

**Blue Ridge Continuum of Care
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, July 19, 2016
United Way of Roanoke Valley Board Room**

- A. **Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Ms. Carol Tuning opened the meeting with a welcome and call to order. Member introductions were made.
- B. **2016 CoC HUD Application:** Ms. Tuning gave an overview of the 2016 CoC application process. Application deadline for FY2016 funding is September 14, 2016.
- a. **TAP Divestment:** Ms. Kristen Moses announced Total Action for Progress' (TAP) intention of divesting two of its permanent supportive housing grants – PSH Bonus and PSH for Chronically Homeless – through the 2016 application process. TAP will retain management of the Vinton PSH grant. The two divested grants total \$206,446.
- b. **Proposed Reassignment:** Ms. Tuning announced ARCH Services' interest in managing the reassigned grants. Ms. Ali Hamed-Moore stated that the grants fit with the agency's mission of serving vulnerable populations. ARCH also manages an existing PSH project that targets chronically homeless veterans.
- c. **CoC Vote:**
- Motion 1:** motion made to approve TAP's divestment from Chronically Homeless and PSH Bonus grants. Motion unanimously approved with two abstentions.
- Motion 2:** motion made to approve ARCH Services' management of the divested money from the two TAP PSH grants. Motion unanimously approved with one abstention.
- As per instruction from the HUD Richmond Field Office, TAP will draft a letter to Mr. Ronnie Leggett at the HUD field office, with carbon copies to Ms. Carol Tuning and Dr. Tony Brinkman (HUD), releasing the grants.
- C. **Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness Projects:**
- a. **Family Initiative:** Ms. Ali Hamed-Moore provided an update on the work on the Family Initiative committee. The group meets the first Thursday of each month at 11:00am at Greene Memorial United Methodist Church. Committee will be meeting bi-weekly for case conferencing on the first and third Thursdays. By-name list is being developed – will include households with at least one adult and one child under 18, and households with pregnant women.
- b. **Youth Initiative:** Ms. Ali Hamed-Moore provided an update on the work of the Youth Initiative committee. Group meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:00am at Greene Memorial United Methodist Church. Committee is developing by-name list of homeless youth ages 18-24. One youth was presented at the July committee meeting.
- c. **Veteran Initiative:** Mr. Matt Crookshank provided an update on the work of the Veteran Initiative committee. There are 59 veterans currently on the active by-name list. 10 were housed in June, 3 housed so far in July. Program Directors participated in June meeting to re-energize and re-focus group. Committee meets every other Wednesday at 2:00pm at the Council of Community Services.
- d. **Chronic Initiative:** Ms. Ali Hamed-Moore provided an update on the work of the Chronic Initiative committee. Group meets every other Wednesday afternoon at Trust House to case conference individuals/households scoring 8+ on the VI-SPDAT. There are 22 individuals currently on the by-name list. Committee has wide participation of service providers. Limited resources have been a challenge.

- D. DVS Homeless Veteran Pilot Fund:** Ms. Jo Nelson (TAP) provided an overview of the pilot project. Virginia Department of Veteran Services has created a pilot fund (\$100,000) as last resort funding for communities that have expended all other resources. Each CoC must designate one grantee to request/utilize funds. Designee would then apply for funds on a client-by-client basis. Service requests can include rent assistance, rent arrears, security deposit assistance, “bridge funding” to PSH, utility assistance and utility deposit assistance. TAP operates multiple veteran programs – funding would allow service gaps to be filled as TAP SSVF money is expended. **Motion:** motion made to appoint TAP as the Blue Ridge CoC’s designee to request DVS pilot funding. Motion unanimously passed with two abstentions.
- E. Coordinated Entry Update:** Ms. Ali Hamed-Moore provided an update on Trust House bed placements through Central Intake. Process has been established through ARCH website for individuals seeking shelter – referral made electronically to Central Intake. Central Intake then does intake, diversion, provides additional resources and bed placement. Shelter priorities for Trust House placements are individuals staying outside, transgender individuals, families with small children and the chronically homeless. Central Intake manages the priority list and makes bed placements.
- F. Announcements:** Housing Summit, *Ending Youth and Family Homelessness: Moving from Silos to Systems*, will be held on August 16th at the Salem Civic Center. Governor’s Housing Conference will be held in November at the Hotel Roanoke. Virginia Housing Alliance’s Housing Virginia’s Most Vulnerable Conference will be held in Richmond in August.