



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

ATTENDANCE	X	Aaron Fallon	X	Helen Ferguson	X	Leslie Leedy
P = Present	-	Alyce Dantzler	-	Hope Browning	-	Lisa Kemble
- = Absent	X	Amanda Holcomb	X	Jeanne McCormack	X	Matt Crookshank
	X	Anne Marie Green	-	Jo Nelson	-	Marie Muddiman
	-	Bill Duncan	-	Kim Gembala	-	Malora Horn
	X	Ben Bristoll	-	Karen Mason	-	Kristin Gibson
	X	Brittany Huffer	-	Karen Michalski-Karney	X	Mariam DiPasquale
	-	Elizabeth Pentecost	X	Kathleen Williams	X	Melissa Woodson
	-	Jaimie Goodman	X	Tasha Evans	-	Raquel Conn
	-	Captain Jamie Clay	-	Jennifer Diehl	X	Stacy Shepherd
	-	Jeff Crooke	-	Kym Carroll	-	Susan Price
		Geralynn Trelue	-	Kristin Moses	-	Tanya Jones
	X	Reagan Costello-White, CCS Intern				
	X	Samara Lott, 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 August 25, 2020 were distributed via email. There were no changes to the minutes.
- The next CoC meeting will consist of a review of the Data Integration Project. More details will be provided at a later date.
- The Governor’s Housing Conference (<https://www.vaghc.com>) is now going to be all virtual November 18-20. Registration is \$149 and the link is posted on the CoC website and Facebook page.

- **August Outcomes Report – Ben Bristoll**

- Emergency Shelter numbers are drastically down from last year.
- The Rescue Mission has noticed the change. The 14-day quarantine rule has likely resulted in the increase in street homelessness.
- The August performance report was reviewed and noted that it includes hotel clients:

	<u>YTD 2019</u>	<u>YTD 2020</u>
Avg length of stay	45 days	58 days
Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	2,121	1,454
First-Time Homelessness Persons who entered ES, SH, or TH during the period	1,452	859



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	<u>YTD 2019</u>	<u>YTD 2020</u>
Persons who exited program(s)	1,932	1,275
Persons prevented from becoming Homeless through financial assistance	919	796
Persons placed in permanent housing Through Rapid Rehousing programs	325	286
Persons provided permanent Supportive housing services	224	189
Single-Day count of homeless school-Aged children	Aug 31 18	Aug 31 12

- **State Rent/Mortgage Relief Program**

- TAP anticipates the current funding to run out in October.
- TAP will be receiving an additional \$450,000 for the program.
- The CDC issued an eviction moratorium through December 31st. Participants will have to sign a declaration with the courts.
- Intakes and other paperwork continues to be completed at the Higher Education Center.

- **Isolation and Hotels – Jeanne McCormack**

- Trust House houses Rescue Mission clients who are waiting for test results and healthy veterans in one area and other veterans on the other side. The VA does not want the veteran population in hotels.
- Jeanne McCormack will meet with Dr. Falls for guidance on how to keep everyone separated at the isolation facility.
- There continues to be staffing issues at the hotels during evening hours. Trust House is evaluating ways to increase on-site after hours staffing.
- As of Thursday, September 10, Canteen will provide 3 meals a day to hotel clients. Fridays will consist of deliveries to cover the weekend.
- The Faith Community will be asked for volunteers to drive vans and assist with transporting clients to the bus stop. This will provide some relief for the RAM House volunteer.

- **Agency Updates**

- TAP Domestic Violence Services is receiving 5-8 calls on the hotline daily. A staff vacancy and another on leave is keeping staff very busy.
- Family Promise clients are moving into permanent housing so they can accept new referrals. Family Promise owned duplexes are still being used as shelter space for two families at a time.
- RAM is very busy with financial assistance requests. Assistance with utilities is still available.



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- Buzz4good PBS Series held a competition about non-profit marketing makeovers. RAM House won BEST SHOW among 4 participants, by a margin of 6 votes! (99 votes total)
- Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare will no longer house clients in hotels because they are out of funding.
- Blue Ridge Behavioral staff will resume its office hours at the HAT office on Wednesdays from 10:30 am to 12 noon for clients to walk in for services.
- VDH continues to schedule COVID-19 testing events. Weekly updates are provided on their website and Facebook page.

**The next conference call will be Tuesday, September 22
@9am**