

# Glendale Strong Family Network

Thursday, March 11, 2021, 1:00 – 2:30 PM Online meeting via Zoom

Vision: Strong families and safe children in 85301

**Attendees:** Peggy Peixoto, Leslee Miele, Anvi Bhakta, Nicole Yezzi, Ismael Cantu, Liz Palma, Alexandra Oropeza, Monica Carranza , S Ochoa

## Barrier Busters & Good News

Monica shared that either Touchstone or Southwest Behavioral (I thought I had this info and do not) is providing a safe dating and relationship curriculum to DCS involved teens at the Swift Branch of the Boy's and Girls Club in Glendale.

## Partner Highlight- Glendale CAP/ Care Portal

Ismael Cantu and Liz Palma shared information on the Glendale CAP office and their involvement in the Care Portal.

Liz stated that she is designated as the Glendale CAP representative to have access to the Portal and the ability to make requests. Requests can be anything that a family needs that providers are having difficulty finding a resource for. Examples: teenagers out of a shelter in the foster care system may be provided a housing voucher or assistance but not have any furniture, kitchen items, linens, etc. Or a family that needs transportation out of state to move in with family. Liz can access and make requests in the portal for any partners that have a family in need. Email [lpalma@glendaleaz.com](mailto:lpalma@glendaleaz.com) for info on the care portal go <https://www.careportal.org/about-us/>

Ismael shared information on the large increase in families served and voucher dollars provided by Glendale CAP in the past year. Over 2000 clients so far (1000/yr was previous) and over \$11 million in vouchers (1 million/yr previous). There are several lines of housing assistance and they are able to help in most situations. 80% of the median income and Ismael estimated that it was in the \$60K year for a family of 4. They can also sometimes help not only get caught up but also provide several more months of rent.

## How has COVID affected your life? Survey- Maricopa County Dept of Public Health

Alexandra Oropeza, Southwest Maricopa County Public Health Liaison, provided information on a survey currently open for all residents of Maricopa County to collect information on the impact of COVID. The survey is open new through June 30th.

The link <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6268449/CHNA2021> was provided and anyone interested in posters or cards to advertise survey participation can email Alexandra and she can arrange for drop off or pick up. Alexandra stated that they need a minimum of 250 residents from each zip code to participate in order to be able to break received data down to the zip code level. If 250 responses from 85301 aren't received, then the data will be included in the Southwest Maricopa break down instead of its own.

## **Toolkit Pilot Update - Safety and Wellbeing Initiative**

The Kickoff event for the Pilot will take place Thursday July 29th at 1PM virtually. All partners will receive an invitation for the kickoff and should have all staff who will participate in the pilot register to attend. The kickoff will be an hour and introduce the toolkit, it's potential applications, and data collection details. Leslee was able to show everyone the physical copy of the Toolkit. It is available in English and Spanish. This is the first version and there is expectation to make improvements based on feedback from both providers and parents.

## **Website Update Coming Soon!**

The GSFN website will be updated over the next month or so. We will present the updated website at a meeting in the future.

## **Engaging Faith Partners-**

Previously GSFN had partners like Kingdom First, and Vineyard Community Charities as ongoing partners. We currently do not have any faith partners attending on a regular basis. If any partners have connections to a faith community in 85301, please connect them or contact a GSFN Board member to assist.

## **Should we hold a July Meeting?**

In past years we have not always held a meeting in July due to low attendance. We discussed that we did have one last July as it was in the first few months of switching to virtual meetings. We will hold a July meeting and whomever can attend will.