

# Mobilize Katahdin Coalition Meeting

## Meeting Notes

**ATTENDING:** Kelly Adams, Susan Adams, Shelly Blaisdell, Ashley Cox, Jane Danforth, John Davis, Matt Delaney, Sean DeWitt, Josh Firmin, Diana Furkawa, Peter Jamieson, Tom Kenny, Kathy Lee, Kai Loundon, Tom Malcolm, Cody McEwen, Joshua McNaughton, Michael Osborne, Jeff Packard, Charlie Pray, Deb Roundtree, Lori, Santerre, Eben Sypitkowski, Michael Smith, Robin Stevens, Lucy Van Hook, Craig Worster, and Barbara Hayslett  
Note Taker: MaryAlice Mowry

### GENERAL OVERVIEW OF MOBILIZE KATAHDIN:

Matt Delaney: Coalition of many partners, over 12 organizations, 30 volunteers have joined, Steering Team meets daily, grant/fundraising subcommittee has formed, Our Katahdin is leading this effort. There is a group that is meeting for guidelines/policies for aid assistance. The broad mission is connecting people with local resources to meet needs. Have built out training for volunteers. Currently have had 30 requests that represent about 120 people. There are weekly meetings for volunteers, new volunteer training weekly, and weekly job specific training. Now it is manageable. We are building for a team that can be ready for future needs.

Q: Kelly Adams: are you doing background checks A: Yes for all volunteers

### UPDATES:

Shelly Blaisdell

#### MOBILIZE KATAHDIN:

- We have been going for 3 weeks. Started on 3/16/20.
- Helped about 120 people. Requests are varied mostly for food, cleaning products, toilet paper, and hard to get products. We have a little supply that we put in with food deliveries. Phone buddies are talking to people. Have dropped off puzzles, 2 heating fuel requests, and more. Shelly does give information to people on local resources and trying to get people to other organizations. We are helping folks.
- Have given \$500.00 to local agency for managing heating requests (I Care Ministries).
- Safety kits bags for volunteers have been made, and volunteer trainings continue weekly, safety flyers are being put in all deliveries.
- Have grocery and gas \$25 gift cards. Using local food pantries.

Q: Susan Adams: How can we get some supplies up north. A: will coordinate with Susan, and either get some up north or money to purchase, will figure it out. **Jane is linking Susan and Kai so they can work directly on this.**

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|                 | <p><u>Q:</u> Sean DeWitt: Want to understand pace of requests to sort out how to push/not push for money, what advice? <u>A:</u> We need a little more money right now, food pantries are doing purchasing now, we are going to have to help the food pantries in the near future.</p> <p><u>Q:</u> Lucy Van Hook: What are typical funding sources are being used? <u>A:</u> St Martins uses thrift store funds in past, but the store is closed, not sure how they are funding, Tri-Town funding through their congregation, I Care Ministries relies totally on donations. Could use assistance with electricity bill due to the number of freezers/refrigerators they are running. There are agency needs.</p>  |
| Kai Loundon     | <p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD BANK:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All food going out has no cost at this time. No cost to partner agency started 1 week ago, in week one of the outbreak, worked to ensure a low to no touch delivery/pick up models.</li> <li>● Week 2 they got a sense of the demand, learned our network is expected to serve 65,000, standard boxes are being made and are starting to go out. They are filling about 55% of each agencies' request. As time goes on, they will be able to fill increasing demands, but not sure if the benefits will keep pace.</li> <li>● They have a resource packet. There is a response fund going on today for all United Ways in the State of Maine. Good Shepherd has grant funding, including the "trucking" grant. Tri-Town is part of Good Shepherd. There are efforts to get a north end site as a part of Good Shepherd.</li> </ul> <p>Jeff Packard: Good Shepherd has grant funding available to rent a truck for large quantities of food pick up, if needed. (through Penske)</p> |
| Josh McNaughton | <p><b>MILLINOCKET SCHOOLS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schools will remain in distance learning for the rest of the school year. Final day of distance learning June 12<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>● Continue to work on ways to communicate.</li> <li>● Food Pantry is still working</li> </ul>   |
| Cody McEwen     | <p><b>TOWN OF MILLINOCKET:</b></p> <p>Thank you for updates. Work appreciated. Town Council meeting in Millinocket tonight (4-9-20) people can call to give public comment and there will be live streaming.</p>  |
| Tom Malcolm     | <p><b>MILLINOCKET FIRE DEPARTMENT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Have people call the Hospital number at MRH not the police or EMT's – they are referring all to Hospital (<b>please update the website</b>). They are not giving advice.</li> </ul>   |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● They have a few supplies that they give out, when they go into home on a call.</li> <li>● Last month the fire department responded to 10 U 21 calls all negative, this month 5 or 6, doing good in area with people staying home.</li> </ul> <p><u>Q:</u> Tom Malcolm: Looking at giving food/supplies correct? What are gas cards being used for?</p> <p><u>A:</u> Met with other groups that are trying to meet the same types of needs and they did have gas cards available for people who had to go to work and were in need, we have not used the gas cards yet, we have 4 gas cards if needed.</p> |
| <b>RESOURCES DISCUSSED:</b>  |  |
| Good Shepherd  | <a href="https://www.gsfb.org/">https://www.gsfb.org/</a>  |
| EAAA   | <a href="http://www.eaaa.org">www.eaaa.org</a> 207-941-2865 Local EAAA number is 723-2045  |
| General Assistance in Millinocket  | Lori Santerre 207-723-7010   |
| Millinocket Regional Hospital  | 207-723-5161 COVID Triage line - 447-4190  |
| <b>ACTIONABLE TO-DO'S:</b>   |  |
| Jane   | Follow up with EAAA  |
| Kai/Jane   | Follow up with Susan Adams   |
| Diana  | Remove fire/law enforcement from Mobilize website to encourage people to call MRH triage line  |
| Shelly   | Let Tom know if there are volunteers who might want to help with the Meals on Wheels program too   |
|  | Next week meeting April 16th, 9am  |
| <b>INFORMATION FROM GUEST SPEAKERS:</b>  |  |
| <p><b>Tom Kenny</b> – EAAA – Meals on Wheels has received additional federal funding revised criteria: 60 or older, living with someone 60 older and social distancing or disabled are eligible for Meals on Wheels. Volume of calls is high, have funding to get out food, there have been 67 referrals, the volume of calls is up but only 3 have come from northern part of Penobscot County. Biggest concern and need is for volunteer drivers. If you know anyone who needs Meals on Wheels, refer to their website, (you can make the referral online for someone if they have agreed that they would accept meals on wheels, just type information right into the website) or the phone number is: 207-941-2865, suggested donation is \$5 per meal, no one should worry about it, not a concern at this time any amount welcomed, or none. <a href="http://www.eaaa.org">www.eaaa.org</a> is the website for referral. These are frozen meals to go in microwave or oven. Delivering 7 meals per week, they deliver to Patten every other week so get 14</p> |  |

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meals. Bangor Airport service. Is the vendor that prepares the meals. Meals are very fresh and they have been able to keep up with the demand.

Q: Jane Danforth: what about Pet Food? A: All food is donated to “Furry friend” program, at this time they are not accepting donations from households, only from stores. Challenge only 3 volunteers right now, they break down bigger bags, the volunteers are not able to do their volunteer jobs right now. Pet food is available depending on location.

Q: Shelly: Do you want us to ask our volunteers if they want to volunteer with EAAA? A: Nancy Grant, meals program at Stearns Assistance Living or call phone. (723-2045)

Q: Shelly Blaisdell: Do you want to be considered for donations (monetary)? A: We are doing well right now, other agencies have greater need.

**Kelly Adams:** (USDA /Commodity Supplemental Food Program/Senior Boxes) New site in Mattawamkeag, first distribution 14<sup>th</sup>. Patten site – Stetson Memorial Church operating out of parking lot, East Millinocket drop off is Tri Town Baptist Church, in Millinocket – I Care Ministries. Quantities: 56 Patten, 20 Mattawamkeag 20 East Millinocket, over 100+in Millinocket. Do have some needs: I Care Ministries, help load boxes from trucks in Millinocket. Have a volunteer in E. Mill and she needs helps monthly – from Mill to E Mill. If interested in helping, it is once a month.

**Lori Santerre:** (Town of Millinocket General Assistance) call with needs/questions 723-7010. She checks regularly and will get back to people, there is an application process which she will do with them over the phone. She only has one general assistance person. Thursday is the day for general assistance.

Q: Matt Delaney: Is there a place that lays out guidelines.

A: Could give MK the guidelines from State and maybe we can post, but the best bet is just to call me.