

**Blue Ridge Continuum of Care
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, September 20, 2016
United Way of Roanoke Valley Board Room**

Welcome and Introductions: CoC Chair Carol Tuning opened the meeting with a welcome and call to order. Member introductions were made.

A. 2016 CoC HUD Application - Carol Tuning:

- Submitted the CoC application
- Changed the ranking system
- Merged the PSH grants (2 for TAP, 1 for Shelter Plus Care at the City) into ARCH
- No other significant changes
- Have more vouchers than elsewhere in the state because of lower market rates
- Allocated money for 1 more staff for coordinated assessment

B. Straight Street – Keith Farmer:

- Working with the FBI
- Reached out to Wells Free Living
- Building an 8-bed emergency shelter
- Will house girls from across Virginia for 90 days
- Closing soon on a property on 35 acres of land
- In a safe location just outside the City of Roanoke

C. Downtown Roanoke, Inc – Dani Poe:

- Tina Workman, director of DRI, presented.
- In the last couple years there has been an increase in panhandling in downtown
- Want to hear ideas/thoughts/direction on something we can do
- There was discussion about handing out cards saying not to give to panhandlers

D. Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness Projects

a. Family Initiative – Marie Muddiman, Family Promise:

- Meeting every 2 weeks
- Started the By Name List 2 months ago, have now housed 9 families
- Rescue Mission will get representation on the committee

b. Youth Initiative – Ali Hamed-Moore, ARCH:

- Jazmine Gayle attended in Ali's place
- No names on the By-Name List; hard to identify youth under 25
- Will talk to groups (TAP job program, Roanoke Diversity Center, others) to ID them
- Will use data in HMIS to help identify homeless youth

c. Veteran Initiative – Matt Crookshank, CCS:

- Meeting bi-weekly
- Jazmine: housed 11 veterans last month
- We're housing roughly as many monthly as the inflow, so we're pretty close to maintaining functional zero
- Lis Chacon is going to the Zero 2016 Conference in Tulsa, OK next week
- Participating in Veterans By-Name List collaborative through Community Solutions
- Looking at adding a custom data element in HMIS to track where clients come from
- For PIT count, will eventually pull shelter data from HMIS

d. Chronic Initiative – Ali Hamed-Moore, ARCH:

- Carol: Ali leading the group for now, but Ben will take over the list.
- Jasmine: We have about 32 people on the list; every meeting we add 7-9 people
- We have a list of chronic homeless, and a high-scoring VI-SPDAT list

E. HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program – Carol Tuning:

- Grant amount is between \$1 million and \$15 million
- 2-part program; first part - 30-page application due by November 30
- Second part – submit projects we request funding for
- Eligible projects include youth employment programs, any projects serving youth
- The McKinney-Vento homelessness definition counts, so could fund RYSE
- Kristen Moses expressed concern that not all of our programs would be ready in time
- There was a discussion, and much concern, about our all-around readiness for this
- A vote was taken to NOT proceed with this application this year; no “yes” votes, 1 “no”

F. Funding Summary Report – Matt Crookshank:

- Been tracking spending on each program monthly and looking at data quality quarterly
- Showed separate tabs on spreadsheet for separate funding sources
- Carol: Safe Homes should get their first payment this month
- Matt: Will look at missing data elements quarterly and do training to address issues
- Last year we were at 2.5% to 3% missing data elements; 1st quarter this year we’re at 1.83%. This includes Rescue Mission data.
- ServicePoint makes it easier to get these numbers.
- Kristen asked if there were any other data issues happening; Matt said he thought the data issues seen were mostly migration issues.
- We’ve migrated most clients back to January 2014.

G. CoC Design – Capitalizing on Our Assets:

- Dan would like to hold a 90-minute CoC design planning session; the following people indicated an interest in participating:
 - Marie Muddiman
 - Jamie Starkey
 - Kristen Moses
 - Matt Crookshank

H. Other/Announcements:

- Carol: CoC meetings will move to the Council of Community Services in January.
- Tanya: Plan to send out the VA Challenge Survey soon; it takes about 3 minutes.
- Brenda: ESG applications will be out in November.

a. Agency News/Events – HELPS, Governors Housing Conference

- Next HELPS meeting will be Thursday November 3rd at Greene Memorial United Methodist Church at 2:00 PM (changed from Oct. 20th at the meeting).
- Aisha: The Vita program for first-time homebuyers is a matched-savings program, right now at an 8-to-1 match. Contact SERCAP for more information.