

## Carbon Collaborative Minutes

May 14, 9-10 AM

In person (preferred): Carbon County Children & Youth, 525 Iron St., Lehigh, PA 18235

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

1. Welcome
2. Approval of March meeting minutes: <https://cccfoundpa.org/collaborative-board/>
  - a. Approved: Sharon Alexander, Larissa Kimmel
3. Treasurer Report: Lourdes Serrano (AHEC): \$4,344.74 net after the breakfast
  - a. Approved: Cathy Lamm, Julie Mann
4. Speaker: for Sept or November 2025 we discussed highlights from the Carbon CHNA with links and key points for the State of the Family and Child Report
5. Old Business:  
**Carbon County Community Foundation (CCCF): Sharon Alexander**
  - a. PPL Foundation is accepting “[empowering communities](#)” grant, [Saks 5<sup>th</sup> Ave grants for MH services](#) due in July, [Phil Rodgers scholarship for student studying education and rehab therapy](#), [CCCF award celebration](#) on June 17 open to the public, [5013c new state report required](#), NEPA gives <https://www.nepagives.org> deadline is Sunday, CCCF hosts a monthly 'Coffee with the Community Foundation' at the Hug in a Mug cafe at Hofford Mill in Weissport. It's usually the 4th Friday from 7-10AM. You can stop by any time during those hours to talk to me about whatever is top of mind, this month it will be this Friday 5/16, [20/20 circle grants](#)
  - b. [Grandparents Raising Grandchildren supports](#) Wednesday's at 9:30, BHA; October workshop in the Woodlands in Luzerne; for more info please reach out to Julie Mann
6. Subcommittees:  
**Homeless Task Force: Commissioner Nothstein and Cathy Lamm:** meeting this Friday at 9 am at the new community resource center; local property manager will be the guest speaker  
**Transportation: Larissa Kimmel:** meeting is 10:30 today and the ambassadors mtg is at 1 pm, reach out to Larissa for more info.  
**Kids Zone: Jill Geissinger on behalf of Mindy Graver:** Community Safety Day, Miss PA educated on safety, 17 bikes were donated, first responders discussed safety, approx. 100-125 attendees, Car Seat check on 5/19 from 10-2 at the Narrow Valley Sportsplex  
**Early childcare education: status of existing services and connections,** PV Health Carnival 5/19 at PV football stadium from 4-6 pm, reach out to [dylan.bradley@sluhn.org](mailto:dylan.bradley@sluhn.org) for more info.  
**Literacy:** [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) (1400 active children; 837 graduated), [Reach Out and Read/Brush, Book, Bed](#) (912 completed visits as of FY 25 Q1 & Q2), [Talk-Read-Sing](#), [Palmerton Library Baby and Me](#)
7. 2025 Annual Human Services Breakfast (4.4.25)
  - a. 2025: Carbon County Connections to Essential Health Services (Dental, Children & Families, Aging, Mental Health) debrief
  - b. 2026: Annual 17<sup>th</sup> Human Services Breakfast April 10 at the American Legion in Lehigh, theme TBD fall 2025
8. Self-introductions and agency reports  
**Becky McFadden, School Nurse, Weatherly School District:** May is MH awareness, thank you Larissa Kimmel for providing support and resources to the region.  
**Cathy Lamm: Family Promise:** serving 31 ppl, 17 of which are children, they have a waiting list, Penns Peak fundraiser August 17, tickets are \$35  
**Jared Soto, Chamber:** rebranding and accepting referrals for small businesses to start of expand; June 28, 11-4 [Palmerton taste trail](#)

**Jill Geissinger, C & Y:** 15 case workers assisting families

**Carol Williams, Career Link:** summer youth program to begin soon

**Larissa Kimmel, Carbon MHDS:** MH Awareness Month, LOSS team is still in planning and formation, June 9 at 6 pm at CMP

**Lauren Stracey, WIC:** expanding to Carbon for family planning program coming this summer and pop-up farmers market this summer

**Lisa Geosits, Catholic Charities** food truck was in Carbon in April in Jim Thorpe across the bridge

**Lynette Serrano, Career Link:** Division of Innovation free medical access e.g., immunizations

**Rob Nicoletta, Carbon Housing:** expecting changes on federal level and will keep us posted

**Theresa Hall, Representative Heffley:** 5/15 Scam Seminar senior protection at 5:30 trinity church, please call the office to register, Senior Expo will be September 3 the Franklin Township Fire House

**Robin Roman, Carbon County Justice Works:** PoSC Coordinators [mritinsky@justiceworksyouthcare.com](mailto:mritinsky@justiceworksyouthcare.com) and [rroman@justiceworksyouthcare.com](mailto:rroman@justiceworksyouthcare.com)

**Stacy Bonet, Career Link:** EARN program with SNAP: 14 participants through career link

**Suzanne Smith and Rosemarie Lister, St. Luke's Community Health:** St. Luke's Community Health Needs Assessment will be posted later in June and the State of the Community will be held in the fall. The Older Adult Meals program at the St. Luke's Carbon Campus with 60-70 daily attendees;

[https://www.stlukesmetz.com/carbon\\_menu.html](https://www.stlukesmetz.com/carbon_menu.html)

**Thespina Godshalk, School Based BH, LVHN** therapist in Jim Thorpe and Lehigh School Districts canvas families in the summer months and celebrating seniors with gifts and cards signed

**Sue Ziegler, Area Agency on Aging:** flip the switch on aging, senior games happening now, 2025 older artists of PA showcase, 500 submissions and two winners from Carbon County, farmer market vouchers (5 vouchers for \$5 apiece)

**Julie Mann, PA Link to Aging:** partnering on Friday with Veterans Summit in Luzerne,

**Amanda Wessner, ELECT program with Lifelong Learning Center:** from 4 now 11 students enrolled in the program; 2 Carbon Students graduated, program/funding will continue

**Amber Zuber, LCCC and Summit Hill Recreation Center/page:** Cathy Crampsie teaching dancersize with 48 participants, yoga and weight training, \$5 class. LCCC proposal to expand food pantry, frozen deliveries for students in class, expanding food options, Schuylkill Career Link to host office hours at the Morgan Center in June to serve residents in Tamaqua who may not have transportation

**Ashley Highland, CMP MH:** need of targeted case managers, please visit website

Terry Knox Ramseur:

[https://www.thehc.org/event\\_calendar/event\\_calendar.html/event/2025/05/14/documentary-screening-recovery-city/520495](https://www.thehc.org/event_calendar/event_calendar.html/event/2025/05/14/documentary-screening-recovery-city/520495)

**Bryan Cohen, LVCIL:** TechOWL's mission, we are committed to connecting individuals with disabilities to assistive technology that enhances independence and accessibility. [bryancohen@lvcil.org](mailto:bryancohen@lvcil.org)

**Lorianne Roke, PathStone Head Start:** getting started for intakes for the next program year. If you know any expectant families or children ages 6 weeks-school age, please reach out and we are also hiring!

Chat updates: chat updates can be placed in meeting chat and then saved into minutes

- a. Email updates to Secretary and include "Carbon Interagency Collaborative" in title
- b. Post community event flyer on CCCF Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/covid19.carbon/>

9. Next meeting: July meeting will be cancelled as we only meet 5 times a year. Next meeting is September 10, 2025. Please reach out with any questions. Thank you!