

Fayette County FRN Community Meeting Thursday February 26 2026



Working together for children and families

In Attendance: Melanie Seiler, Matt Atwood, Alexis Smith, Misty Moore, Taylor Stiltner, Kerstin Sutton, Kiara Sorrell, Annetta Tiller, Shelby Holt, Keith Bowling, Jacklyn Tull, Amanda Greene, Madison Wilson, Branisha Banks, Jigna Patel-Bunch, Cindy Whitlock, Jesalyn Kamaka, Hilary Nicolau, Ellie Fox, Monica Kern, Emma Villebrun, Angel Chornsboy, Belinda Hopkins, Alaina Bays, Shannon Mitchell, and Diane Callison

The meeting of the Fayette County Family Resource Network was held on: Thursday, February 26, 2026 at the Fayette DoHS office. The meeting was called to order at 12:05pm. Number present for the meeting was 26.

Welcome and Introductions

- **Previous Meeting Notes:** No changes were made to the January meeting notes prior to today's meeting
- **Financial Report** – During the timeframe of January 22, 2026 to February 25, 2026, the FRN brought in \$27,318.67 in revenue and expensed \$56,315.98. Current balance is \$433,021.25

REPORTS:

- **Fayette FRN Executive Director's Report** – Diane Callison, fayetrefrn@gmail.com
 - Initiatives/meetings
 - Attended Tobacco Free Day at the Capitol on February 17th with 8 of the Youth Action Team members
 - Met with the Board of Education to apply for the Hope for the Future: School Business Partnership of the Year awards program through The Education Alliance. Our application highlighted the event, Project Adventure that brings all the 4th and 5th grade students to the Fayette County Park and introduces them to activities they can participate it here in our county.
 - Programmatic Reporting
 - Submitted the 2nd Quarterly Programmatic Report to the State FRN. The 2nd quarter is for October, November and December. Events that were highlighted on this report included; the community baby shower with Parents as Teachers, Snuggle and Read events, Trunk or Treats, and the Toy for Tots book distribution.
 - The State Office requires a minimum of nine events/activities must be coordinated/planned/participated in during a quarter. For Fayette County, I reported 17 unique activities but totaling 26 (some activities happen monthly).
 - The FRN received a grant from the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation to provide basic needs items. These items can include beds, dressers, clothing, and household items. New to 2026, this program can offer utility assistance for electric, gas, water and sewer. The referral form needs to be completed by a direct service provider, not the individual needing the items. 5 members of the FRN Board review all the referrals. The grant is of \$36,000 and will end December 31, 2026 or when funds run out, <https://forms.gle/boSTdNSs8vQA8tqA9>
 - Referrals have been paused until the Board of Directors can catch up on submitted referrals. Anticipated reopening date is March 4th
 - We've received 23 referrals, we have fulfilled 14, and have pledged funds to 2 to support their utilities. 4 are pending review, 2 are awaiting more information and 1 has been rejected.

- As always, I send weekly update emails every Monday for the information I receive the week prior. These updates include funding or grant opportunities as well. If you or your organization want information included in these updates, please let me know via email. The current email list serv has 296 people.

PRESENTATION: Melanie Seiler with Active Southern WV

- PowerPoint Presentation: [Active SWV - Fayette FRN presentation 2026.pdf](#)
- Flyers for upcoming events are attached with the notes
- Active Southern WV offers programming led by trained volunteers in the community, school and workplaces, promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing chronic disease
- Fayette County opportunities include; Kids Run Clubs, Workplace Wellness, Community Captains and Active SWV races
- Active SWV offers a membership program and an app to make finding local activities and signing up easy, you can learn more here: <https://activeswv.org/membership-sign-up/>

Melanie Seiler

Executive Director

Active Southern West Virginia

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Monthly [Newsletter](#)

[Ways to Get Involved](#)

Free [Membership](#)

OPEN DISCUSSION / ROUND TABLE/SUCCESS STORIES:

Name and Organization Contact Information	Updates
Ellie Fox – Step Stone Foster Care Elsbeth.fox@stepstoneyouth.com	The wrapped in love blanket drive was a success, we collected 240 blankets total from Fayette, Raleigh and Summers counties. 36 blankets came from Fayette.
Hilary Nicolau, SPOKES Hilary.nicolau@wvsc.org	We’ll be starting our LPN bootcamp where the nursing students at FIT will learn skills to help when they go to take their LPN exam. Offering GED and general skill classes, can also offer First Aid CPR to organizations. A big thank you to our local organizations for helping our students with a variety of basic needs and help remedy barriers that our students face.
Jesalyn Kamaka – NYAP jkamaka@nyap.org	NYAP will forming offices in Kanawha, Fayette and Raleigh. The Fayette office will be in Montgomery and we’ll be hiring someone for that location soon. A flyer and rack card are attached
Cindy Whitlock – BOE cjwwvu@gmail.com	Active SWV does a great job highlighting activities available for youth and adults, the county libraries also have many free activities available.

	<p>Night classes are available at FIT, so many people signed up for the quilting class that they had to schedule a second night to accommodate everyone.</p> <p>Be sure to vote this coming May and November</p> <p>The BOE and schools are encouraging community members to attend board meetings, LSIC meetings, PTO/PTA meetings. By the community being involved in our schools, our students will be better served.</p>
<p>Keith Bowling – AETNA bowlingg@aetna.com</p>	<p>Value Added Benefits flyer is available for both Mountain Heart Trust and Mountain Heart Promise. Both flyers are attached with the notes. Members receive incentives when they take preventive measures like flu shots. If a member did not receive their incentive, they should call the member service number.</p>
<p>Jacklyn Tull – Mountain Heart jtull@mthtwv.org</p>	<p>The youth mentee program will start in June, we are struggling to find youth ages 16-18 to sign up for the program. It is available for Fayette and Wyoming county youth. A flyer for the program is attached.</p> <p>Additionally, a rack card and a flyer for the assistance program are attached.</p>
<p>Shelby Holt – Fayette FRN fayetteyouthpfs@gmail.com</p>	<p>The Youth Action Team is made up of 7th-12th graders who work on prevention education, community service, policy change and healthy alternative activities.</p> <p>Our next healthy alternative activity is scheduled for March 28th from 2-5pm at the Ansted Community Center. All 7th-12th graders are welcome to attend, we'll have competitive field games available like kick ball, 4 square, twister, etc. Pizza will also be available</p>
<p>Annetta Tiller – Well Point Annettag.tiller@wellpoint.com</p>	<p>Well Point will be sharing their healthy rewards flyer soon where members can receive incentives for taking preventative measures for their health. New this year, those age 45-75 that receive a colon cancer screening will receive a \$25 gift card.</p>
<p>Kiara Sorrell – Girl Scouts Kiara.sorrell@bdgsc.org</p>	<p>Started a new position with Girl Scouts and is working to sign girls up in Fayette, Raleigh and Mercer counties. Low income families can have the membership fee waived. The Girl Scouts is also looking for parents or adults to help lead troops</p>
<p>Kerstin Sutton – DoHS Kerstin.g.sutton@wv.gov</p>	<p>No date has been announced for emergency LIEAP</p>
<p>Taylor Stiltner – FMRS tstiltner@fmrs.org</p>	<p>The regional youth service center (RYSC) is accepting referrals for 12-21-year olds. The RYSC offers a variety of services based out of the Raleigh County FMRS office</p> <p>FMRS offers a children's mobile crisis unit, more information can be found here: https://www.fmrs.org/crisis-services</p>
<p>Matt Atwood – Catholic Charities matwood@ccwva.org</p>	<p>Offering utility assistance out of the Princeton office.</p> <p>A distribution in Fayette county will be planned for March or April, more details to come</p>
<p>Melanie Seiler – Active SWV melanie@activeswv.com</p>	<p>Flyers for upcoming races and events are attached with the notes, kids under the age of 10 or 12 (depending on the race) enter for free.</p>

	Refit class at the New River Convention Center is on Monday and Thursday at 6pm.
Alaina Bays – AWAY Abays.awaywv@gmail.com	The new sexual assault victim advocate for Fayette County. A success is that the safe plan has been established for Fayette County. Victims who need transported to Raleigh General for exams will be able to go free of charge through Line Ambulance services. Raleigh General has SANE nurses (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) available
Belinda Hopkins – AWAY Bhopkins.awaywv@gmail.com	AWAY services both domestic and sexual violence victims and has outreach offices in Fayette, Raleigh, Summer and Nicholas counties. Offering a 34 crisis center for women and children in Raleigh County. A brochure with the new Fayette and Raleigh address is attached with the notes. Causeacon will happen on May 1-3 and a flyer is attached with the notes, including sponsorship information

~ THE NEXT FAYETTE COUNTY FRN MEETING ~
Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 11:30am
Quarterly Alliance meeting with Raleigh County FRN
WVU Tech Auditorium (410 Neville Street, Beckley WV)
Presentation from WVU Tech

Questions, comments, and concerns can be addressed to Diane Callison, Executive Director for the Fayette County FRN at 304-575-1428 or fayettefrn@gmail.com

Submitted – DMC 2/27/2026