

**Fayette County FRN  
Community Meeting  
Thursday November 20, 2025**



*Working together for children and families*

**In Attendance:** Cindy Whitlock, Caitlin Wakefield, Quartney Settle, Cassidy Berry, Josh Asbury, Heather Green, Ellie Fox, Abbie Newell, Natasha Jones, Jessica Harrah, JR Davis, Monica Kern, Tina Ramirez, Jana Cooper, Belinda Hopkins, Shelby Holt, Jamie Hanshew, and Diane Callison

**The meeting of the Fayette County Family Resource Network was held on:** Thursday, November 20, 2025 at the Fayette DoHS office. The meeting was called to order at 12:07pm. Number present for the meeting was 18.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- **Previous Meeting Notes:** No changes were made to the October meeting notes prior to today's meeting
- **Treasurer's Report** – During the timeframe of October 23, 2025 to November 19, 2025, the FRN brought in \$30,381.36 in revenue and expensed \$46,624.63. Current balance is \$358,487.56.

**REPORTS:**

- **Fayette FRN Report** – Diane Callison, [fayettefrn@gmail.com](mailto:fayettefrn@gmail.com)
  - Initiatives/meetings
    - Participated in the annual Haunted House hosted by Fayette County 4H, this event raised over \$2,000 to help run the county wide camp in July.
    - Participated in the New River Primary Trunk or Treat event, with nearly 2,000 kiddos coming through.
    - Handed out coffee to the parent drop off line at Ansted and Divide Elementary schools – along with the coffee and passed out resources and information on upcoming events.
    - Throughout October, the FRN partnered with WVVA and Grants Supermarket to collect coats/jackets. The FRN distributed half the coats to the Health Department and half to Family Treatment Court.
    - Attended the Snuggle and Read event at Oak Hill Head Start
  - Early Learning Community
    - The FRN is the lead organization for the Early Learning Community initiative, attached with the notes is a Save the Date for our December meeting. Any Fayette County parent/caregivers (prenatal to 8 years old) that attends the meeting, either virtually or in person, will receive a \$25 gift card.
  - December Meeting
    - A sign up sheet will be passed around during the meeting for the December potluck, the FRN will provide the ham and mashed potatoes.
  - 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. And if you ever want information included in these updates please let me know or if any events are coming up. Any time sensitive information will be sent through a normal email to the listserv which currently has 296 people.

**PRESENTATION:** Jana Cooper with Mountains of Hope Outreach

- A flyer is attached with the notes, detailing the organization focus areas.
- Jana and Dustin started Mountains of Hope 5 years ago with a focus on cookouts/outdoor activities like hiking and fishing. The program became a nonprofit in 2024
- Dustin is a PRSS and the main area of focus is prevention
- Focus area is the upper Kanawha Valley
- While the program has their focus areas, always looking for collaborations with other organizations and developing healthy habits for youth

Dustin & Jana Cooper

[mountainsofhopeoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:mountainsofhopeoutreach@gmail.com)

**OPEN DISCUSSION / ROUND TABLE/SUCCESS STORIES:**

<b>Name and Organization Contact Information</b>	<b>Updates</b>
<p>Shelby Holt – Fayette FRN <a href="mailto:fayetteyouthpfs@gmail.com">fayetteyouthpfs@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>The Youth Action Team is the youth coalition for the Fayette Prevention Coalition. Open to any 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grader in Fayette County, the team focuses on education their peers about the dangers of youth substance use and hosts healthy alternative activities.</p> <p>The Youth Action Team will be helping at the Lewis Center, preparing over 4,000 Thanksgiving meals on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> from 12pm-4pm. A flyer is attached with the notes.</p>
<p>Belinda Hopkins – AWAY <a href="mailto:Bhopkins.awaywv@gmail.com">Bhopkins.awaywv@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>AWAY covers domestic and sexual violence in Fayette, Summers, Nicholas and Raleigh counties. They can assist with protective orders, legal aid, accompany victims to court or be present at the hospital during exams. There is a shelter in Raleigh County available to women and children.</p> <p>Samantha Sizemore and Tina Nelson with the Raleigh County office are working on the Christmas Wish list, they will be looking for clothing, toys and items for teenagers. To donate, contact 304-255-4066.</p> <p>A big thank you to those who attended our Incite Hope awards last month, it was great to see everyone come out to support the award winners.</p>
<p>Tina Ramirez – Marshall Health &amp; Mountains of Hope Outreach <a href="mailto:Tina.ramirez@mhnetwork.org">Tina.ramirez@mhnetwork.org</a></p>	<p>Marshall Health is participating in the Appalachian Continuum of Care for Overdose Reduction Network, or ACCORN project. This project includes Fayette County and will focus on improving the system of health for SUD and Mental Health. The whole continuum of care will be covered, from prevention to housing/transportation.</p> <p>The Community Bridge in St. Albans is a free resource to the whole state of WV. The project has a warehouse housing all types of items including furniture and clothing. A link to their website is here: <a href="https://www.wvcommunitybridge.org/">https://www.wvcommunitybridge.org/</a></p> <p>Nationwide, Save A Life Day distributed 133,000 doses (66,000 kits).</p>

<p>JR Davis – WVU Extension Service  <a href="mailto:Jeffery.davis@mail.wvu.edu">Jeffery.davis@mail.wvu.edu</a></p>	<p>The Early Childhood Literacy committee of the Fayette Prevention Coalition is looking for new read aloud readers for the upcoming school year. If you need the training, please reach out to JR and he'll get that set up.</p> <p>Both toy for tots locations in Fayette County will receive books to give out to families, distribution dates for both sites is December 13<sup>th</sup></p>
<p>Natasha Jones – NRHA  <a href="mailto:Natasha.green@nrhawv.org">Natasha.green@nrhawv.org</a></p>	<p>The Jones Avenue Church of God collected meal bags, if you know of someone who could benefit for a meal bag, reach out to Natasha.</p> <p>2 need request;          -assistance with propane heat          -xl women's jacket (the FRN filled this need)</p>
<p>Abbie Newell – NRHA  <a href="mailto:Abigail.newell@nrhawv.org">Abigail.newell@nrhawv.org</a></p>	<p>The Fayette Trail Coalition is hosting a 3-mile Turkey Trot at Wolfcreek on Thursday morning at 9:30am. Registration fee is at least 2 nonperishable food items.</p>
<p>Ellie Fox – Step Stone  <a href="mailto:Elsbeth.fox@stepstoneyouth.com">Elsbeth.fox@stepstoneyouth.com</a></p>	<p>StepStone Family and Youth Services – a foster care agency helping find home for children ages 0-21. A brochure is attached with the notes.</p>
<p>Heather Green – Community Connections  <a href="mailto:Heather.green@strongcommunities.org">Heather.green@strongcommunities.org</a></p>	<p>Grant goal is to delay the initiation of use of alcohol, marijuana, vaping/tobacco, and medication misuse among 9-20-year-old. If you need evidenced based programming, please reach out. Or if you have any youth initiatives that we can partner with.</p> <p>The following trainings are available for any program or organization          -Stigma          -Dos and Don'ts in prevention          -WV Clearing House</p>
<p>Josh Asbury – Adult Education  <a href="mailto:jmasbury@k12.wv.us">jmasbury@k12.wv.us</a></p>	<p>7 people tested for their GED, 2 passed all subjects, 4 passed 3 out of the 4 subjects and 1 passed 2 subjects.</p>
<p>Quartney Settle – Veltex Recovery  <a href="mailto:Q_settle@outlook.com">Q_settle@outlook.com</a></p>	<p>Veltex is a for profit female only treatment in Mt. Hope. Currently housing 30 women but can house up to 60. Areas that people can help with; transportation, clothing donations (especially underwear), ids and birth certificates, housing and general resources.</p>
<p>Cindy Whitlock – Board of Education Member  <a href="mailto:cjwwvu@gmail.com">cjwwvu@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>The new superintendent has created a podcast – the latest episode can be found here: <a href="https://www.boe.faye.k12.wv.us/article/2502193">https://www.boe.faye.k12.wv.us/article/2502193</a></p> <p>The Board of Education just recognized the Midland Trail Golf team and at their next meeting will recognize the Oak Hill High School Soccer team.</p> <p>Friday, the hospice tree will be lighted at the Crossroads Mall at 1pm.</p> <p>The movie Christy highlights Christy Martin from WV who survived domestic violence and is a pro female boxer. More information about her and her life can be found here:  <a href="https://www.biography.com/athletes/a69148155/christy-martin-boxer-true-story">https://www.biography.com/athletes/a69148155/christy-martin-boxer-true-story</a></p>

**~ THE NEXT FAYETTE COUNTY FRN MEETING ~**  
Thursday, December 18, 2025 at Noon  
Fayette FRN office (134 Main Street West, Oak Hill WV)  
Quarterly Alliance meeting with Raleigh County FRN  
Holiday Potluck

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

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*Submitted – DMC 11/25/2025*