

Minutes: LAFAYETTE COUNTY HOMELESS COALITION MEETING
Thursday, September 15, 2016 8:30AM Darlington United Methodist Church

1. Call to order: 8:30 am start-- passed around to sign in, noted below.
2. Approval of Minutes
Kathy move to approve, Dana second. Passed, no corrections
3. Speaker: Tony Ruesga (approx. 10 min) discussing his work with our Latino neighbors, and any observations he has about homelessness in our area.

History: Tony has been in this position for 16 years, first 3 years little to no Hispanic population. Tony speaks Spanish. Now about 20% of our population is Hispanic. His father was an immigrant: arrested 39 times or more when crossing the border illegally until he was able to be here legally.

He is the Hispanic Liaison Officer, the three Mexican Grocery stores are a place where he has "office hours". He hands his card to everyone. He is involved in the families of the community including family birthday parties, funerals, and traditional situations.

Open Houses at the police department are informal events to help eliminate the fear of the department and demonstrate openness for all. He has done a survey in the community with 90 percent satisfaction and feeling of safety.

Worked together to remove "bad guys", people causing crime, and contribute to sharing knowledge.

Group from the Hispanic population "United we are more" meets monthly to discuss social issue within the community—working to solve their own issues. This group is working on issues within the community: immigration—every 1st Friday an attorney is at Holy Rosary offering services for a reduced fee, people want to be citizens. Reasons for coming here: money. Identification project—needed an ID. Domestic health, homelessness, domestic violence.

Where do victims of domestic violence go who only speak Spanish? They are left in limbo. The Platteville facility does not offer support in Spanish. Hispanic women do not report their situation or they decide stay in the damaging situation.

4. Follow-up: Salvation Army—look ahead to the holidays? Craig report back on meeting in Argyle.

Lutheran Church in Argyle would like to participate.

From Angela Swinehart email: We can start on Friday November 18 and bell ring any day but Sundays until December 24th.

I have put out 16 Counter Kettles throughout the County starting mid November and pick those up the week after Christmas. I have attached a list of where those have gone.

<p>Blanchardville Do It Best Hardware Emberson’s Market Viking Café</p> <p>Belmont Clark</p>	<p>South Wayne CeNex Gas Station Village Inn</p>	<p>Darlington Hardware Store Subway (2) World of Variety Riverwood Citgo Caseys Piggly Wiggly</p>	<p>Shulsburg Roelli Cheese Store Turpins Grocery Citgo</p>
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In the larger cities someone is usually paid to run the campaign, however in our area it is all volunteers.

In the past I have had articles run in the newspaper and the First Baptist Church had helped spread the word.

For 2016: Let’s have live ringers at a few locations—they work! We might want to a press release to more newspapers.

Subcommittee: Mary Knellwolf, Shari Olson, Tony Reusga, Sue Schwartz
Coordinators in each community are needed. Jason King will forward press release to media outlets.

5. Iowa/Lafayette County Family Promise – next meeting is 4:30 on September 26th, at Peace Lutheran in Belmont

Only Hannah was able to make it from Lafayette County. Hannah cannot serve as our representative. A Grant County representative will share what they did to get started. All are welcome.

6. Future Agenda Items (Michelle on pantries, Chris Bell on free clinics, staff from Clarity Clinic and Neighborhood Health Partners)
Michelle in October.

7. Edgewood Nursing students: rural medicine rounds out their education. Here we don’t have a school nurse on staff every day at every school. Introductions in

town, visit the food pantry, community meetings (ADRC-Shane), saw an Amish buggy, and going to the school to do hearing and vision screening.

7. Adjourn Move by Sue Schwartz, second by Kathy. 9:15 am

Attendance (20)

Kathy Hottenstein, Family Advocates
Hannah Campbell Gustafson, Family Promise Grant
Shyntel Owen, Furst Staffing
Jason King, Darlington Police
Lee Gill, Health Department
Rev. Angie Steinhauer, D United Methodist
Summer Stietz, La Cty Christian Church
Rev. Craig Simonson, Grace Lutheran
Dana Marcus, ADRC
Mary Knellwolf, Edgewood College
Anne Liesch, Student nurse
Lindsay Bingham, Student nurse
Viktoriiia Kovalska, Student nurse
Alyssa Rogers, Student nurse
Sara Wozniak, student nurse
Courtney Donehue, student nurse
Shari Olson, Community of Churches
Tony Ruesga, County Board

Sue Schwartz, St. Vincent de Paul
Sue Paquette

Sent regrets:

Angela Swinehart, Salvation Army
Douglas O' Brien (Permeant Housing)
Myra Taylor, Community Member
Lori Nodorf

Those missing:

Christina Bell
Bob Boyle
Michelle Friedrich
Reg Gill, Lafayette Cty Sherriff
Chris McGlynn, La Cty Christian Church
Gina John, Family Advocates
Amanda Winslow, SWCAP Food Pantry