



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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April 2020 Progress Report

Project Coordination

Mill Creek/Gardener Creek Coldwater Conservation Plan Project

- Received the Award letter from the PA Council of Trout Unlimited and signed it and sent it back to *Rachel Kester*, Program Manager after amending the budget page; *Bob Kent*, EPCAMR volunteer and avid fly-fisherman provided us some insight and a map of the Gardner Creek watershed that he's fished and the locations of native brook trout populations for us to assess

PA American Water Mill Creek Watershed Temperature Monitoring Program (proposed)

- *Steve Cornia*, EPCAMR GIS Watershed Specialist and the Executive Director prepared a **\$10,000** proposal to install Our project proposes to deploy ~30-40 HOBO TidbiT MX Temperature 400' Stream Temperature Data Loggers in various locations in stream reaches throughout the Mill Creek watershed, Luzerne County, PA. The temperature loggers will be set up to collect data on a 15-minute interval; Temperature monitoring stations within the Mill Creek Watershed will be used to assess the stream health throughout the year; All the data collected will be housed on EPCAMR's server and will be made available to the public and PA American Water as an interactive web interface run by ArcGIS Online; In the long term, after several years of data has been collected, we will use the combination of ArcGIS software and statistical models to develop a temperature regime for the entire Mill Creek watershed that will be sustainable; Having this data easily available will give municipalities, water authorities, watershed groups, Trout Unlimited Chapters, Conservation Districts, and other stakeholders the tools and information they need in order to make informed decisions on managing our watershed in the future; If this project is successful and we can continue to find the funding, we anticipate expanding the study to include other watersheds throughout the region

Mine Pool Geothermal Project (proposed)

- Developed a draft proposal for a mine pool geothermal project with Mike Hewitt, EPCAMR Program Manager, and several private sector partners that is under consideration and review

NFWF Small Watershed Grant Technical Assistance for Watersheds Along the Eastern Flank of the Wyoming Valley (proposed)

- Received advice from *Paul Gaffney*, Director of Grants Administration- NFWF, on where to submit a joint letter of support from Congressman *Cartwright* and Congressman *Meuser* for our application; Informed the Congressional Staffers to send it to the NFWF Review Committee; EPCAMR also uploaded it to the EasyGrants website upon receipt from *Jeremy Marcus* in Congressman *Cartwright's* Office; Received a letter of support from Mayor *Kevin Coughlin*-City of Nanticoke; Requested a letter of support from *John Pietryzk*, GIS Stormwater Coordinator for the [WVSA](#); Received a letter of support from Representative *Gerry Mullery*-PA's 119 Legislative District; Received a letter of support from Mayor *George Brown*-City of Wilkes-Barre; Received a letter of support from *Kristen Reilly*-Director of the Choose Clean Water Coalition; Received a letter of support from *Joe Hillan*, Township Supervisor from Newport Township; Received a letter of support from *Sam Guesto*, Hanover Township Manager; Received a letter from *Tom Clark* and SRBC; Received a letter of support from *Paul Lumia*, North Branch Land Trust; Received a letter of support from *Jacqui Bonomo*-CEO of PennFuture; Received a letter of support from *Harry Campbell*-Chesapeake Bay Foundation; Received a letter of support from Senator John Yudichak; Received a letter of support from *Tom Kashatus*, from the Newport Township Community Organization; Worked with the Staff to develop the budget, American Black Duck priority areas, Eastern Brook Trout priority patches, and GIS Map Project Area of Focus for the proposal with various shape files in ArcGIS; Worked with *Liz Feinberg* and *Katie Ombalksi* on finalizing the narrative for the **\$50,000** proposal prior to submission; Created a Staff Biography document to submit with the grant application and to have for future grants

Reclaiming Our Backyards in the Coalfields Appalachian Tree Planting Project

- Worked with *Laura* to finalize our 1st Quarter Narrative Progress Report and submitted it to *Claudia* at ISI, Inc.; Had to cancel our Apple Tree Planting in Centralia until Spring 2021 due to COVID-19

Healing the Scars-Reclaiming PA Mental Insight Foundation Project (proposed)

- Provided *Claudia Meglin*, ISI, Inc. and *Laura Rinehimer*, EPCAMR Environmental Education and Outreach Coordinator, with a draft budget proposal for her review that incorporated *Joe Sapienza's* comments and video treatment draft budget expenses and narrative following a revision by *Laura*, *Shawnese*, and the Executive Director of the synopsis; Provided *Claudia* with some photos for the proposal of AMD, youth, impacts on abandoned mine lands, and polluted waterways

Rare Earth Elements PA AML Pilot Program Proposal with Tetra Tech (proposed)

- Worked with *Tom Gray*-Tetra Tech, on continuing to develop the proposal to sample Science grant submission for **\$200,000** with *Tom* on a conference call; *Lois Uranowski*-OSMRE thought that breaking off the proposed sampling and characterizing the would fit into the 3rd identified potential topics in their RFP *Evaluation of the Potential for Economic and Environmentally Friendly Extraction of REEs from Coal Mine Waste*

Mine Mapping Grant Project with the Mine Subsidence Insurance Program

- Reviewed all of Staff's updates on work from home while utilizing our portable drives to keep mine maps on them for them to work from

Just Transition Fund 2020 Community Economic and Workforce Development Program (proposed)

- Submitted a grant to the Just Transition Fund in their 2020 Cycle 1 grant round for **\$100,000**

RECLAIM Working Group Mini-Grant Field Fund Project

- Submitted our Final Report to *Dana Kuhnline* on our Fall 2019 Mini-Grant for **\$4000** and then applied for the Spring 2020 Mini-Grant Field Fund for another **\$4000**; Appalachian Citizens' Law Center, the BlueGreen Alliance, and Appalachian Voices are administering the Fund and representatives from these groups will review requests according to guidance criteria based on the goals of this campaign and the priorities established by the National RECLAIM Working Group in the Fall of 2018; Funds were used to support EPCAMR's media campaigns, including op eds and letters to the editor, digital organizing, social media efforts, and other strategies that EPCAMR used to our communities and legislators on these issues at this time

Reclaiming Appalachian Coalition Innovative Mine Land Reclamation and Economic Development Projects Mini-Grant Program (proposed)

- Worked with EPCAMR Staff to develop a **\$7000** (with **\$3000** in in-kind services from *Downstream Strategies*) proposal to develop an innovative EPCAMR GIS Site Selection Criteria Tool for Alternative Solar Energy Development on Abandoned Mine Lands; Discussed it with *Joey James* from *Downstream Strategies*, *Chelsea Barnes*, *Appalachian Voices*, and *AC Power*; Held a Zoom call with *AC Power* Staff to introduce one another virtually; *AC Power* provided a letter of support for the grant

Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) Meaningful Watershed Environmental Education Program with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District

- EPCAMR was awarded a **\$5000** grant to work with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District to develop a boxed kit of lessons and activities related to water quality and AMD; Attended a webinar to review how to manage the grant during COVID-19 and how to make changes to the project, if necessary and physical teaching can't occur within the classrooms or outdoors with EPCAMR; Revised the budget and submitted it to the CBT

Swoyersville/Harry E. Reclamation and Community Athletic Area PA AML Pilot Project

- Reviewed *Joe McCarthy's* Pottsville DMO Inspection Report for April 2020 and filed it with the project

Technical Assistance

- Provided *Adam Hughes*-Statewide Organizing for Community Empowerment ([SOCM](#)) with copies of the Tennessee AML Inventory Maps by Congressional District prepared by EPCAMR GIS Specialist, *Steve Cornia*
- Participated in a conference call with representatives from [Avidad Water](#), Colorado and WPCAMR
- Participated in a Zoom Call with *Rucha Ragalwar* and *Frederick Douglas* from *Cosmos Technologies* to discuss a future grant proposal utilizing his technology to treat AMD

- Discussed with *Kristen Hughes Evans*-Sustainable Chesapeake, VA, a potential future project and technical assistance that EPCAMR might be able to develop a feasibility assessment and lay out next steps for connecting Lancaster County manure with groups working on abandoned mine land reclamation; Informed her that it would likely be in too much competition with our current submission of a Small Watershed Grant for the Eastern Flank of the Southern Wyoming Valley Proposal that EPCAMR is submitting, however, that we would circle back to the project in the future if they were interested
- Provided *Brett Doyle*-Associate Administrator for Public Engagement and Environmental Education-U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with contact information for WPCAMR and ARIPPA and information on our Swoyersville PA AML Pilot Reclamation and Community Athletic Area Development Project; He was looking to talk about the roll out of ideas related to the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards ([MATS](#)) rule and sub-chapter categorization for the Co-Gen Plants that ARIPPA has been working on; He was looking to see who the environmental supporters were of the legislation that is moving forward and those who can explain the benefits of the Co-Gens so that they are not lumped in categorically to coal-fired plants; A great news [article](#) from E & E was published by Dylan Brown on how EPA has recently given a helping hand to the Waste Coal Industry
- Assisted *Tom Clark*-SRBC AMD Basin Coordinator with the sampling of two AMD discharges in the Black Creek Watershed in lower Luzerne County; Gathered water quality data for 2017-2019 from *Gary Leander* and *Tim Ference* from Friends of the Nescopeck to provide to *Tom* on the Black Creek for possible development of a Qualified Hydrologic Unit Plan (QHUP) in the near future; EPCAMR provided *Tom* with our early versions of AMDTreat for both the Gowen and Derringer AMD Tunnel discharges to the Black Creek for him to place into a Master Excel Water Quality Spreadsheet
- *Frank Sindaco*, EPCAMR GIS Specialist created an updated regional County Population and Demographics [Data Set](#) for EPCAMR's entire region in GIS; This will help us when creating grant proposals in the future
- Provided a letter of support from EPCAMR to *Liz Hughes* for Earth Conservancy's NFWF Grant for Espy Run Stream Restoration in the Nanticoke Creek Watershed
- Provided *Jack Morrow*, *Paul Bechtel*, and *Bernie McGurl*, Lackawanna River Conservation Association, with helpful ideas for their NFWF Small Watershed Grant
- Worked with *Mike Hewitt* to do some literature searching on ways to calculate TSS and TDS for sediment load calculations that are being lost along eroded streambanks in the region; Forwarded him some articles from JSTOR

- Talked with *Tali MacArthur*, POWR, about EPCAMR's work in the region and provided her with some insight on how to reach out to community groups to see what their needs are within the region related to AMD or other technical assistance, general liability insurance, grant writing assistance, funding, and the value of AMD work, and educational resources; Provided Tali with a list of the counties that EPCAMR covers in NC and NE PA for a GIS layer that she is developing of state-wide community groups
- Assisted the Huber Breaker Preservation Society (HBPS) in getting their extension on a PA DCED grant until June 2021 and a seamless transfer of the park over to the Ashley Borough; EPCAMR Executive Director worked with the Ashley Borough Solicitor, *Pete Moses* on the letter that needed to be drafted to go to PA DCED regarding the transfer of the park property that was approved; The remaining grant funds can still be utilized for the additional park amenities that were in the original grant proposal prepared by EPCAMR for the HBPS
- Provided the US ACE a 2-page document of potential projects that could be funded under the 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) in the EPCAMR Region; Provided the list to *Jeremy Marcus*, Congressman Cartwright's Office as well who directed EPCAMR to several US ACE Staff to discuss the projects with during a conference call

Connell B and C AMD Tunnel Treatment Systems Water Quality Monitoring in the Loyalsock Creek

- EPCAMR worked with *Gloria Norcross*, Sullivan County Conservation District Watershed Specialist to finalize plans to monitor the AMD Treatment Systems later in the Summer 2020; EPCAMR was awaiting final approval from the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association and the Sullivan County Conservation District to proceed

Education & Outreach

- Provided *Stacey Widenhofer*, PAEE with a photo and a few comments to thank the organization for awarding our EPCAMR Executive Director with the prestigious [2020 Keystone Award](#) for his dedication to advancing the quality and opportunity for environmental education throughout PA; A framed certificate, a recycled glass award, and a suncatcher was mailed to the Executive Director's home since the Annual PAEE Conference was cancelled in March 2020 due to COVID-19; Joined the NE Region PAEE Facebook [page](#) to connect with other regional environmental educators; PAEE posted the Executive Director's [comments](#) to the EE Audience since the conference was cancelled
- Provided *Jason Nark*, reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer photos of cleanup shots from our last litter cleanup effort in 2019 for a news article he was preparing on geotagging photos in locations around the State that lead to more vandalism and unwarranted trespassing by explorers and outdoor recreationists

- Submitted a ***Trout in the Classroom (TIC) mini-grant*** request to the PA Council of Trout Unlimited for **\$500**; It basically can get EPCAMR some supplies and a few pieces of equipment and resources to help add to our existing program; Requested a few lenses for our iPhones that would allow us to take macro, panoramic, and fish-eye photos of macro-invertebrates up close with school students when we conduct our release and or watershed education programs
- *Hannah Wolfe*, Representative for *The Luzerne Foundation's Youth Allocation Committee* informed EPCAMR that we were the recipient of the **\$5000** for a drone and our needed supplies to teach students about new STEM technologies to help us survey, assess, monitor, visualize, and fly-over the watersheds that we are working on remediating and reclaiming throughout the coalfields
- Even during the pandemic, EPCAMR was able to secure permission to continue to stop into the Office infrequently to feed and continue to raise our rainbow trout fingerlings for our Trout in the Classroom Educational Program with PA Council of Trout Unlimited and the PA Fish & Boat Commission; Received Educational Resources from Cody Whipple-PA Fish& Boat Commission
- *Laura* found an interesting [blog](#) on using natural pigments from nature for ideas on how to use our iron oxide pigment with youth and for creating products for EPCAMR with botany
- Participated in the April *Clean Water Week* (April 13-17th) Virtual Webinars with members of the Choose Clean Water Coalition and the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed for the Susquehanna and Delaware River Watersheds; Worked with *Renee Reber*-PennFuture Campaign Manager for Watershed Advocacy who provided a social media kit for the event
- Submitted the Executive Director's resume to become a volunteer for the PA Academic Standards Review for Science & Technology, Environment & Ecology Content Committee for the PA Department of Education
- Provided *Denise* and *Laura* a link to Canopy [Tree Program Curriculums](#) in both English and Spanish out of California
- *Cosima Weiss*, Professor of Biology at Misericordia University, informed EPCAMR that their grant that EPCAMR helped to develop for the National Endowment for the Humanities was awarded to develop their Environmental Studies program
- Interviewed by *Riley Robinson*, a freelance writer for the [Daily Christian Science Monitor](#) on EPCAMR's work in the region; The Monitor is a solutions-focused publication, so we seek out stories about progress or innovative ways people are tackling problems. I think the work that goes into reclaiming abandoned mine lands and planting trees to clean up PA waterways is a story that would really fit with that mission

- Contacted Congressman *Cartwright* and *Meuser's* Office to relay EPCAMR's support and advocacy for several bills related to abandoned mine land reclamation and reauthorization under the CARES 2 Package; The following suite of bills were always important to building the bright future we want to see in our region, but the current crisis has underscored the need for urgent investment in the future of our communities; These bills could be an important part of the infrastructure investments that Congress is considering in future stimulus bills:
 1. ***Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act Amendments of 2019 (H.R.4248)***, to address the clean-up of dangerous and polluting abandoned mine lands;
 2. ***RECLAIM Act (H.R. 2156)***, to spur immediate job creation and create the conditions for longer term, locally driven economic development efforts in coal communities; and
 3. ***Black Lung Benefits Disability Trust Fund Solvency Act (H.R.3876)***, to adequately fund the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund at prior level for 10 years.
- The ongoing crisis caused by Covid19 has laid painfully bare longstanding issues we face in our region; The anxiety that families feel across the country as they lose their employment has been long felt in coal communities; We know that the most vulnerable in our society, those who already face health issues or economic challenges, are hit hardest in this impossible time; Many of those people and communities are in the region that we serve; Many families in our area have been escaping to some of these former reclaimed abandoned mine lands and the recreational opportunities and trails that they offer locally to get outdoors and still be able to remain socially distant; They have actually become places of tranquility and meditation, as well as an escape from the more urbanized and overcrowded parks in our City centers; These bills can provide the jobs that we are going to need post-COVID-19; An organization like EPCAMR is going to depend on being able to have the opportunity to apply for these types of funds with our private partners to improve our local environment; Right now, many of these areas locally are seeing an explosion of illegal dumping and littering as well with medical wastes, garbage, and household hazardous wastes; We are going to need to take extra precautions during our future cleanup efforts; At the same time, our region has a rich history of strength during adversity; We work to support each other during tough times; It is important to focus on the immediate needs during this pandemic, but it is also important to consider legislation that will make our region more resilient to future storms that are sure to follow; The choices our government makes during the outbreak of this virus could set a better course for a brighter future
- A 2 part series article was printed on how to save and recover our coalfield communities during the pandemic by *Jeremy Richardson*; [Part 1](#) ; [Part 2](#) ; EPCAMR had complimented the blogs on another listserve that the Executive Director participates in for RECLAIM and he followed up thanking EPCAMR for our work; EPCAMR asked him to follow up if he'd like to talk about Northeastern PA and the importance of HR4248 first and foremost and other topics should they arise in the conversation

- Touched based with *Greg Malaska*, PATU President about follow up conversations with *Steve Moyer* and *Amy Wolfe*-TU National in regards to supporting efforts of the ARIPPA Co-Gen Industries across PA that are also working in areas to reclaim our abandoned mine lands and streams where many of the TU Chapters are involved in watershed and stream restoration efforts
- EPCAMR signed on to a letter from the *Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership* with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, to inform the PA Senate that HB 1822 would devastate several funds critical to protecting and restoring our rivers and streams including planting and maintaining trees, while effectively shutting down operations at County Conservation Districts and affect non-profits like EPCAMR that utilize PA Growing Greener Environmental Stewardship Funds and Section 319 Clean Water Act funds
- Signed up for *NEPA Gives* through The Luzerne Foundation for a June 2020 Fundraiser on behalf of EPCAMR
- Participated in a National RECLAIM Working Group, PATU Executive Committee, Choose Clean Water Coalition, and PA AML Campaign Conference call

Community Volunteer Coordination

- Confirmed with *Branden Diehl*-Foundation for PA Watersheds, that EPCAMR would coordinate with the Conservation Stewards Individual Placement Program about our intent to proceed forward with an application for funding for an OSMRE/VISTA and support for our outreach and education efforts to education our communities and leaders about the importance of AML Reauthorization; Provided *Branden* a copy of EPCAMR's Updated Draft Strategic Plan and revised comments and details on our previously submitted application for **\$10,000**
- Coordination of a future proposed tree planting by EPCAMR and our partners on the former Graffiti Highway in Centralia is stalled temporarily due utility concerns that need to be addressed by UGI
- EPCAMR received hours of volunteer support from *Marissa Loftus*, Wilkes-Barre, who was interested in a flexible non-paying internship and remote work to give her some experience with working for a non-profit; She assisted EPCAMR with our Mill Creek and Huntsville Creek CHP work; She became certified in the NAACC AOP certification as soon as she was available to spend time with the Staff in the field; EPCAMR Executive Director prepared a [News Release](#) on her assistance and work with EPCAMR during the pandemic
- *Bob Kent*, EPCAMR Volunteer and donor, donated several small aluminum testing kits to EPCAMR on his way through the Wyoming Valley while he was coming up from the Philadelphia area to go fly-fishing; The donation of the kits were greatly appreciated and the Executive Director personally thanked him

Conferences, Training, Tours, Exhibits, & Workshops

- Signed up and watched a freshwater mussels [webinar](#) workshop with the *Dr. Joe Wood*, Sr. Scientist with the Virginia Chesapeake Bay Foundation Office who was sharing the amazing lifecycle, survival strategies, and filtering capacity of mussels, and why this remarkable species might hold the secret to improving stream health and restoring the Chesapeake Bay; Provided *Jack Morrow-LRCA* and the EPCAMR Staff with a [link](#) to a University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point study on Freshwater Mussels; There may be the potential for a future study on the N. Branch of the Susquehanna River to see if the mussels are being impacted by AMD or possibly purifying the river water quality in areas such as downstream of the Knox Mine Disaster where thousands of mussels were noted along the streambank many years ago during an excursion along the River; EPCAMR researched several USFWS Studies on mussels on the Lower Susquehanna River where sediment was removed, but not much AMD is in that particular reach of the River
- Reviewed a webinar on the prevention of sediment deposition on the Chesapeake Stormwater Network to support our work with the NFWF under the Small Watershed Grant we received for the Eastern Flank of the Southern Wyoming Valley and downloaded two great resources that will be referenced to help EPCAMR estimate sediment loss from highly eroded streambanks in the watersheds that we will be focusing on; Joined the Chesapeake Stormwater Network
- Executive Director completed a 3-hour EcoSchools USA/National Wildlife Federation professional [development course](#) on Earth Day 50 related to Climate Change and Climate Change Education, Project WET, and Project WILD; Obtained a Certificate of Completion
- NCAC provided EPCAMR with a link to the Foundation Center Directory online to continue to look for grant funding opportunities through COVID
- Participated in an online training with the PA DEP EJ Office for [EJ Screen](#) and an EJ Stakeholders Conference call
- Participated in a Webinar entitled, *How to Access Emergency Funds During a Pandemic*
- Followed up with speakers for the **2020 PA AMR Conference** about getting their abstracts and biographies in to the Conference Committee; Informed the Conference sponsors that the Conference has been postponed to October 28 & 29th, 2020; Food Subcommittee made some initial choices for our menu should we continue the Conference in person; Convened a PA AMR Conference Committee conference call

EPCAMR Program Administration

- Reconciled EPCAMR's Checking Account and PA, Invest Accounts; Paid Health Care Premiums for EPCAMR Staff for April 2020 with Highmark; Paid Verizon and Internet monthly bills; Paid EC the rent; Balanced EPCAMR Checking Register; Made a deposit to FNB for incoming reimbursements and accounts receivables; Provided *Denise* with a copy of the March 2020 Bank Statement to file
- Worked with *Denise* to update and transcribe our notes from the 2020 Strategic Planning Workshop with the EPCAMR Board in February 2020 and to submit an Invoice to ISI, Inc. for **\$6500** for the ***Appalachian Food by Youth Project*** with the Mental Insight Foundation for the first quarter of 2020; Provided *Denise* with scanned copies of incoming checks and paid invoices that were deposited
- Submitted October 2019 Reimbursement to PA DEP 319 Program in a new format
- Worked with *Mike* to test out the Zoom platform for future Staff and Conference calls
- Completed EPCAMR's [POWR/PEC](#) 2020-2021 General Liability Insurance Registration and Renewal and forwarded it to *Angela Vitkoski* and *Janet Sweeney* at PEC's NE Office
- Participated in a conference call with the Foundation for PA Watershed to give them a better understand the implications of the COVID-19 restrictions upon our work plans, which of necessity, takes planning; We discussed our project/planning vision to better understand how they can address potential roadblocks that will impede restoration/construction/watershed assessment setbacks due to a lack of volunteers, etc.; Additionally, we discussed suggestions that should be added to future contingency plans; Provided an evaluation of where EPCAMR was during the midst of the pandemic just a few short weeks into having to close down the Office and work remotely
- Worked with *Anthony Melf*-PA Career Link's EDSI Solutions State & Local Internship Program (SLIP) to fund an internship position for *Levi-Sunday Leftkowicz*, a college student from Rochester Institute of Technology, NY and a former student and volunteer with EPCAMR from Wyoming Seminary in *Dr. Andrea Nerozzi's* Environmental Science Class; Levi would be starting in mid-May 2020; Directed *Levi* to fill out all of the necessary paperwork for the internship with EPCAMR through SLIP; Interviewed *Kyle Argenziano*, graduating Senior from Bloomsburg University for another internship who also was eligible for the SLIP Program; Completed additional agreement paperwork for *Kyle* and submitted it to *Anthony*; Signed *Levi* and *Kyle* up right away to take the NAACC Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Protocol Training; Completed a [News Release](#) and publicized it on our EPCAMR Page about the hiring of the two interns during the pandemic
- Riverlogic Solutions, Inc. provided EPCAMR with a copy of their Certificate of Liability Insurance Renewal for 2020 for our files

- Talked with *Phil Amend*-OneSource, to determine how EPCAMR could qualify for applying for a CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program Loan/Grant through First National Bank and requested their assistance in providing us with the financial information that might be necessary from the Payroll Department for the application; *Jessica Barbose*-OneSource also provided EPCAMR information on the Family First CoronaVirus Response Act: Employee Paid Leave Rights
- Continued to provide the EPCAMR Staff with updates from the PA Department of Health and the Governor's Office related to the pandemic and any new safety measures and protocols; OneSource provided EPCAMR with great Human Resource information to provide to the Staff; Found out from EC that the Office would have to continue to be closed until at least May 8th 2020 at this time and we would need to continue to work remotely; Sent around a Top 10 Update List to the Staff about happenings during the month so that everyone was on the same page and caught up with some efforts that they might not have had a chance to sift through e-mails yet to digest
- *Denise Hernandez*, Urban Outreach Specialist, completed her NAACC AOP Online Certification
- Talked with a colleague, *Bev Braverman*, about how to effectively apply for a PPP Loan through our Financial Institution where our Checking Account is held for EPCAMR at First National Bank (FNB); Filed for a PPP Loan from FNB and gathered the appropriate paperwork and budget payroll numbers, Form 940 for 2019, and other documentation for the application; Received word that we were approved for a PPP Loan
- After discussing with *Joe Simons*, EPCAMR President, it was decided that EPCAMR would cancel the May 21st Board Meeting and plan for one in August that would be on a Zoom call; Informed the Board of the decision due to COVID-19
- Completed the April 2020 Board Report