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**Community Advisory Board**

**Minutes for June 11, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Joan Balbuena, Monica Johnson, Samantha Barrett, Christine Cassatt, Kerry Fair (Partners in Care), Lisa Knight, Sarah Bush (Aetna Better Health), Ed Barrick, Austin Green, Sandra Balbuena (HUB @USMH), Tanish Gupta (Empowering Our Future), Kim Halsey, LeeAnn Broder, Nadine Thompson, Christina Horst (B-K), Jen Younker, Ashley Ciampo, Lakeisha Thrower, Beatrice Talmage, Denise Kuhna, Jennifer Colvin, Kelly Llewelyn (Safe Kids)

* **Schools:**
	+ Bester Elementary School – 9 Students
	+ E. Russell Hicks Middle School – 8 Students
	+ **Family Involvement:** Throughout the school year SE21 continued to offer Family Events. Activities ranged from playing St. Patrick BINGO to (virtually) flying with a helicopter pilot and learning how the helicopter is navigated. Approximately 7 families joined in our culminating on Wednesday, May 26th in which our guest musician Mr. Slim Harrison taught the students to make and play a; paint stick banjo, a kazoo and the spoons. The parents indicated on the end-of-the-year survey that this was enjoyed by them and they loved the play a longs that Slim facilitated.
	+ Programming ended May 28th. When the program begins at the beginning of September our hope and desire is to be in-person at both Bester ES and E. Russell Hicks MS. Forms and more information will be forthcoming in mid-August.
	+ Summer Camp: Empowering Our Future reached out wanting to connect. Camp will be occurring for 5 days during a time frame when WCPS is not doing summer school. Virtual STEM based activities for 4th to 7th grade. Partnership with Micah’s Backpack for meals.
* **Families:**
	+ March – June:
		- Total number of referrals: 40
		- Total number of transitions: 40
		- March:  families, individuals 45 families, 223 individuals
		- April:   families, individuals 44 families, 192 individuals
		- May:  families, individuals 40 families, 192 individuals
		- A total of home visits and service connections: home visits: 196, service connections 1001
	+ Biggest needs for families identified: crisis support, child care resources, academic support, housing, mental health connections, parenting support
	+ In May our Family Support Workers, Care Coordinator, and two Community Partners were trained by Be Strong Families on their Journey to Vitality Recovering Together Café model
		- 1st Virtual Event will be on July 23rd from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
	+ Parent Café – Pioneers for virtual cafes in the state of MD
		- Virtual Parent Cafes in Washington County offered: 4 (3 VPCs and 1 VDPC)
		- June 16th – Virtual Dad’s Café (Co – Sponsored by Maryland Family Network)
		- In-person Cafes scheduled for July 20th at City Park, August 11th at The Discovery Station, and September 23rd at Hager Park (\*Capacity restrictions in place, 3 ft. physical distance and masks wearing will be encouraged while gathering under Pavilion or indoors)
* **Community:**
	+ Save the Dates:
		- 6th Annual South Side Community Block Party, September 18, 2021
			* Planning for in person event at this time
			* DJ Kopec will be providing our entertainment
			* FREE Resources, Food, Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Characters Appearances, Activities, Giveaways, and lots of FUN!!
			* Thank you to our planning partners Aetna Better Health, WC Library Fletcher Branch, and PAC Representative
		- 6th Annual Community Training Breaking the Cycle,
			* October 7, 2021 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm at The Maryland Theater
			* Featured Speakers: Dr. Temple Grandin, Rev. Nontombi Tutu & Ms. Sue Klebold
			* Registration link was sent in chat
		- Vaccination Clinic at Bester Community of Hope
			* Monday June 28th from 2:00 – 7:00pm
				+ Registration and Reminder call available
				+ Walk-ins welcome
				+ Incentives – pool pass, Antietam Dairy, Hershey Park tickets
				+ Goal is to eliminate all barriers to allow everyone to receive vaccine that is interested
				+ Watch Facebook page for more information
		- 6th Annual Babypalooza, April 2022
			* Opportunity to join the planning committee
				+ Email Joan, jbalbuena@sanmarhope.org
			* Planning monthly activities leading up to Babypalooza
				+ April’s Virtual Campaign: Early Intervention/Learning

Thank you to our partners The Hub at USMH, The Judy Center of Washington County, WCPS Birth – Kindergarten Program, and WCHD Healthy Families

* + - * + May’s Virtual Campaign: Motherhood and Mental Health
				+ Upcoming campaign: Celebrating Fatherhood
	+ Community Enhancement Projects:
		- Locust Point Market mural
			* The artist/graphic designer Matt Long was chosen to create the art for the mural
			* Potential site being explored
	+ Better Together: Clothing Distribution at the Crown Hotel
		- * July 14, 2021 from 11-1
			* In collaboration with 410 Outreach (Hagerstown Bible Church) and Families Helping Families
			* SSL hours to be provided to students that would like to volunteer (Adult must be present to sign waiver for volunteers under the age of 18)
	+ Community Connections:
		- Community Coffee continues to be available virtually on Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30am, and on the third Thursday evening from 6:00pm to 7:30 pm,
			* Special Guest Alert: Joe Sacchet will join us on the 17th to share about Dad’s Connection Program and how they support fathers in our community
			* Exploring options for in-person opportunities
			* Community Coffee at the Park on Thursday September 23rd from 9:00 – 10:30 am at Hager Park (Same day as last in-person Parent Café)
	+ BCOH app won’t be renewed, please visit our website and Facebook Page
		- * Exploring how to move calendar to besterhope.org
			* Resource guide will be moved to website
			* Facebook continues to be updated with information from BCOH and community partners

Open Discussion/Community Updates

* HUB@ USMH partnering with Maryland Coalition of Families for Family Leadership Retreat – Virtual 3 Day retreat to empower parents
	+ June 21-23 from 9-12
	+ Last day for sign up is June 15
	+ Must be able to participate all 3 days
	+ http://www.mdcoalition.org/news-events/FLR2021
	+ Questions? Contact DeVaki Leonard at 240.818.3536 or dleonard@mdcoalition.org
* Kerry at Partners in Care MD is looking for volunteers to support older adults (60+) who are living independently – keeping them safe, engaged and healthy
	+ Kerry Fair, Partners In Care Maryland. 301-800-9812. kerryfair@partnersincare.org
* Sarah Bush will be at CVS on Potomac on Tuesday from 2-5 and at City Farmer’s Market on Friday from 9-12
* Family Healthcare event in August 12th 4:30-7
* Monica let attendees know that we are still providing services even though school is out! Refer families if you think families may benefit from support

17:56:30 From Joan Balbuena (she/her) to Everyone (in Waiting Room):

 We are so happy you are joining us this evening!! We are preparing the virtual space and you will be admitted shortly. Thanks for your patience!

18:02:26 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Hi Bester Family!

18:02:57 From Sarah Bush to Everyone:

 Hey Kerry

18:03:55 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Sarah!!!!

18:04:24 From Joan Balbuena (she/her) to Everyone:

 Welcome everyone!! We will start at 6:10 pm

18:05:22 From Kim Halsey to Everyone:

 Turkey

18:05:22 From Monica Johnson to Everyone:

 Swaziland for me

18:05:22 From Sarah Bush to Everyone:

 TO a cabin in the woods

18:05:35 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Anywhere warm and sunny!!!

18:05:41 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Boo to the rain!

18:05:56 From LeeAnn Broder to Everyone:

 Mr. Ed, did you get your pizza?

18:06:09 From Sandra Balbuena to Everyone:

 Puerto Rico

18:06:16 From Christine Cassatt to Everyone:

 my Dads house in pa

18:06:17 From Sandra Balbuena to Everyone:

 !!!!

18:06:24 From Nadine to Everyone:

 Jamaica

18:06:27 From Ed Barrick to Everyone:

 yes I got it

18:06:31 From Tanish Gupta to Everyone:

 England, preferably in a stadium!

18:06:32 From LeeAnn Broder to Everyone:

 Yes Sandra.. PR with my mom.

18:06:36 From Christina Horst to Everyone:

 Costa Rica

18:06:39 From Sandra Balbuena to Everyone:

 New Ela

18:06:52 From Samantha Barrett to Everyone:

 Disney World!

18:06:58 From Sandra Balbuena to Everyone:

 New Zealand

18:07:33 From LeeAnn Broder to Everyone:

 Ok great.. they had your wrong address for you

18:12:18 From Austin Green to Everyone:

 Bermuda

18:12:18 From Denise Kuhna to Everyone:

 Egypt

18:20:57 From Denise Kuhna to Everyone:

 Denise happy for rain, to water my lawn and plants!

18:24:23 From Christine Cassatt to Everyone:

 Anjel said she's going into 10th grade

18:25:37 From Samantha Barrett to Everyone:

 CONGRATS ANJEL!!! We're so proud of you!

18:25:54 From LeeAnn Broder to Everyone:

 Yay Anjel

18:31:06 From Tanish Gupta to Everyone:

 thank you!

18:39:22 From Samantha Barrett to Everyone:

 The link to register for our annual conference: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/breaking-the-cycle-tickets-87801858723

18:39:37 From Sarah Bush to Everyone:

 That is so awesome

18:40:59 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Please let me know how I can help! Canvassing, handing out post cards, transportation… Whatever it takes!

18:49:44 From Joan Balbuena (she/her) to Everyone:

 Joan Balbuena

 240-347-2356

 jbalbuena@besterhope.org

18:54:59 From Sandra & Kim to Everyone:

 June 21, 22, and 23, 9:00AM – 12:00 PM (Virtual attendance on all three days is required) Application deadline: June 14, 2021 Learn more or start your application at: http://www.mdcoalition.org/news-events/FLR2021 Questions? Contact DeVaki Leonard at

 240.818.3536 or dleonard@mdcoalition.org

18:55:18 From Kerry FAir to Everyone:

 Kerry Fair, Partners In Care Maryland. 301-800-9812. kerryfair@partnersincare.org

18:58:53 From Monica Johnson she/her to Everyone:

 Teri Conrad 240-513-6370

19:03:21 From Christina Horst to Everyone:

 Can I get more info on the edu for Hispanic community

19:03:58 From Christina Horst to Everyone:

 And car seat details

19:04:26 From Kelly Llewellyn to Everyone:

 Christina-- llewellynk1@duq.edu or kelly.llewellyn@meritushealth.com, 301 790 8378

19:05:58 From Sarah Bush to Everyone:

 Great Job Joan!!!

19:06:36 From Christine Cassatt to Everyone:

 very good job Joan