



# Online Meeting Minutes: July 18, 2023

## Guest Speaker: Belynda Dunbar, Emergency Feeding Program

- Emergency Feeding Program began in 1977, in Seattle, a grassroots effort to address hunger
- 1977-2019 provided bags/boxes of food, some specific to cultural foods, medical needs, and pre/post surgery
- When partnership with Amazon began, were able to also provide fresh/perishable foods
- Recent increase in the numbers of people seeking their resources has quadrupled.
- Causes of increase in need are food prices, medical emergencies, change in family status, reduction in work hours, and more
- When clients connect with EFP, they complete an Intake Card which provides the data for donors/funding
- EFP also partners with 192 local agencies across 3 counties. Agencies can be service organizations, schools, day cares, and more. There is currently a waiting list to become a partner
- Prior to Covid, EFP had an open market for clients to shop. With changes during the pandemic, they needed to change to a drive through model with packed boxes of food
- Mornings, volunteers pack boxes for clients, and for agencies to pick up
- EFP is a no-barrier agency, no identification or other documents required
- Seeing large families needing assistance, some with as many as 8-10 people
- Currently, they are receiving donations from Amazon daily
- Save Our Streets is a program where EFP delivers boxes to locations supporting those experiencing homelessness. Currently in Pioneer Square, Seattle street locations, and 6 hotels. These are boxes of nonperishable foods.
- They also provide hygiene packs as available, and clothing to some schools
- Another program is Snack Packs for teens experiencing homelessness
- EFP has 7 staff people, and many volunteers
- Can arrange for a volunteer group on a Saturday, but need to coordinate with warehouse
- Provide backpacks to Garfield High School through a partnership with Tre Simmons, an event with barbers, and additional resources
- EFP facility is located in Renton, behind the Landing. Moved to this location in 2014, from Seattle
- If interested, Belynda likes to visit other agencies in the area.

## Hopelink Eastside Mobility Coordinator Heather Clark

- [Metro Flex](#) is in progress of coming to Issaquah! Timeline will be in October. Metro flex is a same-day on-demand transportation option.

## Issaquah School District Student Interventions Stacy Cho

- Director of Counseling and Student Well Being Noah Westerberg has joined ISD
- In her role with ISD, Stacy handles compliance, truancy and more. Currently, there are 108 students with court petitions
- Hosting a Back to School workshop in August focusing on goals, prizes, etc. Will be at KCLS library
- Discussion with Hopelink on how might collaborate to address any transportation issues contributing to truancy

### **Issaquah Sammamish Interfaith Coalition Elizabeth Maupin**

- Elizabeth has returned to WA, after temporary work in Oregon 😊
- Discussion on free online survey options

### **Issaquah Community Services, Carol Schneider**

- Continue to see increase in need with the number of applications
- Have started to limit the maximum offered, no hard limit, case by case
- Last 6 months have been overwhelming

### **City of Issaquah Human Services, Hannah Roberts**

- Resource Fair on July 25 with Chalk Art Festival. Please contact her if you would like to have a table
- Welcome Week will begin Sept 8. There will be a nonprofit resource fair. Please reach out to her by Aug 20 to be included

### **Issaquah Schools Foundation Lisa Haynes**

- Tools 4 School Backpack program is gearing up. Backpacks will be delivered to the schools of registered students in August. Registration is now open

### **Next INN: Aug 15, 2023 with ISD Family Partnerships**