**Cambria County Health and Welfare Council**  
**Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – IN PERSON**

**Attendance:** Katie Mullins (Peerstar LLC), Bridget Hall (Penn Highlands Community College), Kristen Villarrial (Cambria County Backpack Project), Abby Gerlach (Cambria County Backpack Project), Allie Byers (1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health), Jeff Vaughn (CAPCC), Mike Alberts (Johnstown Housing Authority), Chelsey Novak (Pittsburgh Food Bank), Catherine Monk (Nulton Diagnostic and Treatment Center), Jodi Russo (Goodwill of Southern Alleghenies - YouthBuild program), Jennifer Jones Spratt (Community Engagement for Highmark Wholecare), Dan Hockenberry (Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy), Ethan Merrill (The Learning Lamp), Susan Pratt (PA Dept. of Health), Shemariel Gray (CASA), Kauffman (Cambria County Drug Coalition), Bethany Rietscha (PA Link Coordinator), Kendra Dwire (Richland Family Health Center), Naomi Paluch (Cambria County Drug Coalition), Nichole Rousell (Cambria County Drug Coalition), Reghan Turchetta-Wolfe (SVDP Food For Families), Tom Chernisky (Cambria County), Amy Bunn (1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health), Rebecca (Primary Health Network), Helen Cannonie (ALUCP), Brian Woy (ALUCP), Roselyn Brandon (Teen Parenting Program), Gloria Eshelman (Veterans Leadership Program)

**Meeting Introduction:** The meeting started at 8:33am. Bridget Hall welcomed the group to the meeting and noted how it was great to be back in person!

**Meeting Minutes:** Natalie Kauffman made a motion to approve the September 2022 minutes. Jeff Vaughn seconded the motion. All present in favor.

**Fiscal Report:** Michael Alberts provided the fiscal report. The current account balance is $9,370.76. Mike noted that CCHWC memberships and sponsorships for the October 22 Event have been coming in – so far there is $4,400 committed for the Wellness Isn’t Scary Event. Chelsey Novak made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report. Bethany Rietscha seconded the motion. All present in favor.

**Wellness Event Update & Group Discussion:** Katie Mullins provided updates on the “Wellness Doesn’t Have to Be Scary” event planned for **Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 10am-2pm** at the Johnstown High School gymnasium – it’s coming up very soon!

* **FLYERS ARE ATTACHED TO EMAIL – PLEASE PRINT/EMAIL/SHARE WIDELY TO YOUR SOCIAL NETWORKS!**
* Event is in collaboration with the Suicide Prevention Taskforce.
* Planning committee has been meeting to plan the marketing, registration, sponsorship, etc. components of the event.
* **Looking for Volunteers to help set-up between 8-10am and teardown between 2-4pm. If you can help, or you know someone who needs volunteer service hours, please reach out to Katie!!**
* Press release have gone out in the Tribune-Democrat, and will also be going out week of event. Katie is also doing a radio segment!
* Encouraging kids to come in costume – there will be lots of candy, a free lunch for everyone, prizes AND a bouncy house!
* Workshops will be in classrooms – throughout the event. Come to learn – there is something for all ages!
* **A Facebook event has been created (**[**https://www.facebook.com/events/1465979280500038/**](https://www.facebook.com/events/1465979280500038/)**) – please join and SHARE!**

**Organization Updates:**Each member was able to provide an update on current happenings/events at their organization. The following updates where shared:

* Amy Bunn – 1889 – continue to accept referrals for pregnant women with MA
* Catherine Monk – Nulton – no updates
* Kendra Dwire – Richland Family Health Center – no updates
* Rebecca – Primary Health Network – no updates; reminder that the Community Health Center in Ebensburg will accept all patients regardless of insurance/financial status
* Shemariel Grey – CASA – no updates
* Roselyn Brandon – Johnstown School District, Teen Parenting Program – will have a Zoom meeting on Friday – want to make sure that those working with children and families know about the organization – please reach out with questions
* Brian Woy – ALCUP (in charge of activities) – 80s dance this Friday (10/7) and also have other events for those with intellectual disabilities – asking for volunteers for events, please reach out
* Helen Cannonie – ALUCP (recruiter and hiring for caregivers) – always looking for staff, give Helen a call if you have questions or know of someone
* Dan Hockenberry – Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy – Murder mystery dinner on Friday – biggest fundraiser for year w/ a silent auction. Looking for sponsors; tickets are $35 each
* Bethany Rietscha – PA Link Coordinator (oversees 6 counties) – new in position, working on getting to senior centers to start networking with providers, started an info blast – if you would like to be in the info blast let her know
* Tom Chernisky – Cambria County Commissioner – county is hiring. Month of October is public budget hearings. Working on many things including workshops for property owners and continuing to work on County plan. Also created a Land Bank – person can go and buy property with redevelopment authority to help with owning property.
* Ethan Merrill – Learning Lamp/Marlene Singer – month of September was Fetal Alcohol Syndrome month – there are free presentations for women who work with child-bearing age and also 5-minute videos on the Learning Lamp YouTube channel. If you would like postcards with QR codes reach out to Ethan
* Kristen Villarrial – CCBP – Back in full swing packing for the school year – packing is every Monday evening at 4pm. CCBP is also running sponsor a child campaign for $200 for the entire school year. Information can be found on the CCBP website, FB page and Instagram
* Allie Byers – 1889 – no additional updates
* Sue Pratt – PA Dept. of Health – heave health equity action team meetings that are open to anyone in the community, the SW area meets 1x a month. Trying to address transportation issues in Cambria/Somerset – if interested, can email Sue
* Reghan Turchetta-Wolfe – St Vincent de Paul – Currently operates 17 pantries and warehouse distribution center, nothing to report but looking for people who would like to do a food drive, noted that they are not receiving donations now like they used to
* Jeff Vaughn – CAPCC – will be participating in the red ribbon campaign, to help make sure things go smoothly
* Natalie Kauffman – CCDC – red ribbon full week at end of October; have purchased 20,000 ribbons and will be looking to pin ribbons – this year it says in memory of Enrique Camarena (DEA agent) … want to put the story out there behind the red ribbon campaign. Lots of other things happening – presenting at Veterans symposium at end of Month. Friday is first responders’ appreciation day – this year will do a media blitz, looking for people to do a thank you to first responders. End of this week a Narcan Distribution on Friday 10/7 from 5-7pm at Richland Family Care Center. Goal is to work way north in the county – looking for places. The first Friday of every month, ongoing Narcan Training. Partnering with 1889 and JHA to do smaller wellness fairs in housing communities every Wednesday. Next week in portage – will be creating a calendar. Will continue to do more job class/job fair style as well health equity goals to find pathways to sustainable. Allie will schedule resources and organizations. October 29 – Drug Take Bank Day – can find locations on website.
* Naomi Paluch – CCDC (Prevention Specialist) – smoke free for life classes, are free to community members, 6-week class 1-hour with 30-day follow-up. Can also be offered to workplaces and employees and looking for locations to host. Also does vaping and tobacco presentations for kids.
* Nicki Rousell – CCDC (Project Coordinator) – no additional updates
* Chelsey Novak – GPCFB – Announcement as of Monday breakfast is now free for any student – PA is using funding to make sure all public students can get breakfast!
* Abby Gerlach – CCPB – At the Johnstown/Westmont football game on Friday are hosting a food drive – single serve canned pasta – additional food drive information can be found on website and social media
* Jodi Russo – Goodwill Youth Build program – youth 17-24 that have barriers to finding employment – do have to have a Johnstown residence to be eligible. Looking to increase enrollment. Also looking for anyone who is interested in talking to 17-24 year olds about healthy relationships and any other wellness topics to show them that there are other ways to go about their life.
* Katie Mullins – PeerStar – no main updates, but are hiring in Cambria County, someone who is doing well in their own mental health journey to work with people in the community; pay for training. Kicking off CRS program – 32 counties in PA – Director will be presenting in 2023.
* Bridget Hall – Penn Highlands – second half of the fall semester, starting October 17 and spring classes register October 31
* Jen Jones Spratt – Highmark Wholecare (Community Engagement) – Highmark continues to look for locations we can be out and about in the community, are currently wrapping up our 2022 Wholecare Mobile Tour RV series – will be at the Johnstown Farmers Market on 10/7 and at the Wellness Event 10/22
* Mike Alberts – no updates, but wanted to shout out to 1889 and Drug Coalition for Wellness Wednesdays, and also the smoking cessation program; looking forward to getting that in more JHA buildings.
* Gloria Eshelman – Veterans Leadership – having first stand-down in Johnstown – November 12 bring in things for Veterans, do not have locations or details – looking for people to participate. Location and Time TBD.

**Adjournment:** Before adjourning, Bridget noted that on the table at the side of the room, there is information for agencies. If you see old information (pre-pandemic) from your organization, please throw it away. You can also bring new information to be put on the table.

At 9:35am Motion to Adjourn by Jeff Vaughn. Katie Mullins seconded the motion. See you next month!

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 8:30am at Alleghenies Unlimited Care Providers Community Room (119 Jari Drive, Johnstown).

**Minutes Submitted By**: Jennifer (Jones) Spratt