**Community Action Commission of Fayette County**



Survey Themes:

* More drug treatment services including MAT
* More mental health services
* More space for operations

Considerations:

* Internet countywide? (Only one person said this, but may be greater need since COVID-19)
* Community awareness of youth programs?

**Agenda for Virtual Retreats**

1. Establish ground rules.

Christina – rules for Go To Meetings

Jeff -- No wrong answers, only your opinion, all input is important; due to tight time frame, I will work to keep us on track and within one hour; however, I will ask for clarification and specificity to ensure your comments are understood.

1. Key Questions:
2. What is the best thing about CAC?
	1. There are multiple program options and opportunities available to the community
	2. Collaboration between community partners so they can access more services if they are not offered at CAC
	3. Provision of a large number of programs for the community
	4. CAC cares about the community and their employees
	5. We are here for the community and even we aren’t able to provide the resource, we can lead the client in the right direction
	6. People are willing to try new things. Willing to learn from peers in other counties and states and learn new ideas which they then bring back and share with the community. Not a business as usual organization.
3. If you could change one thing about CAC, what would it be?
	1. More office space x3
	2. More parking x3
	3. More access to corporate funding, not just program specific funding. Non-discretionary money to use how we need
	4. More office and parking x3 again
	5. More staff once we have office space
	6. A server, better computer management and a database
4. Do you believe that needs have changed since COVID-19 has hit? If so, what are they now compared to pre-COVID-19?
	1. Increased need for mental health services for adults and youth
	2. Increased need for addiction services/treatment services, including MAT. Overdoses have increased since COVID-19
	3. Increased need for suicide prevention since COVID-19
	4. Access to school for those who cannot access the internet due to location, availability or financial reasons – students feel like they are left to handle this on their own, no one is educating the youth
	5. Need for childcare. Childcare only available for essential workers. Parents struggle to find someone to care for their child as they pay bills, get groceries.
	6. Pathways clients report that the reason for shoplifting and stealing is due to losing their job as a result of COVID-19
	7. Increased need for domestic violence services and mental health for youth who are experiencing increased anxiety symptoms
	8. Teachers are struggling to teach students who do not have wifi, only have one computer for the entire family who are schooling and working from home, students have special needs that can’t be addressed in a virtual world. Students without access to internet are giving packets to work on. Libraries are not open. It’s possible that WCH City Schools might have offered wifi hot spot for students last week but no one has seen this. Students are in unsafe situations at home with violence and drugs and they need the protective factor of school.
	9. Some parents are considering moving to online school where teachers are actually active in educating their students rather than public schools who aren’t staying engaged.
	10. Telehealth presents barriers for Pathways clients who also do not have access to wifi.
5. Community survey results state that more drug abuse treatment and mental health services are needed for Fayette County. In what ways, should CAC’s Pathways to Recovery program be expanded to help meet the needs?
	1. CARF Accreditation so CAC could be able to offer mental health/counseling services
	2. If Medicaid goes away, treatment needs will increase
	3. Unable to access primary care physicians for routine check-ups, vaccinations for children because in person appointments are not available.
	4. We need to continue to provide resources the best that we can.
	5. Individual and groups are needed, need more access. Clients are still working with SPV but telehealth isn’t enough, they want to see someone face-to-face.
	6. Need a men’s shelter. Some landlords are not renting out vacant properties due to COVID-19 so we aren’t housing people as quickly as we would like.
6. Where/how could CAC acquire, build and/or rehab new office space for agency operations?
	1. Bambi would like to build a new building on land directly behind the shopping plaza near CAC. She would much rather build new near our existing structure because when we scatter we don’t have the oversite and risk non-compliance. This land would give us additional access to 22 that would be easier access than our existing set-up. Would give us more parking. She would like a building for our transit department to go behind Evan’s Center and for our child care to get us out of our lease at Starting Gate. More office space for head start staff which would free us up at our main office. We need capital funding which will be hard since our state budget is struggling.
	2. Commercial building near the old Carter lumber (old bus storage place used to repair buses) would be good for storing buses but it would take too much renovation to get it ready.
	3. The old Kmart building is on the other side of town, did not have the space available for a playground, was too expensive and only had a leasing option. We looked into this already for childcare.
7. If CAC would to undertake a business venture, what do you believe is the agency’s core programmatic strengths to build upon?
	1. Transportation gets over half of its income from contracts
	2. We have done income generating programs in our housing department
	3. CARF certification to start billing Medicaid for treatment and prevention services offered by CAC
	4. More low-income/income based housing. We do not manage housing. We have a few HUD locations but they do not generate profit. We have built and sold houses that were not part of self-help.
	5. Childcare is a successful program and could be even more successful if there was more capacity. The landlord will not give us more room to accommodate the need for childcare.
	6. Weatherization could start serving the community not just the clients they have.
	7. Cab service
	8. Youth center, after school programs, partner alongside prevention, after school childcare program. The Warehouse shutdown but that would not generate revenues; however, it is a need in the community. The Warehouse is Christian based, provided a safe place to hang out, fed youth. A lot of youth participated. The YMCA is available but it is accessible and not centrally located or easily accessible to all youth in the community.
	9. Adult daycare for the senior and care giving programs.