



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

ATTENDANCE	P	Aaron Fallon	P	Helen Ferguson	-	Kristi Cales
P = Present	-	Ashley Frankie	P	Hope Browning	P	Leslie Leedy
- = Absent	-	Alyce Dantzler	P	Jeanne McCormack	-	Lisa Kemble
	-	Amanda Sparks	P	Jo Nelson	P	Matt Crookshank
	-	Anne Marie Green	-	Kim Gembala	P	Marie Muddiman
	-	Bill Duncan	-	Karen Mason	P	Malora Horn
	P	Ben Bristoll	-	Karen Michalski-Karney	P	Sabrina Cowan
	P	Brittany Huffer	P	Kathleen Williams	-	Susan Trout
			-	Katie Kennedy	-	Tanyia Jones
	-	Jaimie Goodman	-	Keith Holland	P	Stacy Shepherd
	P	Captain Jamie Clay	-	Kim Ferrell	P	Raquel Conn, United Way
	-	Geralynn Trelue	-	Kristin Moses	P	Mariam DiPasquale, FPGR
	P	Melissa Woodson, RAM			P	Amanda Holcomb, CCS
	P	Kristin Adkins, VDH			P	Jeff Croke, CCS

- **Welcome and Introductions – Matt Crookshank**

- Matt Crookshank opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m. via conference call. Roll call was taken. Minutes from previous meeting on March 31, 2020 were distributed via email. There were no changes.

- **COVID 19 Quarantine Preparation Update**

- Trust House is moving all clients to hotels with exception of some women who went to Rescue Mission.
- Volunteers will be needed to help transport clients and their belongings to hotels. A Valley Metro bus may be used. Helen Ferguson offered the use of a box truck from the Rescue Mission to transport belongings.
- Trust House will act as quarantine for 5 homeless individuals who have been discharged from hospital waiting for test results, are confirmed positive or is close contact of confirmed positive. Placements will go through Central Intake.
- Rescue Mission offered to deliver meals each day to the quarantined clients at Trust House since these clients won't have access to a kitchen.
- Agencies should be prepared to isolate other individuals who have had contact with "confirmed cases".
- SSVF can pay for high-risk veterans who need a hotel. Contact TAP for further information.
- State of Virginia has provided the CoC with \$106,023.02 in additional VHSP funds for COVID19 response to cover hotels, food, cleaning services, etc.
- Roanoke City has been notified they will receive additional HUD ESG funds to help with COVID19 response.
- HAT has compiled a list of unsheltered individuals they had contact with in the past 60 days, listed vulnerabilities (physical/mental), age, and will be placing them by priority in hotels.
- Safehomes in Covington may run out of shelter space and will need local hotel space. Matt Crookshank and Hope Browning will discuss funding with Safehomes. CHRC can reallocate RRH



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

funds for Emergency Shelter or assist with permanent housing placement through RRH.

- Colony House property owner and Roanoke City are working on MOU to use Colony House as larger scale isolation facility. VDEM said Catawba Hospital has 40 beds to isolate clients but is still in the discussion stages.
- Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare currently has 7 vulnerable unsheltered individuals placed in hotels.

- **Agency Updates**

- ARCH will need to coordinate meals for those staying in hotels. They have 300 meals (that need hot water) which would last about 14 days.
- Rescue Mission has MRE's that will serve 4 persons at each meal.
- VDEM has obtained food and shipped to Feeding America SWVA that consists of MRE's and canned food. More food can be requested as needed.
- Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare takes food and supplies on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to Days Inn and Ramada. Ramada serves a light breakfast.
- Salvation Army is working with the Army Corp of Engineers in developing the remote hospitals in Hampton Roads, Richmond and Dulles areas.
- Turning Point has 1 family moving into permanent housing this week. Clients are adjusting and staff are staying well.
- CHRC staff are working remotely to get clients housed.
- RAM House has their COVID19 Plan on the website. The emergency financial assistance office has re-opened for a few extreme cases, but using precautions. RAM House is giving out bag lunches every day if anyone needs food.
- Rescue Mission has opened space for a day shelter s shelter guests do not have to leave during the day. Rescue Mission is also serving bagged meals to community members.
- Family Promise currently has 2 families, one is hopefully moving to permanent housing this week.
- Safehomes is providing support by phone. They only have 1 room available currently.
- United Way funding application is now open. Email Raquel Conn if you need an account set up to apply for the COVID19 response funds.
- ARCH will be giving pay increase to shelter workers. Staff also have 14 days PTO if they get sick. Staff have plans in place for their families and loved ones in case they become ill.
- Kristin Adkins, VDH, will look for the CDC guidance on what to do if coming into close contact with infected individuals.
- The website "Endhomelessnessblueridge.org" has resources from HUD, CDC, and National Alliance to End Homelessness that will also assist in developing policies.

The next conference call will be Tuesday, April 14 @ 9am.