Statewide Central Navigation Call
June 25th, 2020

Zoom Connection Information:

<https://zoom.us/j/929504480>

Meeting ID: 929 504 480

One tap mobile

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Chat Box:

* Introduce yourself
* Questions/Answers throughout the call

Agenda:

* CARES Act Funding Opportunities – Jenny Skala and Rachel Meier, K, NCFF
	+ Matrix was shared that details funding opportunities. Breaks out funding into categories, local funds, federal funds, playbook needs, and dollar amounts. Goes into further detail on how those funds will flow, what funding can be used for, timelines, etc.
	+ Aiming for next week to be able to share this matrix with communities.
	+ Can use this to also look at local levels to see if funds are being used to meet needs identified before requesting CARES Act Funds. CARES Act dollars need to be used by the end of the year, a quick turnaround therefore using playbooks to identify needs and gaps quickly will be an asset in planning on how to use those funds.
	+ Hoping for an announcement of partial funds this afternoon with further information to come out hopefully next week. Applications will hopefully be announced soon as well. As soon as NCFF has knowledge of updates it will be shared out.

* Barrier Busting/Solution Task Force Workgroups

* + Food Security – Zach Nelson
		- Committee is looking at addressing needs for children and families lacking access to food. Working to highlight and address needs at local levels. Where could additional solutions be supported. For example, Hy-Vee has donated gift cards. Wanting to support the work being done. Looking at volunteer opportunities and how to further support these efforts, such as the DoorDash opportunity.
	+ Undocumented Workforce and Housing – Rachel Meier and Leonor Fuhrer
		- Immigrant Legal Center, Centro Hispano, and Multicultural Coalition have agreed to be a part of a call/conversation related to undocumented family’s needs. Looking at how best to offer this opportunity- keep it with Thursday calls or separate session. There are many questions on how best to serve families when it comes to housing, landlord/tenant rights, path to citizenship process etc. Communities are encouraged to email Leonor with further questions, suggestions, etc
			* Contact Information:
				+ Leonor Fuhrer: leonorfurher@gmail.com
	+ Housing: There has been a large increase in assistance requests on rent assistance, legal assistance with housing related needs, landlord relationships, homeless services, etc.
		- COC’s are ramping up to offer rental assistance. Looking at partnerships with several organizations such as Nebraska Realtors Association, property management companies, etc.
		- There previously was an effort to provide support and education for landlords. There were funds that were set aside in the Relief Funds for landlord support. There work continuing on how this will work, exploring how to support landlord needs and also landlord education.
		- SSBG Funds from TANF to supporting housing. COC in Balance of State report coaching services are doing great in areas of youth housing. These funds are being looked at on how they can address gaps in coaching while being strategic with the dollars. One solution is offering collaboratives an opportunity to have a landlord liaison in their communities. Being a glue in the community with landlords, realtor organizations, and building relationships/partnerships around housing. Hope to get away from eviction being the only option for landlords and rather move towards a full prevention system. This will be leading to further conversations and partnership opportunities in the near future.
	+ Social Emotional Support for Young Adults and Families – “Let’s Try It” small group – Gay McTate
		- Community Dialogue: What are you trying in your area to reach out, connect, and support families and young people to address the trauma and current issues?
			* Peer Support Opportunities
			* Facebook Live trainings or support
			* Open Dialogues
			* Strategies to address trauma – free therapy without diagnosis, one on one coaching, etc
		- Trying to develop a sense on what is currently being done in communities to support families and children during this time.
			* Panhandle: Unified command with three emergency managers working together. Offering daily briefings for a Q&A for community. Have an opportunity every day to ask questions and receive factual information. Offer one hour every week for employers as a Q&A and support for employers. Has offered a “crash course” in collaborative building with the multitude of sectors that are present on those calls. Public Health were able to allocate funds for housing opportunities for those needing housing, also offer hotels/motels extra funds for cleaning when they have housed those that test COVID positive.
			* Family First Coalition: More coaches available by phone. Families seem to be more engaged and call more often. Youth leadership coordinator was hired a couple of months ago and providing outreach to young adults. This has given youth an opportunity to have an adult to check in and connect with. There have been a couple of small events that provide connection and peer support.
			* H3C: Spanish COVID Support group was formed. One for those that were directly impacted by COVID and another for families. School social workers have continued to work with families. Superintendent has offered town halls to be able to listen and address family concerns. Have also offered similar opportunities for childcare providers.
			* LeaAnn: Neighbor to Neighbor Concept-a way to help build capacity of natural leaders in neighborhoods. To support them in leading conversations, connections, and opportunity to be heard.
			* Denise/Tana Miller: Buffalo County Community Partners: Mental Health Collaborative did Facebook live that were addressing mass community mental health strains due to COVID that addressed the normalcy of these feelings, when it’s time to seek further help, and the help that is out there. Topics that have been covered were domestic violence and mental health resources. Offering other events like a town hall piece via local media. One specifically to be geared to address the concerns of reopening.
			* United Way and Community Family Partnership have held Mental Health messages on social media. Summer learning kits going out through the schools to push family engagement. June 12 launched mental health outlet services, free services per individual in English and Spanish. Having CR coaches field applications, coaches are able to ask if they need anything further that can lead to appropriate referrals. Pushing mental health outreach services on social media, flyers given out in community. C4K coordinators reach out to childcare providers and providing connections. Youth and Families for Christ have started engaging youth again with activities such as cooking, offering connections.
			* Tribal/Greg Donovan: Trauma Warriors requested they have more interactions together that also positions them to be community leaders. Discussions around reopening and fears that people hold around this. Also identifying those that are needing more supports. Some communities are working remotely while others are returning to work normally.
			* Heartland Counseling distributed jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, etc. at the grab-n-go lunch sites. Information on mental health resources is distributed in the grab-n-go lunches, food pantry boxes, and by Community Response Coaches. The CR Coaches and school counselors make periodic phone calls to families to check in. Our local Y has a program where you can sign up and someone will call weekly and just chat on the phone.
			* On June 1, ENCAP launched a mobile food delivery pilot in partnership with 3 other organizations to meet the growing demand for food. From June 1-June 23, we delivered food to 71 individuals; including clients of the WCA, Project Everlast, and DCCR. We’re currently making weekly deliveries in some of the highest need zip codes in Northeast and Southeast Omaha, where the poverty rate is almost 3 times greater than the rate in Douglas County. At the end of the pilot, we’ll survey clients who have consistently received deliveries throughout the 90 days to evaluate how our work has made a difference in clients’ lives. (i.e. increased food security, increased ability to cover rent, utilities, childcare, or other basic need expenses, etc.).

Double Up Food Bucks – Vanessa Wielenga, NE Extension

* + Applied for a grant that will
	+ Double Up Food Bucks is a private public partnership that incentivizes SNAP recipients to purchase more fresh fruits and vegetables with their federal benefits from their local farmers and retailers for the triple win.
	+ Each day, a SNAP customer can earn up to $20 of Double Up Food Bucks when they spend $20 on fresh produce at a participating retailer. Have 1,300+ families using Double Up Food Buck in Nebraska.
	+ Locations: Omaha/Lincoln food markets, supermarkets, and grocery stores.
		- Some local organizations support local markets to support and sustain this effort.
		- CHI Health in a community may earmark some dollars towards this program in their community.
		- This program can go anywhere in Nebraska. There just needs to be a local community champion to develop this program locally. Vanessa will assist that person in training and support.
		- Funding depends on SNAP funding. Looking at local SNAP sales on average and what percentage of that are used towards fresh fruits and vegetables.
		- For more information visit:
		- Minimum requirements on the website, also more information n vision and long-term goals for Nebraska.
		- For communities that serve Iowa residents, there is potential for crossing over.
		- Contact Information:
			* vwielenga2@unl.edu
* P-EBT – Melissa Weyers, SNAP Program Manager DHHS
	+ Provides additional food benefit for children eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch programs. Those families with children that were eligible for F&R lunch and currently receive SNAP benefits will not have to do anything, funds will automatically be added to card. Those that are not already receiving SNAP will have to apply and will receive a new EBT card.
	+ Program runs June 22nd through July 18th. Application are being taken currently. Schools are sending out letters to families that has link to application and information needed to apply. The max is $281 per child- that is split into two issuances-first one in July and another in August. This is not exactly like SNAP, the family guidelines to qualify are higher than that required by SNAP. Families need to apply with the PEBT link not the SNAP application.
	+ Families that have not received SNAP recently will need to apply. Only those that are active SNAP recipients will not have to apply.
	+ Other resources: Encourage families to apply for SNAP, food banks, some schools are offering meals.

 Governors Press Conference today at 2pm.

All notes, audio, and chat box recordings are posted at <https://www.nebraskachildren.org/frequently-asked-questions-for-communities.html>

Next Call: Thursday, July 2, 2020  10am