

**Mobilize Katahdin Coalition Meeting/ Zoom
September 3, 2020 / 9:00am**

ATTENDEES: **Jane Danforth**, Thrive Penobscot Director of Grants & Community Wellness; **Matt Delaney**, Millinocket Memorial Library Director; **Shelly Blaisdell**, Mobilize Katahdin Resource Navigator; **Diana Furukawa**, Mobilize Katahdin Steering Team/Volunteer Coordinator Millinocket Memorial Library; **Tina McLeod**, Mobilize Katahdin Volunteer; **Megan Marquis**, Katahdin Collaborative Community Coordinator; **Shelley Farrington**, Lincoln News Journalist; **Jennifer Sheaff**, Eastern Area Agency on Aging Community Outreach & Program Manager; **Katie Mackin**, Millinocket Regional Hospital Marketing Coordinator; **Susan Adams**, Elliotsville Foundation Recreation Manager; **Debora Rountree**, KRHEC/UMA East Millinocket Center Director; **Tom Malcolm**, Millinocket Fire Department Fire Chief; **Kai Loundon**, Good Shepherd Food Bank Community Resource Representative; **Jeff Packard**, UVEC Food Pantry/ Sherman; **Charlie Pray**, Millinocket Town Councilor; **Angela Cote**, Town of East Millinocket Administrative Assistant, **Lisa Sturgeon**, Sutherland Weston; **Lucy Van Hook**, Community Development Director, Our Katahdin, **Dr. Ron Blum**, Retired, **Bob Peterson**, CEO, Millinocket Regional Hospital, **Eben Sypitkowski**, Director, Baxter State Park, **Louis Pelletier**, Millinocket Town Councilor

NOTETAKER: Shelly Blaisdell **FACILITATOR:** Jane Danforth

**MASK UP FOR
ME CAMPAIGN
UPDATES:**

Jane Danforth:

Campaign launched on Tuesday 9/1/2020 with our first photo of a Katahdin region “influencer”. Kyle Leathers, Town of East Millinocket Selectmen is being featured today, and Matt Delaney, Millinocket Memorial Library Director will be featured on Saturday. There are more photos to come over the next several weeks to promote this campaign and the importance of wearing a mask region wide.

- White Hanes brand cloth masks and face shields have been ordered, as well as packaging materials. Volunteers are in the process of packaging these, and once additional plastic bags arrive, they will be ready to distribute.
- Tom Malcolm indicated we have 2,500 reusable cloth masks and 2,500 disposable masks available, similar to what the school departments are using; there are also face shields available.
- Hand sanitizer stations are on backorder but are scheduled to be shipped next week.
- Signage is needed to be put out now to advertise each distribution location as masks are being given out.
- Lisa asks what the distribution protocols are? Jane said that the distribution plan is fluid and requests input from others but feels some important places for masks to be available are at each town office, as well as at local libraries and at community wide public venues around the area. A variety of venues are being considered; this needs to be decided on and is still in process.
- Lisa of Sutherland Weston recommended large sidewalk stickers and fliers; she requested to know specifically how many we need them to print and ship versus sending us a digital file we would print ourselves, which would save on the cost of advertisement dramatically.
- Jane asked for clarification about whether we would use the Mask Up for ME Katahdin specific logo. Lisa indicated they use the generic Mask Up for ME logo to keep the messaging consistent regionally, but said digital copies we would print ourselves can easily be altered to use the Katahdin specific logo; Jane also informed that we want to be able to edit the messaging to include the option to mail masks to residents who won't have access.
- The large sidewalk stickers or anything they make and deliver would be the generic logo. Jane reminded Lisa that we are still waiting on the one page insert that will go in each bag with the masks. Lisa said those inserts to go inside the bags would be sent today.
- Tom feels that the sidewalk stickers can be the generic logo, but the digital copy posters should be Katahdin region specific.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lisa requested information on who our printer is, and where she should send the digital copies to? Katie Mackin indicated that we could use the Lincoln News, a local printer we work with a lot, whose quality would be better eliminating the white lines we would get if we printed ourselves. ● Shelley Farrington said the Lincoln News could be an option, but they are currently very busy so in terms of timeliness, a quick job may be able to be done, but she can't guarantee that. She does have a local delivery man to save time, but turnaround time would need to be checked on. ● Tom said he would like the posters and stickers printed professionally but feels the one page inserts that will go inside the bags we can do ourselves on a standard printer. ● Jane asked what the sidewalk stickers say and the intent of their placement? Lisa said they are meant to be placed 6' apart for social distancing. Jane said before we order those, we need to determine who would like them, if Towns want them and/or businesses, etc. to order the correct quantity. Jane will follow up with community members to see who would like sidewalk stickers. ● Louis Pelletier suggests we contact local clubs like the Elks, American Legion, etc. to offer them some. Dr. Blum suggested churches, Main Street businesses, library, the museum, etc. in Patten. ● Lisa asked if someone from the Chamber of Commerce could send an email to members. Peter Jamieson offered to email Chamber members to see who would like them, and post on their Facebook page information for requests. Peter also offered the Katahdin Area Chamber of Commerce office in Millinocket as a local distribution location. Mobilize Katahdin's steering team will hold a distribution planning meeting with Peter Jamieson next week to work on this. ● Tom wants to make sure that when businesses post a sign or use the sidewalk stickers, they need to promote this campaign and be on board with the importance of wearing a mask. Lisa suggested communication take place with Katahdin area businesses now, so they are informed about the campaign before receiving the materials. ● Angela Cote has had inquiries about the cages that go inside of masks and asked if Amazon is the best place to order those? She also inquired if we want to offer these items with the masks. A brief discussion took place about the inserts; Tom will research on where to get them at the most cost-effective place and update the group.
<p>MOBILIZE KATAHDIN UPDATES:</p>	<p><u>Shelly Blaisdell:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Requests for heating fuel assistance have increased the past two weeks; we have had 8 requests up from 2-3 requests per week in the past. A local heating fuel resource may not be offering assistance with fuel this year so this may be why we have received such an increase in requests? ● Mobilize Katahdin did receive a grant specifically for heating fuel; those funds will be used first to meet the need before using donated funds. ● We have received 49 requests for grocery assistance in the month of August; We continue our partnership with EAAA for reimbursement for each grocery assistance request we meet. ● Mobilize Katahdin volunteers have also delivered medications to patrons who request those deliveries. ● We have received a few requests for utility bills and rent that Mobilize Katahdin was unable to meet; referrals were made to General Assistance in the town each patron lives in to meet these. ● Jane spoke with David Oliver at St. Martin's Catholic Church and he confirmed that because their thrift store has not been open due to COVID-19, they are not going to be able to meet fuel assistance requests; in the past, they have given approximately \$30,000.00 per year to meet the needs, but this year they will be unable to do this as their revenue is limited. ● Mobilize Katahdin also helps patrons apply for HEAP fuel assistance through Penquis; this is now available for this year. ● Lisa shared that Efficiency Maine has a program they are offering for those who qualify for HEAP; she will share that resource with Shelly so patrons may take advantage of this program.

	<p><u>Financial Updates – Lucy VanHook:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Raised To Date: Just over \$15,000.00 ● Grant through United Way (for heating fuel assistance): \$1,000.00 ● Dispersed To Date: \$10,886.00 ● Balance Available: Just over \$5,400.00 ● New resource in the area - a free WiFi hotspot is available at the Medway Recreation area for anyone in need. The MML also has a WiFi hotspot available again outside the library; they are also offering printing services that can be accessed through the curbside window at the library.
<p>EASTERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING UPDATES:</p>	<p><u>Jennifer Sheaff:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EAAA is still currently closed to in person visits but they continue to meet the needs through online platforms. ● Medicare open enrollment season is upon us so they will begin booking appointments for those who need help on October 1, 2020. Open enrollment is October 15 - December 7, 2020. This gives folks on Medicare an opportunity to review their plan/pharmaceutical coverage to see if they need additional coverage, etc. and is an important service that many people utilize. This books up very fast, so people need to call early to schedule their appointments. ● Meals on Wheels and Fury Friends programs are still going strong; commodity sites are distributing and extra boxes have been provided to them by Good Shepherd Food Bank through the Farms to Family and Pineland Farms donations. ● The wellness Facebook group is continuing and reaching more people on-line. Hopefully with cooler weather and people staying inside, they would like to see more people use this program. ● Ride services for the greater Bangor area is still on hold but they do have mileage reimbursement available for all individuals in all 4 of their service communities when people need help paying for transportation for medical appointments. ● Fuel assistance is not something they assist with but referrals are made to Penquis; CHIP is a program they refer people to through Penquis for folks who need upgrades to their heating systems. Lucy informed that the CHIP program also helps pay for basic home repairs to improve overall heating efficiency; this program is run through each CAP agency statewide. ● EAAA has a provider referral link service that is available to anyone in need of resources; follow the provider referral link on the EAAA website to access this information. ● Jane is working on getting approximately 150 food boxes from the Farmers to Family program and Good Shepherd Food Bank for distribution at St. Martin’s Food Pantry in Millinocket on September 16th at 9:00 a.m. She will be sending out a flier; this is a drive-thru model with pre-packed boxes of food that individuals in need can access.
<p>FOOD/FOOD PANTRY UPDATES:</p>	<p><u>Kai Loundon:</u></p> <p>Partners are eligible for a new grant opportunity available next week where they can request funds between \$500 - \$50,000 for needs they have for their food pantry. An individual can’t request this, but a partner food pantry agency could apply.</p>
<p>KATAHDIN COLLABORATIVE UPDATES:</p>	<p><u>Megan Marquis:</u></p> <p>Megan informed about a need she knows of a family in the Patten area is looking for an enclosed trailer that they can utilize and/or funds to purchase to transport food pantry food; currently they use an open snowmobile trailer and they need an enclosed trailer before winter.</p>
<p>QUESTIONS & UPDATES:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Question posed by Shelley Farrington as to what is the best way for people to donate to Mobilize Katahdin? Lucy VanHook informed that people can donate on the Mobilize Katahdin website and/or at the Katahdin Federal Credit Union. Shelley inquired if another story is needed in the Lincoln Times to inform the public that over \$10,000 has already been disbursed and the need is growing.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Louis Pelletier asked if the Chamber of Commerce could work with local pubs to get them on board with using masks as we launch the Mask Up for ME campaign? Peter Jamieson said he is willing to look into it. ● Lisa asked if this is still a difficult topic even with current conversations? Tom said the law and guidelines have been provided to businesses but there is still some hesitation. Lisa asked if there is a pub/business owner that could be used as an “influencer” to show others that if they are doing it, others should do it also.
RESOURCES DISCUSSED:	
MILLINOCKET MEMORIAL LIBRARY:	http://millinocketmemoriallibrary.org/virtual-services http://millinocketmemoriallibrary.org/using-zoom
EAAA:	https://www.facebook.com/groups/EAAAWellness/ Eastern Area Agency on Aging Phone Number to schedule Medicare Review Appointments: (207) 941-2865 Meals on Wheels, referral or self-referral: https://www.eaaa.org/homepage/contact/
GOOD SHEPHERD FOOD BANK:	Sewall Foundation Rapid Response Fund Grant Opportunity: www.sewallfoundation.org
MOBILIZE KATAHDIN DONATIONS:	Donations can be made in person at: Katahdin Federal Credit Union, 1000 Central Street Millinocket, ME 04462 www.ourkatahdin.com www.mobilizekatahdin.org
ACTION ITEMS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mask Up for ME Distribution plan to be established; Signage to be printed and put up region wide 2. Katahdin Area Chamber of Commerce to contact all businesses regarding Mask Up for ME Campaign
NEXT MEETING:	October 1, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m. via Zoom