May 2022 Update

Regarding the theme "Curated Community Information Hub":

We are still pursuing the personal and digital approaches that we presented in the April update.

Regarding the theme "Making Madison a More Vibrant Community for All":

The community relations meeting between the Madison Police and members of Madison's Hispanic community that was referenced in our March update is planned for one of the last two Saturdays in June. The plan is to hold this meeting following a Spanish Mass at St. Vincent's.

Guillermo Gil, Sgt. Morales of the Madison Police and Doug Willis met with Mark Schwarz, Superintendent of Schools. The following needs were identified:

• Bi-lingual (Spanish/English) support network to assist with student registration and other administrative actions. It would be best to associate this network with the United for Columbia. The possibility of transportation assistance should be considered also.

• Awareness of upcoming Hispanic community events. Explore how the school district could participate and share State of the Schools information.

• An ongoing program whose goal it would be to provide books/toys to economic disadvantaged Madison households with pre-school age children.

Follow-up on each of these is underway.

Regarding the theme "Expanding Mental Health Services":

We had meetings with the following people to understand the approaches and services their organizations are currently providing to address mental health.

- Diane Mann, President and CEO of the Madison Area YMCA
- Mark Schwarz, Superintendent, Madison Public Schools
- Jen Walters, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Integrative Support Network
- Ray Freaney, Past District Governor, Rotary International

All prioritize the importance of providing opportunities for connection and social support to Madison residents. We are interested in working with these organizations and others to understand how the Madison community can best support the well-being of its residents. We are discussing how/when we can organize a focus group on this idea.