



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 28, 2020

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

- **Welcome and Introductions – Jeanne McCormack**
 - Jeanne McCormack opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. via conference call. Roll call was taken.
 - Minutes from previous meeting on July 14, 2020 were distributed via email. There were no changes to the minutes.
 - Roanoke City Health Department is planning to have an immunization event for back-to-school. Flyers will be made available for families.

- **State Rent/Mortgage Relief Program– Jo Nelson, Total Action for Progress**
 - In the first three weeks of the program, approximately \$55,000 has been provided for rent payments. TAP has also successfully saved their first mortgage.
 - TAP can serve undocumented families. All of these services have been moved to the Roanoke Higher Education Center, Room 509, for the remainder of the program.
 - If a client is already enrolled in a TAP program, paperwork can be processed through the staff they are already familiar with. There are also trained staff at the Job Center on Thirlane Road.

- **Hotels and Transportation**
 - There are no clients at Trust House; we maintain zero positive cases among the homeless.
 - Four more clients will check into the hotels today, which are at capacity. There are still fighting issues but the police are aware and staff are usually on hand.
 - RAM continues to assist with transporting clients to the bus line. Mileage reimbursement has been approved to help with expenses.
 - Salvation Army continues to prepare hot meals for hotel clients seven days a week. Funds have been made available to hire two part-time staff to assist with meals.
 - There are 5 PSH units empty.



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- **Case Management**

- The new CHRC case management position has been filled with a start date of August 3.
- ARCH will continue to work with 27 clients plus another 5 or 6; HAT team will take half of the remaining and the new CHRC position will take the other half so all hotel clients will have a case manager. The teams will meet briefly on Fridays to review progress.

- **Agency Updates**

- SSVF is down to 3 veteran families in hotels and continue to support those already housed.
- SSVF has been approved for a second round of CARES ACT funds to come later in the year so they will be able to continue supports currently in place.
- In September, TAP will be adding a Healthcare Navigator to coordinate services and case conferencing with the medical teams at the VAMC.
- CHRC is moving into the CCS building on Campbell Avenue by the end of August.
- TAP DVS is overwhelmed with requests for assistance. They are averaging 2-3 placements a week.
- The demand on DV shelter funds is being discussed with the funding sources on restructuring the program to better serve clients in the future. They also want to reach out to Matt Crookshank and Anne Marie Green for their thoughts.
- Due to their circumstances, DV clients need to be housed at a different hotel away from the general population.
- The Rescue Mission Clinic is doing more testing. Community meals continue to be served and they are using disposable masks. There is a request to start the Community Breakfast again; however, it is not possible at this time due to staffing issues.
- The Rescue Mission has quarantine space available if needed.
- Trust House clients are mixing with those from the street and VA clients want to be back in shelter. Other hotel/shelter options are being reviewed for the VA clients.
- Family Promise is preparing their duplex as a shelter for two families. They continue to provide after care services for former guests.
- Malora Horn and Roanoke City Schools are completing summer follow up with families to determine which students will need services at the beginning of the school year. Right now, approximately 275 students are temporarily housed.
- Once evictions start, Roanoke City Schools expect a large number of homeless students. Concern is for those housed six months ago and if they are able to maintain jobs and housing through the summer.
- With Yellow Cab no longer in business, transporting students to school is a problem. No one else can handle the amount of trips required.
- Malora would like to have a regular meeting with shelter agencies to discuss housing needs of families and children. The barriers they face are keeping them from being housed. Confidentiality has to be maintained at all times.
- This school year, more data will be kept on families to assist with grant requirements (i.e. information on number of 0-5 year olds in family, better statistics on unaccompanied youth).

The next conference call will be Tuesday, August 11@9am.