

San Miguel Unmet Needs Group

September 28, 2020 at 2pm

Mental/Behavioral Health topics:

Clea shared Bright Futures is working on developing parenting workshops for families struggling with the school's hybrid learning. The schedule will be shared as soon as it is completed.

Preschools are getting along well. They are efficiently handling the challenging restrictions.

There is still funding for help with accessing mental health services. The qualifications are equivalent to the GNF.

Schools:

Jennie reached out to the schools and received a response from John with Telluride Schools. There is an accountability meeting this evening and one of the topics of discussion is a planned school closure, possibly after Thanksgiving until the beginning of the second semester in January. John's concern is student internet access while remote learning. Schools did give out hotspots last Spring and it sounds like there were many not returned. This will have to be a school challenge due to privacy issues. This group could work on finding funding for additional purchases of hotspots as the need arises. The library has hotspots for check out. Their method of loaning out the hotspots efficiently tracks who has the hotspots.

Rather than asking teachers/staff to watch for concerns among students and finding resources, emails will be sent out to direct these concerns to SMUNG for assistance in locating resources. Jennie will be the contact person for Middle and HS. Clea will be the contact for elementary.

Norwood schools have experienced an increase in Spanish speaking population and there have been communication issues. Bright Futures has been providing interpreters and help with communication challenges.

The new flyer of resources is under development and will be distributed widely. Teachers did approach the group requesting an updated resource guide before school started but there is concern due to the overwhelming amount of information being sent out that the flyer may get lost in the volume. This reinforces the appeal of having Jennie and Clea be resource navigators available for school staff.

Food:

Someone suffered a broken ankle at the Food Bank due to the sidewalk being under repair. The site may be moved temporarily if a site can be found.

Housing/Shelter:

The housing shortage is affecting professionals needing to work in the area. Notify the group if there is news of a rental for the months of October and November.

Are there any other "housing available" resources besides Facebook and the newspaper? Word of mouth often fills rooms available before needing to be announced.

The Housing Authority website does not readily show what is available or the length of the waiting list. Lance will reach out to the Housing Authority to discuss a dashboard for their website.

Financial Needs:

There has been help for outstanding medical bills. Bright Futures has also been able to help with transportation/car repairs.

GNF applications are still being processed and folks are eligible again after 90 days.

Ross will resend out the link to the Western Colorado Immigrant Relief Fund.

Seniors:

Lance will follow up with Public Health to find out the progress of the plans to deliver flu shots directly to seniors and having clinics at Senior Lunches.

Wrap up:

Ross reminded everyone of the TCH's New Eyes Fund that could help pay for optical prescriptions. TCH is also working with the county, Telluride, Mtn Village, and Norwood to develop a one-stop website. The volume of the information is significant and is a large undertaking. Translations and cultural considerations are priorities.

Ross also reminds the group of TCH's list of volunteers and to keep this in mind as new projects are announced.

Gen will ask Carol to update the invite as dates have changed.

SMUNG's next meeting will be October 12th at 2pm.