



# Online Meeting Minutes: Sept 20, 2022

## **Guest Speaker #1: City of Sammamish, Human Services, Rita Badh [rbadh@sammamish.us](mailto:rbadh@sammamish.us)**

- Rita has been with the City for 5 years, the start of the Human Services Dept
- In 2018, the City did a Needs Assessment survey to identify community priorities as well as establish the Grants program.
  - o Housing: 25% of households were cost-burdened
  - o Transportation: many lived far from Metro stops
  - o Priorities: mental wellness, basic needs (housing, food, medical care, etc), cultural inclusion, seniors, domestic violence
- In 2021 Commission Learning to understand the impact of pandemic, and focus on current needs
- Presentation slides will be on INN website, with updated demographic data

## **Guest Speaker #2: Friends of Echo Glen, Susan [susan@echoglen.org](mailto:susan@echoglen.org) [www.echoglen.org](http://www.echoglen.org)**

- Susan has been a volunteer at Echo Glen for 23 years
- Echo Glen is one of two juvenile detention facilities in WA state, and is now under the purview of Dept of Children, Youth & Families. Echo Glen is the only facility for female youth, and also houses some young male youth. Green Hills is the 2<sup>nd</sup> facility and houses older males
- Recent change in laws provides that youth may stay at Echo Glen through age 25, and continue to receive the services not offered at facilities for adults. Some residents have been as young as 12 years old
- For those under the age of 18, Issaquah School District provides education
- Also available are online resources for GED completion as well as college courses
- There are currently 85 residents at Echo Glen. When Susan started, there were almost 200 residents
- Covid has had a huge impact to everyone at Echo Glen including staff and volunteers.
- Residents arrive with various levels of trauma, but all have experienced trauma. Services provide for mental health as well as other supports
- Currently, facing challenges due to low staffing levels, with some staff needing to work double shifts. These staffing levels also impact safety and support services, as well as morale for everyone
- How the community can help –
  - o Donations for staff recognition and appreciation (gift cards for gas, restaurants, etc), as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Bags (snacks, cards, treats)
  - o Share the open employment opportunities from the website
  - o Volunteer – provide empathy and a listening ear for the youth. Many opportunities through the many programs (cooking, gardening, art, life skills). There is also a mentor program with a commitment of weekly visits for a set number of weeks.
  - o Donations for Holiday gifts. This program is coordinated by a volunteer, gift cards are best option. Each resident receives gifts.

## **Issaquah / Renton Seventh Day Adventist Church, Angelique Cadwallader**

- Upcoming Mobile Dental Clinic (free) Sunday, Sept. 25th from 10am -4pm, 425 E Sunset Way, Issaquah

- Registration: Duane & Angelique Issaquah / Renton SDA Church [dacadwall@gmail.com](mailto:dacadwall@gmail.com)
- Walk Ins are also welcome

**Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank, Erin Longchari, [erin@issaquahfoodbank.org](mailto:erin@issaquahfoodbank.org)**

- 2 open positions – please share! Resource Navigator and Volunteer Coordinator
- Serving new families all the time, and unhoused clients
- Donations are down, as well as some governmental program funding.
- Recipe For Hope fundraiser in person this year, Sept 27, breakfast and lunch options. Please register!

**Essentials First & MCRC, Nickhath Sheriff [nicky@essentialsfirst.org](mailto:nicky@essentialsfirst.org)**

- Upcoming volunteer opportunities with packing hygiene kits. See website for signups
- Coming Nov 22, MAPS event, flyer coming soon
- MCRC, Social & humanitarian service-MAPS, [nicky@mcrccseattle.org](mailto:nicky@mcrccseattle.org), 425-777-5074

**Faith United, Jan Bennett**

- Tent City 4 is still at Highpoint off I-90, but will moving to Mary Queen of Peace once final permitting with City is complete.
- Tent City 4 is in need of evening meal, can drop off. 18-22 people currently living there
- TC4 phone--206-618-3901

**Issaquah Community Services, Lori Birrell and Carol Schneider [lorib@issaquahcommunityservices.org](mailto:lorib@issaquahcommunityservices.org)**

- Still a high demand for rental and utility assistance
- Annual fundraiser coming in December, newsletter to be shared soon
- Always in need of more volunteers

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

- Beginning Oct 1, new tenant protections with a required 120-day notice for any rent increase 3%+
- City Homelessness Outreach team is currently maxed out, and not able to take new clients at this time.
- Can find update on services at the website <https://www.issaquahwa.gov/3281/Homeless-Outreach-Program>
- Currently navigating eviction notices, and utilizing resources with King County Dispute Resolutions and ELAP
- Hannah is now out on maternity leave, in to Jan 2023. Main point of contact for Human Services related items will be Monica Negrila, Human Services Manager, she can be reached via email [monican@issaquahwa.gov](mailto:monican@issaquahwa.gov) or her office line 425-831-3416.

**Issaquah School District Student Interventions, Stacy Cho**

- Starting with this District this year
- Will be restarting the Community Truancy Engagement Board soon

**Safe Place, Bryan Thompson Text or Call [1.800.422.8336](tel:1.800.422.8336)**

- Have hired a 2<sup>nd</sup> coordinator!
- Continue with open hours, closed overnight

**Friends of Youth, Laura Kissler - 425-392-6367 ext 2**

- Several upcoming seminars, and ongoing support groups for youth as well as parents. Updated flyers to be posted to INN website
- Continue to have wait list for mental health services

**Issaquah School District, Family Partnerships Lorna Gilmour [gilmourl@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:gilmourl@issaquah.wednet.edu)**

- Able to support students and families with introduction to American schools, as well as connect with resources for crises situations as well as supports
- Supporting an increasing numbers of families from Ukraine with translators/interpreters as well as school supports
- Website: <https://www.isd411.org/programs-services/equity>
- Hosting events this week and next week for families. See website for calendar
- There are 3 staff persons, one for each high school feeder pattern.

**Megan Duncan , The Sophia Way**

- Megan Duncan, Community Engagement Coordinator with The Sophia Way (2 shelters for women experiencing homelessness in Bellevue (serving 21 women) and Kirkland (serving 40 women) I am the staff contact for meal donations, in-kind donations and volunteering. [Megan.d@sophiaway.org](mailto:Megan.d@sophiaway.org)

**Hopelink, Family Development, Donata Brenner**

- Case Manager (425)985-6298 [dbrenner@hopelink.org](mailto:dbrenner@hopelink.org)
- Family Development is a voluntary program, with some families staying for as long as 2 years.
- create a personalized goal plan, focusing on the strengths and potential of your family. Goals can center around increasing income, education, legal issues, health resources, parenting, and more
- Upcoming annual fundraiser <https://www.hopelink.org/reaching-out-luncheon-2022>
- Flyer with current Hopelink resources and programs
- Energy Assistance will resume in October, schedule appointments online. Clients able to download packet and drop off at closest Hopelink center.
- Rental assistance is available. Currently, there is a monthly drawing on the 26<sup>th</sup>

**Lifelong, Crystal Koch**

- Upcoming webinar in October, understanding the difference between hospice and palliative care. Flyer coming soon
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**The Garage, KayLee Jaech [kaylee@issaquahteencafe.org](mailto:kaylee@issaquahteencafe.org)**

- 1 case manager on staff supporting youth ages 12-18, free of charge
- 1 mental health counselor on staff, at the Garage daily, Free of charge
- Event Sept 21 launching new Host Home project in Issaquah, as well as facility for unhoused youth (showers, lockers, resource connections, etc).
- Host Home program is being developed with the collaboration from Mason County professionals

**Eastside Fire & Rescue, Core Connections Erica Stapleton**

- Currently serving community members from 6 months of age through 101 years!
- Works in the EF&R service area of Issaquah, Sammamish, North Bend, and others.