



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

ATTENDANCE	A	Aaron Fallon	P	Jessica Farmer	P	Matt Crookshank
P = Present	P	Ali Hamed-Moore	A	Karen Mason	A	Malora Horn
- = Absent	P	Brenda Thornton	A	Karen Michalski-Karney	A	Marie Muddiman
	P	Ben Bristoll	P	Karen McNally	P	Captain Monica Seiler
	P	Carol Tuning	A	Katie Poulos	A	Patrick Critzer
	P	Chris Campbell	P	Kim Gembala	P	Shannon Bardales
	A	Wendy Webb	P	Kristen Moses	P	Tamy Mann
	P	Dan Merenda	A	Kristin Adkins	P	Tanyia Jones
	A	Emily Jewett	P	Leslie Leedy	A	Tracy Kochel
			A	Lisha McCargo	A	Wayne & Georgia Meadows
GUESTS						

- **Welcome and introductions – Carol Tuning, Chair**
 - Introductions by those in attendance.

- **Point in Time Count Results – Matt Crookshank**
 - Copies of the PIT report were distributed along with a copy of a marketing tool that will be used. Program highlights and information were listed on the reverse.
 - The PIT report can be found on the Council’s website.
 - Matt reviewed the results via a PowerPoint presentation.

- **Communication Strategy**
 - Carol Tuning stated the Press Release for the PIT report went out as scheduled.
 - Copies of a new Press Release were distributed regarding new funding to support reducing homelessness. An info graphic will also be developed using this information.
 - Ali Hamed-Moore asked if the Press Release would be emailed to partner agencies, they could distribute it even further using their newsletter contact lists.
 - Carol asked those attending to think of any activities/communication that could be sent out next month as part of the CoC strategy.



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- **CoC Spending Plan Report**
 - Matt reviewed the spending report and noted that all projects seem to be on target with spending grant funds.
 - Brenda Thornton stated that it may be June before we know ESG funding that will be available for next year.
 - The new HMIS software has a new canned report that mirrors the PIT report. Each program has the ability to compile data on sub populations for their agency to generate specific reports.

- **TAP Letter(s) of Support – Kristen Moses**
 - Kristen Moses stated TAP is applying for a HVRP (Homeless Veteran Re-Integration Program) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to assist homeless veterans in seeking employment.
 - Dan Merenda moved that the CoC provide a letter of support for TAP. Ben Bristoll seconded the motion. There was an unanimous vote of support among the group.

- **Coordinated Entry – Susan Trout/Carol Tuning**
 - Susan Trout updated the group with a PowerPoint presentation.
 - Increases ability to target funding to clients with the highest need and length of homelessness.
 - CAS Committee to provide direction and develop standards on prioritizing housing resources.

- **BNL Committee Updates**
 - Family – There are 16 active homeless families (5 added in February).
 - RYSE – The 13 families on the list are all housed. Three (3) ARCH clients are not enrolled in the RYSE program.
 - Youth – There are 11 active (4 added within the last week).
 - Veteran – There are 23 active - 16 have been housed so far in March.
 - Chronic – There are 14 on the list. Resources are scarce for these clients due to their circumstances. When new PSH vouchers are available, there will be more movement on the list.

- **Other Information**
 - Jessica Farmer mentioned that waiting lists reopened for housing units at Lansdowne, Morningside and Melrose. Applications are available on the Roanoke Redevelopment & Housing Authority website.
 - Matt Crookshank noted that in his discussion with the HUD auditor, there is a possibility that the benchmarks for the High Performing Community designation may be loosened in the future to make achieving the designation more attainable.
 - ID card pilot program is set up and ready to go. Ben Bristoll is working with Central Intake and



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HAT to get the ID card and service scanning process operational. Carol Tuning will let us know at the next meeting how it is progressing.

- Tanyia Jones informed the group that an employment freeze affected the CWT Program at the Salem VAMC and they are not taking any referrals at this time. This will hinder their ability to get homeless veterans employment.
- Ali Hamed-Moore asked if **DocuSign** could be used to sign releases online. Matt said it could be researched to see if it is possible. Matt and Ben are drafting an updated HMIS client authorization form that will incorporate ID cards and by-name list released of information. Draft document will be submitted to the HMIS Data Quality Committee to review.
- Tamy Mann said that after her presentation at the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference, she received compliments from various program directors and from HUD. They were impressed with the work the CoC is accomplishing.

**The next meeting of the CoC will be April 18, 2017
at the Council of Community Services**