

General Advisory Committee of the
Burlington County Community Development Program
September 12, 2024, Meeting @ 3:00 PM

Present: Scott Hatfield, representing Burlington Township, Dwayne Harris, representing Willingboro Township, Kelly West, Workforce Development, Susan Jackson, representing New Hanover Township, Madelyn Sutton, representing Christian Caring Center, Lavinia Awosanya, representing Food Bank of SJ, Meghan LoBue, representing Food Bank of SJ, Doreen Fogel, representing Food Bank of SJ, Chris Luebbe, representing Food Bank of SJ, Ally Schmidt, representing Literacy NJ, Darlene Trappier, representing Beacon of Hope, Jeanette Hennessy, representing Providence House, Susan Danson, representing Maple Shade Township, Rob Wells, Burlington County Economic Development, Chris Smith, representing SEN-HAN Transportation, Beth Portocalis, representing Medford Township, Haley Haberstroh, representing Bass River Township, Sherrod Jones, representing Westampton Township, Joseph Barbadoro, representing RVE, Sara Cannon-Moye, representing Edgewater Park Township, Paula Kosko, representing Hainesport Township, William Long, representing Mt. Laurel Township, Bob Wright, Malamut & Associates, Malikah Morris, Human Services, Jennifer Hiros, Linda Horner, Monica Rego, The Division of Community Development and Housing.

1. Call to order – Open Public Meetings Act
The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Jennifer Hiros. Jennifer Hiros stated the meeting follows the Open Public Meetings Act. The meeting was opened for public comment. No members of the public were present, and hearing no comment, Jennifer Hiros closed the public comment portion.
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of May 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes
The May 9, 2024, meeting minutes were moved to approve by Paula Kosko, seconded by Susan Danson. **Motion carried.**
4. Spotlight Presentations:
 - a. Food Bank of South Jersey – Chris Luby
The mission of the Food Bank of South Jersey is to end food insecurity in Southwestern New Jersey. The Food Bank of SJ services Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem counties. The Food Bank of SJ works with over 300 community partners to distribute fresh food and meals. In 2023 the Food Bank of SJ:
 - served 170,000+ residents monthly
 - distributed 22.1 million pounds of food
 - along with the Food Bank’s partners distributed 18.4 million mealsThe Community Development Block Grant enabled the Food Bank of SJ to serve 6,626 Burlington residents per month. Chris Luby stated that

most of the Community Development Block Grant funds received by the Food Bank of SJ supplied mixed fresh produce boxes to the Beacon of Hope, Burlington Township Food Pantry, and Saint Vincent DePaul Holy Eucharist Conference Pantry.

Chris Luby reported 36,610 Burlington County residents are considered food insecure, while 52% of food insecure households do not qualify for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP).

5. Community Development and Housing
 - a. Jennifer Hiros stated The Annual Action Plan has been submitted and approved by HUD. Grant agreement documents have been received by HUD and were presented to the Board of County Commissioners of Burlington County for review and approval. 2024 funding should be available shortly.
 - b. The Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) is out for review and comment until September 25, 2024. The CAPER may be viewed on our website at www.co.burlington.nj.us/257/Community-Development-Housing or the Office of Community Development and Housing located at 795 Woodlane Road, Westampton, NJ 08060.
6. Action Items – There were no action items.
7. Closed Session – A closed session was not held.
8. Discussion

Pastor Darlene Trappier stated Beacon of Hope is a partner with the Food Bank of SJ and is the recipient of fresh produce boxes. Pastor Darlene Trappier attributes the fresh produce boxes to better health, and less hospital visits.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lake

JH/LH/pl

