

Carbon Collaborative Minutes
March 12, 9-10 AM

March meeting was virtual only

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

Welcome

Approval of November meeting minutes: <https://cccfoundpa.org/collaborative-board/> (approval: Larissa Kimmel, Robyn Plesniarski)

Treasurer Report: Lourdes Serrano (AHEC): \$3,925

Speaker: no speaker to allow time to align

Old Business:

Carbon County Community Foundation (CCCF): Sharon Alexander

- a. grant cycle is open until March 31, All One is open until March 26, Luzerne has a new training series for nonprofits, essentials workshop upcoming, For 501c3 organizations, NEPA Gives will take place this year on June 5th-6th. This is a 24-hour online giving event for Northeast PA. In addition to the money you raise, there is hundreds of thousands of dollars available in matching gifts and prizes that day too. Organizations must register to participate. There is a registration fee, but if that is a hardship, contact me and I can get you a code to waive the fee. <https://www.nepagives.org/>
- b. Carbon County Community Foundation's Spring Grant Cycle is now open. We are taking grant requests for the Fund for Carbon County, the Penny Allison Early Childhood Fund, and the Scouting Support Fund. Applications are due March 31st. <https://cccfoundpa.org/request-funding/>
- c. Training event on March 26th at DeSales University, the Essentials Workshop, for new and emerging nonprofits. The day will have sessions on forming your nonprofit, marketing, fundraising, grant writing, and forming relationships. Registration is open. <https://nonprofit-launchpad.com/events>

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren supports Wednesday's at 9:30, BHA no participants, Area Agency on Aging has a reimbursement program for grandparents

- d. Julie Mann asked for a Carbon County Lawyer recommendation for the Grandparents raising Grandchildren conference in Luzerne in October; Larissa will reach out to Julie

Subcommittees

- e. Homeless Task Force: Commissioner Nothstein and Cathy Lamm, May 16 at 9 am at Family Promise Resource Center, warming station open until end of March; findhelp populates warming stations for Carbon until April: [Social Services for 18235 \(Lehigh, PA\) | St Luke's University Health Network](#)
- f. Transportation: Larissa Kimmel, meeting is March 12 for any changes made
- g. Kids Zone: Jill Geissinger on behalf of Mindy Graver, Community Safety Day, May 3 at Mauch Chunk Park
- h. Early childcare education: status of existing services and connections: Lorianne Roke from Pathstone Head Start shared they are at full enrollment, looking to recruit for next year
- i. Literacy: [Dolly Parton Imagination Library \(DPIL\)](#), [Reach Out and Read \(ROR\)/Brush, Book, Bed](#), [Talk-Read-Sing](#), [Palmerton Library Baby and Me](#): Suzanne Smith shared ROR 900+ children 0-5 engaged this fiscal year, 1, 460 enrolled in DPIL

New Business:

- j. 2025 Annual Human Services Breakfast will be April 4, 2025
- k. American Legion Post 314, 314 Veterans Ave, Lehigh, PA 18235

- l. Panel/Theme: Carbon County Connections to Essential Health Services Panel: Dental (Dr. Tonya Cook, Star Community Health), Children & Families (Lorianne Roke, PathStone Head Start), Aging (Anne Horrigan, Area Agency on Aging), Mental Health (Jennifer Williams, Deputy Administrator for CMHDS)
- m. Scholarship recipient: 5 qualified applicants; Sharon will reach out and thank them for submitting strong applications
- n. **Please share the invitation and sponsorship:** deadline for sponsorship to be listed in the event program is Friday, March 14, 2025

Self-introductions and agency reports (38 attendees):

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

LCCC, Amber Zuber: Free FED ESL classes in partnership with the Lifelong Learning Center, healthcare expo to learn about career pathways on April 8, trail connection feasibility with Senator Argall to connect trails; will announce public meetings in May <https://www.lccc.edu/job-training-personal-interest/> <https://www.iu29.org/Page/87>

Carbon Community Action, Kim Minor, [2025 Opening Doors Together Conference | Inglis](#) with you all. If any organization/individual is interested in presenting at the conference, you can find the form for submitting an RFP (Request for Proposal)- all RFPs are due April 21, 2025. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to me by email: Kim.minor@inglis.org

Carbon CAST MHDS: Ashley Highland: closed for targeted case management but hired someone, caseload of 12 in out of home placements

CareerLink: Benn Winn, Kara Williams, job fair May 2nd with Carbon Chamber, Angela Fazio, summer youth for individuals 14-24 to find placement to work in Carbon County, applications open end of March; to apply visit career link or your school guidance counselor, Stacy Bonet – Career Link Earn Program, employment retention

LVCIL: Bryan Cohen, Catherine Bogdanski, Julianna: Tech Howl: parent support group March 26 at 6 pm, young adults and parents to discuss success stories and how to overcome barriers. April 15 parent support meeting all held virtual. Funded through DDC; statewide

Family Promise, Cathy Lamm: Family Promise is at full capacity with 32 guests; 22 children. Dedication slated for late April vacant church will be renamed for community meals, case management, warming and cooling shelter

Penn State Cancer Institute, Holly Dolan: community education on cancer prevention and screenings and fit kits to screen for colorectal cancer.

Victims Resource Center, Eryka Vargas, prevention and resources manager: hotline, legal and compensation counseling, prevention and educational sessions, Teal Tuesday on April 1 in Carbon to create awareness for sexual assault

Pastor Everett Upton: trying to bring hemophilia community to Carbon. Food distribution 15% increase at curb side or delivery, contact Pastor if services are needed

United Way, Gina Nichols, United Way: Americorps federal volunteers to serve for a year; if interested please reach out to Marsha M., Meghan Astacio ERAP program closed in February. 130 household applications have been filled; only working with applications in the queue

Cancer Support Community, Jen Sinclair, hosting a March 28 free CEU seminar for social workers and counselors, collaborating with both networks

BHA, Jillian Horton: outpatient new director is Summer Huber

PA Aging Link, Julie Mann: May 16, Luzerne Community College, Aging Veteran Summit, Christine LeClair, June senior workshop for seniors and senior centers, focus is on memory care

CMP MHDS, Larissa Kimmel: trauma training session, one is specific for youth and one for caregivers, forming a LOSS team with coroner Mark Smith.

MFHS, Lauren Stracey: family planning program coming to Carbon County, need coalition member from Carbon County for Maternal Family Health

PathStone Head Start, Lorianne Roke: fully enrolled, looking to attend events to build enrollment for next year.

AHEC, Lourdess Serrano: no other updates

St. Luke's Carbon Campuses, President, John Nespoli: Dental Van was one of the busiest years, nearly 2000 encounters, connection to education and resources

St. Luke's Community Health Liaisons, Kerri Quick and Suzanne Smith: Panther Valley Health Carnival and Substance Use Disorder Conference being held in May in Tamaqua, Hand on Immersive Healthcare Program on May 1 (Panther Valley) and May 8 (Carbon County Schools)

LVHN, Robyn Plesniarski, COLON awareness month: <https://www.lvhn.org/testing-services/colonoscopy>
Looking for LVHN to participate in your event: <http://Lvhn.org/outreach>

<https://www.lvhn.org/sponsorship> <https://www.lvhn.org/treatments/hernia-surgery/free-hernia-events>

PA State Trooper Jasmine Berrocal: human trafficking presentations, looking for community events to engage community members

CMP D & A, Carolee Boyer: Narcan 200 boxes; community more receptive; hub for Meth in Palmerton; John thanked the county and local efforts in helping to reduce those who present with OD in the ER

Representative Doyle Heffley's Office, Theresa Hall: sportsman and outdoor expo, Saturday, March 22 on State route 903 from 11-2pm, May 15 senior scam seminar from PA Attorney General at 5:30 at Trinity Union Church

Amerihealth Caritas, Fiorlella Salas Toledo. Community Relations Representative for AmeriHealth Caritas PA Community HealthChoices in the Northeast, covering 22 counties. We are a Pennsylvania's mandatory Managed Care Organization (MCO), our health plan serves seniors in addition to individuals aged 21 and older with physical disabilities who are in the Medicaid and Medicare population. I am looking to attend events in the community as well as provide health education presentations. We offer sponsorships for events happening in the community. Here is my email:

fsalastoledo@amerihealthcaritas.com.

Next meeting: May 14, 2025: in person at C & Y office, 525 Iron St., Lehighton, PA 18235 or virtual (in-person preferred)