**Human Service Provider Call**

**11/18/2021**

**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, especially as we continue to deal with the 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

* COVID– numbers are still up in Dubuque. Boosters for all vaccines are now available. For current information on walk-in vaccination and booster clinics and other vaccination opportunities in Dubuque County, please visit [www.dubuquecounty.org/sleevesup](http://www.dubuquecounty.org/sleevesup) or call 563-690-MAKE(6253).

City: <https://www.cityofdubuque.org/2965/COVID-19-Vaccinations>

County: <https://www.dubuquecountyiowa.gov/567/COVID-19-Vaccinations>

* Our two year competitive grant has been released and is due Friday February 11, 2022 by 5:00pm. All information is on our website. Focusing our energy on reducing and preventing poverty under the pillars of Health, Education, and Financial Stability. <https://dbqunitedway.org/apply-for-grant-funding>
* **Volunteer Dubuque**– if you have any volunteer needs/opportunities, especially virtual, please post. You are also welcome to reach out to Paula Paider Licht for any questions. [Paula.paiderlicht@dbqunitedway.org](mailto:Paula.paiderlicht@dbqunitedway.org)

<https://www.volunteerdbq.com/>

* **Next meeting February 17th (third Thursday)**

**COVID Conversation**

* At home tests are available for free per household – [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov)
* Current things that target specific populations for vaccinations/ides to help increase vaccination rates
* COVID funding to the community – brief application process – to organizations for marketing needs or access to vaccination or COVID information
  + Can’t offer incentives (gift cards), but can we get creative by giving bread, milk, and eggs or cleaning supplies.
* Lack of education about COVID - Push out information on social media platforms about specific topics such as the effects of COVID and/or immunizations and fertility.
  + Local organizations – target populations
* Promote RTA – offering no cost ride to those who want to get their vaccine
* Remove barriers
  + Lost vaccination card – is there a way for individuals to have that data so they can get future vaccines
* Scattered walk-in immunization clinics – accessible locations – give out reminders to come back for the second dose
* Booster – make sign up process more accessible
* Invest in education materials to hand out at certain places – HACAP, Labor Harvest, etc.
* Keep educating people
  + Will people even get the vaccine now if they haven’t yet? – political
* No struggle to get tests
* How are these workplaces managing COVID (staff, customer/participant safety)?

**HACAP**

Ron Axtel

* Office still closed to public and staff wear a mask if outside of their office
* LIHEAP, VITA, and water assistance programs will all be drop off again this year
* Continue to take applications for LIHEAP, and Water Assistance program, pilot program. Only one application takes care of both programs.
* February 1st open VITA. This year AAPR is not doing it, but many volunteers have come on board at HACAP so hopefully able to do more this year.
  + Hopeful increase capacity to do additional returns
  + Drop off system that was the same as last year

**RTA**

Amanda Dupont

* Wear masks outside of office, open to the public
* Zoom for board meetings
* Still offering no cost rides to those getting vaccinated
* FDA has pushed mask mandate back until April for all public transportation. All drivers and riders are required to wear a mask.

**Crescent**

Sherri Edwards

* Open to the public – masks required
* On track to vaccine mandate for staff
* Vaccines available – walk in.
* Test Iowa’s tests available – can walk in and get them. Not the rapid test.
* School based services are a particular need – on site testing in schools. Difficult to implement for a variety of reasons.
* Continue to grow on patient side.
* Continue to grapple with staff. More than doble in staff size over the last year and half.
* COVID remains the priority and getting people here. Transportation to get people to the care they need.

**Community Solutions of Eastern Iowa**

Ashley Noonan

* Going to be doing point in time count night of January 26th. Team of service providers. Go out to seek to get actual numbers of people who are street homeless. Also a count of available shelter beds. Law enforcement joins in a support capacity. Distributing supplies during that time, blankets, socks, hygiene kits, etc.

**St. Mark Youth Enrichment**

Kaitlin Schmitt

* Staffing is the main struggle they are experiencing. Having enough staff because so many have had exposure and had to quarantine.
* Follow school guidance for mask protocols
* Plan for summer - July similar to the past. Changing some things to combine classrooms.
  + 1st graders again like last year. School district identified this grade level that is in need of support. Combine 1st & 2nd graders with less students
  + Have more 3rd -5th graders
  + Trying to figure out staff for the summer with all the staffing issues
* Shifting staff around
  + Director of Programing leaving at the end of the month
  + More full-time coordinators helping in classrooms.
* School year programs continue to have staffing issues, specifically the before school program.
  + Enrollment has dropped in those time.
  + Closed before school at Audubon for the remainder of the school year.

**Next Meeting: February 17th**