



COUNTY OF HUNTERDON NEW JERSEY

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MENTAL HEALTH BOARD



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REFERENCE:

- ☒ Council
- ☐ Mental Health
- ☐ Youth
- ☐ Disability Services
- ☐ Substance
- ☐ Use Disorder
- ☐ Transportation

Approved January 10, 2022

COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SYSTEM (CEAS) COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Monday, October 18, 2021 2:00 p.m.
Via Webex

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

J. Gorman A. Fields
B. Duncan J. Ege
S. Lax C. Gettings

GUESTS

D. Prisco R. Todd-Marino
N. Knordle

EX-OFFICIO

STAFF

L. Piazza Long
S. Nekola
K. Burghardt
K. Paulmeno
M. O'Reilly

*Designee

I. CONVENE:

Open Public Meetings Statement:

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21. Notice of this meeting has been provided in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Courier News. A public notice announcing this meeting has also been placed in the lobbies of the Hunterdon County Department of Human Services, the first floor of the Main Street County Complex, 71 Main Street Building #1, Flemington, NJ; the first floor of the Route 12 County Complex, Building #3, 314 State Route 12, Flemington, NJ and County Clerk's Office."

Due the recent public health crisis, COVID-19, this meeting was a Webex/call in ONLY

II. MINUTES:

J. Gorman made a Motion and A. Fields seconded to pass the meeting minutes of September 20, 2021. There was one abstention. All were in favor. The motion passed.

III. REPORTS:

A. Homeless Prevention Program – Family Promise of Hunterdon County: A. Fields updated that everything is the same. Both of their programs are up and running. HPRP through March of 2022. They have monies for HPP, a bit more stringent but still have monies there. They did not provide an end date, they just explained it was extended. A. Fields stated they are still

helping individuals in that way as well.

- B. HPRP Update – Family Promise:** R. Todd-Marino stated last month she asked about how many families A. Fields had in the program and a spreadsheet would be sent out. A. Fields responded yes; she does have a number. They had about 28 slots for the **Covid Rapid Re-Housing Program**, which is a different program. They did hand in an additional six individuals last week. A. Fields stated she does have to follow up just because it is not run from the office, it is a lot of following-up, she needs to follow-up with DCA. They did have a **Covid Rapid Re-Housing program rep** call this morning, but it was just based on the nuances which is they can enroll individuals until September 2022. It is up to two years of rental assistance still. Individuals are having difficulty leasing up. They can offer an incentive up until three times what the rent is. They can also now pay realtor fees. They were introduced to the Housing navigators who will be helping them place the more difficult clients. A. Fields stated she has to find out specifically about these individuals and where they are going.

A. Fields stated another nuance with the Covid Rapid Re-Housing Program rep program, if they have someone spiral off HPRP, if they reach their 12 months, they can be picked up with sever rep if they still need help and that is two years. A. Fields stated she needs to follow-up, she believes they were sent two individuals, and A. Fields sent over six individuals. That should be eight individuals, there should be twenty more slots.

A participant asked what was that program? A. Fields responded it's an acronym for Covid Rapid Re-Housing.

R. Todd-Marino stated she was asking because she knows that Lambertville still has 14 displaced families, that is significant progress, but she wanted to make sure they had some current information about how many slots might be available. A. Fields responded yes, she did speak with Bambi last week, she is working on getting A. Fields some of the names, and she is working with NORWESCAP, they have a chart that they are checking off as individuals are being placed. They are paying some security deposits for some of the Lambertville individuals just to get them situated. A. Fields stated she didn't have a definitive family numbers, she is glad that R. Todd-Marino knows there are 14 more, she is helping as many individuals as she can. A. Fields stated if someone is having trouble being placed, they are encouraged to reach out to her or tell them that they can reach out to her.

- C. Tri-County Continuum of Care:** M. O'Reilly stated she believes S. Nekola provided a great overview at the last meeting from reading through the minutes. Since then, they have notified all of the agencies who applied for CoC funding and they have been notified of their awards. Monarch Housing is now working on the submission to HUD. She believes last week; all of the information was due to be input into the ESNAPS and agencies have done that. Monarch is now working on the HUD submission.

M. O'Reilly stated S. Nekola also spoke about the Regional Integrated Services Sub-Committee, that was well attended. It is a sub-committee through Tri-County CoC to focus not only on data quality, but all the data elements and how it really impacts the Tri-County CoC as a whole. Discussion ensued.

M. O'Reilly stated she has many of updates in general on eviction and prevention programs, she believes they are going to email them out today. M. O'Reilly stated she just wanted to give a quick overview that there are additional funds from the State. It is accessible through

the online portal that was developed by the State through Department of Community Affairs for the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The Eviction Prevention Program which was part of the legislation that was passed, around August 2021, that extended the eviction protections and also allocated \$750,000,000.00 for both rental assistance and utility assistance. They're using the same application for the eviction prevention program dollars. The information will be emailed out for everyone to have and have links to access.

There is also a connect EBT phone application for individuals who are receiving SNAP benefits. It can be downloaded for free in the Apple app store or Google play store. It allows individuals who have been receiving these benefits to have access on their mobile devices. They can use it to check their balance review, 12 months of transaction history, and then confirm when their last benefit was deposited and also change their pin if they need to do that.

J. Gorman asked if M. O'Reilly believes that most SNAP recipients are aware of that? M. O'Reilly responded that she is unsure if they are or not. M. O'Reilly asked L. Piazza-Long if she has been receiving calls about it. L. Piazza-Long responded they have not received any calls, there was supposed to be a press release that went out about it, they are telling clients but other than that, no, there is not a massive knowledge of it. L. Piazza-Long stated it will be great because a lot of them have trouble with socials and other information, this will make it much easier for them.

J. Gorman asked if they were able to provide them with something electronically, English and Spanish, they would put that in everyone's groceries and also to email it out since majority of individuals who come to the pantry are a SNAP recipient. M. O'Reilly responded that is a great idea, they can work with them on that. Discussion ensued.

M. O'Reilly stated there is also the excluded New Jersey's fund, she will send a link to the website. It provides a onetime direct cash benefit to eligible households who have suffered economic hardship due to COVID and were excluded from both the Federal stimulus checks and COVID related unemployment. It includes individuals who are undocumented, residents who may be rendering from any justice systems and anyone else who was otherwise excluded. M. O'Reilly stated she does not see the application on the website yet but there are some details on the website, she is hoping they have that application up soon.

Housing Mortgage Finance Agency will be releasing a mortgage assistance program. M. O'Reilly stated she signed up for updates on their website, anyone can do that too if they are interested in information about that. M. O'Reilly stated it looks like there is going to be two different categories that are eligible: individuals who are at 100% of the area median income and 150% of AMI. They have that information listed on their website. Discussion ensued.

There was also a release from New Jersey Department of Human Services regarding childcare benefits. They are continuing the additional amounts that they are supporting families who are currently enrolled in childcare programs. Individuals who are eligible for receiving reduced childcare costs. They are continuing those. M. O'Reilly stated they stated they are continuing this through December of 2023. Some of these include payment for \$300.00 for full-time care or \$150.00 for part-time care, which is an addition to the childcare assistance rate that the State pays on behalf of the family, they are continuing those and also providing some financial incentives to increase the number of childcare providers that offer non-traditional evening and weekend hours.

The Department of Community Affairs sent letters to individuals who owe arrears on utility bills, advising of the USF and HEA programs and other utility programs. M. O'Reilly stated when they email this out, she will provide that website as well. There is DCA-Aid, individuals can go on there, plug in some information to see if they qualify for any of these programs. One of the newer programs is part of the American Rescue Plan. It is an arrearage forgiveness program; individuals can apply for that.

Family Promise of Sussex does have a housing navigator. If anyone is interested specifically impacted by Tropical Storm Ida, they can contact Chris Budo from Family Promise of Sussex to have that individual referred over. M. O'Reilly stated she would provide that email in the chat box too.

A. Fields stated their central individual is integrated, their regional individual, holding their grant. Sussex is for the North. They have a different helping navigator; his name is Anthony. A. Fields asked M. O'Reilly if she has spoken to him? M. O'Reilly responded she has not, but it was stated for the purposes of Hurricane Ida folks that she could help with Housing navigation. M. O'Reilly stated they will discuss offline; she does not want to send the wrong information. Discussion ensued.

D. EFSP Update – Harvest Family Success Center: C. Gettings reported they completed the EFSP grant last May. Approximately two weeks ago, notice was received that the new grant will be starting with an application process that will be due on the 19th. It is for \$15,000.00 and will need to be completed by October 31st. C. Gettings stated they have decided, it was Karen's decision, that they will not be applying for this grant. They felt that after doing this for a year by the time it is decided on who is to receive this grant, they would have about eight or nine days to use the \$15,000.00. C. Gettings stated it is not just speaking with the individuals, it is getting the paper back from the landlords. The easier part would just be doing the utilities, but they can only do one month's usage for utilities. C. Gettings stated doing a grant that had \$15,000.00 in that short of period of time and getting the paper back from the landlord, it was decided that they will not apply for this at this time.

B. Duncan asked if that was an EFSP grant or a different grant. C. Gettings responded it is EFSP, she understands the County got it delayed, she is unsure of why but the application process October 19th and had to be completed by the 31st of October. C. Gettings stated if she did not do it last year, it would be a little bit different, but she does know how long it takes and how many telephone calls that it takes to get the landlords to get the paperwork where it needs to be, it takes time. C. Gettings stated after speaking with Karen she decided they don't have the manpower to do that amount of money in such a short period of time.

S. Lax stated she feels the pain, it is one of the reasons why Helpline has never applied. S. Lax stated exactly for those reasons, lag time. S. Lax asked M. O'Reilly if there is any way to speak with any of the other Counties and see how they manage this. M. O'Reilly responded she speaks from experience of working in another County, every County does it differently and every County receives a certain amount of money. M. O'Reilly stated she believes the issue in Hunterdon is they relay on the set-aside committee to release the funds and they gave a notice basically two weeks ago and they rolled out the emergency meeting that they had to determine the rent and utility designation and then rolled out the Request for Proposals within days. M. O'Reilly stated there are a lot of rules and regulations with EFSP that are hurdles, if they have more time spending \$15,000.00 wouldn't be that big of an issue, she believes it is the time that puts a crunch on them this year. M. O'Reilly stated they did reach out to see if

there is any way they could extend that, they haven't heard back yet from EFSP.

B. Duncan asked if anyone else applied. M. O'Reilly responded the applications are due tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. she is hoping that other agencies apply but she does not believe they have received any applications yet. A participant asked if they don't receive any applications then they don't get the \$15,000.00. M. O'Reilly responded that she does not know if that has ever happened before, and she is not sure that the County could even roll out the \$15,000.00 that quickly. Discussion ensued.

M. O'Reilly stated they will have to see what happens if no one applies. B. Duncan stated she was unable to attend the EFSP emergency meeting, the request for funding was based on the funds being used for utility assistance or assistance. B. Duncan asked A. Fields if that fits into her wheelhouse at all in terms of some folks on the horizon that could be turned around. A. Fields responded Mark Balli called from NORWESCAP and he stated that he wanted to apply for the money, he didn't want her to apply for it, she is unsure if that is still the case, she will call him to see what he is doing, that will determine if they will apply for the money. A. Fields stated applying for EFSP before and how they operate is they have a partnership with the hotels, and they invoice them and then Family Promise sends them a check and that is not allowed with EFSP. A. Fields stated it looks like they didn't spend the monies because they wanted a credit card after the person checks out which is not what they do, they were going back and forth with that for months and ended up having to give money back, it seems like that could be the case again. A. Fields stated at this point, they would only be able to back date the monies in order to spend it, she is unsure if she is running into that stringency again. A. Fields stated she is not opposed to it, she will speak with Mark and see if he plans on doing anything, if no one else applied, they will probably apply. B. Duncan stated it is due tomorrow. Discussion ensued.

J. Gorman asked A. Fields if she can let the group know after she speaks with Mark. A. Fields responded yes, she will speak with him after this meeting and then she will probably send something out. Discussion ensued.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **10 - Year Plan** – L. Piazza Long stated she was speaking with S. Nekola earlier and possibly volunteer to be the chair of that committee. They could come up with an agenda for it to be more organized. L. Piazza-Long asked if anyone is willing to do that?

A participant stated she is not averse to doing it, she would just be facilitating, she wouldn't be providing the content. L. Piazza-Long stated she believes it needs to be not County related, they can give content and anything they need, but she believes they should not be the individuals in charge of it.

A. Fields stated she needs clarity on where they're going, the last meeting they had discussed not doing a homeless trust fund but trying to see if they could raise a certain amount of dollars to serve as a homeless trust fund but unofficially. R. Todd-Marino asked if the CEAS committee decided not to pursue that trust fund or it's just that there was negative feedback? S. Lax stated she contacted Counties; J. Gorman contacted Counties. S. Nekola stated she believes the issue was, they discussed that collecting the money through fees on real estate transactions was a difficult process and that other Counties found it to be arduous and may not worth it considering how much money they expect to yield from that process. S. Nekola stated she is unsure if they definitively decided that wasn't what they wanted to pursue, she believes they are in the discussion phase on

that still. J. Gorman stated she agrees with that, she believes looking at the two pager that was done by Morris County, the key area for Hunterdon was on identifying gaps. J. Gorman stated what would the money be used specifically for, there was that conversation that still had to occur. J. Gorman asked if there are other opportunities for funding outside of this process that would still be able to be utilized for perceived as those gaps.

B. Duncan asked S. Nekola was the conversation about collecting the deeds fees a conversation with Mary Melfi in terms of what she would have to do in terms of tracking that. S. Nekola responded that is unsure if they necessarily came to a conclusion about it, it was thrown out there to discuss, but she believes they need to explore that more thoroughly before they decide that is not going to work. Discussion ensued.

A. Fields stated they can do the 10-year plan, she is unsure about getting a shelter because they have been chasing the Zoning individual since summer to get information on property and it is almost November. A. Fields stated she knows there are new individuals on council, but it would have been a benefit to have a shelter up and running during Tropical Storm Ida. A. Fields stated she has reservations about exploring this. A. Fields stated she has been in this for three years and for two and a half years she has been having push back about a shelter. A. Fields stated she believes that more discussion needs to be done before they dive into what can happen. Discussion ensued.

A. Fields stated Morris County is not having success with their white paper. B. Duncan stated they probably need to wait until after the elections. J. Gorman stated their wide paper was specifically around homeless trust funds and if they were receiving the same push back from Clerks throughout the State that Susan and she were hearing, they could understand that. J. Gorman stated to A. Fields that she gives her all credit because that push back, she has received in two and a half years is really frustrating, but the plan still needs to be done, they need to have focused time and discussing it. J. Gorman stated she doesn't have anything that identifies what their gaps are and in terms of exactly what would be required in terms of funding, she has an estimate of what a shelter would cost. J. Gorman stated she is unsure if anyone knows what the gaps are and what is available to fill those gaps.

S. Lax stated she believes they need to do their homework, she hears A. Field's frustration, they had frustration five years ago, but she does believe they could look at the fruit in terms of what they want. S. Lax stated the Counties that she spoke with did not give up on their trust fund because they bounded even with all the effort to put together did address certain issues and they might come up with something different but there is a problem. S. Lax stated whether it is Family Promise, their clients, folks on the street not being identified, they see that every year with the P.I.T count, how can they address this? S. Lax stated she is unsure if this is where they are headed, that maybe it should not be a County committee, she kind of likes that in terms of being able to get beyond the Commissioners if they decide that, she is all for continuing the process and seeing what they are going to do. They just heard from C. Gettings the mental funding is difficult to use. S. Lax stated what if they end up finding out that they could create their own fund and that each of their organizations could give in to it when they had someone who is standing there for the next two weeks who is not eligible for anything, could just get them in housing for the next two weeks. Discussion ensued.

J. Gorman stated one of the problems with the homeless trust fund is that was how to raise funds as opposed to what the funds would be used for, and they would always start with what the funds would be used for, what do they need money for, then they could figure out how to fund it. J. Gorman stated to put everything on homeless trust fund when they really want specific amounts

of money for different areas and then to figure out what are the most appropriate ways to obtain that type of funding, in private or Government grants? S. Lax stated if they read the last report, they looked at all of those, the problem as A. Fields has earlier stated, it was given back to them, they opened up the avenues to find other sources of funding. They looked at that and the gaps and then there was a standstill because they were relaying on the Commissioners to give an answer. S. Lax stated she believes going forward they will have to be creative, and they have to come up with an opportunity that does not relay on local government. Discussion ensued.

S. Lax stated she believes that it should be separate from the CEAS committee because it just takes a lot of time and effort to really work at it. A. Fields stated now that she has this understanding of it, it changes for her because that is how these shelter providers consortium was developed. They saw a gap in shelter providing and they compiled documents. A. Fields stated she is guessing for them; it would be similar to a 10-Year Plan esc document and then they just went to Robert Wood Johnson and presented it and then Robert Wood Johnson funded it for three years. A. Fields stated if this is the route they are going, she is all for it. Discussion ensued.

B. Duncan echoed as S. Lax indicated they do have some budget numbers around some functions, they sort of have probably old data but data on what they are currently spending on housing options. B. Duncan believes the idea of moving it from a County based coalition to a community based coalition would really enhance the dialogue back in the data and there are a few individuals here who are from that era when they were doing that Hunterdon Housing Alliance, the focus wasn't just on folks that were probably in the Social Service system who needed housing assistance but then looking at that broader picture of identifying the folks who are falling through the cracks because that housing gap of individuals who are working and earning, the Alice folks who still need housing options also sort of expanding that notion of the housing requirements that the community has, that also helps to showcase that housing isn't for a certain demographic that they usually portray in a very negative way. Housing is a community issue. B. Duncan stated the path has been described is a good path to go on, she would be happy to help and support but she will not lead.

L. Piazza-Long stated to answer S. Lax's question, that is exactly why she doesn't believe it should be a County employee, not that they won't provide information and help in participating, she just believed it shouldn't be one of them to lead that group.

S. Lax stated she believes that is great because for example, if they decide as the Coalition, that they have an RFP out there that they want to apply for and brings in money and helps in a different way than that traditional look at the brick and mortar. S. Lax stated she believes it is a great idea, she believes it still could be reported back to the CEAS about. Discussion ensued.

L. Piazza-Long asked how do they go forward and does anyone want to try and take on that position? J. Gorman asked A. Fields if it is something she might be interested in since it is Housing, and it would help. A. Fields responded if they could go that route she can start finding out information if they are not going the County route. She stated she can start finding out if there are RFPs, what it means, and how they are, starting there to see what is required before they start formulating a new document. S. Lax stated she does not believe they have to formulate a new document, to R. Todd-Marino's point, they need to update. A. Fields responded that is what she means, updating the document in terms of what funding source they are going to potentially look at. S. Lax stated they have an outline, they don't have to re-invent the wheel, but they do have to pump different data into it and may come up with several different trajectories based on once they have those numbers to J. Gorman's point of where the gaps are.

B. Duncan stated if they were to add folks to that coalition such as a landlord or real estate agent or mortgage broker, as they learn from each other, she believes that may open other opportunities, they may or may not need to fund it, someone else may lead the way with that. S. Lax stated that is true too and to let them know what they decide.

A. Fields stated she will call together the first meeting and let them know what she has and go from there. L. Piazza-Long thanked A. Fields. Discussion ensued.

- B. Hurricane Ida** – J. Gorman stated it is good to note that the Coat Drive from the Y now includes adults who have been impacted by Hurricane Ida. Discussion ensued.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. 2022 Meeting Dates Discussion:** –L. Piazza Long stated the by-laws read every other month and they have a meeting monthly and asked M. O'Reilly if that is correct. M. O'Reilly responded yes and stated she would pull up the information.

M. O'Reilly stated she believes it was an error when they put out the public notice, it stated in the text that there was a November meeting but then there was no November date for a meeting, it was a typo. She stated if the group wants to meet about the 10 Year Plan as a subcommittee, they can do that without it being a CEAS meeting. They don't necessarily have to have a November or December meeting. At one point, this meeting was every other month and then it moved to monthly, and it has moved back and forth historically. M. O'Reilly stated she wanted to bring it up to discuss meeting every month or having the 10 Year Plan subcommittee every month.

J. Gorman asked if the EFSP meeting is required quarterly and asked to have it after those meetings and then do any other subcommittee. M. O'Reilly asked if J. Gorman wants to have CEAS meetings after the EFSP meetings. M. O'Reilly stated she believes they had 10 meetings this year to only four meetings per year for 2022 for CEAS. M. O'Reilly asked if everyone is okay with quarterly CEAS meetings going forward? B. Duncan stated for clarity though, that means they would have to have a CEAS meeting in December to piggyback on the December EFSP? M. O'Reilly stated they also have to worry about Point in Time too, they would need to have a December or January meeting, she prefers January for Point In Time because usually by then they have everything squared away on the tool. M. O'Reilly stated she is okay moving it to quarterly but then they would have potentially a December and a January meeting. J. Gorman asked if there is any other time during the year, if it was quarterly, plus January for P.I.T, is there any other time during the year that something like that comes up? B. Duncan responded usually in the fall if they are going to do something around Project Homeless Connect, this year Ida made that a backseat issue, they didn't do it this year.

S. Nekola stated she is not sure if quarterly meetings are enough. She believes maybe if they took a couple of months off in the summer. S. Nekola stated there are enough topics that happen regularly that they need to discuss. L. Piazza-Long asked if they could go back to every other month. S. Nekola responded they used to do that, she believes that was sufficient, six meetings a year she believes would be okay, she believes four meetings is not enough.

J. Gorman stated right now, she believes the quarterly is March, June. B. Duncan stated September, December. J. Gorman stated adding a January and then one other month. M. O'Reilly stated her suggestion would be adding the January and then also a September for

preparation of Project Homeless connect, if they are doing maybe August, September or September, October to allow for that planning. B. Duncan stated September, October because there are a lot of folks that take August off from a meeting standpoint, that would get the six meetings. L. Piazza-Long stated January, March, June, September, October, December. B. Duncan stated that sounds good to her, she asked if they will still need a December EFSP? M. O'Reilly responded yes because they still need to meet quarterly. S. Nekola asked even if they don't award the money? B. Duncan stated it is required to be done quarterly. M. O'Reilly stated even if the group is just meeting for five minutes to state that. B. Duncan stated unless they want to change when those quarterly meetings are, but she believes based on what they already set-up it is just going to be a very short December meeting. J. Gorman stated the by-laws state it is those months for EFSP.

J. Gorman asked if they are getting the representation on those meetings that are required according to by-laws? J. Gorman stated she knows they had set-up individuals, but she wasn't sure if they have been coming or not. M. O'Reilly responded attendance has been low and she believes that they try to get the message out there to individuals, she believes they need to remind them a little bit more and she believes some of the members especially in the Emergency Services sector were side-lined with Ida work. J. Gorman asked about the Red Cross representative? M. O'Reilly stated she believes he has been to meetings. J. Gorman stated that is good, and asked about the Faith Leader? K. Burghardt stated she responded to his last email for a meeting but because they got notified the day before and it was an emergency meeting, she couldn't attend that one, he doesn't remember her being at any of the meetings. J. Gorman stated okay, she knows that the by-laws were specific about it, she knows that they really tried to make sure that they had those representatives on EFSP, if they are not coming it is encouraged to let J. Gorman know. Discussion ensued.

- B. Bylaws Discussion:** M. O'Reilly stated if they are going to change the dates, her recommendation would be to update the by-laws to match whatever dates they are going to hold the meetings. L. Piazza-Long responded okay. B. Duncan asked if those by-laws have to come back to this committee for approval and then to HSAC? M. O'Reilly responded yes.

VI. AGENCY NEWS:

A. Fields stated her and M. O'Reilly have earlier discussed, she would like to be a part of the Tri-County CoC Executive Committee and she knows she has to be nominated via CEAS, she doesn't want that to get lost. She stated she really would like to be a part of the Tri-County CoC Executive Committee, if they could consider nominating her for that. J. Gorman asked M. O'Reilly the process for nomination. M. O'Reilly stated she believes they would just have to make a motion, that is approved and voted on by the members. B. Duncan asked if this is for the CoC? M. O'Reilly responded yes.

B. Duncan made a motion for A. Fields to be a part of the Tri-County CoC.

J. Gorman seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued.

A. Fields thanked them.

M. O'Reilly asked all in favor.

L. Piazza-Long asked if they have to have a certain number of voters like HSAC? There are only two members on this entire call.

M. O'Reilly stated she believed with CEAS almost everyone was a member, it is not like HSAC. Discussion ensued.

M. O'Reilly asked if County folks are members? S. Nekola responded yes, there is no limitation on it. Discussion ensued.

L. Piazza-Long stated the motion carries.

L. Piazza-Long asked if they must do something else to forward that up? M. O'Reilly stated no, she will just put it on the agenda for Tri-County CoC. Discussion ensued.

J. Gorman stated she had emailed a couple of individuals, they have had requests recently about Coat Drives or coats, winter coats. J. Gorman stated the only individuals she remembers in the past are Salvation Army, she knows they have had that inventory of coats, she is unsure if it is still there, she is unsure if anyone else has had the same request, if there is anyone else who is doing a coat drive or would have an inventory of coats. B. Duncan responded she knows that the YMCA is doing their Coat Drive for kid's coats, she was under the impression though, when they had a conversation that Salvation Army is going to do a Coat Drive or that they still have the relationship that they have had in the past with Burlington Coat Factory. B. Duncan stated she believes that theirs might be a combination of new and old. Discussion ensued.

B. Duncan stated she can check with Gabby when she sees her to see if Salvation Army is, indeed, she does not know what their process is for distribution, she believes that is probably more important.

J. Gorman stated the information did come out about St. Elizabeth's doing the Thanksgiving Dinner. J. Gorman stated she believes everyone received that; they will start to get that out at this time. J. Gorman asked if D. Prisco received that, if he is on that kind of distribution? D. Prisco responded he is not sure if he received that. J. Gorman stated she would send it over to him too, it is a night out or morning out. D. Prisco thanked her. Discussion ensued.

A. Fields stated she is hiring two case managers, if anyone knows anyone who fits the criteria, she is going to get that out as soon as possible. A. Fields stated she can send the group the job description and then they can get that out to their network, it would be appreciated. J. Gorman stated she is looking for a job for someone and to let her know. A. Fields stated she can send it over to her, she just wants to amend it a bit, but they need more than one. Discussion ensued.

D. Prisco stated this Thursday they are having their candlelight vigil on October 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. on the historic Court House steps. They will have a couple of speakers and candles to hand out for everyone. They are also hiring for a few positions. D. Prisco stated they are hiring for the DVRT Coordinator, they will run the Domestic Violence Response Team, they also have the CSVA Coordinator. D. Prisco stated they promoted Rebecca Ramos from the DVR Team Coordinator to Emergency Services Manager since she has done such a phenomenal job and they were able to obtain some additional funding through VOCA for Safe House and shelter hotline coverage. The other position is a Finance Manager. D. Prisco stated if anyone knows anyone for a full-time Finance Manager, they are looking to bring someone in for that as well as a full-time Legal Advocate. Discussion ensued.

D. Prisco stated in terms of shelter availability they just had a handful of families that cleared out. They do have availability in their emergency shelters. D. Prisco stated if they do have families or come across anyone that is in a situation, domestic violence, sexual violence that needs shelter, they are encouraged to call their hotline.

D. Prisco stated he is unsure of how many individuals are aware but DAYSACC, their Warren County shelter had a fire about a week and a half – two weeks ago. They have been coordinating with them to offer additional shelter opportunities that they have. D. Prisco stated their shelter is damaged in terms of the resident side, they have been trying to clear space for them to allow any new families that need to come in and help with that. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. B. Duncan made a Motion and J. Gorman seconded. The Motion passed. The next meeting will be Monday, January 10, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. via a virtual meeting.