



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

ATTENDANCE	P	Aaron Fallon	-	Karen Mason	P	Matt Crookshank
P = Present	-	Aaron Dowdy	-	Karen Michalski-Karney	-	Marie Muddiman
- = Absent	P	Ben Bristoll	P	Katie Kennedy	-	Melissa Gish
	P	Carol Tuning	P	Keith Holland	P	Captain Monica Seiler
	-	Cheryl Likens	-	Kelli Mundy	-	Patrick Critzer
	-	Chris Campbell	-	Kathleen Beverage	-	Sabrina Cowan
	-	Cheyenne Caldwell	P	Helen Ferguson	-	Sherrie Morton
	P	Dan Merenda	-	Kristen Moses	-	Tanyia Jones
	-	Debbie Sawyer	P	Leslie Leedy	P	Tracy Kochel
	P	Geralynn Trelue			-	Susan Trout
	P	Emily Jewett	-	Amy Shirkey	-	Sandy Peggins
	P	Jeanne McCormack			P	Alyce Dantder
GUESTS	P	Wanda Moore, Safe Home Systems				
	P	Kristi Cales, Hall Com Svcs				

- **Welcome and introductions – Carol Tuning, CoC Co-Chair**
 - Carol Tuning began the meeting at 9:00 a.m. with introductions by those in attendance.
- **2018 CoC NOFA Application Update – Dan Merenda**
 - The application should be completed by Labor Day.
 - All projects submitted were included in the application. HMIS and Coordinated Entry are mandated projects.
 - HMIS Expansion project covers the system maintenance and licenses for 47 users.
 - Projects 1-5 are in Tier 1; Projects 6-9 are Tier 2 with a 6% reduction.
 - Carol Tuning and Dan Merenda met with Glenda Edwards Goh, Executive Director, RRHA to request a homeless preference for individuals on the public housing and voucher waiting lists. They are drafting a policy and waiting for board approval.
- **Review & Adopt Coordinated Entry Policies & Procedures – Carol Tuning**
 - The recommended changes to the Grievance Policy were reviewed by those present.
 - One important change was to reduce the amount of time a client has to appeal a decision to three business days.
 - Keith Holland made a motion to accept the recommended changes to the Grievance Policy. Tracy Kochel second the motion. Those present voted unanimously to approve.
 - Our community does not have an Emergency Transfer Plan for Domestic Violence. The HUD sample was distributed for review and will be the general guidelines for our plan.
 - Captain Monica Seiler suggested the term “sexual violence” be used instead of sexual assault and that we should contact SARA to ask if the 90 day reporting period is realistic.
 - The accountability process section needs to determine what exactly the “attachment” should be and who will be responsible for ensuring it is done. Carol Tuning will draft the resource list to include as the attachment.
 - The Hotline numbers on Page 4 need to be our local phone numbers.
 - Dan Merenda motioned that the CoC approve the concept of the HUD Emergency Transfer Plan



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

and the new Domestic Violence Project Application Committee can review with the above changes. Jeanne McCormack second the motion. Those present approved.

- **Strategic Planning Discussion – Dan Merenda**
 - Scheduled for September 18 from 9 - 12 noon (Addendum – request made to change meeting time to 12 Noon to 3 pm at Greene Memorial with lunch provided).
 - The planning session is to look at 3 year goals and form new committees to meet those goals. If existing measures are not meeting goals, we need to determine what needs to be done to achieve the goals.

- **2018 Summer PIT Count Results – Matt Crookshank**
 - There were 63 people found during the PIT Street Count on July 19.
 - Total number of homeless was 331, a 4% increase from the Winter Count; 15 were youth (6 unsheltered).
 - The majority of homeless were 71.4% White and 78% Male. No one unsheltered reported they had children under 18 with them.
 - The percent of individuals who had experienced incarceration were Jail 29% and Prison 6%.
 - The 2018 PIT infographic is posted on the CoC website, Symposium page.

- **CoC Symposium Evaluation**
 - The event was well attended and surveys reflected 69% satisfactory rating. Presentations will be posted on the CoC website.

- **CoC System Performance Reports – Matt Crookshank**
 - Length of stay in an emergency shelter in July 2018 was 52 days; last year was 42 days.
 - The YTD Average is 33 days; last fiscal YTD was 32 days.
 - The number of persons exiting homelessness to return in two years is 19.83% for 2018. It was 31.33% for 2017.

- **Partner Agency Announcements**
 - “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” is in Covington on September 29 at the AET Park.
 - Safe Home Systems will be celebrating 31 years of service to the community.
 - Gala is on October 13 at the Historic Masonic Theatre, Clifton Forge, tickets \$30.
 - SOAR Certified individuals are needed! Free training provided. Contact Tracy Kochel.

**The next meeting of the CoC will be for Strategic Planning on September 18, 2018
at Greene Memorial from 12 noon – 3pm.**