

## Allied Partners

July 20, 2021

**Present:** Rhea Schultz (president), Debra Annen, Mary Collet (secretary), Eileen Dresser, Wynn Davies (treasurer), Ryan Estrella, Gloria Farr, Susan Hoffenberg, Molly Plunkett, Jacqueline Stevens

Rhea opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Eviction Prevention** (Ryan)—In-person visits are now allowed by appointment; no walk-ins. Ryan is averaging 10 calls per day, fewer calls than a year ago. COVID funding has bridged some gaps. The eviction moratorium has ended. It is uncertain when funding through the Federal Reserve Center will end. The Tenant Resource Center will no longer be in charge of this funding.

**Allied Partners Scholarship program**—A copy of Jacqueline Stevens' application was distributed last month. Jacqueline is enrolled in Madison College, where she is studying business communication and marketing. She would like to give back to the community and currently works as a community health worker. A \$500 scholarship for Jacqueline was approved.

Wynn proposed that a team be formed to work on changes to the scholarship program to make it more effective: (1) make the application process less intimidating; (2) increase the involvement of Allied Community leaders in advertising scholarships and reviewing and selecting candidates; (3) place less emphasis on \$500 per semester tuition scholarships. Ryan, Gloria, Wynn, and Jacqueline volunteered to serve on the team; Rhea is willing to coordinate their first meeting. Rhea will also contact Alder Joe Maldonado about community leaders for the team. Note: Sue Timmerman has withdrawn from the Scholarship Committee because of other commitments.

### **Treasurer's report** (Wynn)

**Eviction Prevention**—During June, the Eviction Prevention Fund received donations of \$3,750 from Bethany United Methodist, \$263 from Midvale Lutheran, and \$218 from First Baptist. The fund was used to prevent eviction in five situations. Current balance is \$18,272.

**Scholarships**—At our May meeting, we approved a \$500 scholarship for Teasia Hoy, which is yet to appear in the financial report. Current balance is \$2,002.

**Special Projects**—In May, we contributed \$210 to the Neighborhood Association for rental of a dunk tank for an event. In June, we contributed \$150 to the Brotherhood to help defray expenses for a basketball tournament. We received a donation of \$500 from First Baptist. Current balance is \$740.

**Wellness Center**—A \$100 donation was transferred to the Wellness Center. An outstanding check from April has yet to be cashed.

**Allied Wellness Center** (Gloria)—A lot of families are in need. In particular, paper towels and toilet paper are in high demand. 19 individuals were given referrals for assistance in May. A fifth supplies drop-off location has been established on the east side of Madison. The other four drop-off locations are in the Allied Drive neighborhood.

**Allied Fresh** (Gloria)—More than 100 families are being served every Friday. Volunteers from UW have been helping with the effort. Food is delivered to households. Young (strong) volunteers are needed for unloading the heavy boxes of food. Shifts are 8:30–10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.–noon. Allied Partners are

encouraged to reach out to their congregations. Gloria said that she would draft a letter to this effect. Potential volunteers should contact Gloria or Janice Ferguson. Wynn said that he is impressed with the organization of this effort. The grant that supports this work will expire in 2022.

**Allied Food Pantry** (Mary)—The Wednesday morning pantry serves an average of 15 households per week. About half of these households consist of families of five or more people.

**New Chair for Allied Partners**—Rhea is stepping down as of September 21. Several people expressed gratitude to Rhea for her excellent facilitation. Wynn noted that the role of the chair is “whatever you are led to make it.” Basically, it involves writing and distributing the agenda and facilitating the meeting. The role of chair is flexible and could involve co-chairs. Rhea will send out another request for a volunteer(s).