



Community Alliance of Citrus County Updates—August 2020
Notes and Updates from the 8/04/20 Membership Meeting

The Community Alliance Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. There were approximately 32 members attending the Zoom meeting(at a particular point in time).

During the meeting, Renea Teaster, spoke about the updates that have been made to the online Resource Directory, citing improvements on the search function and ability to print a page based on the category search. Renea also indicated that there would be more changes made, and updates that agencies had requested would be made soon.

With more people testing positive for COVID-19 and cases rising, it was the group consensus per discussion that took place that the Alliance Membership meetings remain virtual at this time. So until further notice, through December 2020, the Alliance Membership Meetings will all be virtual for now.

The agencies were invited to share news and updates from their organizations but were asked to fill out the google survey link so that it would be easier to post in this format and share with the group.

Agency/Organization Name	Contact Name	Updates on News/Service Changes
Beverly Hills Community Church	Lynn Hoyt	8/21/20 is 55th anniversary service, 6:30p; by appointment community service opportunities are available as is tutoring and mentoring
CASA	Sunshine Arnold	All CASA services are available for domestic violence survivors in a fashion to ensure social distance and safety. Please direct clients to call 352-344-8111 as all services by appt only and lobby is not open for walk-ins.
Citizens For Informed Teens	Linda Myers	We are phasing out CFIT, due to the ages and loss of members of the steering committee. Issues relating to reproductive justice for teens might be discussed with, or referred, to the League of Women Voters Citrus. Linda Myers will be the Alliance contact
Citrus Pregnancy Center	Barb Gosa	Both offices in Inverness and Crystal River are open. All programs and services are active. Started a new "fatherhood training" program. Our remote pregnancy test clinics are on-hold at this time. We are scheduling appointments only at this



		time to manage the number of people in the building. Covid safety precautions are all in place. We are hiring a RN. If interested in being part of our ministry/agency please call me (Barb Gosa 352-341-5176) Post-covid we will plan open houses so people can see our new office in Inverness.
College of Central Florida-Citrus	Edith Ramlow	Consult www.cf.edu for Virtual Admissions and more services by appointment.
Dept. of Children and Families	Joelle Aboytes	To safeguard the public and employees from the spread of COVID-19, all ACCESS storefronts and lobbies are currently closed to public access. ACCESS Self-Service Portal, is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please note, DCF's Statewide Customer Call Center is available for customer questions and application assistance at 850-300-4323 or 1-866-762-2237 (TTY 1-800-955-8771). Agents are available for extended hours, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.. For August, households who normally receive their monthly SNAP allotment between the 1st and 10th, will receive the monthly maximum allotment on August 10th. The Governor has directed DCF to postpone the reinstatement of work requirements through the end of August. Please visit the DCF Website for updates regarding public benefits and COVID19 https://www.myflfamilies.com/covid19/access.shtml Also, DCF is working on implementing a Care Coordination pilot in Citrus Co. to assist those that meet certain criteria who are on public benefits address barriers that prevent them from successfully moving off of public benefits.
Deborah A Martin, Inc.	Debbie Martin	We are holding at 14 therapists available, serving all insurance companies. We are know for trauma and sexual abuse, but do have specialists for substance abuse, young children, geriatrics, LGBTQ issues, grief issues, couple and family sessions. We are working only telehealth. We have been serving all Florida residents now, not just Citrus residents.



Ecclesia Behavioral Health	Angella Briggs	At Ecclesia Behavioral Health (EBH) we are continuing to provide all services online via Mend Simpler Psych. Safety is our number one concern, and we want all patients to feel safe in their therapeutic journey. We currently have space for adults and children seeking mental health and/or substance abuse treatment. We take most insurances and can provide services for those without insurance. We have partnered with The Pregnancy and Family Life Center, who, after a brief assessment will cover the costs of all treatment minus medication management services. If you or someone you know is interested in therapy, please contact EBH at 352-244-9294. You can also find us on Facebook!
Eckerd Connects— Camp E-Nini Hassee	Jo Lynn Smith	ENH is in full operation with approximately 30 girls. All program operations continue- including a full education schedule. ENH has not yet made a decision regarding annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser- we might have to get creative with this. No visitors are allowed at this time. Thank you for your support
Florida Dept. of Health	Maret Wachira	WIC is still seeing people but virtually as much as possible. They can email or call. We can do breastfeeding help in person if need be. If families need safe sleep spaces please have them contact me @ 352-513-6070 to arrange education and pick up times. We have safe sleep bags for any new baby in the community, it has a sleep sack, some diapers, onesie and education, again contact me for more information. It is Breastfeeding Support Month and will be proclaimed Aug 11th by the BOCC. Citrus SEN still has support baskets for families that expect to have a substance exposed baby or became the guardian of a baby effected by substances during utero. Our women's clinic still see our pregnant women and supporting them in reduction of substance use.
Friends of Citrus and Nature Coast	Susan Quenelle	Providing Help, Hope and Healing to anyone who has suffered a loss. Tentative Camp Goodhope/Teen Encounter grief camp for children date of October 17th. We will be following CDC



		<p>guidelines to stay safe including working in small groups, taking temperatures, using hand sanitizer, following social distancing guidelines.</p>
Healthy Families Citrus	Kelly Wilson	<p>We are currently seeing families virtually, either over the phone or video conference. We are accepting referrals for any pregnant mom, any parent with a child under 4 months old, or any caregiver with a child under 4 months old. Also, with Sue no longer working at ELC distributing car seats, she has given us much of her inventory. I am a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician and can ensure car seats are safe and installed correctly. We have car seats available to distribute when we're allowed to do so again. Please call me with any pregnancy or car seat referrals at 352-586-1638 or email kwilson@cdsi.org</p>
Laura Nessola	Laura Nessola	<p>Telemental health available for adults</p>
Lifestream	Kayla Ciccotto	<p>Lifestream's Access center in Beverly Hills off Regina Blvd. is now fully operational! We are accepting ANYONE who needs immediate intervention for a Baker Act and we provide transportation to our hospital in Lake County. Walk ins are welcome. CAT TEAM---We have hired new staff, and are now fully staffed, we've opened several new cases here in Citrus, still working remotely via Telehealth.</p>
Lifestream	Lesli McCormick	<p>The WISE Program is an educational program that offers lessons covering a wide range of topics such as learning how to make healthy choices, risk factors and behaviors to avoid, how to manage medications and alcohol, along with how to feel more empowered with health and healthcare as we enter the mature stage of our lives. The program was developed for those ages 60 and over, and is intended to be a six-lesson course held where older adults can connect with others and engage in healthy, fun, educational social settings such as community centers and churches.</p> <p>However, with the current situation we find ourselves in where gatherings especially for older adults are not possible, I am hoping to offer the</p>



		<p>course as a virtual gathering if I can acquire enough interest. With the current trend of hosting online meeting space for gatherings such as religious services, meetings, and other social events, a great way to get the word out to Citrus County Seniors is to respectfully request that you consider adding information about the WISE Program into the community announcements portion of your newsletters, along with my name and contact information.</p> <p>I understand that this request may require approval from your leadership and board members. Please feel free to forward this communication so that anyone with questions may reach out to me at lmccormick@lsbc.net or 352-267-2035.</p>
LSF Health Systems	Lesley Hersey	<p>Rural Substance Abuse & Mental Health Summit has been postponed until May 13, 2021. Register for free at www.lsfrtraining.coursetorm.com.</p> <p>New as of this fiscal year: now have Incorporated Document 38. Ensures youth receive much needed services where they reside or at the time of discharge from residential. LSFHS will provide a referral within 5 days and the provider must make contact with the family within 3 days.</p>
Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition, Inc.	Kristy Jocelyn	<p>We are waiting for applications for the ESG CV grant by August 14th. We are still holding all of our meetings virtually @ this time. Monthly Coordinated Access Meetings. There will be trainings coming up to help agencies understand what "Coordinated Access" is on Aug. 17 & Aug. 31. We are issuing lockboxes to all our current community partners for the participants we are working with to encourage them to provide us feedback in a consistent attempt to update and fine tune our process on a continual basis. We are conducting both "homeless prevention" assessments and "literal homeless" assessments over the phone and in person. We have an amazing Outreach Team who are out there</p>



		<p>identifying and assisting participants. We are looking for landlords and rentals in Citrus County. If anyone knows of properties, please call us @ 3528602308.</p>
<p>NAMI Citrus, Inc.</p>		<p>We are looking for a secretary for our office in Crystal River, must have computer skills, and some background in the mental health field. For more information please call 844-687-6264. Please note this is a volunteer position with flexible hours. Peer Connection Support Group Monday 6 p.m. and Thursday 2p.m. Family Support Group Thursday 4p.m. Our support groups are done on zoom please call our office for further information.</p>
<p>Nature Coast Ministries</p>	<p>Bonnie McMullin</p>	<p>Nature Coast Ministries No-Cost Dental Clinic has been reopened and is re-scheduling patients who had appointments canceled due to the pandemic. Prior to closing the No-Cost Dental Clinic in March 2020 we were able to open 24 days and provide care to 137 patients, including 6 from local shelters and 13 veterans. Value of these services (determined by amounts recommended by the state) for the first quarter is \$35,800.00. Since opening the No-Cost Dental Clinic NCM estimates the value of services is \$738,165.00. The panoramic x-ray machine "died" and has been replaced with a digital panoramic x-ray machine thanks to Kings Bay Rotary Club, Plantation Realty and Black Diamond Foundation who provided funds. We had to replace our outdated computers and printers needed to communicate between the x-ray machine and provide dentists with chairside visuals. These computers are also needed to continue to set up our communications with Emergency Rooms at the hospitals and complete the referral program we were working on prior to the pandemic. The NCM No-Cost Dental Clinic provides free dental care to residents of Citrus County who live at or below 150% of the federal poverty level: that is \$18,735 per year for one individual. The 2018 census estimates there are</p>



		<p>39,930 residents living at poverty level in Citrus County.</p> <p>More dental professionals are needed to volunteer their time and talent to this mission as we work to open the No-Cost clinic additional hours and days. NCM Thrift Shop(Lazy Days Plaza Homosassa), has reopened and through the generosity of Eagle Buick and a private donor has been able to replace the box truck that was "totaled" by a driver using his cell phone while driving, and since our truck was stopped at a stop light it was hit from behind and thank God our driver and passengers suffered minor injuries. Another benefactor is working with NCM to help us relocate to a much larger facility with increased traffic and the potential of not only continuing to provide furnishings, etc., at attractive prices, but also to continue to provide for residents in need. We have provided furnishing for 59 families since opening the ministry including veterans, burn-out victims, flood victims and abuse victims.</p> <p>We continue to need financial support and donations as we continue to grow and help our neighbors. We are in need of a grant writer, office personnel and additional volunteers for the thrift shop. We have introduced you to Dr. Jack Seeberg, Executive Director and in addition, Mayor Bob Plaisted, Mr George Bendtsen, P. K. Webb and Sylvia Lacey have joined our Board of Directors.</p> <p>We give God all the praise and glory for blessing us with this mission.</p>
Pregnancy & Family Life Center	Stephanie Bell	<p>We are doing a back to school drive and will be providing Back Packs with school supplies, families need to call and register. Food Pantry Available to all Citrus County Families</p>
Youth & Family Alternatives	Marlie Suarez	<p>As a Families and Children in Need provider, we help work through truancy and behavioral issues with families at no cost to the family. We receive referrals from school and other organizations finding families who need such assistance. We are another set of eyes, ideas and supports in</p>



		<p>difficult situations. There is NO COST for the families we serve. We serve families in Citrus, Sumter, Hernando and Pasco Counties. Anyone can refer to us by calling our main office at 727-835-4166 or contacting their school's Social Worker. We are eager to help!</p>
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