



United Way
of Lancaster County

Minutes:

**CROSS PROBLEMS AND
HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK**

Monday, September 16, 2019

2:30 pm, Conference Room 1, Burle Business Center

ATTENDANCE

Ann Linkey gave an introduction of herself as the new Committee Chair.
See attached sign-in sheets for attendants.

WELCOME

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

FOCUS TOPICS

Northern Tier Initiative, Presented by Heather Valudes, Lancaster Chamber

The Northern Tier Initiative covers the Denver and Ephrata area. This Initiative is a transportation pilot for transporting employees to work. The Chamber heard the concerns from businesses in the area that their employees were having difficulty getting to work in the northern area. There were proposed route changes to the public bus service, but this request needed to be justified. The pilot is looking to support a consistent route from transportation to employers. The pilot has allowed new employees to be hired to the companies. Currently, transportation is available to High Concrete and Four Seasons Produce. The pilot provides transportation for the off shirts (second and/or third shift). The employer pays a portion and the employee contributes \$10 per week, as a direct deduction from their paycheck. This pilot is a commitment from the employers to work through barriers employees face.

This pilot includes a number of partners in Lancaster County. The funding has been secured for 1 year (March 2019 to March 2020). The Chamber is looking for funding to continue this route after the 1 year. Potential employees can apply online to either of the companies, and will receive a 1 time transportation pass for travel to an interview (paid for by the employer). Currently, the pilot is only with High Concrete and Four Seasons Produce. Employed individuals do not typically use this service, but instead it has brought new employees into the workforce. Background checks are required for employment, but interpretation of the results are based on the employees application. Weekend transportation is available; holidays follow the bus schedule.

Handouts of employment opportunities and transportation option distributed.

CHART, Presented by Wendy Stivers

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CHART is part of the coordinated entry process. The first step for individuals is to call 211. Individuals who meet specific criteria are referred to CHART. (Individuals must be literally homeless, not doubled up.) CHART staff are mobile within Lancaster County to meet with clients where they are. Once a referral is made, a staff member meets with a client within one to two days. Tabor Community Services handles referrals in Lancaster City, Elizabethtown Community Housing and Outreach Services (ECHOS) covers the north-western area of Lancaster County, CrossNet Ministries covers the eastern area of the county, and The Factory Ministries (TFM) covers the southern end of the county.

Clients begin the process through a coordinated assessment of demographic information captured in Empower Lancaster. The next step is to complete the VI-SPDAT, a tool used to uncover specific needs and results in a vulnerability score. Clients are prioritized based on the assessment results. The team works to empower clients and connect them to needed services.

Individuals can also walk-in to a CHART assessment location, if phone service is an issue. Veterans are often screened out early at 211, and directed to their specific services; if they are deemed ineligible for veterans benefits, they are sent to CHART for assistance.

Salvation Army Lancaster, Presented by Jackie Ponton

Jackie Ponton serves as the Pathway of Hope Coordinator. She reviewed the services this program provides. Pathway of Hope targets the entire family and takes a holistic approach to care. The family must be ready to make changes. The program seeks to inspire hope in individuals. They want clients to succeed, and so clients must be ready to take action. Clients sign an agreement contract, establishing goals with specific action steps. Pathway of Hope connects clients to resources. Clients meet with the program coordinator regularly, and must be accountable for their progress. Graduation is held for clients when they accomplish their goals.

The service area for this program is Lancaster County. The beginning of the program is more intense, consisting of weekly meetings, but gets less intense as the client progresses (monthly). The program can work with clients experiencing addiction.

CHART UPDATES

Update provided earlier.

EMPOWER LANCASTER UPDATES

No update.

LANC CO MYHOME UPDATES

The new Lanc Co MyHome structure will be starting soon. Requests will be made for members to serve on the various committees.

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER UPDATES

No update.

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AGENCY GOOD NEWS, SHARING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Northern Lancaster Hub launched the Hub Bus to transport clients between Declaration House and the Ephrata Library.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Monday, November 18, 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

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