

Health and Human Services Collaborative of the Eastern Panhandle

**Strong and Stable Families Work Group
Minutes: March 21, 2017**

IN ATTENDANCE

Cathy Irizarry-Barron: Daily Companions, Kristen Gingery & Christin Rice: Family Resource Network of the Panhandle, Bridget Covell: RESA8, Liz Huntington: RESA8 & SPOKES, Audrey Morris: Starting Points, Penny Porter: The United Way, Jennie Shriner: Telamon, Laura Turman: WV Birth to Three, and Gina Olindo: Unicare.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS AROUND THE TABLE

Brief overview of Strong and Stable Families Work Group for new people

New Members: Laura Turman and Gina Olindo

ITEM	REPORTING/DISCUSSION	ACTION STEPS/WHEN/WHO
MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	The minutes from February were reviewed and approved	
REPORTS/ Updates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bridget	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update on Procter and Gamble: There are 5 stages of the application process. The requirements include: Math comprehension and Logic, and Reading. After an individual has applied they have to wait 1 full year before they can reapply.They have interviewed 150 applicants as of last Friday and 46 local offers have been made (out of the 1,000 that had already applied).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kathie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Work Plan Review: Jennie announced that she had 6 individuals graduate from Successful Renters and an additional 6 people from the Bethany House (in reference to the measurable goals on the Work Plan).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Jennie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We had a total of 56 graduates last year and already have a total of 107 graduates this year. She attributes this to the partnership with the VA. Jennie had 62 people graduate from the VA in January (from a total of 12 classes)Meetings are offered 3 times a month at the VAShe is offering the class through Adult Education and SPOKESTelamon is encouraging their clients to attend the classesThere will be 2 classes a month for Head Start.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Audrey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cheap Eats cooking classes are offered monthly in Paw Paw. Audrey had 4 adults in attendance and 5 children and they made homemade pasta	Add the Cheap Eats Class to the Work Plan with the measurable attendance goals and

	and sauce. The attendance is typically 8-10 individuals.	the goal to add 1 new location opportunity in Berkeley Spring for 2017.
DISCUSSION ITEMS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHHR Waiting Room: Kathie passed around a sign-up sheet for the waiting room dates and encouraged participation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FRN can assist with copies of the flyers • Liz offered to make a sandwich board display for the handouts and calendar.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kentucky Ave./ Valley St. Block Party/Clean-up: will take place on Saturday, May 20th Last year the United Way donated toys for the children. Corey from Burlington played music with the children. Donna Zeck is the coordinator (community member) for the event and can be reached at 301-728-1039 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gini offered to set up a table for Unicare and provide kids giveaways • Kathie offered do crafts with the children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSFWG Calendar: Christen reported that she place 50 copies of the calendar in the DHHR waiting room for April. The group discussed trying to get information placed into the virtual backpacks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send all programs and class opportunities to Jennie prior to the next SSFWG meeting for May's Calendar.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incentive Program: Kathie will still like to get the Incentive program up and running for program referrals. • Planning Ideas: Handout flyers at DHHR and encourage previous graduates to refer new sign ups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathie will set up a meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennie and Kathie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money Matters: The group would like to collaborate with RESA... Money Matters classes were offered at Adult Education once a month and we need to find a new location. • Some new location suggestions are: Valley College, Shepherd's Martinsburg Center (they do not have classes during the day and are open to sharing their facility) or Telamon 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful Renters and Money Matters: We are trying to get the classes in all 3 counties' High Schools ... Jennifer painter from Leadership Berkeley is working on this. • Berkeley County is interested in both. Elaine from the Martinsburg High Leadership meeting wants to get these classes into Martinsburg. • Cindy Smalley and Cynthia Roberts would like to get these classes into Morgan County Schools as well. 	Penny will follow up with Dr. Gibson in Jefferson County.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Manchin ACA Meeting Update: the meeting was well attended, with standing room only. Two individuals gave testimonies. The speakers 	Manchin said: bombard the White House with calls regarding the ACA repeal. We can also send phone calls and emails to

	<p>did a good job stating what the repeal would mean for 24 million West Virginians whom are currently receiving insurance through the ACA.</p>	<p>Mooney.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Changes: There is a proposed change that would affect the ABAWD receiving SNAP benefits that would reduce the benefits to 3ths within a 36 month period. • For more information please click here: • http://www.wvpolicy.org/food-assistance-cutoff-needlessly-harms-vulnerable-west-virginians-and-economy/ 	<p>Liz drafted a letter to send to Mooney and will send out to the group.</p> <p>Kathy will draft a letter to send to follow up with Jason Barrett regarding the age requirement changes to make the age change to 30 to encourage older individuals to seek out finishing their education.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathie: Catholic Charities will change the way it provides emergency assistance. They will provide \$50.00 for the 1st time. The 2nd time individuals request assistance they will need to create a Goal Attainment Skill Map with specific action steps... After 1 year they will stop receiving assistance completely. This will allow for the organization to spend more money into each family and move Catholic Charites into a case management model. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morgan County Baby Shower will take place on 4/27 from 6-8pm and is open to anyone in Morgan Co. who is pregnant or has a child under the age of 1. • Reginal Crimes against Children Training will take place on March 23 at the Holiday Inn. • There will be an upcoming Job Training at Valley College. • Gina from Unicare is available to set up at any event. She is the Outreach Specialist for 13 counties in WV. • The United Way's new website/volunteer portal should be up and running by the end of April. The United Way will be offering a training session to train community agencies & 501c3 at the end of April. • The United Way is hosting a Little Black Dress Event at the Martinsburg Public Library on 4/28/17. The goal is to engage women, promote youth literacy and there will be a silent auction and gourmet appetizer bar. Tickets are \$35. • April is Autism Awareness month... Cathy will be collection donations towards her goal of \$1000.00 for Autism Awareness efforts. • Birth to Three is offering a Free Developmental Disability Support Training on March 22, 6-8pm at the RESA8 office in Martinsburg. • Lou Ann offered to host the SSFWG meeting on May 16th at the Harpers 	<p>Cathy will send Kristen the information for donation collection to add to the HHSC Members Announcement in April.</p>

	<p>Ferry Job Corp Location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Telamon offered to host the SSFWG meeting on August 15th.• Cook It Health and Cheap Classes will take place every other week beginning April 12, 26 and May 10, 24, from 9:30-11:30am at Lackey Hall. These classes are open to any interested person.	
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The meeting adjourned at 10:30am. **The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 9:00am.**