

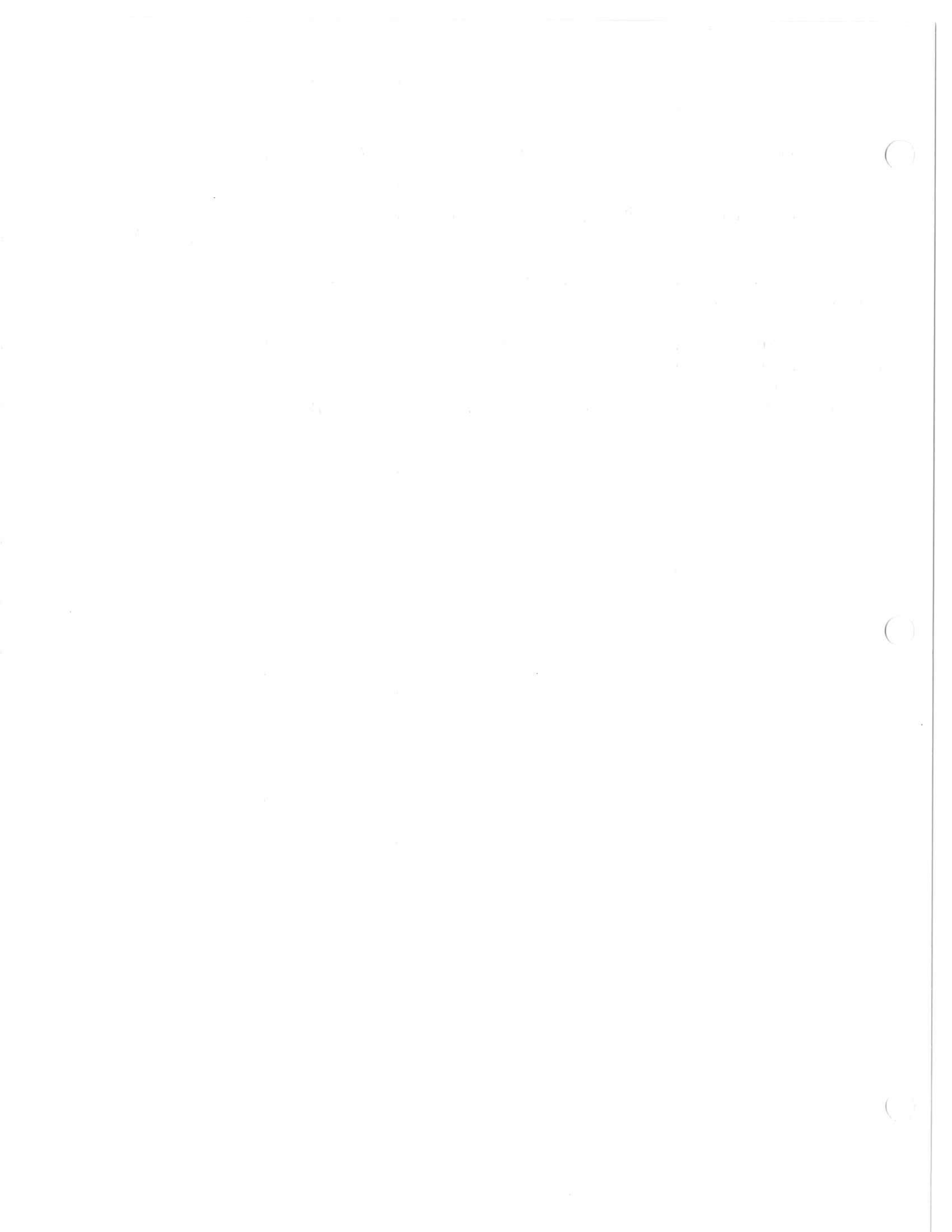


Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
28 Industrial Boulevard
Kearneysville, WV 25430
P. 304-728-3329
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People with Special Needs Committee
Sign In Sheet
December 19, 2011

Print Name & Organization	Email	Phone	Sign In
Brown, Roy Shenandoah Center	roy.brown@genesishcc.com	724-1101	
Cates, Al Ruritan	Striderbo2@aol.com	728-2929	
Cates, Irene AARP	Striderbo2@aol.com	728-2929	
Crabill, Collet ENP JCECC	ccrabill@jeffersoncountywv.org	728-3372	
French, Carl BCHD	carl.g.french@wv.org	263-5131	C French
Hite, Sandy JCHD	sandy.d.hite@wv.gov	728-3312	Sandy Hite
Hoff, Sheri Jefferson County BOE	shoff@access.k12.wv.us	728-9221	Sheri Hoff
Levesque, Jeff Red Cross	jeffsque@gmail.com	268-8294	Jeff Levesque
Lewis, Kristen Eastern Panhandle Medical Reserve Corps	Kristen.N.Lewis@wv.gov	267-5027	Kristen Lewis
McNutt, Clint CERT Volunteer	projectorroadie@gmail.com	433-2581	
Maggio, Jennifer JCHSEM	jmaggio@jeffersoncountywv.org	724-8914	J Maggio







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Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Emergency Planning For People with Special Needs Committee
December 19, 2011
Minutes

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee met at the Jefferson County EOC on December 19, 2011 at 9:30am. Present were: Barbara Miller, JCHSEM; Terri Mehling, JCHSEM; Jennifer D. Maggio, JCHSEM; Carl French, Berkeley County Health Department; Sandy Hite, Jefferson County Health Department; Sheri Hoff, Jefferson County Board of Education; Jeff Levesque, Eastern Panhandle American Red Cross and Kristen Lewis, Eastern Panhandle Medical Reserve Corps.

Introductions

Ms. Miller, JCHSEM Director, opened the meeting with approval of minutes. Carl French moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting and Sandy Hite seconded the motion, all approved.

New Business

Ms. Hoff gave a presentation on Homelessness in Jefferson County Schools. Ms. Hoff reviewed programs that are in place to assist families and children that are homeless. Ms. Hoff also reviewed potential warning signs of homelessness.

Mr. Levesque announced the shelter run by a council of Churches is not taking children this year. There is a lot of opposition to the shelter located in downtown Charles Town. A discussion followed. Ms. Hoff reported there are 473 homeless children within the county. Ms. Hoff went over an article in the paper that had statistics on how WV ranked in poverty in the United States.

Ms. Hoff went over things that contribute to homelessness such as a manmade disaster or a natural disaster. Ms. Hoff reported there are 23 languages being spoken besides English in schools. Ms. Mehling asked what other programs the public can assist with. Ms. Hoff replied the shoe and coat fund that is run through the school or pay for a child's lunch bill. You can contact Lisa Carper.

Ms. Miller went over how homeless people could be helped during a disaster because they may not be able to do anything to prepare without having the resources they need. If there is an evacuation they may not have transportation. Ms. Hoff noted the State facility will translate information in different languages. A discussion followed.

Ms. Miller reviewed upcoming children in disaster training programs. Psychological First Aid will be taught by Jeff Levesque and Kristen Lewis, January 7th at 9 am located in the Catherine Rudolph room at the Jefferson County Public Services Building. She and Ms. Hoff will be attending a class at North Bend State Park, Multi-Hazard Planning for Schools in Disaster. There

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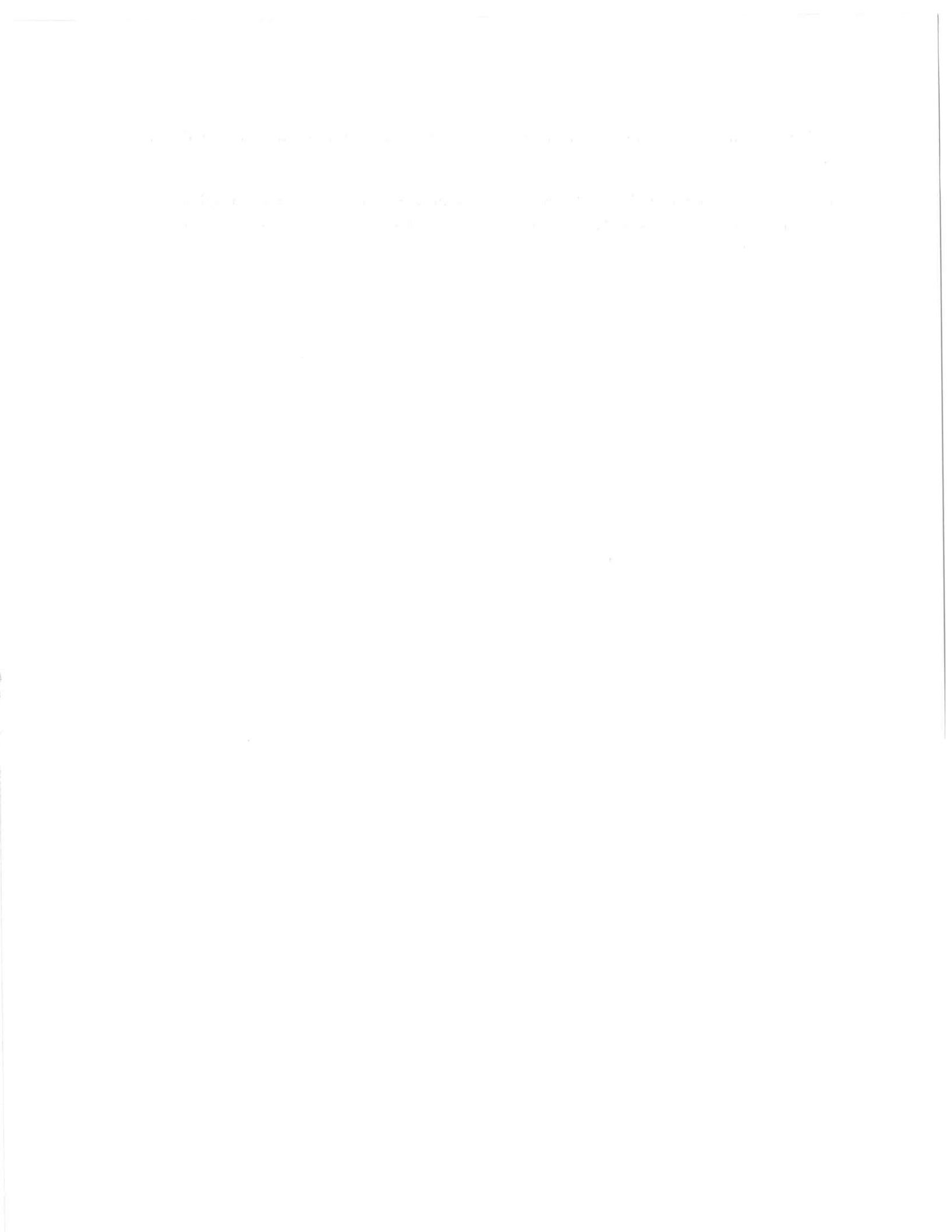
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will also be an upcoming training given by the State for Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters.

The next Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee is scheduled for March 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM Emergency Operations Center, 28 Industrial Blvd, Kearneysville.



Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Emergency Planning For People with Special Needs Committee
September 26, 20110
Minutes

Jefferson County Homeland Security and Emergency Management's Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee met at the Jefferson County EOC on September 26, 2011 at 9:30am. Present were: Terri Mehling, JCHSEM; Jennifer D. Maggio, JCHSEM; Carl French, Berkeley County Health Department; Sandy Hite, Jefferson County Health Department; Kristen Lewis, Eastern Panhandle Medical Reserve Corps and Frances Morgan, County Commissioner.

Introductions

Ms. Mehling, JCHSEM Deputy Director, opened the meeting with approval of minutes. Carl French moved to approve the minutes of the June meeting and Sandy Hite seconded the motion, all approved.

Old Business

Ms. Mehling reviewed the FY2011 Goals and Strategies. Ms. Mehling noted changes that need to be made to committee members. Ms. Mehling spoke with Jeff Jefferies and he will be putting Ready.gov books out for patients at Jefferson Memorial Hospital.

Ms. Mehling reported that she is still in the process of putting together the data base to use for the new Volunteer Registration Program.

Ms. Maggio reported on the Disaster Ready Kids Program. Ms. Maggio noted Fire Prevention Month will be during the month of October.

Ms. Morgan asked the status of putting together a database for people with special needs. Ms. Hite noted there is a discussion of compiling a list of people with special needs and how they would be notified in the event of an emergency. Ms. Hite reported she is looking into creating a form to place in doctors' offices allowing patients to opt in on being notified if needed. A discussion followed.

Ms. Mehling reviewed items included in the Citizen Corps Grant. Items included were Whole of Community; Fire Safety Month; National Preparedness Month; Volunteer Recognition and New Cert Manuals. A discussion followed.

Ms. Mehling reported on the Jefferson County Fair that took place August 21-27, 2011. Ms. Mehling noted there was less foot traffic this year. Surveys were handed out to Jefferson County residents to see how well prepared they are.

Ms. Morgan discussed possible ways to outreach to the public on how to get all communities involved in CERT.

Ms. Mehling gave a report on current events taking place during the remainder of National Preparedness Month.

New Business

Ms. Mehling handed out information on King County and how they can be used as a resource for information on people with special needs.

Member Sharing

Mr. French invited committee members to a Berkeley County Table Top Exercise.

Ms. Hite announced the Jefferson County Health Department will be having a flu clinic at Jefferson High School. Ms. Hite gave the details for those who would like to participate. Ms. Hite also announced she attended the Mass Fatalities Training at Pipestem State Park. She is now more aware of what the Health Department needs as far as resources and planning. She will be submitting a project concept on behalf of the Jefferson County Health Department for the Mass Casualties Grant. Ms. Hite listed resources that they would request in order to accommodate 50 fatalities.

Ms. Morgan asked Ms. Mehling if the committee was open to the public. Ms. Mehling replied yes and we have material to hand out if anyone is interested.

Ms. Maggio gave a report on her recent attendance to the Emergency Management Institute's PIO All Hazards Train the Trainer Course.

The next Emergency Planning for People with Special Needs Committee is scheduled for December 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in the JCHSEM Emergency Operations Center, 28 Industrial Blvd, Kearneysville.

Potential Warning Signs of Homelessness

Note: While these are considered warning signs, please recognize that they only offer *general* guidance. There is significant variability within the school-age homeless population. Individual students may differ significantly from the following general characteristics.

Lack of Continuity in Education

- Attendance at many different schools
- Lack of personal records needed to enroll
- Inability to pay fees
- Gaps in skill development
- Mistaken diagnosis of abilities
- Poor organizational skills
- Poor ability to conceptualize

Poor Health/Nutrition

- Lack of immunizations and/or immunization records
- Unmet medical and dental needs
- Increased vulnerability to colds & flu
- Respiratory problems
- Skin rashes
- Chronic hunger (may hoard food)
- Fatigue (may fall asleep in class)

Transportation and Attendance Problems

- Erratic attendance and tardiness
- Numerous absences
- Lack of participation in after-school activities
- Lack of participation in field trips
- Absences on days when students bring special treats from home
- Inability to contact parents

Poor Hygiene

- Lack of shower facilities/washers, etc.
- Wearing same clothes for several days
- Inconsistent grooming – well-groomed one day and poorly groomed the next

Lack of Privacy/Personal Space After School

- Consistent lack of preparation for school
- Incomplete or missing homework (no place to work or keep supplies)
- Unable to complete special projects (no access to supplies)
- Lack of basic school supplies
- Loss of books and other supplies on a regular basis
- Concern for safety of belongings
- Refusing invitations from classmates

Social and Behavioral Concerns

- A marked change in behavior
- Poor/short attention span
- Poor self esteem
- Extreme shyness
- Unwillingness to risk forming relationships with peers and teachers
- Difficulty socializing at recess
- Difficulty trusting people
- Aggression
- “Old” beyond years
- Protective of parents
- Clinging behavior
- Developmental delays
- Fear of abandonment
- School phobia (student wants to be with parent)
- Need for immediate gratification
- Anxiety late in the school day

Reaction/Statements by Parent, Guardian, or Child

- Exhibiting anger or embarrassment when asked about current address
- Mention of staying with grandparents, other relatives, friends, or in a motel or comments, such as:
 - “I don’t remember the name of our previous school.”
 - “We’ve been moving around a lot.”
 - “Our address is new; I can’t remember it.” (may hide lack of permanent address)
 - “We’re staying with relatives until we get settled.”
 - “We’re going through a bad time right now.”
 - “We’ve been unpacking, traveling, etc.,” to explain poor appearance and/or hygiene.

(These warning signs were adapted from flyers developed by Illinois and Pennsylvania Departments of Education)

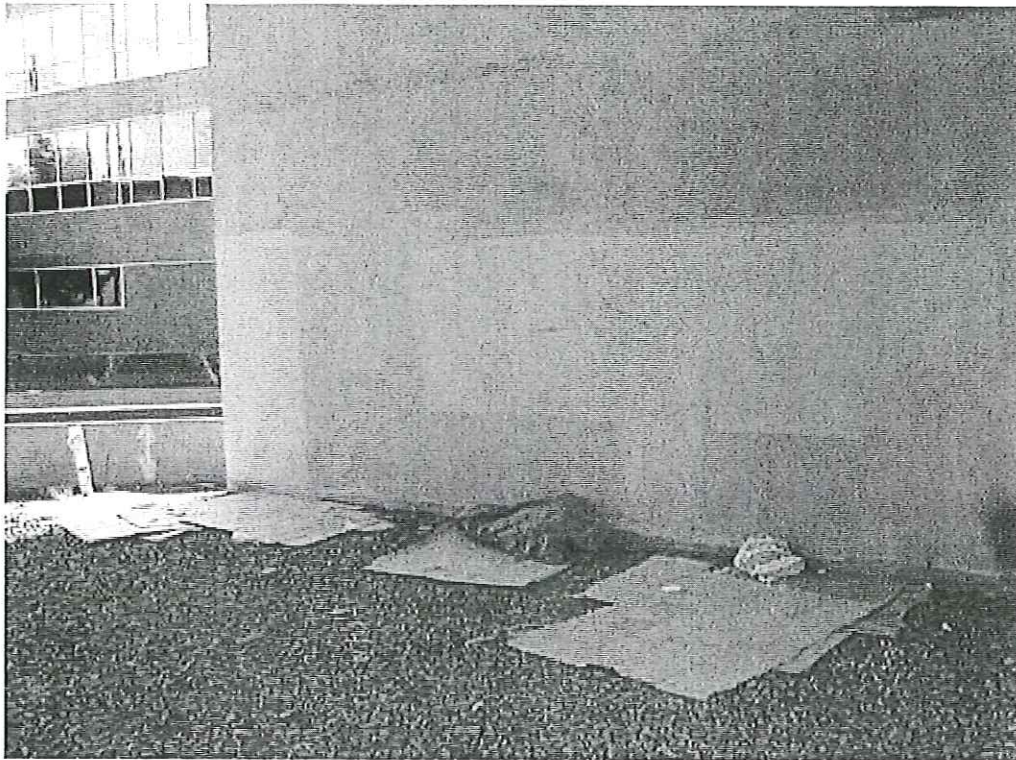
Signs of Homelessness .org

Sometimes Overlooked

The pictures below show clear signs of homelessness that could be easily overlooked by people who are not looking closely or don't know what to look for when identifying indicators of homelessness in their communities. Homeless people often go to considerable effort not to be seen. Being too visible can sometimes result in negative consequences such as harassment by police or property owners. The last thing anyone wants to hear when they're tired is to "keep moving."



Two vehicles with people apparently living inside are parked in a run down industrial part of the city.



Under a railway bridge, fresh cardboard and blankets provide clear evidence that people have been staying here recently.



Makeshift bedding under a bridge.



A tent is between two apartment buildings in a spot difficult to notice from most angles including the buildings next to it.