Allentown with LVHN, looking for volunteers and attendees, CHW field work and apprenticeship site opportunities

United Disabilities Services, Jen Drake, increase in those applying for waivers, working with Care Givers to meet shortage, new "Capable" program pilot with John Hopkins School of Nursing

United Way, Gina Nichols and Marsha Macalush, process of applying for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) and expect to have the applications being available by the end of summer

Amerihealth Caritas, Erin Wiener, mobile wellness unit

Family Promise, Cathy Lamm, Heather Mullen, serving 8 families including 13 children, offering case management

Self Determination Ingelis, Kim Minor, trainings available such as prepared renters 3 part series, income based housing webinar format, <https://www.inglis.org/programs-and-services/inglis-community-services/self-determination-housing-of-pennsylvania-sdhp/sdhp-calendar>

Community member, Jen Pantella, would like to be involved in this committee again

Carbon County Right from the Start, Meghan Rodgers, early childhood education support; working with 16 families, created a sensory garden, they have a grant to share anti choking device

Leslie Perryman, William Getz, Robyn Plesniarski attended, did not share updates

Volunteer Centers Lehigh Valley, Shawn Bariana, upcoming peer to peer session on May 22, July 17

Lauren Stracey, WIC, June 11 Cooks and Books at Lehigh Memorial Library, issuing Farmers Market Checks and hosting pop-up Farmers markets in the Carbon office all Summer long, expanding our Family Planning services in the Carbon office offering reproductive health, cancer screenings, STI testing, pregnancy tests and prenatal care

Mindy Graver, Safety Town will be held in Carbon County by LVHN at the LB Morris Elementary School on Wednesday, May 29th from 8:00 am till noon. Bill needs volunteers to help with the program.

My name is Trooper Jasmine Berrocal, I am a Community Affairs Officer for the Pennsylvania State Police. I'm excited to announce our office within the Pennsylvania State Police, the Office of Community Engagement. Our department engagement and outreach efforts must include every segment of the population, including people of diverse faiths, races, ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds, cultural traditions, gender, and sexual orientation. To achieve that goal of inclusion, we recently announced the creation of the Office of Community Engagement (OCE). At its core, the primary mission of the OCE is to build trust between the police and the communities we serve.

Trooper Jasmine M. Berrocal - Community Affairs Officer - jberrocal@pa.gov, The Community Affairs Section is responsible for building positive relationships with residents of the Commonwealth, with an emphasis on underserved communities. The Community Affairs Section works with various community groups and organizations, mental health advocacy groups, legislators, and municipal, state, and federal agencies to enhance community relations between the public and Law Enforcement.

8. Next meeting: September 11, in person at the Carbon County EMA/911 Office, 1294 Emergency Lane, Nesquehoning, PA 18240 *** For Sept 11 meeting maybe change to the following week due to it being 9/11. We will ask Nicole Folino from Second Harvest to be a guest speaker. If we have a guest speaker we may not get to all the agency updates and may need to maximize the meeting chat/minutes.

Please reach out to rosemarie.lister@sluhn.org with any clarifications and/or corrections

Thank you!