Statewide CN Call

9/30/21

* **Information Sharing and Updates**
	+ **Housing Update**
		- State recognizes the work communities are doing regarding housing work – spreadsheet is one way to acknowledge that work
		- Hoping to get start date done soon for communities to complete these
		- The spreadsheet is a thank you to navigators but also a data point to show the state total work being done on this program
		- Seeing more landlords not wanting to do applications anymore
			* One large reason is the time it takes and how long it takes for applications to be approved
		- Money is coming for home owners assistance for mortgage assistance
		- The communities have been working with landlords on getting the assistance for their tenants
		- Working with Ideas42 on a process for large benefit areas which were successful and what areas weren’t so in the future can make sure to improve
		- Mortgage assistance is available right now through CCFL
			* Housing assistance specialist answer calls regarding assistance
		- ERA 2 funds are coming to different areas which people don’t have to prove their money issues arose from COVID causes
		- NCFF is looking at ways to keep landlords engaged during the period between getting paid
	+ **Child Care Tax Credits and Medicaid Expansion – Appleseed, Voices for Children**
		- Starting tomorrow Oct 1 childcare assistance is increasing – is a two year eligibility
		- Employees within childcare programs can apply for education training
		- Tutorial for tax credits: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_gDngeNQQs>
		- Feel free to include the tax credit signature block on your email to spread the word
			* Had 476 applications approved last year
		- Also beginning Oct 1 is Medicaid expansion program will add full coverage assistance for everyone with Medicaid
		- Working on getting the word out about the Medicaid expansion as more people will qualify as well
		- People have until February 1st, 2022 to submit their tax credit at in NECPRS but ask for about 6 weeks to process them
			* The deadline to submit their information with Department of Revenue is March 1st, 2022
		- Tax Credit Website: <https://www.education.ne.gov/stepuptoquality/providers-educators/resources/tax-credits/>
		- There is a new tax filer tool for those who aren’t usually filers – linked in the chat
			* There are resources specific for immigrant families as well
	+ **American Rescue Plan Act recommendations – Coalition for Strong NE**
		- Small group of partners were put together on how to spend the money coming into the state for people struggling in the economy
		- A series of round tables occurred to discuss variety of topics and how the money could best be spent
		- Governor and legislature are putting together the plans on how money should now be spent based on these previous discussions
		- Oct 5 legislature is hearing testimonies
		- Laurie & Jenny put together a summary of everyone’s reports on their gaps and needs seen when trying to provide community assistance – linked in chat
			* Let either know if something needs added or changed, it is a document which will be edited as we learn more
				+ Essential housing with wrap around services
				+ Social worker for area manufacturing plants
				+ Mental health, including more providers
				+ Peer support programs
		- Governor is anticipated to submit his plan during the January 2022 session
* **Mindfulness Moment and Closing**

**All notes, audio, and chat box recordings are posted at**[**https://www.nebraskachildren.org/frequently-asked-questions-for-communities.html**](https://www.nebraskachildren.org/frequently-asked-questions-for-communities.html)

**Next Call:  October 14, 2021 10am CST**