**Meeting Notes:** 8-27-19 Collaborative Partners Meeting

Several agencies were present at the meeting and all agencies participated. The meeting began with an introduction to Families 1st Partnership and an overview of the annual report. Meeting members were informed of the funds available and were asked to brainstorm regarding areas were the funding could best be utilized, for services, or to identify gaps in the community. The following areas were identified as areas of need:

Work training programs-assisting individuals in how to get and keep a job and getting people into a livable wage. The Berean church is interested in starting a program as part of their ministry.

Gas Vouchers-meeting members were informed on how to access gas through Families 1st Partnership.

Transportation-Salvation Army is still providing rides to school in the morning for kids in need. This was meant to be a weather related service for kids who have to walk and can only be accessed for two weeks. After starting this it has become clear that there is a great need for school transportation. Brandy Buscher at the school coordinates the program and will also give out buss passes, however the buss is now full in the morning. Churches may want to help with this as a ministry.

In home visiting for newborns: Families 1st is looking into starting this with SOC funds and all still agree it is a needed service and needs to be based in health care.

Universal budgeting: all agencies provide a different budgeting course the skills being taught are not always teaching people the same things.

Outreach for agencies- how do we let more agencies know about and access our service. One idea was to implement project connect more then once per year. Also Lincoln uses an APP called mylnc which is a directory of services for everyone to use. Also NE211.

Programing to help people to be motivated to get off of assistance-some individuals fear loosing benefits or feel it is not worth it to work harder to be off just to barely get by.

Quality low income housing-always an issue for anyone but if an individual cannot get assistance with HUD due to a felony or other issue then are forced to live in very substandard housing with unclean and unfair conditions. Need a group to advocate to the senate.

Additional assistance with utilities.

Legal services for families or senior adults, for guardianship, custody, or divorce. State Bar association has a program to use students.

Services for senior adults. Agency on aging as community support services.

Youth Peer support for teens with mental health issues: this is being worked on within Families 1st Partnership. Meeting tomorrow.

Services for single adults: all program help individuals with kids and not others.