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**Human Service Provider Call**

**6/25/2020**

**Zoom Meeting**

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. United Way streams accurate local information to 211 so residents calling in have the most up-to-date information. 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 Updates:**

United Way shared that calls to the 211 Information & Referral Line have decreased a bit. They also spoke about their Get Connected Volunteer Portal. This is free to anyone in search of a volunteer opportunity and/or seeking volunteers. Currently there are very few virtual opportunities. If anyone has virtual opportunities for volunteerism, please add that to the Get Connected Volunteer Portal and use the key word “virtual”.

They are moving forward with their Over the Edge event, which is rescheduled for Friday, September 4. They are working hard to ensure a safe fundraiser to generate dollars for their Community Investment Fund.

Staff continue to plan for a safe and successful annual kick off breakfast.

On Tuesday June 30th, KWWL will be doing a telethon on behalf of five United Ways, running from 5am to 10pm. Local Dubuque agencies will be featured on that day. They ask that the community share and support this effort any way that you can.

United Way has posted information about a job fair happening on June 30th at Diamond Jo Casino on their Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/UnitedWayDBQ/photos/rpp.47504121667/10158440156876668/?type=3&theater>

Danielle received a non-profit summary that has data about the impact of COVID 19 on non-profits, broken down by organizations that have more or less than 25 staff. 879 non-profits from 98 of the 99 Iowa Counites responded to this survey creating this data. Please e mail Danielle if you would like her to send this to you. [Danielle.peterson@DBQUnitedWay.org](mailto:Danielle.peterson@DBQUnitedWay.org)

**Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque Updates:**

Peter Supple reported that the Disaster Relief Fund awarded one grant in the amount of $1,800 to Iowa State Extension for Clover Kits for Clinton Co. There is one additional grant request that is being followed up on. Requests have slowed down. There have also been conversation about long term housing and eviction and what role the disaster relief might paly in that. Applications are still being accepted for the Disaster Relief Fund. Information can be found at <https://www.dbqfoundation.org/disaster-recovery-fund-covid-19-response-fund-support-your-neighbors-and-friends>

**Iowa Legal Aid Updates:**

Carrie O’Connor shared that the eviction moratorium has lifted. There are no in person hearing until July 13th. Haven’t been hit with the big onslaught yet, but are getting those calls. The housing department at the City of Dubuque has some fund available to help. Iowa Legal Aid can assist with eviction cases and that may be able to provide enough time for the resident to find a new place to live. If you work with someone facing eviction, please send them to Iowa Legal Aid. There is an application on line that needs to be filled out. If a service provider has a question, they can call Carrie at 563-588-4653. Clients need to call the intake number 1-800-532-1275.

It was also shared that Governor Reynolds has allocated federal CARES Act funds to assist Iowans with short-term relief to income-eligible renters and homeowners who are at risk of eviction. Here is the link to the application. <https://www.iowafinance.com/covid-19-iowa-eviction-and-foreclosure-prevention-program/>

**Iowa Workforce Development Updates:**

Ron Axtell stated that there was nothing new to share. The number for the Unemployment Service Center at 1-866-239-0843. The website is: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/COVID-19>

If an employee has been called back, they need to got back to their employer. If they don’t, they could get caught in an overpayment situation. If workers go back and have reduced hours, they should continue to do weekly reporting. They may qualify for partial payment. It is unsure at this time if back payment is available. It is advised to file the claim and it will be reviewed to see if back payment is an available.

**County of Dubuque Updates:**

Ed Raber discussed the newly opened Test Iowa Clinic site in Dubuque. It is located at Epic Health and Wellness Center, 1075 Cedar Cross Road. The only criteria to get tested is that you must live in Iowa and must complete the assessment that can be found at [www.testiowa.com](http://www.testiowa.com) prior to your visit. One the assessment is completed, it will state that “you are eligible for a test. Would you like to choose a testing location?” One must scroll all the way down through all of the testing sites and choose “I’d like to make an appointment with a clinic.” Then you can pick Epic. Dubuque is one of the first metro areas that has a testing clinic as they have previously been more rural areas. Approximately 1000 test were completed between Sunday and Wednesday. Testing has been heavy. The VNA will also help people complete the test assessment if someone does not have a computer. Epic is not on a bus route and there are conversations happening to how to make the test more available as well as helping with employer site. More to come. Additionally, the state will be phasing out the parking lot testing sites (short term set up) and moving to more clinic based sites.

It was also shared that Sunnycrest had another positive test. Because of the local clinic, they were able to get testing kits quickly to test their staff and other residents. There has also been a spike in COVID cases reported in Dubuque because of the large number of people who tested positive in the Dubuque County Jail.

**Crescent Community Health Center Updates:**

Angela Petsche shared that Crescent is bring staff back to the office and will be full staffed by June 30th. They have created and distributed a 7 page back to work manual that has been distributed to their staff so they know what to expect upon their return. They are still doing testing in their parking lot for all clients and staff prior to entrance into the building. They are seeing an increase in appointments. They have brought back two of their four dental hygienists the other two will be returning at the end of this week and early next week. They are sending out letters to all of their clients they have been working with through telehealth so that they know what to expect. Still no big groups. Doing things in different ways. Surveying telehealth clients about client satisfaction.

**Child Care Needs:**

Abbey Degenhardt from Dubuque County Early Childhood reported that after talking with Tara Roddick from Childcare Resource and Referral, there are currently 380 birth – 5yr old childcare spots available. The list of providers can be found by calling Child Care Resource & Referral at 1-855-244-5301.

The childcare discussion group is scheduled to meet July 2nd at noon to review a survey that has been drafted to assess the communities need around childcare, including school age children. This survey can also be used in the future to be able to compare how the needs change. If anyone would like to participate in this group, please e mail Abby at [director@dcearlychild.org](mailto:director@dcearlychild.org).

Abby stated that currently wrap around programs are almost at maximum capacity with the social distancing limitations. Additionally, some programs report parents are stating that they will not send their students to their programs. It is the hope that the survey will tell give some idea of how many kids that we will need to be prepared to serve. At that time discussions around childcare, teachers, space, virtual learning/technology, etc. can happen.

It was also shared that the Kids Expo has been canceled.

**NICC Updates:**

Jordan reported that NICC is slowing bring staff back to campus and they have no set date for students to return yet. They are about to move into phase 3 of 4 of their plan.

**Ann McDonough** encouraged everyone to embrace the Mask of Wellness. She sated that wearing a mask is a sign of respect and kindness. As community leaders we need to lead by wearing masks.

**Community Solutions of Eastern Iowa Updates:**

Amanda Hohmann reported that they have applied for a $450,000 grant for a four-county region for rapid rehousing and homeless prevention. They should hear back in about two weeks. CSEI continues to take calls on the hotline and have not seen any upticks in calls yet but do anticipate that to happen. If they are awarded that funding, an increase in calls is anticipated and resources will be available to those in need. Amanda has created a flow chart that can be used with important hotline numbers.

CSEI continues to partner with Dubuque Area Labor Harvest to provide food boxes delivered for those who can’t leave their homes or who don’t feel comfortable doing so. As of 9:47am today, they have received 672 calls for food boxes.

**City of Dubuque Housing Updates:**

Ryan Feller from the City’s Housing Department shared that the short term assistance program helps with rent, mortgage, and utilities. They have had over 225 inquiries to the program. They are currently processing 40 full applications. The application can be found on the City’s website and can also be completed via phone. The application is in Spanish, Marshallese, and English. <https://www.cityofdubuque.org/618/Housing-Community-Development> It is also encouraged to apply for the state program as well (online).

Ryan reported that they may be receiving some new money that comes with less restrictions and that they may be able to assist with other things. More information to come on that.

Misc:

Clarke University and Loras College students return date is August 24th.

Dubuque Salvation Army is also doing the Food Deliveries for low income, elderly and medically fragile Tuesday -Friday - folks just need to call 563-556-1573.