



United Way  
of Lancaster County



Minutes:

**CROSS PROBLEMS AND  
HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK**

Monday, September 18, 2017

2:30 pm, LGH conference room, Burle Business Center

ATTENDANCE

Chair Doug Hopwood presided.  
See attached sign-in sheets for attendants.

WELCOME

Doug opened the meeting with welcome and introductions. Agendas, minutes, and all materials are posted online on the 211 website.

FOCUS TOPICS

**CrossNet Ministries**, Presented by Joan Yunginger

CrossNet Ministries is the result of a merger between Cross Connections and Elanco Social Services earlier this year. They serve the ELANCO (Garden Spot) school district. They focus on:

1. Youth: Providing after school programs and mentorships.
2. Food and Nutrition: Food pantry, power pack program, free summer lunch program, and nutrition education.
3. Social Services: Case management, finances, and transportation.
4. Community: Community collaborations and events.

**Lancaster County Special Courts**, Presented by Karen Andreadis, Treatment Court Coordinator, and Sarah Primak, Veterans Justice Outreach

Drug and Mental Health Courts:

Lancaster County has 3 treatment courts: Drug, Mental Health, and Veterans courts. The target populations is the high risk, high need offenders. This is a 4 phase program, typically with a minimum of 3 months per phase. Upon graduation, individuals should have achieved self-sufficiency and community involvement; there are 4 graduation ceremonies throughout the year. Aftercare continues for up to 3 years after graduation. The system is based on rewards and sanctions: 4 rewards for every 1 sanction. Rewards may include gift cards or less court appearances, while sanctions may be essays or increased court appearances. There is a diversion and a non-diversion tract, as well as a third option for conversion to a lesser charge (felony to misdemeanor). Admission criteria was outlined on the handout distributed. Anyone can refer an individual to specialty court, but referral must be made prior to sentencing.

## **Cross Problems and Homeless Service Provider Network**

July 17, 2017

Page 2

Hamlet, a service dog, is present in Drug and Veterans courts. His service started in Veterans court 3 years ago, and has been very successful.

Veterans Court:

The Lebanon VA covers 9 counties, with 4 Veterans Courts across those counties. VA staff do outreach in all counties, including prison visits and re-entry planning upon discharge. Veterans Court does not take individuals who were dishonorably discharged, but it can take Veterans who are not eligible for VA care. Their clients often have a drug issue, mental health issue, or both. Veterans Court helps with treatment, housing, and employment. The program is very rigorous: clients need to be fully committed before entering this. A mentor program is also embedded in this court. Clients who are not eligible for Veterans Court can still qualify for Drug or Mental Health Court. Providers should refer any veterans they encounter, and the VA staff will verify status based on Social Security number and date of birth; eligible individuals will be contacted to connect them to services. Outreach workers are community based and have set hours in various community organizations.

**Homeless Advocacy/Issues**, Presented by Commissioner Lehman and Sandra Garcia

Commissioner Lehman shared that Specialty Court graduation is a worthwhile event to attend. He thanked the providers for their continued work serving the homeless population in our community. He shared 5 daily rules to live by:

1. It's not about me
2. Be professional
3. Be prepared
4. Be principled
5. Set a good example

Sandra shared the existence of case workers at the federal level who work with constituents to resolve issues. Referrals can be made by any provider, with client permission.

### LANCASTER COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS (LCCEH) UPDATES

The current grant submission is being completed. The quarterly CoC meeting will be held tomorrow September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 9 AM.

CHART: The new CHART worker Gladys Montanez was introduced.

### AGENCY GOOD NEWS, SHARING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter Shelter: Volunteers are needed for extreme weather event coverage. This would involve being able to assist with transportation and/or housing coverage at Water Street when women are moved from the YWCA during times of severe weather. Information will be distributed regarding this opportunity.

## **Cross Problems and Homeless Service Provider Network**

July 17, 2017

Page 3

Budget: Commissioner Lehman shared that it is yet unknown where special programs will fall in the state budget; this could result in mid-year changes, as the budget is rolled out.

### Events:

1. There is a Lebanon County Link Partners meeting at the Lebanon VA on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM on the topic of Vision Care.
2. The Lancaster County Link Partners will meet at Lancashire September 21<sup>st</sup> on the topic of the CARE Act.
3. There is a Care Documentary Screening on Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Manheim Township Library and on September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Annville Library.
4. A training opportunity regarding Deaf Persons will be held in October.
5. The Career Link job fair is being held this week.

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 2:30 pm at Burle Industries, New Holland Avenue, Lancaster.

November agenda items will include energy assistance programs and winter shelter presentations. Other interested presenters should reach out to Toni Gainer or Doug Hopwood to be placed on the agenda.

Minutes and Agendas are posted to: [www.PA211East.org](http://www.PA211East.org).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Toni at [gainer@uwlanc.org](mailto:gainer@uwlanc.org)

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