



Blue Ridge Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

ATTENDANCE	P	Aaron Fallon	-	Helen Ferguson	P	Leslie Leedy
P = Present	P	Amy Lawson	P	Hope Browning	-	Lisa Kemble
- = Absent	P	Amanda Holcomb	P	Jeanne McCormack	P	Matt Crookshank
	P	Anne Marie Green	-	Jo Nelson	P	Marie Muddiman
	P	Ariel Johnson, HARM	-	Kim Gembala	-	Malora Horn
	P	Ben Bristoll	-	Karen Mason	-	Kristin Gibson
	P	Brittany Huffer	-	Karen Michalski-Karney	P	Mariam DiPasquale
	-	Elizabeth Pentecost	P	Kathleen Williams	P	Melissa Woodson
	-	Jaimie Goodman	P	Tasha Evans	-	Raquel Conn
	P	Captain Jamie Clay	-	Jennifer Diehl	-	Stacy Shepherd
	P	Lara Burleson	-	Kym Carroll	P	Susan Price
	-	Geralynn Trelue	P	Kristin Moses	-	Tanya Jones
	-	Reagan Costello-White, CCS Intern			P	Kristin Adkins

- **Welcome and Introductions – Matt Crookshank**

- Matt Crookshank opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. via conference call. Roll call was taken.
- Minutes from the meeting on October 6 were approved with no changes.
- Restoration Housing is partnering with ARCH to provide PSH with a 4 unit house on Dale Avenue. One of the units is ADA compliant. Each unit has a washer/dryer.

- **Hotel and Isolation Update – Matt Crookshank**

- There are currently 83 clients staying in hotels. Four of the slots are reserved for veterans. The rest will be filled with homeless individuals on the waiting list.
- ARCH has two part-time positions open for evening hotel monitors. Temp agencies have not been able to provide support for the job requirements.
- Burlington Coat Factory is holding a Coat Drive for hotel residents.
- Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church Youth made a large donation of items for the hotel residents.
- PATH will distribute personal hygiene items to hotel residents this afternoon.
- There are three families with newborns who are being referred to Greene Memorial’s Crib Ministry for assistance. Family Promise has openings for families needing shelter. Referrals can be sent to Tasha Evans.
- Staff are continuing to develop a transportation plan from the hotel to the bus station. There may be a partnership opportunity with TAP. Jeanne McCormack will have more details at a later date.
- Isolation facility provided safe space for a positive case last week. That client has been cleared by the Health Department and has left the facility. Approximately 25 persons have been served through the facility since opening.

- **Housing Trust Fund Applications – Matt Crookshank and Hope Browning**

- CCS is applying for \$126,000 to increase RRH for 36 households and support a FT staff position.



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- ARCH is applying for 15 additional PSH vouchers for their program.
- BRICH has approved Letters of Support for both applications.

- **HELPS Committee Update – Hope Browning**
 - The members of the committee decided to join with the emergency service providers committee to provide better resources for the community.
 - The HELPS Committee plans to meet frequently during the holidays to ensure clients’ needs are monitored.
 - There will be Covid19 Safety Training for all front-line workers in the near future.

- **Health Department Rapid Covid19 Testing – Kristin Adkins**
 - The health department will be receiving Rapid Covid19 test kits. Kristin Adkins sought feedback from CoC members as to the best way to use the test for the homeless community.
 - The Rescue Mission received rapid test kits from the state and has been using them through their health clinic.
 - One suggestion was to offer the testing to homeless during the Winter PIT count.
 - The street homeless could also benefit from having testing offered at RAM or other places they go to get lunch.

- **October Outcomes Report – Ben Bristol**
 The HUD year started October 1, 2020. The performance report was reviewed.

	<u>YTD 2020</u>	<u>YTD 2021</u>
Avg length of stay	68 days	118 days
Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	447	261
First-Time Homelessness Persons who entered ES, SH, or TH during the period	437	189
Persons who exited program(s)	241	101
Persons prevented from becoming Homeless through financial assistance	1,465	2,187
Persons placed in permanent housing Through Rapid Rehousing programs	66	115
Persons provided permanent Supportive housing services	225	185
Single-Day count of homeless school- Aged children	Oct 31 21	Oct 31 10



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- **Agency Updates**

- Anne Marie Green would like to invite Mary Beth Dunkenberger, VT, to attend CoC meetings to gain familiarity of what resources are available in the community to serve individuals experiencing homelessness. The CoC members agreed to extend the invitation.
- Turning Point currently has 24 individuals. Three families will have permanent housing next week. Spaces are available to DV and human trafficking victims.
- Turning Point is providing flu shots for staff and clients today.
- Salvation Army's Angel Tree has 1,500 kids (500 families) for this holiday season.
- Salvation Army has also provided 60 packs of Thanksgiving meals to seniors.

- **Other Information**

- Winter PIT Count is scheduled for January 27, 2021
- Homeless Memorial Service will stream live through the CoC's Facebook page on December 21 at 11:00 am.

The next conference call will be December 15 @9am.