

Healthy Community Coalition

Thursday, 11/12/20

Meeting Notes

Page 1 of 5

**IMPORTANT:** We will be moving the HCC meetings from every Thursday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, November 12 at 11am via Zoom

**FACILITATOR:** Laura Smith, Laura@svcn.info

**NOTE TAKER:** Jami Au, Jami@svcn.info

Lauren with Evergreen Health- called in

Laura – SVCN reminder of what the purpose of the HCC is – make connections with service providers in KC. Connect youth and families to the services they need. Also taking on self-care piece as many are working with people in form of crisis.

Sam Sinanan – Encompass

- A local non profit based in North Bend. A pediatric therapy clinic and the early learning center. Also have a preschool at Carnation elementary
- Vision a community where all children thrive.
- 3 main areas: early learning programs toddler programs, tuition based and free income dependent. It is virtual now, but with a limited in person program.
- Home based program as well
- Pediatric therapy on site, behavioral therapy

Family enrichment programs as well

Support groups for siblings with special needs, and parent programs

Laura Lewis – Encompass

Big umbrella with lots of different offerings. Highlight today:

Kinship Care: A person caring for someone's child that either in their family (grandparents, aunts and uncles) or a friend or neighbor. 45,000 people in WA raising a relative's child. Lots of people don't know there are supports for them.

Trying to get the word out.

3 types: formal placements – removed and placed with relative by child welfare. They are mandated to find a relative.

These folks don't get stipend or financial supports like a foster family would. When placed with kin who are not licensed, they don't have financial support.

Non formal placements are kids who just end up with another relative also don't get financial supports. Kinship program steps in to help these families. Individual supports based on what each family needs.

Facts re. kids living with relatives. Its better for kids to be with family for many reasons. Longer placements, cultural reasons and still living with family.

Open to questions:

Sam: wanted to highlight program because they believe many families are kinship caregivers and they don't realize that they are – and that there is help and resources for them. Get the word out.

Mayor Larson : question – is there no avenue for a kinship family to receive assistance like a foster family?

Healthy Community Coalition

Thursday, 11/12/20

Meeting Notes

Page 2 of 5

Laura Lewis : They can get licensing – the requirements are easier than for foster care. But it takes 6-8 months. All kinship can get TANF benefit. Many decide not to apply because parent is responsible to pay back the benefit, and often it makes parents upset – puts kids at risk for parents coming to take kids back. Encompass has grants where they can help as well. They have emergency funds that can help families. Usually the greatest need is at the beginning when kids come into the home.

Dawn Behm: what does the kinship care program provide? (question asked in chat)

Mental health support groups is one service they provide. Not everyone needs financial support but need support group.

Laura: it is usually quite individualized because each family needs different things. Funding if they are not state involved. The advice is to refer any kinship provider to her and she can support them how they need. Often just having people who can relate to one another. Can pay for attorneys, or extra care/learning opportunities etc. Some families need clothes, some need food. They try to help with what each family needs.

Early Intervention:

Laura – 70% kinship, but family resource coordinator is second part of her job. Hania is supporting Spanish speaking. She has been working in EI for 14 years. They have openings right now to support kids. Looks at kids 0-3 whose parents have a concern in a development area. Past 5 years KC has made a push to beef-up infant mental health. First relationship program, dietician, behavioral health. No charge for evaluation and no dr. referral needed. Can help with sleep, eating etc. Things that people don't always think of early intervention. Utilize the program - great group of therapist.

Laura is inviting anyone who wants to highlight their org. please let us know.

Welcome Congresswoman Del Bene to the call -

Suzan DelBene:

Working on federal relief act. They haven't been able to pass and they are still working as some benefits have expired or run out. **Heros act** will renew and enhance benefits. To help provide certainty to people so they can get through the crisis.

She is heading back to DC on Sunday and is working on expansion of child tax credit. 1/3 people make too little to qualify for the credit. Trying to address that. Working on refundability. Make payments monthly not just yearly. Helps families reduce child poverty by doing this. Huge opportunity to help families. They have bipartisan support to address this.

Resources for state and local tribal governments so they can continue to provide services. Also renewal of enhanced employment. Either child-care issues or can't go back to work support those people as well.

Chris Lovings ELAP : civil legal aid. Hear a lot about people that are unable to pay rent. This is going to create a housing crisis. Are they thoughts about nationwide renter protection or rental assistance.

Congresswoman:

If eviction moratoriums are lifted. It is also impacting some landlords that are not getting their rent. She believes it's critical to have federal rental assistance.

She is also working on low income housing tax credit. 11 million are rent burdened and they see this is an issue. Also working availability of affordable housing. Could be voucher, or provided to state and passed through there.

Healthy Community Coalition  
Thursday, 11/12/20  
Meeting Notes  
Page 3 of 5

Q: Amy Biggs: Special needs transportation providers are delivering lunches to disables and seniors. Have a waiver through WASHDOT that expires in Dec. Can she work toward extension?

Congresswoman: trying to include this in relief package they are working on. Have to pass federal government package in Dec as well. Ideally from Dec. 12 -Sept. If they can't pass relief packages they are still working on extending waivers. Is straight forward way to extend. But they want to pass relief package by Dec. 11.

Q Jerry Blackburn Influence the Choice: People are focused on community needs specific to behavioral health. Starting to see signs of people not seeing what's ahead. Youth struggling in many ways – trying to put a Band-Aid on crisis. Won't have access to data like in the pass because of Corona virus. Asking for rapid funding to do the work once we know. Do you have thoughts on proactive standpoint.

Congresswoman: yes we understand everyone is stressed

Hero's act: resources to directly support mental health programs and tele health as well. Waivers has helped with this. Increase in funding for tele health. Broad band access can be an issue so they are working on this. Making sure we have availability in number of providers.

She feels like there is a focus on what they long tern mental health will be.

Laura: How can we help her?:

We can help her by letting her know specifics of our needs. What types of issues are we seeing in our communities? Making sure they know about all the areas that will help our communities.

Laura – expressing concern about the time frames that we are required to spend the money and report back on the spending.

Christina Camps: Friends of Youth - Getting funding to pay for staff is a struggle. How can you support this?

Congresswoman:

Payroll support, they had unique issues in non-profit. Monthly refundable tax credit to help with payroll. Part of the relief package.

Delbene.staff.gov is website

Mayor Matt: Feedback: very helpful to get Cares Funding

Appreciated that it was in 2 rounds and gave great discretion to local communities. This was helpful. Time frame was challenging for the city as well. Had to get money spent in small amount of time. Second allocation went out last week. Would appreciate another round of a package.

Congresswoman: WA state did a good job allocating money. 50,000 got it directly, others were from state government to smaller communities less than 50,000. Trying to take away restrictions and flexibility for communities. They are working on this.

Thank you to the Congresswoman for attending. In closing – we won't meet until December because of Thanksgiving.

#### **ZOOM CHAT MINUTES**

11:27:10 From Stephanie : How would you like us to refer individuals to the Kinship program?

11:29:52 From Dawn Behm : What are the things that the kinship caregiver program offers?

11:31:48 From Valerie Stewart : There is a lovely Kinship Support Group :)

Healthy Community Coalition

Thursday, 11/12/20

Meeting Notes

Page 4 of 5

- 11:37:59 From Brookeshoo@yahoo.com : The library is up for doing a presentation.
- 11:39:05 From Michael Brown : HERO House NW would be happy to do a presentation.
- 11:41:16 From Lisa Yeager : Sno-Valley with Mt. Si and Issaquah Senior Center - the FESH (Far East Senior Hub) is always willing to do a presentation about all the services for seniors.
- 11:45:58 From Chris Lovings ELAP (he/him) : WA's Potentially Narrowing Eviction Moratorium:  
<https://crosscut.com/news/2020/11/washington-considers-narrowing-its-eviction-moratorium>
- 11:54:34 From Laura Smith- SVCN : The Advisory Notice from King County about suicide:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vfx58ljp9hgrkdr/Health%20Advisory%20Increased%20Suicide%20Risk%20-%20PHSKC-DCHS.pdf?dl=0>
- 11:59:09 From Kelly Marquardt : I work for the Congresswoman, and am happy to be your point of contact:  
Kelly.marquardt@mail.house.gov
- 11:59:21 From Laura Smith- SVCN : We can continue to share critical needs when we meet as well and elevate those through Kelly.
- 12:04:42 From Laura Smith- SVCN : If you need to be added to the Snoqualmie Valley Community Network list to receive the minutes, please sign up for the newsletter at [www.snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org](http://www.snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org)

**ATTENDANCE**

- Haley Cohen, A Supportive Community for All, haley@asupportivecommunityforall.org
- David Moore, representing the Rotary Club of Snoqualmie Valley. davidseidonmoore@comcast.net
- Terri - Holy Innocents Food Pantry : Terri Schell, Holy Innocents Food Pantry Coordinator
- Bryan Thompson - Safe Place - Friends of Youth bryan@friendsofyouth.org
- Carolina Bliman, New program manager at Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services carolinab@svshelterservices.org
- Valerie Stewart : Valerie Stewart valeries@soundgenerations.org Sno Valley, Mt. Si and Issaquah Senior Centers
- Jerry Blackburn (Influence the Choice) : Jerry Blackburn, Influence the Choice, jerry@influencethechoice.org
- Michael Brown - HERO House NW michaelb@herohousenw.org
- Sam Sinanan, Encompass, Sandra.sinanan@encompassnw.org
- Brad Knowles : School safety officer, riverview SD knowlesb@rsd407.org
- Lane Covington with King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert's Office. Lane.Covington@kingcounty.gov
- Crystal Werner, Trail Youth Coffee Home, crystal@thetrailyouth.com
- Kelly Marquardt, Office of Rep DelBene, Kelly.marquardt@mail.house.gov
- Melinda Burns YMCA Mental Health Sammamish/King County mburns@seattlemca.org
- Mayor Matt Larson, City of Snoqualmie. Mayor@SnoqualmieWa.gov
- Christina Campos, Mental Health Program Manager at Friends of Youth - christinac@friendsofyouth.org

Healthy Community Coalition

Thursday, 11/12/20

Meeting Notes

Page 5 of 5

Chris Lovings (he/him), ELAP (Eastside Legal Assistance Program), Community Engagement Manager, [chris@elap.org](mailto:chris@elap.org)

Laura Lewis- Encompass CHERISH, FRC and Kinship Support, [laura.lewis@encompassnw.org](mailto:laura.lewis@encompassnw.org)

Stephanie Norton-Bredl [snortonbredl@@seattlemca.org](mailto:snortonbredl@@seattlemca.org) forgot to add the e-mail address above

Tolt UCC : Becky Reimer- representing Tolt UCC- [beckyreimer@hotmail.com](mailto:beckyreimer@hotmail.com)

Hania Rios - Encompass FRC [hania.rios@encompassnw.org](mailto:hania.rios@encompassnw.org)

Amy Biggs - Snoqualmie Valley Transportation - 425-888-7001 [ABiggs@svtbus.org](mailto:ABiggs@svtbus.org)

Andrea Skerry : Andrea Skerry, CIS with CCORS-TRACE, [askerry@seattlemca.org](mailto:askerry@seattlemca.org)