

@Home in Adams County
Coalition Meeting Minutes from August 27, ,2020

Location: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Present: About 40 members of the coalition present including Ralph Serpe, Robin Fitzpatrick, Megan Shreve, Caroline Johnson, and Marty Qually.

Topics and Discussion:

- **Transportation Development Updates**
 - Ralph Serpe provided an update on Gettysburg/Hanover bus route
 - Ralph let the group know that the proposal for the Gettysburg Hanover route was going to be submitted to the State in the hopes that it would be approved.
 - We are anticipating a \$20,000 match requirement.
 - We will be looking for individuals/partners to consider assisting with this funding – please refer interested parties to the Adams County Community Foundation.
 - Stacy Newcomer of Commuter Services of Pennsylvania (CSPA) provided an update on services
 - CSPA has transitioned to using new methods to educate the community about their free services. CSPA staff are teleworking and offering online resources and instructional videos to share that are available at any time.
 - CSPA is reaching out to employers to share these resources virtually and are working diligently to support both employers and employees to make employment as accessible and sustainable as possible during COVID19.
- **Housing Development Updates**
 - **ECHO Project** – Adams County Office of Aging, Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc., and @Home in Adams County
 - This project was recently awarded \$400,000 in funding by PHFA (\$75,000 per county). This amount will cover most of the expansion project with the goal of identifying 6 counties in Pennsylvania that are willing to participate in this pilot program.
 - We are working to ensure that Adams County is one of the six to participate in the pilot program.
 - @Home with Adams County Office of Planning and Adams Economic Alliance are working together to identify a municipality within Adams County that would be open to developing an ECHO cottage, then find a family to participate. This will be the requirement if we are to get a portion of the funding from this grant.
 - If you know of any municipalities interested, please refer them to Caroline at cjohnson@sccap.org.
 - **SHARE Housing Project**- Adams County Office of Aging, Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc., and @Home in Adams County
 - On August 3rd Valery Adams was hired to fill the position of SHARE counselor for Adams County. Valery is now the contact person for the SHARE project, and we are excited to welcome her to the initiative!
 - Contact Valery at vadams@acofa.org or 717-778-1056.

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Coalition Meeting Minutes from August 27, ,2020

- **Project New Start-** Jen Eckerson with Adams County Housing Authority
 - Update given by Jen Eckerson of Adams County Housing Authority and Project New Start. Funding for this program is currently unavailable.
 - CARES act funding is available for a limited time. Folks who need assistance with rent or mortgage during COVID19 have until September 30th to apply.
 - For a chance to advocate to extend CARES Act deadline and to improve assistance requirements and funding, visit https://housingalliancepa.org/take-action/?fbclid=IwAR13yJlGqK_GRAZ7ZU4g8_CFrOgG-IDUtdlltJ6_fkXU12zJNGEIArkWPqI#/75
- **Luminest Community Development-** Bonnie Zehler in partnership with PICPI
 - Luminest's Ridgeview Townhomes project awarded funding from PHFA to develop 36 affordable housing units in Adams County.
 - Construction is projected to begin in May 2021 to prepare for leasing in 2022!
 - For more information on this project, contact Bonnie at bzehler@luminest.org.
- **Converge Enterprises-** Chad Collie, Brock Grim, and Terry Shriner
 - Converge Enterprises received a grant to develop a Duplex on Biglerville Road bringing two more affordable housing units to Adams county and will work with the Adams County Housing Authority through their Housing Choice Voucher program..
 - Converge Enterprises hope to collaborate on future affordable housing development projects in Adams County.
 - For more information on this project and for referrals, contact Chad at ccollieconverge@gmail.com, Brock at bgrimconverge@gmail.com, or Terry at tshrinerconverge@gmail.com
- **SCCAP Apartments Project** – SCCAP
 - Received a grant from Adams County Community Foundation and applied for funding from Act 137, CDBG, and more grants in progress.
 - For more information on this project, visit SCCAP's website at www.sccap.org
- **Marketing, Outreach and Advocacy**
 - Caroline, @Home Coordinator is working with SCCAP internal marketing team to develop a comprehensive plan to further raise awareness about @Home and partner efforts.
 - Monthly article published in Gettysburg Times every fourth Tuesday of the month.
 - Let us know if you are interested in collaborating on an article or if you'd like to be featured as a guest author.
- **Call to Action**
 1. **Consider contributing to the match required for the Gettysburg/Hanover Transportation route.**
 2. Get to know your municipal leaders- as we can see by the ECHO opportunity, we will need municipal leaders who are willing to think a little outside of the box.
 3. Prepare to Vote- pay attention to candidates beliefs on Affordable housing, transportation, and economic development- this is a great time for some research.

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4. Look for other building and transportation opportunities and share with Caroline at cjohnson@sccap.org .
5. Promote awareness of @Home in Adams County in the community to help spread the word.
6. Refer folks to us who are interested in involvement or who wish to learn more information about affordable housing, transportation, and economic developments in the community.

Next Coalition Meeting – October 2020 date and time TBD

Doodle poll including suggested dates and times will be shared with coalition group to determine when would be best to meet for future meetings.