

CAJE Research to Action Updates February 2020

Affordable Housing: The research team has met with Ben Trockman, Alex Burton, Zac Heronemus, and Kaitlin Moore Morley and have plans to meet soon with Ron Beane -- all new City Council Members. We have a meeting scheduled with Evansville City Council Attorney Josh Claybourn; we have met a couple times with Kelley Coures of Evansville's Department of Metropolitan Development. We plan to introduce ourselves and our mission to new council members. And, more specifically, remind them of our push to grow the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We have been encouraged by their interest and knowledge of the crisis Evansville is facing with a lack of affordable housing. So far, we don't have meetings scheduled with Weaver, Mosby, Brinkmeyer, or Elpers; but we are hoping they will agree to meet with us. The team is determined to find a steady source of revenue for the Trust Fund.

Unsafe Neighborhoods: The research team has been meeting and researching the problem and is focusing their work on shots fired. They had a very productive meeting with EPD Chief Billy Bolin; and they met with Councilman Alex Burton. There is a meeting scheduled next week with Sheriff Wedding. Please pray for this new team as they work to find a meaningful solution to this urgent need in Evansville.

Affordable Housing in Warrick and Posey Counties: Research Teams have been formed and are starting to meet with leaders in their communities. They are learning how rural homelessness is a different challenge than urban homelessness -- for one thing, there are no shelters for the rural homeless.

Dually Diagnosed Child: The main focus this year will be to engage the EVSC. Many parents have reported that their dually diagnosed children fall between the cracks in our schools. The team plans to meet with Dr. Smith and directors of Special Ed. They will be conducting two panel discussions with parents - Monday, Feb. 10, 11 a.m. - Noon and again on Feb. 10 from 6-7 p.m. Parents should call 812-760-3700 for more information.

*** It has come to our attention, via the CAO of Deaconess Cross Pointe, that the Task force on the Dually Diagnosed Child is falling apart! Cross Pointe and CAJE are now the only active participants. The team plans to meet with CAO Scott Branam very soon to discuss next steps.

Every year (usually in February), CAJE's research team leaders meet with the Mayor to inform him of our efforts and let him know if we will be asking him any questions at the Action.

Please mark your calendars: RALLY - Monday, April 13 - St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 625 Frame Road, Newburgh. The Rally is for all Network members (yes, that's you!) 😊. There we will hear how each issue will be addressed at the Action and rally our members to bring at least 1400 people to the Action. You will receive your Action tickets at the Rally.

ACTION - Monday, May 11, Old National Events Plaza, 715 Locust Street, Evansville. This is the most important meeting of the year because in order to take action on these problems and bring about change, we need a big turnout to show our officials CAJE's people power. Registration for both the Rally and Action begins at 6 p.m. with call to order 6:30 p.m.

Other News: The CAJE office has moved to the Delaware Center, Office Nos. 236/238, 734 West Delaware Street, across from St. Anthony's Church (entrance is at the back of the building).