

Mobilize Katahdin Coalition Meeting Notes

June 25, 2020

ATTENDING: Susan Adams, Shelly Blaisdell, Jane Danforth, Megan Day, Matt Delaney, Shelley Farrington, Diana Furukawa, Barbara Hayslett, Peter Jamieson, Kai Loundon, Tom Malcolm, Jeff Packard, Charlie Pray

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF MOBILIZE KATAHDIN:

Steering Committee Members are Matt Delaney, Shelly Blaisdell, Robin Stevens, Jane Danforth, and Diana Furukawa. The Steering Committee meets biweekly via Zoom.

UPDATES:

MOBILIZE KATAHDIN UPDATE

Shelly Blaisdell:

- Different calls for different things, gas, transportation, rent, a misc. variety of calls
- Offered resources
- Lots of Grocery deliveries
- Really good response to Ellis Family Markets- online or over the telephone ordering and curbside pickup by volunteers for delivery. Plan for this to be an ongoing service we will offer for a while
- Partnered with EAAA, that is helpful for shopping and getting food
- Steering team has gotten calls for rent or other things we don't cover, refer people to General Assistance in each town.
- Diana: We aren't doing rides right now, but it seems as though we are getting requests?

A: Yes, we are getting a number of calls about transportation from agencies for their clients that need rides or from MRH for patients that need a ride. Private individuals have called asking when we are starting to provide rides. We hope to get this up and running once we can do it safely, following the governor's guidelines

Jane: Even though we have been working on policy, we do not have a volunteer workforce for driving, we have to sort out how to recruit

- Hillary Knight Pine Tree Legal gave presentation about GA, you can access the audio, and everyone is encouraged to listen (link provided on last page of notes) We learned a lot about GA from this call. Was very informative as to what towns should be doing to assist residents with GA. Hillary is willing to be on a call with us and address any topic we have interest in
- The rack cards (5,000) are in and business cards (250), the communication sub-committee is working on distribution plan, first will be EMT/Police/Utility Bills from Towns may be an insert

Q: What has outreach been for drivers?

A: Reaching out to existing MK volunteers, will have to figure out how to recruit drivers outside of this pool. This is happening in other areas of the

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	<p>state as well- Older drivers are no longer comfortable transporting people- aging out.</p> <p>Susan Adams: Put out the protocols for safety as you ask for drivers- that may help people decide to volunteer- if they knew what was expected and how the protocols will protect them.</p> <p>Peter Jamieson: Paul Sanicandro has adopted the recreational checklist and guideline procedures from the state to take people on tours. MK might want to contact him to see how he is doing it. Peter will send Paul's contact info.</p> <p>Susan: Check out ME Updates from Office of Tourism, Hospitality Maine (Susan said she will follow up and send the site)</p> <p>Jane: Wondering if there is a checklist or certification for reopening</p> <p>Peter: There is not a certification but an attestation site.</p>
<p>FINANCIAL UPDATE</p>	<p><u>Matt Delaney:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Updates (Nancy DeWitt not available today) \$8,080 raised, \$467 remains from public site; \$3,600 + \$3,600 matched \$5,925 remains from private site. In total, over \$6,000 available <p>Jane: couple of weeks since donations received</p> <p>Charles Pray: suggested an article in Lincoln/Katahdin News about Our Katahdin fundraising</p> <p>Shelley F: Did article 2 weeks ago</p> <p>Diana: Good to keep on people's radar – looking to do Facebook Ads and other venues to keep Mobilize Katahdin out there</p> <p>Matt: Likes the idea of coordinated letter to the editor from people who have benefitted or from town officials, food pantries, etc.</p>
<p>FOOD INSECURITY UPDATE</p>	<p><u>Kai Loundon – Good Shepherd:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Food Assistance Network • Highlight: Corona Virus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) is off the ground in Maine. The government pays farmers and distributors to box perishable food and Good Shepherd is involved in distributing it through their network. • Working with 5 entities; 3 out of state, 2 in state • Over the next two months there will be about 11,00 boxes distributed equaling about 1.8 million pounds of farm products. Hopefully some meat, too. • Some of the Good Shepherd participants are eager to get these boxes, others are concerned about what is in the boxes since pre-identification is not possible. • Challenge is how to store big boxes containing assorted produce, dairy and eventually meat.

Mobilize Katahdin Coalition Meeting Notes

June 25, 2020

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mainers Feeding Mainers program was expanded (50%) this year- so a lot of produce will be moving that will be time sensitive. It is exciting to be working with abundance- not scarcity. • Jane asked if some of these boxes will eventually come to this region. • Kai: Yes, we are working on it! • Shelly loves the prepared boxes. It cuts down on the work her volunteers (at Tri-Town Baptist Food Pantry) have to do to put food boxes together. Downside it that it doesn't allow for choice for the patrons. • Shelly is concerned about having her drive through pantry outside in the hot weather and storing the perishable items. She is checking with Kia about getting some coolers.
<p>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE</p>	<p><u>Peter Jamieson:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a small community stimulus program, it is gift certificates that are matched by private donations- • 1st round will be \$3,000 (from Brookfield) – generic gift certificates are doubled and can be used at any local business • Hope to boost community morale and slight economic stimulus • Modeled after program in Skowhegan
<p>EMDC</p>	<p>Kevin Gregory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth summer internship program is starting up (16 – 24 yrs. old) • Hoping for 20 hrs. per week but can be more (up to 300 hours) • Library and Chamber of Commerce have used volunteers in the past. Diana commented what a great experience this was. • There is also a workforce academy • Kevin is going to reach out to the towns to see if they need help with sanitizing. • Charlie suggested Kevin get in touch with the Millinocket court system to see if they need help with sanitizing and such. • Kevin will reach out to town managers and hospital <p>Shelly: How do youth get involved, guidelines Kevin: Youth can reach out to me. I will send my contact info. We would like to get started right off. Kevin: low income, IEP, running a workforce academy</p>
<p>Representative Golden's Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charlie asked Barb if there is any update on the next Covid-19 package with Congress...what might happen, when it might happen? • Barb: Jared has had various meetings about this topic but there is not yet an update on when that might happen. I will let everyone know when there is an update.

Mobilize Katahdin Coalition Meeting Notes

June 25, 2020

OTHER UPDATES COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charlie talked about his concerns about funding for municipalities /communities related to Revenue Sharing –it’s difficult to create a local budget not knowing what the State is doing. Bottom line, this is going to continue, economically, for a long time. ● Tom is voiced concern that “this isn’t over” ... feel like people are being lax because we have had low/no activity. Is thankful that Mobilize Katahdin is in place – lucky the community has responded and is working together ● Jane asked Peter if there could be some care packages made up with masks and sanitizing products for visitors coming into the area. People might wear masks but not have access to one. ● Peter was on board with that and would absolutely facilitate it. ● Barb thinks this is a great idea ● Tom thinks this idea is excellent! ● Charlie is concerned that people don’t think this pandemic is real ● Kai: wearing a mask shows that you care about other people. ● Jane asked Tom if anyone can go to the walk-in care in East Millinocket and request a COVID test or do they need to be referred by their provider. ● Tom says they can go themselves if there is a reason and the staff their will discuss with patient to see if testing is necessary. ● Tom would like a company to come to Millinocket and test his department for COVID antibodies to see if anyone has had the virus.
RESOURCES DISCUSSED:	
General Assistance Presentation	Recording of General Assistance presentation with Pine Tree Legal’s Hillary Knight: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oRSAppgqheul&feature=youtu.be
Hospitality Maine Covid Checklist	https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.hospitalitymaine.com/resource/resmgr/hm_covid_updates/Lodging Checklist - Revised.pdf
Adapted Transportation Safety Guidelines	Paul Sanicandro (207) 723-1009 Moose Woods Guide Service. Info on transportation in personal vehicle
Summer Youth Internships -	EMDC Kevin Gregory 723-5178 and 746-9608
EAAA	https://www.facebook.com/groups/EAAAWellness/ 207-941-2865 is main office number, they will assist anyone who calls wanting and make sure that they get understand what programs they quality for and have access to
NEXT MEETING	July 9, 2020 9:00 a.m.