**Vermillion – Parke Health Coalition**

**Zoom Meeting – January 5, 2022 – 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

**Attended:** Allison Finzel, Antonia Sawyer, Mary Margaret Rhees, Larry Addison, Judi Barnes, Julie Petit, Karen Hinshaw, Courtney Stewart, Becky Holbert, Elaina Smith, Kim Wickens, Amber Smith, Danny Wayne Beemer, Kiersten Vincent, Kris Aninger, Donna Whitmer, Bethany Goodwin, Sylvia Maixner, Sarai Bain, Jessica Taylor, Mindy Duckett, Crystal O’Donnell, Elaine Pastore, Lori Bouslog, Gail Wright

Lori Bouslog opened the meeting.

Lori invited everyone to note a coalition success or benefit they realized in the past year during introductions. *(Brief paraphrase version of those comments below)*

* Allison Finzel - bringing together, moving forward, growing, vision
* Donna Whitmer - we made it through
* Judi Barnes - meeting people enabling work in Cayuga Community garden, etc.
* Danny Wayne - comradery
* Kris Aninger - workgroups
* Mary Margaret Rhees - comradery, education
* Crystal O’Donnell - work with all through COVID
* Courtney Stewart - bringing all together, learning
* Larry Addison - persevered, started “tackling the elephant” of health, working groups
* Mindy Duckett - not living in the county group helped her learn resources and similarities Verm/Parke
* Antonia Sawyer - vision, mission, goals for coalition and work groups
* Sylvia Maixiner - resource sharing
* Kiersten Vincent - sharing resources, networking
* Elaina Smith - connecting to Vermillion and Parke Co
* Julie Petit - networking
* Amber Smith - networking, sharing information and resources as we work for common goals
* Jessica Taylor - connect to new organizations
* Becky Holbert - - workgroups - Verm. Co. Park Board recognized and approved
* Sarai Bain -
* Bethany Goodwin - work with people to pull together for kids
* Karen Hinshaw - growth, network, share information
* Gail Wright - workgroups, working together, connecting to resources
* Lori Bouslog - lots of opportunities for us in the future; where to go next

Notes from the last meeting attached to email. Approved.

**WORKING GROUPS** – Lori Bouslog

* **Food Insecurity** - Allison Finzel no updates. Mindy Duckett noted Parke County Food Security Alliance is spending down the OCRA grant and beginning to talk about how to work on food security after the grant and broadening to more areas in the community for greater sustainability and change.
* **Connecting Health Care** - Larry Addison - Met Monday 01/03. Five present. Looked over the first SWOT analysis done by the coalition. Group is considering a small pilot program and will be meeting with a small group of providers, pharmacy to see areas of needs
* **Resource Manual** - Sylvia Maixner no updates. She asked for a co-chair. Lori will reach out to Lynne Brewer about the group.
* **Poverty Workgroup** - Mary Margaret Rhees provided a short presentation about this newly formed group. She spoke of the history, formation, and future dreams. Slides are attached. Discussion after the presentation below:

Courtney Stewart likes the thought of increasing knowledge

Allison Finzel asked about ideas to get information out; Courtney asked about radio

Lori stated her ah-ha moment was when Amber said she got all the answers right because of having similar conversations and wondered how we could connect them with poverty workgroup

In the chat - Karen asked Amber’s interest in poverty workgroup

Amber not sure. She noted the United Way’s work with poverty and financial education and interested in educating and wondered about working with United Way. Antonia thought joining efforts would be good.

Lori discussed her grant for financial trainings from United Way. This training was for front line workers. She has asked for a 1-year extension.

Kris from United Way mentioned the grant to address to finances and informational meeting on January 26th. The information is available on their website and in the Chat was:

*The Financial Management Impact Council has made available up to $75,000 in funding for this initiative over one year from the grant start date. The Financial Management Council invites applications from any interested group or organization in the six-county United Way service area (Vigo, Vermillion, Clay, Parke, and Sullivan counties in Indiana; Clark County in Illinois). The deadline to submit a Letter of Intent is February 4th with a required virtual meeting for all interested parties on January 26th at 4:00 p.m. If interested, please RSVP to Mark Johnson at 812-235-6287 or* [*mjohnson@uwwv.org*](mailto:mjohnson@uwwv.org) *. For the full list of requirements and application details visit uwwv.org/funding.Alice - Asset Limited, Income Constrained, employed See first page of UW website - $75k Financial skills teens grant*

Danny Wayne Beemer stated broaden transportation considerations to car repair

Mary noted the strides that had been taken by VPCHC to improve transportation to medical appts. And necessities. Lori stated that their work with Thrive has enabled many - but there are still gaps for appts. In Danville and other areas.

Lori stated that Vermillion Co. is considered Urban because of their proximity to Terre Haute.

**VERMILLION COUNTY TRAILS ALLIANCE** – Lori Bouslog, Becky Holbert

* VTA is holding the 2nd Annual Run on March 26th. Becky and Lori invited the coalition to find a way to be involved.
* Becky noted opportunities of sponsorships available starting at $250, organization booths in parking lot, and need for volunteers. More information is available at: <https://victoryhalf.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=13922> or contact Becky at [Holbert@purdue.edu](mailto:Holbert@purdue.edu) .
* Lori will send link to the Trail website. If you would like to participate as runner/walker, register online. 15% discount until end of month. Also, 15% discount for students in Vermillion and Parke Co.
* If you would like to volunteer, email Lori or Becky
* The funds are used to benefit the Trails Alliance. They are hoping to use these to continue the “trail to nowhere” and connect Vermillion, Parke, and Vigo Co. trails.
* Lori asked for ways to approach as a group. Allison thinks it would be good to participate as a group. Mary Margaret asked if we had funds and/or how we could be a sponsor. There was discussion on doing a food drive at a table. Becky noted she would ask the Trails board and the connection to humane shelter. Allison asked group if the Coalition needs a logo for a table.
* Subcommittee formed - Lori, Mary Margaret, Allison, and Gail.

**FUTURE IN-PERSON MEETINGS** - Lori led discussion. Continue to wait and do by Zoom. Lori noted June might be a good opportunity for in-person and outside. Hybrid need discussed for those that could not attend any other way.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR GUEST SPEAKERS** - Legislators/representatives for Vermillion Co. in March. Trails Alliance (Les and Tom) and Parke (Mark) and Vigo (Thrive) were mentioned. Please email Lori or Gail with other suggestions.

**ORGANIZATION SHARE:** Everyone

* Antonia noted Food Security work and Food Justice Summit planning committee. Information from Chat: January 13, 2022 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. is the Food Justice Summit planning committee meeting. e-mail me at [afsawyer@iu.edu](mailto:afsawyer@iu.edu) if you would like to join us
* Danny Wayne stated Will Center needs a ramp coordinator - details on the website
* Lori noted website will be updated soon - delayed updates until new platform was up.

Lori Bouslog stated the next meeting will be on

**March 3rd at 10 AM**