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**