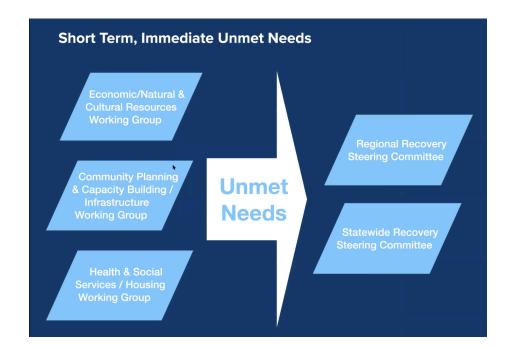
# Connecticut DESPP/DEMHS Region IV Recovery Steering Committee

# **Economic/Natural & Cultural Resources Working Group**

February 16, 2021 - Meeting Notes

### Attendance:

John Filchak Mickey Morabito Jay Swan Michael Gantick Amanda Kennedy Ann-Marie Aubrey Carla lezzi Nancy Cowser Carly Holzschuh Jim Butler Sam Alexander Justin LaFountain Wendy Bury Mark Oefinger Cathryn Silver-Smith Mike Caplet Francesca Kefalas Tyra Penn-Gesek Matthew Bordeaux Eric Trott Chris Lippke Deanna Rhodes Jill StClair
Jim Bellano
Jennifer Lindo
Maureen Nicholson
Mickey Morabito
Gary Goeschel
John Guszkowski
Sheri Cote



# **Topics of Discussions:**

- · What are the needs?
- · How many people are affected?
- What actions must be taken to address these needs?
- · What solutions are proposed?
- Were these needs prior to the pandemic?
- Funding needs; how much is required?
- Are there supporting documents that would be helpful regarding the unmet needs

# **Previous Meeting Topics of Discussion:**

- One on one support for small business owners to help with assistance applications, loans, human resources, etcetera.
- Language barriers
- Addressing the needs of non-profits, which are not part of SBAs
- Decreased investments in the maintenance of state parks/facilities during time of increased usage
- Use of volunteers to maintain public spaces
- Federal/State assistance for businesses

#### **Economic Resources Discussion:**

- Language barrier operations bilingual resources were available early on, but not seem difficult to find.
- Restaraunt that applied for and received grants weren't notified of approval ad monies have since been refunded.
- Financial language barriers applicants don't understand the application process. Many have difficulty understanding what is needed to apply, not sure where to get it, and/or have the time to understand it.
- Agriculture operations supply chains have faded and resources/help are difficult to find.
- Considering lines of communications that already exist, opposed to creating new ones to reach involved members as they stand.

#### **Natural Resources Discussion:**

- Outdoor recreation has been advertised as one of the perceived to be safer activities
- High school seniors may be a good resource for park cleanup needs, all while earning their volunteer hours.

# **Cultural Resources Discussion:**

- PPP closes March 31, 2021
- Dedicated funding for general operations support needs

# Future Meeting Dates (3rd Tuesday of the month, 11:00am):

- March 16, 2021
- April 20, 2021
- May 18, 2021