

Minutes EISCC general meeting 12 January 2021

President Steve Roberts chaired the meeting and Elizabeth Maupin opened with a prayer.

Attendees included: Steve Roberts, Mary ?, Susy Gonzales Pueschner, Warren Marquardson, Farida Hakim, Marilyn Myers, Nancy Jacobs, Patty Ebner, Tony Copes, Diane Richards, Donna Lurie, Ellen Weiss Phelps, Griffin Cole, Susan Hass, Jean Harris, Karina O'Malley, Michael Joynson, Jenn Boone, Kimberly Eikerman, Laura Delmendo, Linda Hillesheim, Nickhath Sheriff, Nadine Benson, Ryan Clair, Carol Ryan, Tricia Barry, Elizabeth Maupin, and Alisa Chatinsky

Reports:

Nancy Jacobs reported for Congregations for Kids. They have funds, but need is outpacing their income, so, they are looking into joining Give Big for fundraising.

Jean Harris spoke of the legislative advocacy opportunity afforded by Faith Action Network's virtual advocacy day on February 11.

Tony Copes reported that the Eastside Human Services Forum's board will next meet on January 21.

Kimberly Eickerman of Hopelink spoke about their energy assistance, financial assistance, and food distribution programs. And later sent this detailed update:

General: Hopelink continues to have our centers closed to the public through the end of June 2021. All services (except Food) are being provided remotely, over the phone, video conference, and email. Food is being distributed *outside* with masks and social distancing required. If anyone has any documents they need to give us, please direct them to our locked box outside our lobby's side door. This is checked 3x a day and docs are scanned and uploaded so remote workers can access them immediately. We can also accept cell phone pictures of docs, so long as text is readable, and can be emailed directly to the specialist the client is working with.

Employment

- Please continue to help spread the word about Remote Resume Review
- Participants do not need to live in our service area or enroll in our Employment Program to receive this service!
- To sign up, send an email to HEP@hopelink.org with the subject line "Resume Review" and attach your resume. We will get back to you as soon as we can!

Energy

- Energy assistance appointments (phones appts only—all staff continue to work remotely) can be scheduled online or by phone at hopelink.org/energy or (425) 658-259
- **If all appointments are full, please check again Monday morning when new appointments are added to the scheduler**

- Through the CARES Act, clients who receive our regular energy assistance (LIHEAP) may also receive an *additional* \$500 credit to their energy account *if they have been financially impacted* by COVID (they need only self-declare how they have been impacted)
- The state-wide utility shut-off moratorium has been extended through the end of April

Financial Capabilities

- Tax season has begun, but we are not hosting the United Way tax clinic at our Bellevue center this year due to our continued facilities closure
- United Way Free Tax Preparation has gone virtual and is available for individuals and households that earned less than \$66,000 in 2019. ITIN holders are eligible. Sign up and file online from your home at: GetYourRefund.org Support in many languages is available! Also clients can visit UWKC tax website at www.freetaxexperts.org for more information
- Connect with Hopelink's financial coach for help prioritizing bills and protecting your finances during this uncertain time. Phone or video calls are available. Email FinancialCoaching@hopelink.org or call 425-250-3003.

Financial Resiliency Program

- Anyone in need of financial assistance can call the front desk any day/time to request at (425) 943-7555. We will collect their information, asking a few basic questions, and add them to our monthly list
- The monthly delineation is the 26th through the 25th, example: financial assistance requests received between December 26th and January 25th will create our February log and will be drawn from between January 26th and February 25th
- Each unduplicated request is assigned a number and we are using a random number generator to select households
- Drawings are made based on staff capacity and funding priorities, not set dates or number of people. Example, the first drawing from the January list was on January 8th and we pulled 10 households from it to contact and offer assistance

Food

- Same prepacked box model with outside pickup
- Same hours for food distribution: Tuesdays 12-4, Wednesdays 3-7, Thursdays 10-2
- We are not enrolling anyone in this program, no ID or paperwork is required, anyone who needs food can come on by and receive some. This service includes both shelf-stable and fresh foods

Presentation: Ryan Clair from the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints spoke about their Welfare and Social Resilience Program. We saw a power point presentation and two videos: [NBC news report on Mormon Welfare](#)

[TheChurchofJesusChristofLatter-daySaints welfare program video](#)

PowerPoint is attached.

Meeting participants thanked Ryan for a very informative presentation and asked questions about the Just Serve platform for connecting nonprofits with volunteers.

Announcements:

Patty Ebner: On Monday, January 18 at 7 PM The Social Justice class at First Congregational Church of Bellevue invites you to attend a virtual presentation on combating hate and racism in our lives and communities. Aneelah Afzali, Executive Director, MAPS-AMEN, will introduce tools helpful in our quest to hold dialogues with those of different perspectives than our own. A Q&A session will follow. To register (free, but required) for **Tools For Combating Racism and Hate.**, follow this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsfu-gqD0sGtYJxlPZCR1eWZ526T9xa0ZE>

Questions can be directed to Pastor Patty at patty@fccbellevue.org.

Carol Ryan: Attain Housing could use small groups of volunteers to do yard work at some of their sites.

Susy Gonzales Pueschner: KCLS has hot spots and some laptops for community use that will be available next month. These must be used in public spaces, not for individuals.

Next meeting: February 9. Focus: Eastside Human Services Forum