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**Human Service Provider Call**

**02/18/2021**

**Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/pFx4B_hd4JtwAgsv69SPYgSsfgiGSFJslwqjTcrw8lfp_QmbL75yu5cUsFgQMty_.LeUUqxtBg5bzQ7He?startTime=1611240722000>

This call is to help streamline communication and support and encourage collaboration to make the most of resources during this COVID 19 pandemic. It also provides the opportunity for updates on local needs from the nonprofit sector. Please refer to United Way website for previous notes and resources-<https://dbqunitedway.org/covid-19-nonprofit-support>

This call has created great opportunities to build partnerships and for our system to work together to coordinate and broaden our impact. There has been a great deal of collaboration with the city, nonprofits, philanthropists, legislators, and more. THANK YOU!

**United Way**

Danielle Peterson

* Governor shared that they are considering using 211 to schedule COVID vaccines. More information to come on that.
* COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic happening at the mall. UW working with Marie Z from RSVP to assist with volunteers to help at this clinic.
* Continue to work with Disaster Relief Funds to award funds for relief locally (see below update).
* UW Campaign is at 80% of 1.2 million dollar goal. These dollars go into our community impact fund and is distributed to 31 nonprofits in the tri-states that support health, education, and income. We continue to work hard to engage with businesses and secure funds to meet our goal. Core of our fundraising is workplace campaigns and this is where the biggest impact has been; pushing off campaigns, not running campaigns, and/or virtual only campaigns (no presentations) that do not have the impact as in person presentation.
* Will again be having the Over The Edge event on Friday September 10th. This fundraiser is extremely important to help support our community impact fund.
* Women United’s Clothes Closet is open in the basement of NICC. It is full of clothes for men and women in a variety of sizes. The hours of NICC are 8:00-4:30, Monday-Friday. If you know anyone in need of business attire, please have them visit the closet.
* Get Connected portal – if you have any volunteer needs/opportunities, especially virtual, please post. Over 4,500 people on this site. <http://dbqunitedway.galaxydigital.com/>
* Please be sure your agency information is updated and accurate in the 211-information system. This system is getting more calls than ever due to COVID. It is important that 211 can give out accurate information to those calling in. <https://www.211iowa.org/>
* **Next meeting March 18th (third Thursday)**

**Child Care Resource & Referral**

Tara Roddick

* Housed in Dubuque, cover Dubuque, Bremer, Butler, Franklin, and Grundy Counties.
* A bunch of bills that passed in the house and are now in the senate. Excited about all but one small one. Looking at Bills: SF119, SF277, HF292, SF283, HF301
  + One specific bill regarding in home providers taking on more children. Looking to increase children in nonregistered and registered homes. Registered providers, we are okay with, nonregistered we do not agree with. In IA they can have 5 and they are not regulated. When there are accidents and/or child deaths most times it happens in a nonregulated home. We feel that 5 is plenty.
* Vaccines – providers are getting calls and shots in arms this week. Approx. 350+ providers who want it. Those we do not know about (non-registered providers, nanny, etc.) directed to me. [Tara.roddick@episervice.org](mailto:Tara.roddick@episervice.org) Can’t verify but can ask questions to see if they meet criteria.
* We have a referral line. If you have families looking for care, can call 855-CHILD01. We have a full data base of providers and connect parents with providers that fit their needs. We have staff that work on keeping the list updated as well as providers can update on their own.
  + Can also go to the DHS website and get all the names and numbers, but that is not a narrowed filed.
* February of 2020, we had a Iowa Women’s Foundation visit. As a community we looked at 6 solutions that were needed in our community. Going to do an update on these since COVID, what has happened and what can we do now. Abby Dagenhart from DCEC will send out an invite to those who were there at the last one. If you would like to be part of this one, please e mail Tara at [Tara.roddick@episervice.org](mailto:Tara.roddick@episervice.org). Virtual, March 3rd, 9-10am.

**St. Mark Youth Enrichment**

Dawn Cogan

* Worked with the district to talk about when it might be okay for St. Mark to come back in and to provide in person out of school time services. They are working through the process of bringing all the kids back and see how that goes before they bring community partners back in. Maybe after spring break. We will continue to do virtual in Dubuque. Continue to do in person in Western Dubuque.
* Summer program dates are set, June 21 – July 23rd. We feel really confident that we will be able to stay in person for the entire 5 weeks.
* A bunch of our staff have gone through social emotional training. Two staff doing train the trainer for social emotional wellbeing. Getting our staff more trained and integrate this into everything we do. Training – Six Seconds Emotional Intelligence by Liza Johnson at UD.
* Dawn shared that they have been working with the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa After School Alliance to get to a place where they can offer training and consulting related to how they integrate social emotional learning.

**COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster) - Long Range Planning Committee/Disaster Recovery**

Paul Duster/Danielle Peterson

* COVID Related Funds. Easy user-friendly application. **If you have COVID related funding needs, please apply for funds.** <https://www.dbqfoundation.org/disaster-recovery-fund-covid-19-response-fund-support-your-neighbors-and-friends>
* This week, the committee funded one organization: Dream Center - $19,000
* Alexis from City of DBQ Housing has been invited to the last few meetings to discuss ways to assist with the upcoming end to moratorium on rental/eviction. There is a potential extension on the table, however the committee is looking to be proactive.
* Danielle will reach out to Iowa Legal Aid and General Relief to get an update.

**HACP**

Ron Axtell

* Offering Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. All information and paperwork is in the entry way of the HACAP office at 220 W 7th St (plaza side). All work is being doing contactless this year.
  + Historically AARP also does this, but they are not doing it this year. HACAP has the capacity to do 850 however the community demand seems to be around 1500. Will post something on Get Connected site to hopefully get volunteers for tax preparers to assist with VITA for this year and plan for next year.
* Continue to take applications for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) – designed to help low-income families meet the cost of home heating. Intended to pay a portion of residential household heating cost and eligibility is up to 175% of poverty guidelines. All those applying for LIHEAP also applying for weatherization program (up to 200% of poverty) automatically eligible.
  + Weatherization program analyzes a home’s performance system and implement improvements so that it uses less energy. The goal is to save 20% -50% of home’s energy each year. It focuses on 3 priorities to do that; air sealing and insulation, heating system, and health and safety. Both programs done by drop off only, no in person appointments.

**Workforce Development**

Lisa Farley

* Continue to assist people with various things related to unemployment claims via calls and e mails.
* The new pandemic emergency unemployment compensation and the pandemic unemployment assistance, extended benefits program have been implemented. Payments for those are being issued.
* Still a lot of employers looking for workers. There is a link on our website showing all employees that are hiring. And a link for temporary job opportunities. Here's the IWD website with information and links for unemployment, job openings and registering for work: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/>
* Office is still closed to public, but can drop off information related to their unemployment claim. Door is at the backside of the building at the top of the ramp, which is now open again. Can validate parking.
* Promise jobs – continue case management for participants this program. DHS has waived the participation requirements through the end of March. If a person is working with promise jobs, they are not mandated to participate in activities if COVID is preventing them to do so. Do still have the option to participate. We still have some participants going to school, working, job searching, etc. to help them reach their goal of self-sufficiency.
* Help assist people with resume building and interview skills – remotely. State is offering virtual workshops. Targeted to veterans and promise jobs clients.

**Vaccine Equity Immersion Team**

From Kelly Larson shared by Alex Baum

* Trying to get information about vaccines out to those communities that may be more marginalized and may be less in-tune with the typical communication sources.
* Partnering with Loyola LULAC (League of United Lantin American Citizens) to put together a video for Spanish speaking residents highlighting some of the key pieces of information. City & County are working on plans on what to do if you don’t have a medical provider. Hopefully as more vaccines and information comes about pharmacies and Crescent, that will be something we can provide information for.
* Focusing on
  + Encouraging people to get the COVID vaccine and get it as early as possible.
  + Importance of getting both shots.
  + The safety of the vaccine.
  + What happens after (fever, muscle aches, etc.)
  + Looking at how to spread this information in these communities. Trying to get videos of trusted community members getting the vaccine. Our Marshallese community seems responsive to getting the vaccine.

**Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque**

Alex Baum

* Marshallese Community Connector job position is now posted through Unity Point and will be managed by staff at VNA. This Case Management position will be trained in helping the Marshallese community navigate systems and processes that are in place to help them.

Shirley Templeton Vaugh

* Getting ball rolling again on getting a care giver center open. This center is a vision of the Theisen family to give resources and support programs for those who care for chronically ill loved ones. More information to come.

**Every Child Reads Program/Community Foundation**

Cynthia Wehrenberg

* We are trying to create awareness about our Every Child Reads Program. ECR has a Facebook page where a lot of great information is shared. Please consider liking it. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dbq.glr>

**Stonehill Communities**

Amy Schauer

* Stonehill Communities- Assisi Village has new assisted living and assisted living apartments available. These are private pay, so do not help low-income; however, this is a good resource for those who need memory care. We are able to do in person tours with a health screen and masks.
* Now able to offer once a week visits for residents in the health center. Though we are still listed as "outbreak status" we have actually recovered residents and have zero current positive residents. You only come off the outbreak status after 28 days of no new cases, so it takes a bit for the numbers reported to catch up with the real time data we report.
* Link to the assisted living and assisted living with memory care apartments available. <https://www.stonehilldbq.com/how-we-care/assisted-living-memory-care/>
* And per usual we are hiring. <https://www.stonehilldbq.com/careers/current-openings/>

**Catholic Charities**

Ruth Berning

* Continue to provide support where there are gaps in rental assistance. Unrestricted funding agency. Anyone looking for help, first call homeless hotline and apply for general relief through RU. Continue to work them and with other agencies to help fill the gaps.
* If you want to refer a client in need of rental assistance that needs further help after accessing ECIA Homeless Hotline, please email Ruth Berning, Case Manager at Catholic Charities, [r.berning@dbqarch.org](mailto:r.berning@dbqarch.org) or 563-588-0558

**Community Solutions of Eastern Iowa**

Amanda Dupont

* Homeless Hotline 1.833587.8322 anyone who is homeless or at risk, please call for referrals and access to housing services.
* Still partnering with Dubuque Area Labor Harvest for book box deliveries; anyone can call and have a box delivered, 1x every two weeks. call 1.833.587.8322

**VNA**

Sara Herzog

* Busy with COVID Vaccine clinic; currently vaccinating teachers, 65+, and first responders. Answering a lot of phone calls with questions regarding COVID.
* Rest of VNA programs working via phone. Still up and running with same programs. They may look a little different, but please call with any questions. 563-556-6200

**DCEC**

Abby Dagenhart

* Solutions Tour last year, invited community members and childcare providers. Had been postponed but gearing back up again. Next meeting is March 3rd at 9am. Invite going out today. If you want to be at the table to provide feedback and support for childcare needs in Dubuque County, please join us.

Goodwill Industries of North East Iowa has been selected to be the Title 1 service provider under the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act. These were the programs that were previously done by ECIA. Looking to hire people.

**Next Meeting: March 18th, 2021 (third Thursday at 9am)**