



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

ATTENDANCE	P	Aaron Fallon	P	Helen Ferguson	P	Leslie Leedy
P = Present	-	Alyce Dantzler	P	Hope Browning	-	Lisa Kemble
- = Absent	-	Amanda Holcomb	P	Jeanne McCormack	P	Matt Crookshank
	P	Anne Marie Green	P	Jo Nelson	P	Marie Muddiman
	-	Bill Duncan	-	Kim Gembala	-	Malora Horn
	P	Ben Bristoll	-	Karen Mason	P	Mariam DiPasquale
	-	Brittany Huffer	P	Karen Michalski-Karney	P	Melissa Woodson
	-	Elizabeth Pentecost	P	Kathleen Williams	P	Raquel Conn
	-	Jaimie Goodman	P	Tasha Evans	-	Stacy Shepherd
	P	Captain Jamie Clay	-	Jennifer Diehl	P	Susan Price
	P	Jeff Crooke	P	Kym Carroll	-	Susan Trout
	P	Geralynn Trelue	-	Kristin Moses	P	Tanyia Jones
	P	Kristin Adkins, VDH				

- **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 June 9, 2020 were distributed via email. There were no changes to the minutes.

- **Hotels and Transportation**

- Trust House currently has 1 client waiting on test results and 1 possible negative referral from Carilion.
- There are currently 66 clients in hotels through the CoC. Hotel staff have been making comments to clients about their behavior. Several clients have complained about lack of transportation. Clients want to return to Ramada due to being close to everything. Shuttles to the closest bus stop are being provided from the current hotel locations on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays by ARCH and RAM House staff. Additional transportation options are being pursued.
- Hotel stays will continue at least through July; no definite date has been set to end the program.
- Karen Michalski-Karney is on the Greater Roanoke Transit board and will reach out to see if Valley Metro can assist with transportation.
- Durham, operates Roanoke City School buses, may also be willing to provide assistance.
- Matt Crookshank will check with Roanoke City Parks and Recreation to see if they would be available. Uber is also another idea to consider.
- Radar’s charter may not allow them to assist with transportation of clients other than their own.

- **Covid19 Funds – Phase II**

- The State has awarded \$58,000 to CCS to provide housing-focused case management to clients staying in hotels.
- CCS will increase staff to provide assistance in getting clients housed.



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- **State Rent/Mortgage Assistance Program**

- The State has allotted \$50 million statewide to assist with rent and mortgage payments to avoid evictions due to Covid19.
- TAP has agreed to administer funds locally. There will be four staff answering calls on a rotating basis. One will be located in Covington/Alleghany area. TAP is also developing a document checklist to ensure program requirements are being met.
- Court-ordered evictions will be prioritized first, document income loss, to include back rent from April 1, and no inspection requirements like other programs.
- TAP staff will participate in a webinar on Friday with DHCD to learn more.

- **Agency Updates**

- SSVF has 12 veteran families in hotels; 2 veterans were hospitalized for substance abuse treatment. TAP still needs adult services, hoping assisted living facilities will open in July. One family was housed last week.
- Ben Bristoll now has a report that shows missing “housing move in date” for clients enrolled in housing programs. He will be reaching out to agencies for the corrections.
- BRBH PATH has extra funds to help with utilities or deposits. Contact Kathleen Guilliams if interested.
- RAM can also assist clients financially with utility bills.
- Salvation Army would like to have the containers used to bring meals to the hotel returned so they can be used again. Jeanne McCormack will purchase plastic containers so there are enough to rotate.
- Rescue Mission is serving hot community meals and providing masks that are washable and re-usable. Staff are taking another look at policies and refining them to ensure CDC and VDH guidelines are followed.
- Henry County Health Department wanted to send a positive, homeless client to Roanoke. The Rescue Mission declined to serve the individual due to lack of capacity to provide isolation services.
- Jeff Crooke said calls have been made and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management is developing a plan with Henry County.
- Family Promise is having an awareness campaign for family homelessness called “A Night without a Bed”. Individuals are asked to spend the night on the floor or in a tent and take photos to post on Facebook page. FOX WFXR will be doing a story on the campaign.
- Clinics are opening up at the VA. They have moved 6 clients to substance abuse rehab for treatment.
- The CoC’s weekly meeting will go bi-weekly starting today.

The next conference call will be Tuesday, June 30 @ 9am.