

Carbon Collaborative Minutes

March 11, 9-10 AM

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

1. Welcome: 37 attendees on the virtual call
2. Approval January meeting minutes: <https://cccfoundpa.org/collaborative-board/>
 - a. Larissa Kimmel, Amber Zuber
3. Treasurer Report: Lourdes Serrano (AHEC): \$4,504.74
 - a. Wayne Nothstein, Chris Simock
4. Old Business:
 - a. Carbon County Community Foundation (CCCF): Sharon Alexander: grant cycle open with applications due 3/29, Lowes accepting applications for community projects due 3/20, T-Mobile Hometown Projects, 3/31, NEPA giving day total \$1 million to raise funds, CCCF workshops survey
 - b. [Grandparents Raising Grandchildren supports](#)
 - c. Subcommittees:
 - i. Homeless Task Force: Commissioner Nothstein and Cathy Lamm, 3/20 next meeting, Fam Promise 12 individuals connected to permanent housing, Lehighon weather station working to engage landlords, Homeless Task Force: add to email list for homeless task force, wiget@pa.gov
 - ii. Transportation: Larissa Kimmel: meeting today at 10:15, reviewing map of fixed routes and hubs, low-income housing, Larissa Kimmel please could you connect with me. I'm interested in participating in transportation discussion. I am with the Lehighon Cold Weather Station graceloveclayton@gmail.com, Heather Barna Dowling, Sync Recovery also interested
 - iii. Kids Zone: Jill Geissinger on behalf of Mindy Graver: Chris Simock, providing car seats on 5/26 at Narrow Valley Sports Plex, LVHN pack and play program, Feb and Mar Simulation programs at Jim Thorpe HS and CCTI and Safety Day at Penn Kidder, upcoming at PV, 5/2 Comm Safety Day at Mauch Chunk Lake
 - iv. Early childcare education: status of existing services and connections
 - v. Literacy: [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) (DPIL), [Reach Out and Read \(ROR\)/Brush, Book, Bed, Talk-Read-Sing](#), [Palmerton Library Baby and Me](#); ROR over 900 well visits/books, DPIL over 1300 enrolled
5. New Business:
 - a. [2026 Annual 17th Human Services Breakfast: April 10 at the American Legion in Lehighon](#), draft theme: **Recruiting the Next Generation**, Sydney Geist, LCCC, committee interest
 - i. **Scholarships**: 2 scholarships (both for \$500) for a student going into the health and human services field and someone 18-25 for workforce support (IT equipment, etc. to live and work in Carbon County)
 - ii. **Video**: Looking at LCTI to work with local schools to make a video and share on CCCF FB or other social media platforms
 - iii. **Link** for registration and/or sponsorship: <https://tickets.tnonline.com/events/carbon-county-collaborative-human-services-breakfast-4-10-2026>

6. Self-introductions and agency reports:
 - a. Chat updates: chat updates can be placed in meeting chat and then saved into minutes
 - b. Clarifications, corrections, please 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/>

7. Next meeting:
 - a. Next meeting is in person on May 13, 2026: location TBD

Family Promise: 19/32 in shelter are children under 11

St. Luke's Community Health: connection to community health resources, Panther Valley, reach out to Kerri.Quick@sluhn.org, literacy, reach out to Suzanne.Smith@sluhn.org

ELECT program: have room to take on more students for those parenting in need of GED

Kim Minor: annual housing conference in September and trainings for CE credits for social workers, therapists, counselors

LCCC, Amber Zuber: Panther Valley Blueprint Community is hosting a Four-Borough Clean Up day on April 25th. Volunteers are needed to assist in Summit Hill and

Lansford. <https://www.carboncountychamber.org/panther-valley-blueprint-community/>, The Roadside Clean-Up Day will take place on April 25th, with a rain date scheduled for May 2nd, If you're unable to attend the planning meeting but would like to volunteer for the Clean-Up Day, please email your name and phone number to Contact@PVBlueprint.org.

<https://www.carboncountychamber.org/assets/pdf/PVBC+Cleanup+Volunteer+Registration+Form+Final>

LCCC is partnering with Schuylkill Lifelong Learning Center to host a drop in for anyone interested in the GED program on Wednesday, March 19th at 3:30 at the Morgan Center. Tamaqua Chamber AI Workshop Breakfast Seminar - March 24th, Peace of Mind Mental Health Fair - May 7th, Tamaqua ESL Classes Interest Form, <https://www.lccc.edu/academics/esl/esl-classes-at-tamaqua/>, Non-Credit Health Care Classes - Scholarships may cover up to 90% of program fees for eligible students, CNA begins March 16th, Phlebotomy started January 13th, EMT starts April 20th

Plan of Safe Care program, Rroman@justiceworksyouthcare.com

Everett Upton pastoreu1st@hotmail.com

Carbon-Monroe-Pike D&A, Carolee J. Boyer: planning our 13th annual Recovery Event for September 26, 2026. We are humbly requesting your participation in this years event as a vendor. There is no charge to be a vendor, you are responsible for providing your own table & chair(s). Attached is our vendor letter and flier. Please RSVP as a vendor at email or phone 6610-377-5177 ext. 2106

Carbon County Career Link: PA CareerLink, TANF/WIOA Coordinator, 570.325.2915 Ext

114kwilliams@carboncareerlink.org for summer employment or internship opportunity, Carbon County Residents (18-24) Workforce Training, First Responder & Veteran Support Group -Starting Monday March 16th. at Bethany Wesleyan Church 1122 Fairyland Rd Lehighton, PA <https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fimg1.wsimg.com%2Fblobby%2Fgo%2F2d...>

AmeriHealth Caritas Community HealthChoices, Fiorella Salas Toledo: Community Relations Rep. and cover 22 counties in the Northeast, including Carbon County. We are a Medicaid insurance for people 21 and older with a physical disability. I am looking to attend events to represent the company and sharing resources. We provide health education presentations. If you are hosting an event and are looking for sponsorships, we might be able to help as well. I'm looking forward to collaborate with community members. fsalastoledo@amerihealthcaritas.com, 717-756-6224.

Star Community Health, Ellen Denizard: May 16, 2026 [Walk For Health | St. Luke's University Health Network](#)

United Way GLV, Gina Nichols: [More Front Doors for Carbon County](#), for more info:

ginan@unitedwayglv.org, Free event-will have breakfast and lunch as well, Please share, especially among municipalities and local landlords and developers. [Select Tickets – Carbon County Collaborative: Human Services Breakfast](#)

Aging Allies, Dana Oravitz is the CEO hosting the Mental Health Fair. 570-591-1919, danaoaging-allies@outlook.com

Volunteer Centers, Shawn Bariana, Lead Now Nonprofit Board Leadership Training: Virtual (Zoom) sessions 4PM-5PM, April 1 - Nonprofit Board Service 101, April 8 - Understanding Nonprofit Legal Factors, April 15 - Understanding Diversity, Equity & Inclusion on the Board, April 22 - Nonprofit Finances: What you Need to Know and How to Ask, April 29 - Philanthropic Fundraising & the Role of the Board <https://www.volunteerlv.org/LEAD-Now> Volunteer Engagement Professionals Training Program: Live at Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley, 968 Postal Rd. Allentown, PA 18109, Wednesdays, April 8-29 from 9AM-11AM, 4 week cohort, Recruiting and Attracting Volunteers, Engaging Volunteers across Generations, Building Meaningful Volunteer Roles, Volunteer Retention and Recognition, <https://www.volunteerlv.org/vetp>

MFHS: [Carbon County Center – MFHS](#), Carbon County Center – MFHS Walk in Tuesdays 9am -2 pm for Reproductive Health Services. For more information contact a Care Navigator 570-273-1288, MFHS Cindy Kennedy Carbon County Center provides comprehensive, caring and confidential reproductive health and WIC nutrition services in Carbon County. mfhs.org

Senior Citizens Scam Seminar on Monday, March 16th. 11 a.m. at Panther Valley Senior Center 90 E Catawissa St. Nesquehoning and in the afternoon at 2:00 p.m. at the Forest Hills Rehabilitation & healthcare Center at 1000 Evergreen Ave. Weatherly and annual Sportsmen's and Outdoor Expo on March 21st at Penn Forest Vol. Fire Co. No. 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission. Kathy Henderson **CC Aging** is starting to plan for the 2026 Senior Games. That will be held the first 2 weeks in May. Open ceremony will be held 5/5/26

Housing Conference: Sept. 9-10, Kim Minor: Annual Housing Conference. Early Bird Registration is now OPEN! Take advantage of discounted rates until April 30th and secure your spot at Pennsylvania's premier conference focused on accessible housing and independent living.

Inglis SDHP: variety of relevant accessible housing trainings, provide educational seminars and technical assistance to an array of housing organizations and entities, social service providers, and local housing associations. You can explore our curriculum and register here: [Inglis SDHP Curriculum Catalog | Inglis](#)
**Inglis SDHP is approved by The Pennsylvania State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Professional Counselors to be providers of Continuing Education credits (CEs) for our full training curriculum. Inglis enables people with disabilities — and those who care for them — to achieve their goals and live life to the fullest. www.inglis.org

Carbon County Community Foundation (CCCF), Sharon Alexander: Scholarship Application: <https://form.jotform.com/240087670737058>, CCCF is celebrating 10-years this year! We're having a fun event/celebration at Blue Mountain on May 29th and would love to see everyone there. We're also giving out Community Awards. All info is on our website: <https://cccfoundpa.org/anniversary/> Finally, we are asking nonprofits and community organizations to complete a short survey to help us decide what workshops/trainings would be most helpful. <https://form.jotform.com/260334639959066> Carbon County Community Foundation grant cycle is open now. Applications are due March 29th. <https://cccfoundpa.org/request-funding/> Apply for a Grant - Carbon County Community Foundation

Lowes Community Bucket List applications applications are due March 20th. <https://corporate.lowes.com/our-responsibilities/community-bucket-list>, T-Mobile Hometown Grants are due March 31st. This is a \$50,000 grant and this is the last cycle of their five-year commitment to these grants. <https://www.t-mobile.com/brand/hometown-grants>, NEPA Gives, the 24-hour giving day, returns on June 4-5. We are hosting a NEPA Gives 101 session next week to share information and help people get set up so they can have a successful giving day. Nonprofits raise an average of \$5,000. Funds at the Carbon County Community Foundation are also able to participate. Learn more and register for the NEPA Gives 101 session here: <https://cccfoundpa.org/nepa-gives/>