

Our logo here!

# WHATCOM COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER NETWORK

August newsletter

### In this issue:

- Housing panel highlights
- Logo contest —win \$\$
- Join the Coordinating Committee!

## Hello!

We had a great panel on housing in Whatcom County at our August membership meeting – thank you to the panelists for providing their expertise, and our members for having such great questions!

What panel do you want to see next? What topic do you wish you knew more about, or what specific issue do you think we should tackle?

Email us! [whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com)

## Member updates

### • CENSUS 2020

Member Rochelle Hollowell has received some training to help community members fill out their Census forms. It is online, in the mail, in person, over the phone, and goes through Sept. 30 **If you or a client have not yet responded, go to [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 (available in 13 languages)**

### Next Membership meeting:

September 25 9-11 a.m.

If you don't get the invites, email [whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com) for the Zoom link

## Housing Panel Highlights

Our first time hosting a panel went off without a hitch! We had Adrienne Solenberger and Esther Heckman from Opportunity Council, Gina Stark of Whatcom Housing Alliance, Irene Kohlman of Bellingham Housing Authority, and Lindsey Karas from Mercy Housing.

We asked about the process for getting housing or help with keeping housing; programs for migrant workers and undocumented residents, women, and families; COVID no-eviction orders; and how healthcare workers can assist with housing issues, among many other questions. Check out the full recording here <https://youtu.be/1H0XDnu5giE> and on our website [wfcn.org/whatcom-community-health-worker-network](https://wfcn.org/whatcom-community-health-worker-network)

- Multiple access points for intake — Opportunity Council Community Resource Center seemed a best first place to start the process, as they refer to a variety of programs (called Coordinated Entry), including:
  - > Eviction prevention
  - > Move-in deposit assistance
  - > Transitional housing
  - > Rapid re-housing (3-6 month rental assistance)
  - > the Housing Pool (wait list 350+ for single people or without children)
- Key Takeaways
  - > More CARES funding (Congressional COVID bill) coming to Whatcom County to help with rental assistance
  - > COVID No-Eviction Order extended until Oct. 15
  - > There are different definitions of “homeless” and different eligibility criteria for different properties and housing programs
  - > Law Advocates and Opportunity Council can help resolve some landlord-tenant situations
  - > NW Justice Project provides free legal assistance/ advocacy and is a good resource for more complicated landlord-tenant situations
- Advice for people looking for housing and on a waiting list
  - > Pay any housing-related debts (even if it's not paid off completely, this shows responsibility for dealing with it).
  - > Keep your contact information up to date and check in with the agency/program/ landlord every 1-2 months
  - > If living with homelessness, keep documents that show this, and/or contact information for people who can vouch for you to confirm this (like case managers or social service providers).

### Multiple access points (can do intake process with clients)

East Whatcom Regional Resource Center

Opportunity Council, Bellingham

Bellingham Housing Authority (online applications)

Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT) teams

Lake Whatcom Treatment Center

DVSAS safe shelter

Lydia Place

YWCA

NW Youth Services (for youth 18- 24)

## Logo contest!

We'd like to see your ideas on what our organizational logo could look like! Symbols our members thought represented us include bridges, unity, connection, and more.

### Guidelines:

- o Use symbols and colors to encompass the vibe of the Whatcom Community Health Worker Network.
- o Desired vibe essence: trust, connection, openness, helpfulness, advocacy, empowerment, community, inclusive, belonging, Pacific Northwest.
- o Potential symbols (not limited to these): bridge, community members, ripple effect, hands, trees and water, etc.
- o Incorporate "Whatcom Community Health Worker Network" into the logo in some way (initials are acceptable)
- o Logo should work well large or small, but you can create it any size.
- o Can be hand-drawn or created on the computer.



### Submission Details:

- o Create a draft of your Logo idea.
- o Find Whatcom Community Health Worker Network on Facebook and give us a like.
- o Message your Logo idea to our Facebook page via private message.
- o **Submit before 5 p.m. on September 18<sup>th</sup>**
- o Vote for your favorite on Facebook the week of September 21-24, 2020.

### Rewards:

- o The winning logo idea will be announced on September 25<sup>th</sup>
- o The creator of the winning logo idea will receive \$50 worth of gift cards.
- o A second reward of a \$25 gift card will be given to one lucky random person who has liked us on Facebook.

For tips on logo ideas, check out <https://venngage.com/blog/logo-design-tips/>

## Want to help guide this effort? We want you!

The Coordinating Committee is looking for one more member to join our 5-member team.

The overall role of the committee is to have a bird's eye view of the Network's purpose, goals and growth to help the Network accomplish its purpose. Committee members share responsibilities such as budgeting and purchasing, social media, newsletters to members and our stakeholder list. We meet once a month, and ask for a commitment of one year.

Email [whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:whatcomchwnetwork@gmail.com) for questions and to apply!



Is your organization hiring?

What kind of jobs are you looking for?

Send us job postings and what you'd like to see!

