

Adirondack Nonprofit Network (ANN)
COVID-19 Response Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2020 – 2:00 pm

In attendance:

AARCH: Steven Engelhart, Nolan Cool and Christin Bush; ADKAction: Brittany Christiansen; Adk Center for Loon Conservation: Nina Schoch; Adk Center for Writing: Baylee Annis and Nathalie Thill; Adk Community Action Program: Alan Jones; Adk Council: Diane Fish and Julia Goren; Adk Foundation: Linda Battin, Cali Brooks, Matt Donahue, Andrea Grout, Janine Scherline and Lindsay Yost; Adk Land Trust: Mike Carr and Mary Thill; ANCA: Kate Fish; Adk Nature Conservancy: Sophie McClelland and Peg Olsen; Ausable River Association: Tyler Merriam; Blue Mountain Center: Ben Strader; Cloudsplitter: Kara Page; Essex County Housing: Elisha Bartlett; Hudson Headwaters Health Foundation: Jessica Rubin; Literacy Volunteers: Linda Carela; LPCA: James Lemons; LP Land Conservancy: Kerry Crowningshield and Carolyn Koestner; Mercy Care: Donna Beal; Mountain Lake PBS: Jen Kowalczyk; Open Door Mission, Glens Falls: Elaine Birch and Kim Cook; North Country Healthy Heart Network: Ann Morgan; NCPR: Lizette Haezel and Mitch Teich; North Country School Camp Treetops: Emily Eiseman; Pendragon: Holly Wolff; Community School Initiative, SLCSO: Erika Bezio; Seagle Colony: Tony Kostecki and Darrin Woods; and nonprofit consultant, Martha Spear.

Welcome and Introductions, 40+ attendees - All attendees introduced themselves and their organization and gave specific input on their questions and concerns relating to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 crisis. Themes included:

- Logistical and operations concerns: internet and technology in rural areas, remote staff management, pivoting of staff roles, tips and tricks of working from home
- Donor relations and communication, fundraising
- Utilizing the ANN network effectively for resource sharing, collaboration, supporting each other, camaraderie
- Helping others now and for the future, including those that don't fall into essential categories, directing resources to where they're needed most including access to basic needs
- Mental health and stress given the inundation of so much information – how to bring the *social* back into social distancing

Special and Urgent Needs Fund – COVID-19 Response, Adirondack Foundation

Cali Brooks discussed the details of reactivating the Foundation's SUN Fund, which, with the support of funders and partners including Cloudsplitter and Charles R Wood Foundations and others, will start with an initial amount of nearly \$400K. The decision-making process and timing for deployment of funds is in process and more information will be coming soon. Immediate funding will be prioritized to frontline organizations, those assisting low income folks. Areas of funding include:

- Access to Food
- Child Care for frontline workers – nurses, doctors, family providers
- Low-Wage Workers and the Elderly
- Nonprofits and Small Businesses

Next Steps:

Next week's call will take place on **Friday, March 27 at 2pm**. Agenda will follow