

Allied Partners

March 2022

Present: Eileen Dresser, Debra Annen, Mary Collet, Wynn Davies, Ryan Estrella, Sue Hoffenberg, Leslie McAllister, Brigit Parlow, Rhea Schultz, Morgan Zeleny

Support for Afghani Families—Brigit Parlow from Bethany United Methodist described services being provided to two Afghani families who live in the Allied Drive neighborhood. Services are being provided in partnership with First Baptist. Long-term needs include food security, rental assistance, special equipment for a child with spinal bifida, ESL (Literacy Network), transportation, shopping, friendship, and help with obtaining asylum, citizenship, and social security. There is immediate need for a van. Contact Brigit at 608-807-8570, Brigit.parlow@yahoo.com.

Joining Forces for Families (Ryan)—Business continues to be conducted by appointment only. Ryan and the new police officer assigned to Allied, Will Holtan (wholtan@cityofmadison.com), have been reaching out to Allied landlords about possibly establishing a landlord association for the neighborhood. Ryan is again referring people who need rent assistance to CORE, which has become more efficient with processing applications. MGE has lifted its moratorium on utility cut-offs. With the rise in the price of gas, people need money for gas. Leslie offered to help address that need. Home health workers have been distributing a “healthy home” survey, which gives neighborhood residents an opportunity to rate their apartment building. The survey will be translated into Spanish.

January minutes—Eileen offered a prayer, and the January minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s report (Wynn)

Eviction Prevention—The fund received \$1,827 from Bethany United Methodist and \$1,000 each from Westminster Presbyterian, First Baptist, and the Friends Meeting. There is a great demand for rent assistance. Expenditures totaled \$6,000 in January and February, preventing 12 evictions. Balance is currently \$13,473.

Scholarships— The fund received a \$300 contribution from the Friends Meeting. Also received was a refund of \$324 from Madison College from the remaining scholarship for Jacqueline Stevens, who withdrew in the fall. The balance in the fund is \$1,725. Wynn asked for help in publicizing the availability of scholarships.

Special Projects—It was decided to give the \$400 balance in this account toward support for the Afghani refugees in Allied, c/o Brigit Parlow.

Ryan Estrella Discretionary Fund—This fund was established to hold a \$1,000 contribution from Westminster Presbyterian Church for Ryan’s discretionary use.

Wellness Center Fund—\$200 from the Friends Meeting was forwarded to the Wellness Center.

Wellness Center (Leslie)—Two grants—from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Dept of Human Services—are being used to hire a community health worker who will supervise the community health workers. Allied Fresh has been providing food to around 200 households per week. Volunteers are needed to pick up and deliver the food. On March 25, households will also receive household and cleaning supplies. In conjunction with NAMI, the Wellness Center will be holding two days of workshops on crisis prevention for service providers.

Other (Wynn)—Wynn has produced a flyer with job opportunities at Oakwood. The flyer will be included with the Fresh Foods home essentials distribution. Wynn will invite local alders to our meeting