



**S3 Housing Connect Leadership
Zoom Meeting Notes
April 14, 2020**

I. Welcome, Mission Statement- Sherry Shudra, Chair

II. Updates

Outreach Mission, Inc.- Hamer Carter

There has been enhanced routine cleanings and linens are being washed more frequently. Food donations have decreased drastically, so OMI joined the food bank's distribution list. The first pick up will be tomorrow. OMI has received a lot of clothing donations, and they are happy to share with any other organizations who need clothes. OMI's board has created a quarantine plan. They have one room set aside for anyone who is showing symptoms. That person would then be taken to the hospital. If the person tests positive, the shelter would be quarantined. OMI's biggest focus lately has been to move people out of shelter into housing. Currently, there are nine men in the Chatham Street shelter, and 11 women and three children in the Third Street shelter. The Business Breakfast Fundraiser has been postponed to May 5 and will be handled in a virtual format. OMI applied for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) through First Citizens Bank, and has received extra ESG funding. Paperwork for the PPP was straight forward. If an organization is approved, they have to provide all documentation at the end of the eight-week period and request loan forgiveness.

United Way- Kendra Martin

United Way has opened a COVID-19 emergency fund. The first release of funds happened last week. The application is easy, and reports will be required later. If an agency is giving COVID-related relief, they can apply for funding regardless of UW membership. UW is also accepting donations for this fund.

Coty made hand sanitizer and donated it to first responders, medical centers and shelters for free. If they produce it again, it will not be free next time.

Pilgrim's Pride may have chickens available for food distribution. Email Kendra if interested.

Family Promise- Tamara Brogan

Families are staying in the day center full time. This has increased expenses, but UW's emergency fund assisted with those costs. Churches that would be hosting the families are now bringing meals to the day center. Everyone is doing well and there hasn't been any issues. They are cleaning regularly and staff is on a modified schedule. Family Promise applied for the PPP loan through First Bank and got approved quickly. FP is also looking into FEMA money that is available. Right now, they do not have a quarantine plan. Children and parents have been handling virtual schoolwork well. Social workers have been coming by and bringing lunches for children three days a week.

Lee County Schools- Johnnye Waller

As of last Friday, over 38K meals have been served. They are served on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Staff takes food in cars to people experiencing homelessness and

add new sites daily. They also take laptops, hot spots, etc. No questions are asked and meals are always given to those who need them. This past weekend, a tree fell on a family's house. They are receiving meals and have leads on new homes already.

Bread of Life- John Paschal

Despite COVID, the new Day Center program has been successful. BOL is only allowing 10 people inside at a time. Four or five people come in to take showers each day. There is a hand wash station and porta potty outside the building. BOL is receiving lots of food deliveries and donations. Deliveries are being taken to many locations around town, including Sanford Housing Authority's Stewart Manor and Matthews Court. All feedings are happening outside and meals are to go only. BOL has given out 100+ bagged lunches every day. The Bread Basket is also doing to go plates only, and they are trying to figure out how to reduce litter from the plates. Dr. Hall and Cindy have been outside every Saturday seeing patients. There have been some new people experiencing homelessness stopping by; They are usually single men. Right now, BOL is okay on donations.

Career Center- Pam Glover

The Career Center was notified that the unemployment system is going down because it is overloaded. Please recommend that people go online very early in the morning. People aren't automatically being approved for unemployment- it is still the same process. Paperwork and FAQ's are outside at the front of the Career Center.

JLHCA- Jeff Rawlings

Jeff has been in contact with the ESG office. JLHCA is doing virtual inspections through video calls. Jeff is coordinating all nine counties. He has been doing intakes by video through Facebook, since this satisfies the State's requirement for face-to-face meetings. Limited money from the state has been received for hotel stays. There are a lot of restrictions and it has to be a direct result from COVID. JLHCA is taking applications for emergency assistance regarding utilities.

Salvation Army- Chris Kelley

The Salvation Army is continuing to operate with normal hours. Only one person is allowed inside at a time and they are cleaning as much as possible. Numbers slowed down after March, but are starting to pick up again. Food donations have not been good. "Drive Through and Donate" will be next Thursday, 4/16 from 9-12. There have been a lot of calls about financial assistance for rent.

City of Sanford- Karen Kennedy

Money has been approved for Bread of Life's shower repair. Lee County's Manager, Dr. Crumpton, has been donating supplies to the nonprofits for COVID relief. Most recently, he donated infrared thermometers. There have been a lot of new people engaging in illegal activity in Depot Park. Therefore, police are gearing up for more intervention. Parks are closed right now.

Enrichment Center- Tami Carter

The Enrichment Center has been closed since March 27th, but they have been distributing food bags. Staff is not in the office, but they are receiving voicemails and emails. There have been several calls about housing for older adults.

Funding Updates- Stan Holt

Agencies need to complete a letter of intent to apply for the Balance of State Continuum of Care funding application. Kerry Bashaw said that Brick Capital plans to apply for this funding, as it could help pay for Permanent Supportive Housing in this area.

III. Question: Interactions with hotels?

Palomino and Holiday Inn Express with not take patients with COVID. Jeff and JLHCA are working on hotel relationships. An update will be provided on the next call.

IV. Committee Updates

Services Provision, Tami Carter- No report; Committee has not met.

Housing Committee, Bob Hughes- Still modifying the Homeless to Housing flowchart,

Community Engagement, Cindy Hall- No report; Committee has not met.

V. Closing Remarks and Adjourn