



Housing and Human Services Commission

TOWN OF LYONS

4/12/21 meeting via videoconference

I. **Welcome / introductions / roll call**

Commissioners in attendance: Crystal White (Chair), Meg Waters (Scribe), Regan Bullers, Andrew Moore

Liaisons: Lisa Ramsey (Town of Lyons Staff), Wendy Miller (Board of Trustees)

Others in attendance: Kim Mitchell (Town of Lyons Staff), Rebecca Major (OUR Center), Ryan Burch & Heidi Fishler (SVVSD School to Work Alliance Program—SWAP)

II. **St Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD) School to Work Alliance Program**

- (Ryan Burch) SWAP is a partnership between the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and the SVVSD to help disabled people establish a plan for becoming employed after graduation from public high school.
 - (Ryan) The program provides work experience by placing participants in jobs with local businesses. Participating businesses include everything from ranches to hospitals, veterinary clinics to HVAC installers, construction companies, and SVVSD nutrition and district technology, warehouse, and custodial services.
 - (Ryan) It's open to individuals ages 15 to 24 through DVR. It provides work-based learning and workplace readiness—not just getting jobs but keeping jobs. Support includes helping participants fill out resumes and practicing interviewing. CDL (commercial driver's license) training has also been part of the workplace readiness for some students.
 - (Ryan) For the participating business, the program pays the student's wages with the business for up to 160 hours of work.
 - (Ryan) Within SVVSD, the SWAP program is working with a few different high schools, including Lyons High. Heidi manages the relationship with Lyons HS.
 - (Heidi Fishler) She is working on laying the groundwork with some local businesses and the Town of Lyons. Perhaps summer months will provide additional opportunity. (To work with the town, students must be at least 18 years old.)
 - (Lisa Ramsey) Will introduce SWAP to Briana Hoyt for connections to Main Street businesses
 - For more info:
 - www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/ta_swap
 - www.svvdsd.org/departments/special-education/services-programming/school-to-work-alliance-program-swap
 - <https://vimeo.com/345487710/7febc48a02>



III. Lyons Goodwill Fund:

- Application deadline is May 1. Must be a nonprofit planning to accomplish a specific project in Lyons before the end of the year. The grant application is on the town's website.
- (Wendy) Fund has \$13,000 to distribute in 2021.
- (Lisa) We haven't gotten any applications yet. We assume LEAF will re-apply but hasn't yet. Lyons Prepared may apply for a grant. Lisa still hasn't received the LEAF report from last year.
- (Crystal) It went out in a town e-blast. Crystal will try to rally some applications.
- (Lisa) Will make sure it's in another e-blast.
- (Wendy) We should review the reports on last year's funding before making decisions this year.
- Decision-makers are Wendy Miller, Jennifer Schwartz, and Meg Waters.

IV. Diversity, Inclusion, & Cultural Issues

- (Andrew) Steering committee on equity and race would be the easiest opportunity to partner with the library and town to move that needle forward. Either Regan or Andrew (who sit on that steering committee) could provide a monthly update on the progress of that group and look for opportunities for HHS commissioners to participate.
- (Regan) We could offer signage or an inclusivity theme, something to welcome people within Lyons. Maybe signs or flags to communicate that Lyons is inclusive?
- (Lisa) Last summer, we presented the town board and mayor with a resolution to name July as LGBTQ inclusivity month. Lyons distributed flags to local businesses and flew a rainbow flag on our flagpole. Can we get more of those out this summer?
- (Crystal) Maybe put them in the parks too, to raise awareness.

V. Health & Well-Being:

- (Crystal) Will talk to Connie Sullivan about who she was working with to try to bring a medical clinic to town.
- (Rebecca Major) The LEAF vaccine clinic was hugely successful. LEAF had 250 appointments booked for COVID vaccines and gave away about 20 additional vaccines. The same people will be back for their second shot on May 8th.
- (Lisa) Would be great to have another vaccine clinic for kids when a COVID vaccine has been approved for them.
- (Rebecca) Will ask Lory about that idea.
- (Crystal) Free COVID testing is still going on at the LDS church on Fridays.

VI. LEAF & Lyons Volunteers:

- (Rebecca) Last Wednesday, there were fewer families at the food pantry than in previous weeks. A total of 36 families, compared with 48 a few weeks ago. Hopefully this indicates that people are getting back on their feet.



VII. zTrip

- (Lisa) A lot more people are now using the zTrip vouchers. It's mostly carpools.
- (Lisa) It seems that Boulder County will continue to fund zTrip for the foreseeable future. Alex at Boulder County is working with RTD to try to get matching funds.
- (Lisa) RTD holds up this program as an example of transportation innovation.
- (Lisa) We are hoping bus traffic from Lyons to Boulder and/or Longmont will return before school starts.

VIII. Vulnerable Citizens List

- (Lisa) The town wants to end the list and help people help themselves. People can sign up with Lyons Prepared so that they will be prepared for an emergency on their own, rather than expecting the town to contact them.
- (Lisa) The town is concerned about legal liability and about the ability of people to add one another so that the town is calling people who don't want to be called.
- (Lisa) Also, in a major disaster such as last fall's fires, town staff were overwhelmed with executing evacuations and didn't have time to go through the vulnerable citizens list.
- (Lisa) Joycelyn Fankhouser is involved with an online program that people can watch and for information about getting help in an emergency. They want to meet with seniors in person as well—that will probably start in summer. It will be a hands-on way of teaching people what they need to do to be prepared in an emergency.
- (Lisa) Boulder County is also implementing a Smart 911 program at some point. When that is implemented, people will be able to provide their information to the program and then all their information will be available to the operator when they call 911.

IX. Housing and Human Services Commission Goals for 2021:

- (Crystal White) Affordable housing and mental health services should be top priorities.
- (Wendy Miller) The next affordable housing project after the Summit project would involve changing zoning laws and be an overwhelming amount of work. There's some movement in that direction, but it's in its infancy. She's not currently sure what the HHS Commission can do to help.
- (Lisa) Another goal: Get rid of the vulnerable citizens list.
- (Andrew Moore) Boulder County money for zTrip on an ongoing basis.
- (Lisa) Work with SWAP to get more people employed in Lyons through that program.
- (Regan Bullers) Support steering committee at the library on race and privilege. They have a grant to develop programming. We could partner with them to support what they're doing.
- (Lisa) Coordinate presentations to the senior community and the broader community about the Smart 911 program when that is in place.
- (Andrew) Continue to facilitate communication about resources that are a good fit for this town and let people know about them.
- (Wendy) Bring additional COVID vaccinations to town.



X. Get Help Guide Distribution:

- LEAF
- Town hall
- Schools
- Library
- Lisa to distribute at senior lunches
- Visitor's center

XI. Action items

- Lisa Ramsey: Introduce SWAP to Briana Hoyt for connections to Main Street businesses
- Crystal White: Drum up additional applications for the 2021 Goodwill Fund grants.
- Lisa Ramsey: Promote Goodwill Fund in another Town of Lyons e-blast.
- Crystal White: Talk to Connie Sullivan about who she was working with to try to bring a medical clinic to town.
- Rebecca Major: Ask Lory Barton about the idea of LEAF holding a vaccination clinic for kids when a COVID vaccine has been approved for them.
- Meg Waters: Distribute Get Help Guide hard copies.
- Meg Waters: Provide Kim Mitchell with a PDF version of the Get Help Guide.

XII. Adjournment