Clea of Bright Futures will send out the Learning Pods Resource Guide. It is state guidance for gathering/learning safely.

She is also working on a new flyer, specifically for schools, to connect people to resources. The rough draft will be sent out to the group and she would like feedback and suggestions.

Childcare facilities in SMC are functioning well and safely. Prime Time is trying to hire more employees to expand their capacity. Rockies provides care for school age children and they are at capacity, although we are not hearing of a need for additional care.

SS will develop a flyer explaining the Qualified Exempt Childcare Program. Gina Sharpe works with those wanting to apply and connecting those in need of childcare. Her email is gina.sharpe@state.co.us. CCAP Presumptive eligibility is scheduled to start January 1st. This will aid in providing childcare right away for families in need and cannot wait for the application to be finalized and approved. To cover the facilities if an applicant turns out not to be eligible, SS will be working with Strong Start and coordinating with the State.

Pandemic EBT (folks eligible for free or reduced lunch) will close in a week and a half. Those already enrolled in the SNAP program have already received their benefit, $425/child.

Public Health and the Medical Centers are developing schedules for flu shot clinics.

Jennie is in the schools and will communicate SMUNG’s message and available resources. Hoping this will give the group a better connection to the schools.

There is a concern for families with children refusing to work on their schoolwork when at home. A flyer with information of Dr Erin Ax’s Parenting and Coaching with a child during COVID will be sent out to the group. ISST would also be a resource for children and families in need of help with these issues.

CMH is setting up tele-learning and tele-based trainings. There will be open forums and they are open to ideas for topics.

There are concerns for the Senior population as the weather begins to turn cold. There will be more demand for delivered senior lunches. There is a need for volunteers to shovel snow for seniors that need to be able to drive. Matching youth with seniors to help with these needs is being organized. Flu shots will be made available in drive through flu shot clinics and having flu shots available during the senior lunch and for those participating in the Grab & Go.

The Lo-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) will be starting November 1st. The program is providing funding for counties to provide outreach. Ouray and San Miguel SS will submit a plan and upon approval each county will receive $26,000. Discover Goodwill processes both counties’ LEAP applications. Since they have taken over the program, the number of approved applications has slowly declined. Theories include, applicants do not follow up their applications with the needed verifications. The
outreach funds would allow SS to contract with someone who could attend community events (farmer’s markets, senior lunches, flu clinics, etc.) and provide LEAP applications to residents and assist with application completion. The funds would also be available for advertising the program. Region 10 volunteered to include the LEAP flyer in their lunches and provide to those in the Kinship program (grandparents raising grandchildren.)

Minutes and handouts will be posted online.

The next meeting will be September 28, 2020 at 2pm.