



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 5, 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	Susan Price
	P	Brittany Huffer	P	Kathleen Williams	-	Susan Trout
	P	Jaime Goodman	P	Tasha Evans	P	Tanyia Jones
	P	Captain Jamie Clay	-	Keith Holland	P	Stacy Shepherd
	-	Geralynn Trelue	-	Kim Ferrell	P	Raquel Conn, United Way
	-	Elizabeth Pentecost	-	Kristin Moses	P	Mariam DiPasquale, FPGR
	P	Melissa Woodson, RAM			P	Amanda Holcomb, CCS
	P	Kristin Adkins, VDH			P	Jeff Crooke, CCS

- **Welcome and Introductions – Matt Crookshank**

- Matt Crookshank opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. via conference call. Roll call was taken. Minutes from previous meeting on April 28, 2020 were distributed via email. There were no changes.
- 2020 PIT data will be presented at the BRICH meeting Friday and at the CoC meeting next Tuesday.

- **COVID-19 Quarantine Update**

- Trust House isolation opened Thursday, April 30, but has no clients at present.
- House A is for clients waiting for test results. There are 2 bedrooms with separate bathrooms.
- House A rooms will have to be cleaned after each client leaves creating a 2-3 day turnaround. Testing results should be a 24-48 hr turnaround.
- House B is for confirmed, infected clients and contains 11 beds that can be increased to 20+ if additional space is needed.
- Association of Free Clinics is hoping to work with the Virginia State Health Department so testing can be processed as quickly as possible through the Fralin Clinic at the Rescue Mission.
- Governor Northam has developed a Task Force to review testing the under-insured and uninsured populations. Free clinics are members of the task force.
- The screening process for Carilion referrals will go through Central Intake. Dr. Falls at the Health Department and another physician at the Rescue Mission Clinic have developed the medical criteria for Central Intake to use before referring clients to Trust House for isolation.
- Last Thursday, 8 new unsheltered clients were placed in hotels. There are currently 17 rooms with approximately 30 clients at the hotel. No placements are continuing weekly on Thursdays.
- To assist Salvation Army prepare meals, Matt Crookshank posted the volunteer opportunity on HandsOn Blue Ridge (HOBR) and CoC Facebook pages.



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- The Salvation Army is currently preparing meals for 31 clients twice a day. Church women are assisting in the kitchen. In planning ahead, volunteers will be needed as numbers increase. Matt will continue searching for volunteers to assist during periods when numbers increase.
- Roanoke City staff are completing hotel check-ins with Trust House staff. HAT completes outreach to the hotel in the afternoons.
- TAP has only received 2 signature packets for Vets they are going to assist with housing. Requests that Trust House staff assist Veteran clients in the hotel with completing SSVF paperwork.

• Agency Updates

- TAP has 13 SSVF clients in hotels, 4 were housed last week and 4 signed leases that will be leaving hotels this week.
- TAP has received the additional funds from the Veterans Administration for expanded SSVF services.
- TAP has 8 apartments identified for occupancy and will hire 1 additional staff person and reassign several others to provide coverage.
- TAP DVS has 8 clients in hotels; 4 were housed last week. The family of 9 has been relocated.
- Rescue Mission quarantine beds were full last week; several are open this week. Inmates or their representatives calling do not know release dates. Helen has cleared many, but it depends on their arrival if beds are available.
- According to the Department of Corrections, the regional and local jails will do releases every Tuesday.
- ARCH has 8 units available for housing clients to get them out of hotel. They will be signing a master lease with the property owner to use these 8 units for PSH placements.
- The Salem VAMC homeless team has several clients currently seeking housing.
- CHRC staff continue to work remotely and are doing video inspections to lessen the risks.
- CHRC funders have provided waivers regarding working remotely with clients.
- Turning Point housed a family this past week. There are 3 available family rooms and 1 single room.
- Family Promise has 1 family in shelter and continues to focus on prevention strategies.
- Potential Roanoke City budget cuts for homeless services are concerning several CoC members. Amanda Holcomb will contact Teresa McDaniel regarding the Human Services budget and will let everyone know.
- NonProfit Roanoke (NPR) website has a Request Form for cloth masks. The requests are filled as supply allows.
To donate DIY masks: https://www.handsonblueridge.org/need/detail/?need_id=514482
To request DIY masks: <https://nonprofitroanoke.org/diy-mask-requests/>
- Blue Ridge Behavioral is operating remotely as much as possible. They have placed 2 more individuals in hotels and PSH will have several slots opening up soon.
- The Salem VA Hospital will slowly open clinics on May 13.
- United Way has opened applications for Phase II Covid-19 funding - housing and utility assistance is a priority.
- Watch for the United Way Emergency Food and Shelter funding applications to open.



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- VDEM office has relocated to an office near the Carilion Wellness Center on Starkey Road.

- **Phase I Re-Opening**
 - Most Social Service agencies will continue to operate remote and use CDC precautions when the first phase of re-opening begins.
 - Conversations in various agencies are being held on how to transform services back to the new normal.
 - Prevention services for rent and utilities are expected to surge when the re-opening of the state occurs.
 - The Rescue Mission has decided to purchase their outside hand washing stations and make them permanent.

The next conference call will be Tuesday, May 12 @ 9am.