



Lake County Funders Call

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Participants

Angela Baran, Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County
Venoncia Bate-Ambrus, Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County
Angela Bentsen, AgeGuide
Steve Bugg, Great Lakes Credit Union
Asia Canady, Hunter Family Foundation
Damon Coleman, Lake County Community Development
Courtney Combs, The Lake County Community Foundation
Molly Cullum, Schreiber Family Foundation
Andrea Danks, North Shore Gas
Kate Grundin, Abbvie Foundation
Cassandra Hiller, Lake County Government
Kris Hoult, The Lake County Community Foundation
Valerie Johansen, The Lake County Health Department
Stew Kerr, First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest

Jawanza Malone, Wieboldt Foundation
Josh McGowan, Circle of Service Foundation
Maggie Morales, The Lake County Community Foundation
Gail Nelson, Steans Family Foundation
Malolm Newsome, The Lake County Community Foundation
Terri Olian, Highland Park Community Foundation
Tricia Painter, Abbott
Leah Perri, The Lake County Community Foundation
Taryn Placko, Advocate Aurora Foundation
Cheri Richardson, Gorter Family Foundation
Heather Sannes, Schreiber Family Foundation
Jeanette Velazquez
Anthony Vega, Lake County Sheriff's Office
Emily Weber, The Lake County Community Foundation
Greg Weider, Lake County Bar Foundation
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin, Circle of Service Foundation

Welcome & Call Goals

Courtney Combs, Manager of Community Impact for The Lake County Community Foundation, thanked participants for joining the call and noted the goal for the conversation were to:

- Hear an update from the Lake County Health Department on Monkeypox (MPV) in Lake County
- Hear from the Highland Park Community Foundation on their July 4th recovery efforts
- Hear a presentation from Anthony Vega of the Lake County Sheriff's Office on Lake County's criminal justice equity work

Lake County Health Department update on strategy for Monkeypox – Valerie Johansen, The Lake County Health Department

2022 Monkeypox (MPV) global outbreak: 26,864 total confirmed cases identified in 88 countries. Monkeypox has been declared a public health emergency.

MPV prevention:

1. Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like MPV
2. Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used
3. Wash your hands often
4. Get vaccinated
 - a. Recommended for people who have been exposed to MPV & people who may be more likely to get MPV
 - i. Right now, high risk population is gay, bisexual, same-sex-loving men who have had multiple partners in the last two weeks

Lake County Health Department Resources

- Testing, Vaccination, Treatment
 - STI program 847.377.8450
- Reporting Positive Test Results
- Community & Provider Resources
 - <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/4713/Monkeypox>

Q & A

What is the incubation period for Monkeypox?

Anywhere from 14-21 days.

Highland Park and Highwood recovery update – Terri Olian, Executive Director of Highland Park Community Foundation

Contact info for Terri Olian: 847-778-2455, email terri@hpcf.org

Highland Park Community Foundation – [July 4 Shooting Response Fund](#). 100% of donations are going to support victims and their families, survivors, or the organizations supporting victims and survivors throughout Lake County.

Highland Park Community Foundation is setting up the process and protocol for distribution of the funds. A draft of the protocol and proposed plan of distribution is available for review and open to public comment. HPCF is currently getting input from victims and families of those impacted for the distribution of funds and invites public comment as well: July4Fund.org - [July 4 Fund - Highland Park Community Foundation \(hpcf.org\)](#)

- Fund will be closed in October so distributions can be made in October

Partner organizations

- Four key organizations who have stepped up as resource partners and stretched beyond capacity during this time: Mano a Mano, Highwood Public Library, Family Service of Lake County, North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic
 - Also, Willow House and Jewish Family and Community Services
 - These organizations continue to support the community during this time but are stretched financially and need to hire additional staff. Highwood Public Library has received funding, but the other organizations are urgently needing financial capital.

Introduction to Lake County’s Criminal Justice Equity Initiatives – Anthony Vega, Chief of Staff for Lake County Sheriff’s Office

Lake County received a safety and justice challenge grant from the MacArthur Foundation in 2018 focused on implementing practices to reduce jail populations and addressing racial and ethnic disparities.

Lake County jail has over 600 people at any given time, 92% are on a pre-trial status. This is much higher than the national average. In looking at why people in Lake County are in pre-trial status, the Sheriff Office’s main strategy in 2019 was to work with NICASA on identifying high jail utilizers (more than 3 times in 12-month calendar year) and addressing their root needs (mental health, substance abuse, housing) etc. What they found was that while working with a community partner to address these issues they were able to reduce the likelihood of them returning into the system. The initiative was so successful that they redefined what a high jail utilizer was (reduced it to 2 or more times in a calendar year). The impact of working with people on their treatment plans while incarcerated significantly reduced the likelihood of them returning to the system and increased their likelihood of continuing their treatment plan on the outside.

Sheriff’s office set up an equity team made up of partners across Lake County, brought in training, data and analytics.

For every day someone is in Lake County jail, it costs taxpayers over \$120 dollars on the low end.

COVID-19 forced jail systems to look at how to reduce populations. Lake County jail reduced population to 27%.

Statistically, data shows jail times have detrimental effects throughout someone’s entire life and are also detrimental to the entire family unit. Measures that the Sheriff’s Office took to address this:

- Eliminated family charges for commissary purchases. (?)
- Only county jail in state that has the lowest fees for phone calls. Burden on funding those phone calls has been moved away from family. Family also gets a free phone call every week (option wasn’t there before).
- Also facilitated the distribution of stimulus funding. Most people sent money to families, but some were able to bond themselves out (low-level offenders).

For those who end up in the criminal justice system, we know there were multiple points of systemic failures for intervention and prevention by the time someone enters the jail system.

1. Community services, crisis lines, etc.

Jails are our largest mental health facilities but are extremely ill-equipped to fill that need. 42% of population are on psychotropic medication. Many face chronic mental illnesses and there is a huge gap in services and not enough resources to treat people. Often people resort to possible criminal behavior because of untreated mental illnesses. We also know that housing insecurity plays a huge role in why someone ends up in the criminal justice system.

Solution:

- Need to properly invest in community and social services that are addressing these root issues
- Need to better equip jail systems to serve the community and meet the needs we are seeing in regard to mental health

Racial and ethnic disparities & how they intersect with criminal justice system:

- Traffic stops. Latinx drivers are 1.2x more likely than white drivers to experience a traffic stop, and Black drivers are 1.9x more likely than white drivers to experience a traffic stop
- Vehicle searches following a traffic stop increases exponentially for people of color compared to their white counterparts. Latinx drivers are 2.3x more likely than white drivers to have their vehicle searched, and Black drivers are 2.9x more likely than white drivers to have their vehicle searched.

Q & A

Next Lake County Funders Call - 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022