



United Way
of Lancaster County



Minutes:

**CROSS PROBLEMS AND
HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK**

Monday, March 18, 2019

2:30 pm, LGH conference room, Burle Business Center

ATTENDANCE

Chair Doug Hopwood presided.
See attached sign-in sheets for attendants.

WELCOME

Doug Hopwood opened the meeting with welcome and introductions. Agendas, minutes, and all materials are posted online on the 211 website: www.pa211east.org

FOCUS TOPICS

Lancaster County Prison Re-entry Project, Presented by Matthew Wagner, Lancaster County Prison

Matthew's new position was created to focus on the development of the re-entry program. This program involves housing, employment, education, family, and Drug and Alcohol services. Another component of this new role is to network with the community and collaborate with area partners. The Re-entry Project will focus on a collective impact model. The Prison has a short timeline for the program development. The program will address pre-release and post-release services.

Solanco Family Life Network, Presented by Neil Uniacke

The Solanco Family Life Network started with a contact from the Solanco School District to address early elementary school absences. The Strengthen Family Program was tailored to address this issue. A Collective Impact grant through the United Way of Lancaster funds the network's services. The Solanco School District was the one uniting organization in the area supporting this work. Housing and transportation are major issues in this area, as well as rural generational poverty. Neil noted that people are trading "personal" services to get a ride. They also have a large Migrant population due to the farming needs. The Network is looking for a Spanish speaking counselor to help them get needed services.

Path to One Good Job, Presented by Cathy Rychalsky

This initiative is funded through United Way's Collective Impact Grant. This program assists clients who may otherwise be ineligible for federal funding sources. Education and training is provided through the Intermediate Unit 13 and higher learning institutions. The program also offers online training options at no cost (internet access is required and not covered). The focus

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of this program is on job training, not other social services (these are referred to community partners). The initiative targets individuals with no achieved credentials and gives them the opportunity to further their education and receive employment support. It has served about 25-30 individuals to date.

Referrals can come through client self-referral or through other community organizations. Clients can call or drop-in at the IU-13, Career Link, or Tech Centro. Forgiveness of lack of attendance is based on the program the client is enrolled in. There is no income limit. Skill-up Lancaster is an online self-register process with a variety of available courses at no cost.

IU13 , Tech Centro and Skill-up are Bilingual programs. (Spanish). A soft skills training program is currently in development.

WINTER SHELTER UPDATES

Women's Winter Shelter, Presented by Becky Saner

Women's winter shelter has about 3 more weeks left. Currently, the shelter is serving about 44 women. Once shelter closes, Water Street Mission can serve about 20 clients.

Elizabethtown Community Housing and Outreach Services (ECHOS), Presented by Deb Jones

Their Winter shelter was at 78% capacity last week on March 15, 2019. They have surpassed last years' numbers already.

CHART UPDATES

A new CHART worker has been hired and will be starting in the coming weeks.

EMPOWER LANCASTER UPDATES

No update; Sheldon Kepiro is out of the office this week.

LCCEH UPDATES

The Coalition has been involved in ongoing work with the consultants from the Unthinkable Group. They have chosen three focus areas: (1) Schools First, (2) Daytime Drop-in Center, and (3) Family Shelter units.

The team is in the beginning stages of work and are reaching out to service providers now for involvement. The consultants have been talking to various groups outside the "HUD" box. Some challenges moving forward: trying to help those households who don't fit into the HUD funding criteria; looking for solutions and understanding the gaps; finding a way to work with those not willing to go through program requirements.

Anyone interested in becoming engaged and joining one of the community groups can contact Doug or Mike.

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SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER UPDATES

No update

AGENCY GOOD NEWS, SHARING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Healthy Beginnings has a new program for suboxone treatment in pregnant women (Medicaid and non-Medicaid).

BHDS services will be moving to a new location.

Coby's has a new Drug and Alcohol funded program to assist relatives caring for children (Kinship Caregivers). A flyer was distributed on the upcoming session.

Several area agencies are looking for office space.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Monday, May 20, 2019 at 2:30 pm at Burle Industries, New Holland Avenue, Lancaster.

Minutes and Agendas are posted to: www.PA211East.org.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Toni at gainer@uwlanc.org

Prepared by:

Amanda Martin

Office for the Lancaster County Coalition to End Homelessness