

The mission of the Butler Collaborative for Families is to build a unified and integrated network of services by using a multiple-agency approach to break down barriers and strengthen the system of care for individuals and families of Butler County.

- I. Welcome: Meeting called to order at 10:10 by Linda Thoma
- II. Review and approval of the May General Meeting Minutes: M-Peter Bess/S-Devin Cunningham/Approved
- III. Budget & Finance Committee Report- **BCF Treasurer, Phil Schmeltzer**
Restricted Funds: \$ 7,232 Unrestricted Funds: \$42,449 Total: \$49,681
Expenses: \$5,527
Featured Speaker: David Ombres with T-Mobile: David Ombres is focused on serving those that serve. He has worked in the telecom industry for over 25 years focusing on non-profit and government agencies. He has lived throughout western PA from Butler to the North Hills and is a graduate of RMU.
 1. David shared that Non-profits have perks to becoming T-Mobile customers
 - a. Must be a member of the PACOSTARS group (a purchasing program that offers many perks to nonprofits with various companies)
 - b. Perks are no contracts, no termination fees, no activation fees, no equipment offer recovery fees
 - c. Can get a free I-phone 16e or Samsung Galaxy 24 for \$29.40/month with unlimited call/text/data
 2. He shared that T-Mobile is the #2 provider but was the first to enter the 5G market.
 3. Launching satellite phone service using Starlink-in the trial stage, but will be available soon (July 2025)
 4. T-Mobile offers various “Hometown grants” that are not tech based. They can be for anything that supports the community. They give these grants out quarterly with 50 recipients receiving up to \$50,000/award
 5. T-Mobile works with rural school districts to help provide internet access for students who can’t financially support home internet access. School administrators should reach out to David for more information.
- IV. Agency Spotlight: **Jayme Steighner- Butler County Community College- KEYS Program**
 - a. Jayme highlighted the KEYS program as a bridge between the States Department of Human Services and each Community College in PA. The program exists to help low-income college students with bridging the gaps on some of the most common areas of struggle (food, gas, car repairs, textbooks, laptops etc)
 - b. Jayme also highlighted the Pioneer Pantry that is available to all BC3 students, not just KEYS students. The pantry is supported by generous community donations as well as a partnership with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.
 - c. Jayme gave ways that the BCF community can support the pantry by purchasing items off the Amazon wish list or hosting their own food drive for the college’s pantry.
- V. Subcommittee Reports:
 - a. Marketing & Events Committee Report
 - Please read your emails and sign up for the Spirit of Collaboration event. You must RSVP to attend
 - Nominations for Adult and Youth representatives still open-nominate someone today
 - The Advocacy Training went well-will look into doing them on a more regular basis
 - b. Resource and Development Committee – meets at 9:30am prior to BCF general meeting – all are welcome!
 - Always looking for new members! Come join us if you are able to attend at 9:30.
- VI. Partnering Collaboratives Updates:
 - a. **Butler County Prevention Council (BCPC)– Amanda Feltenberger.** If anybody is interested in participating, please email Amanda Feltenberger at afeltenb@co.butler.pa.us.

- **This Partnering Collaborative is on hold until July.** Please email Amanda if you are interested in joining them when they reconvene.

b. Butler County Local Housing Options Team (LHOT) If you are interested in sharing information about your agency or a specific program with the members of the Local Housing Team , please contact Allyson Rose at 724-284-5114. Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of every month at 9am at Community Alliance Church.

- **The next meeting is July 1st. We are going to be looking at the 2025 Gaps Analysis that was recently completed by Diana T. Myers and Associates to help inform us on new housing priorities.**

c. Butler County Early Care and Education Council (ECEC)– Julie Thumma –For any further information please contact Julie at jthumma@lifesteps.net

- **Jesse Sprajcar spoke on behalf of the ECEC. He said that Connected Nest spoke at their last meeting on May 21st and offered some great resources. He also said that the United Way gave grant money to area school districts to assist with incoming kindergarten student’s needs.**

d. Safe Kids- Jill McDonald

- **Was not at the meeting, but it was shared that she received an overwhelming number of helmets to be given out at the Bike Rodeo that is rescheduled for 6/21**

VII. New Business:

a. Membership Renewals are still being accepted for 2025

VIII. E newsletter submission Deadlines: deadline for the current e-newsletter was the day of the BCF meeting, June 12.

IX. Gap Identification / Discussion

- a. Forms are on the tables, please complete them with any gaps or ideas you’d like to see discussed at future meetings.**

X. Next General Meeting: Celebration of Collaboration 30-year anniversary - Monarch Place

a. Don’t forget to RSVP

XI. Adjournment of Membership Meeting: 11:00

XII. Networking with a purpose