

**Strong and Stable Families Work Group  
Minutes: May 16, 2017**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Corey Beahm: Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Kristen Gingery & Christin Rice: Family Resource Network of the Panhandle, Audrey Morris: Starting Points, Robin Kees & Jennie Shriner: Telamon, Kathie Campbell: Catholic Charities, and LouAnne Kramer: Job Corps

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS AROUND THE TABLE**

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

**New Members:**

ITEM	REPORTING/DISCUSSION	ACTION STEPS/WHEN/WHO
MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	The minutes from April were reviewed and approved	
REPORTS/ Updates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lou Ann</li> </ul>	<p>Lou Ann hosted the meeting at the Harpers Ferry Jobs Corps facility and gave a tour and information on their educational programs. Please contact Lou Ann for additional information about the program at <a href="mailto:Kramer.louanne@jobscorps.org">Kramer.louanne@jobscorps.org</a></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kathie</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>New Chair:</b> The SSFWG is in need of a new chair person in August. The chair will be provided with a brief orientation and templates for the Work Plan and Agenda. The chair person will be required to attend the monthly HHSC Steering Committee meetings.</li> </ul>	If you are interested, please contact Kathie.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corey is looking for mothers and fathers to participate in a partnership activity with WVU for research purposes.</li> </ul>	Please contact Corey for more information.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennie</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Successful Renters Program:</b> There were 28 students at the Job Corps program last week.</li> <li>Upcoming classes will be held at the Berkeley County Day Report Center</li> <li>Nan will be offering classes in collaboration with the Jefferson County SPOKES Program soon.</li> <li>Four individuals graduated from the Morgan County classes last week.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kathie will keep writing grants for security boxes and printing.</b></p> <p><b>We need to contact local insurance providers to encourage donations to further fund the program.</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennie</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Money Matters:</b> Last month Jennie provided financial literacy for a women's group at Destiny church</li> <li>There was 1 class held at Senior Towers with 6 in attendance.</li> <li>There were classes held at the VA last month with 10 in attendance.</li> <li>There are classes held at Jobs Corps every other week.</li> <li>Robin: Jennie presented Money Matters information at a conference</li> </ul>	<p><b>Audrey asked if Jennie could offer Money Matter classes in Morgan County. Jennie will contact Audrey.</b></p> <p><b>Kathie will write a template letter to encourage fundraising efforts from</b></p>

	recently and other counties in the state that want to replicate this model.	<b>organizations.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Kathie</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Cook It Classes:</b> Kathie just finished these classes with 12 regular attendees.</li> <li>New potential future class locations are: Adam Stevens, Martins Landing, and Corey might want classes as well</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Audrey</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Cheap Eats</b> cooking classes are offered monthly in Paw Paw. Audrey provided a class on container gardening. There were 8-9 attendees at the last class. All participants received a Star Bag and learned how to cook with gluten free items.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Kathie</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kathie will offer upcoming parenting classes at the Berkeley County Day Report Center.</li> </ul>	
<b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Kathie</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Work Plan Goals:</b> There is a goal about attending at least 3 block parties/resources fair every year in our Work Plan. Some suggested events we could attend are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Neighborhood Spring Cleanup</b> (NSC) 5/20 (We still need volunteers to help cleanup Valley St. at this event).</li> <li><b>Community Combine Ministries</b> is hosting an event on June 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li><b>Morgan County Expo</b> will take place on July, 22nd at Berkeley Springs High School.</li> <li>Corey's <b>Big Truck Event</b> in July with a tentative date of July 29<sup>th</sup></li> <li><b>National Night Out Against Crime</b> will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in August (Scott Doyle is coordinating this event and can be reached at <a href="mailto:sdoyle@martinsburgpd.org">sdoyle@martinsburgpd.org</a> )</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p><b>NSC: Cathy will try to attend #1, Christin will hand out Asset info, and Gina from Unicare will provide handouts/toys for the children</b></p> <p><b>*Kathie just attended an Opequon Elementary Event and handout materials (This can be added to work group as a resource fair attended)</b></p>
<b>Kathie and Audrey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kathie would like to encourage the community to promote awareness and education efforts on the Adverse Childhood Experience (ACEs) research.</li> <li>Audrey and the Morgan County Starting Points Advisory Board are working on providing ACEs education to families through a three pronged approach. This approach includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education the community and provide access to the ACEs survey.</li> <li>2. Educate peers and early childhood education organizations</li> <li>3. Working directly with families with hands on programs.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p><b>The goal is to get the health community on board with the efforts.</b></p> <p><b>We can advocate for additional accessible mental health services in our area.</b></p>
<b>The SSFWG</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group would like to encourage efforts to get more free books into the community.</li> </ul>	<b>Add an Action Step in the work plan to distribute free books into the community.</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corey recommended the MyFirstBooks.org program. They provide free books to non-profits for only the cost of shipping!</li> </ul>	<p><b>We could also write a Book Drive posting in the HHSC eblast to request book donations to be dropped off at to be determined location.</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SSFWG Field Trip</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>The group discussed having an upcoming meeting hosted at the Renovo Center.</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Kathie</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Opportunities Calendar for June</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Kathie will send to Christin</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Announcements</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Horses with Hearts</b> has now been certified to provide Animal-Assisted therapies and can work with the school systems.</li> <li>Telamon offered to host the SSFWG meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li><b>Cook It Health and Cheap</b> Classes will take place every other week and will be held on and May 24, from 9:30-11:30am at Lackey Hall. These classes are open to any interested person.</li> <li><b>VA is hosting a Community Open House on 5/20 from 9-3</b></li> <li>5/24 is the <b>Child and Families Services Forum</b></li> <li><b>Telamon is hosting an Open House</b> to celebrate community Action on 5/17 from 11-6pm at Telamon</li> <li><b>Good Shepherd Free Clinic is accepting donations</b> of gently used shoe donations at Catholic Charities</li> <li>June 10<sup>th</sup> is <b>City of Hope Day at Ambrose Park</b> in Martinsburg</li> <li>June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the <b>Stepping Stones to a Brighter Future, Purse, Scarf and Shoes Sale Fundraiser in Berkley Springs.</b></li> <li>June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the <b>Ranson Festival in Jefferson County.</b> Job Corp has already purchased a table and Lou Ann is willing to share!</li> </ul>	

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am. **The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 18, 2017 @ 9:00am at Berkeley County DHHR**