

**Morris County Advisory Committee on Women**  
**November 16, 2021, 5:30pm to 7:00pm**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**

**Present:** Kasey Errico, Pam Bennett-Santoro, Karen O’Keeffe, Joann Bjornson, Donna Boyce, Sydney Ugalde, Elaine Muller

**Guest:** Lisa Wallburg, Membership Co-Chair, Impact 100 Garden State

**Welcome and Introductions:** Ms. O’Keeffe called the meeting to order at 5:31pm and welcomed attendees. Ms. O’Keeffe announced that she is leaving Legal Services at the end of the month to accept a position of Deputy Director for the Madison Housing Authority. Ms. O’Keeffe stated she forwarded an application to Ms. Charlotte Miller, who is a new employee at Legal Services, in anticipation of her joining the Committee.

**Review of October Meeting Minutes:** The Committee reviewed the October 19, 2021 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Muller, seconded by Ms. Boyce.

**Presentation by Lisa Wallburg, Impact 100 Garden State:**

Ms. Bennett-Santoro introduced Ms. Wallburg. Ms. Wallburg thanked the Committee for inviting her to the meeting to speak about Impact 100 Garden State and membership. Impact 100 is a global organization. Ms. Wallburg began the presentation by stating the agency mission statement and agency model, and explained how grants are dispersed. Impact 100 Garden State services five counties; Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex and Union. Ms. Wallburg also discussed what their grants will and will not fund, success stories, various grant recipients, and how to learn more about the agency.

Ms. Wallburg understood from Ms. Bennett-Santoro that the focus of this Committee was on Housing and Health Care. As an example of what Impact assisted in last year, Family Promise of Sussex County, received grant funding for their initiative Housing Hope. Impact helped finance a staff person to manage this program. Various other agency funding for housing was also reviewed.

Ms. Wallburg stated that next year, any nonprofit is welcome to apply for grants. The application deadline is February 4, 2022. This information is on the website. An informational session is scheduled for January 26, 2022. Membership information is also posted and Ms. Wallburg invited the group to review the website at: [www.impact100gardenstate.org](http://www.impact100gardenstate.org). (attachment).

**Q&A:**

Ms. Muller asked if the recent projects that were funded were the total picture or was it the projects this committee were interested in as you presented a lot on housing and homelessness. Ms. Wallburg responded that this year housing and homelessness was the greatest need. Overall last year, homelessness and food insecurity were big issues.

Ms. Bjornson asked if Impact would consider funding any of the back end applications (ex: program expenses). Ms. Wallburg stated its all how the application is presented. Impact has a Financial Review Committee that dives deep into that part of applications. Their outcomes are they incorporated into the decision of funding.

Ms. O’Keeffe thanked Ms. Wallburg for the presentation. She also thanked Ms. Bennet-Santoro for recommending Impact 100 Garden State to the Committee.

**Discussion Topics:**

- a. Seeds of Change Award/Subcommittee update: Deadline extended to December 12, 2021. Ms. Kisatsky reported that she has not received any applications to date. The Seeds of Change Award is posted on the County Website and E-newsletter. An obstacle may be that because of COVID, agencies are not utilizing volunteers as much as usual.

- b. Annual Report for Commissioners: Ms. O’Keeffe will begin working on the report. Ms. Kisatsky will forward a copy of a previous report to Ms. O’Keeffe and volunteered to assist with editing. Ms. O’Keeffe asked if there was a due date. Ms. Errico stated it should be submitted before the last Commissioner meeting of the year. Ms. Bjornson asked if Ms. Errico can get this item on the agenda in the first quarter Commissioner’s meeting. Ms. O’Keeffe recommended March in alignment with the Seeds of Change Award and Women’s History Month.
- c. Meeting dates/times/location for 2022: Ms. O’Keeffe stated that unfortunately in her new position, she will have a conflict with the third Tuesday of each month. Ms. O’Keeffe recommended the Committee meet on January 19, 2022. The Committee will discuss the remaining meeting dates at this meeting.
- d. Membership updates: Carole Harper has resigned from the Committee due to family matters and is currently living in Massachusetts. Shelby Rhoads has also resigned due to her commitment to the Rotary. Both are welcome to rejoin. Ms. Muller recommended that since Ms. Harper was a founding member of the Committee, sending her a letter thanking her for her contributions to the Committee. Ms. Bjornson recommended that should the Committee not receive any Seeds of Change applications, to consider Ms. Harper as the award recipient. Ms. Errico also stated that we can consider a proclamation for Ms. Harper. Ms. Muller volunteered to research Ms. Harper’s involvement within the Committee for a possible proclamation, Ms. Bennett-Santoro seconded, motion carried.
- e. Housing as Healthcare Subcommittee Update: Ms. O’Keeffe provided handouts with informational links. The documents provide an overview of why housing is healthcare and the essential function of housing, how crowding can affect the risk of disease transmission, stability and social wellbeing/quality of life (attached).

**Public Section/Questions:** None

**Adjourn** - The meeting was adjourned at 6:50pm. The next meeting will be held on January 19, 2022.