

## Cambria County Health and Welfare Council

Wednesday, December 7 (In-person)

Choices Building (119 Jari Drive)

### Attendance:

Via Zoom: Abby Gerlach (Cambria County Backpack Project), Catherine Monk (Nulton)

In-person: Bridget Hall (Penn Highlands Community College), Mike Alberts (Johnstown Housing Authority), Michelle Ferrin (Career Link), Shemariel Gray (CASA), Chelsey Novack (Pittsburgh Food Bank), Natalie Kauffman (CC Drug Coalition), Bethany Rietscha (PA Link), Theresa Wolf (PMSC AmeriCorps), Sarah Kern (Easter Seals Western & Central PA), Mary McCoy (Cambria County Prison), Helen Cannonie (Alleghenies Unlimited Care), Kristen Villarrial (Cambria County Backpack Project), Ethan Merrill (The Learning Lamp), Nicki Sliko (The Learning Lamp/Prevention), Dan Hockenberry (AUCP), Brian Woy (ALUCP), Tom Chernisky (Cambria County), Amy Bunn (1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health), Allie Byers (1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health), Barb Penn (Senior Life), Brian Goughnour (Communities in Schools @ Morrell Neighborhood School), Jessica Nickel (CCCDC)

**Meeting Introduction:** Bridget Hall started the meeting at 8:32am.

**Minutes Approval:** Mary McCoy motioned to approve the November 2, 2022 meeting minutes; seconded by Natalie Kauffman. Approved by all present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report provided by Mike Alberts; account currently has \$8,019.20. The donation to the Cambria County Suicide Prevention Task Force still needs to be made. Motion to round up donation to \$3,000 suggested. Approved by all present. Barb Penna motioned to approved Treasurer's report and seconded by Bethany Rietscha; approved by all present.

**Agency updates:** Brief updates provided due to Holiday Party festivities. Updates shared by agencies present are as follows:

- Cambria County Drug Coalition (Natalie Kauffman):
  - Forming new Youth Advisory Committee with goal of getting feedback from students in grades 8-12 (high school) on events planned. Planning quarterly meetings beginning in January. Meetings would have a fun component along with business/planning component. Planning to have a meeting on December 15.
  - Wellness Wednesdays are continuing within the Johnstown Housing Authority locations and doing well.
- CASA (Shemariel Gray): 25 Years of CASA celebration on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am at Beginnings. RSVP by December 15<sup>th</sup> to [sgray@beginningsinc.org](mailto:sgray@beginningsinc.org)
- PA Link (Bethany Rietscha):
  - Bringing back collaborative meetings; next meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm with a speaker from PA Vet Connect.

- Training on Healthy Boundaries with Croyle-Nielson on January 24 from 1:30pm – 3:30pm (flyer to come)
- Easter Seals (Sarah Kern): Office Olympics in March. Get ready to form your teams of 5.
- Alleghenies Unlimited Care (Helen Cannonie & Brian Woy)
  - December 14 – Holiday Event from 11am to 3pm with opportunity to socialize
  - Hiring for some positions
  - Recently held a fundraiser and members sold over 1,100 candy bars!!
- Johnstown Housing Authority (Mike Alberts): App now available. Events hosted within communities will be listed in the app. Check out more here: <http://jhaonline.org/ladgapp.html>
- Cambria County Backpack Project (Kristen Villarrial): Number of students receiving weekend meal support is up. They are currently in need of extra grocery bags (they double bag) due to the number of meals they are sending home.

Submitted by: Bridget Hall, Cambria County Health and Welfare Council President