



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

September 21, 2017
Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Introductions: Dina called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm. Dina introduced new members: Laura DiMuzio (LifeCare Behavioral Health Hospital in Pittsburgh); and Jennifer Ott (CYS).

The Housing & Homeless Coalition is open to the public and welcomes new members to all monthly meetings. Meetings take place the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm in the CYS Conference Room.

Review of August Meeting Minutes: No changes noted.

Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at www.bccan.org and www.bchmis.info

OPEN DISCUSSION

Herta Madder (BCBH) Shared the attached information on new programs being offered by PERSAD.

Dianne Funkhouser (Career Link) See attached handouts for information on these upcoming trainings.

- Career & Job Fair: 10/26 from 10 am – 2 pm at The Beaver Valley Mall.
- Pre-Job Fair Workshops (prepare for questions, tips on how to present yourself – Professional Outfitters can help here): 10/10 & 10/24 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at Career Link
- CCBC Shell PA Chemicals: Building/Construction Trades & Manufacturing Career Expo 10/12 6:00pm at the CCBC Dome
- Shell/CCBC - Military Petrochemical Day: 10/12 from 8 am -2 pm (meals provided) at the CCBC Learning Resources Center. For veterans interested in careers at the Shell plant. Requires RSVP. More info can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2vnPtAF>
- Career Link is active on Facebook. Follow them at: <https://www.facebook.com/PA-CareerLink-Beaver-County-188918281136184/>

Rebecca Salopek (HACB and CARE Outreach Ministries) reports being so happy to finally be back! See attached flyers - A Night of Harmony is 9/24/17 & A Night at Morado will be 10/8/17. All are welcomed. There will be activities, crafts, a prayer tent, lots of giveaways, and resources from local agencies.

Soon Darcy Casey will be asking for resources/donations for the 24th annual Christmas Dinner at Beaver Falls High School. Thank you all, in advance, for the assistance, resources and volunteering you will offer for the event.

Dina Ciabattoni (CoC Coordinator) shared a few updates:

- 2 positions are available at Brighton Rehab and Wellness Center LTSR. The Mental Health Tech position requires a BA in Behavioral Health Field with 1 year of BH experience preferred. The LPN position is Full-Time. Call Andre West for more information 724.770.3240.
- See attached fliers from the Salvation Army for information on their after school programs & Project Bundle-Up assistance (including the various dates to sign up at each SA location).

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- LIHEAP opens to existing customers on October 1 and new customers on Nov. 1. Contact Gianna Wright at 724.846.6400 ext 31 to apply. See flyer for more information.

Marie Timpano (The Cornerstone) handed out a new contact list (including new phone extensions and email addresses) for Cornerstone employees and partners. She highlighted the new logo and the Facebook page. Follow TCBC at: <https://www.facebook.com/cornerstonebeaver/>
Marie also announced the *Rockin Thru the Ages* fundraiser scheduled for 10/28 from 6 pm -10 pm at the Rochester VFW. Food from Rochester Smokehouse & BBQ will be available as well as 50/50 and basket raffles, a cash bar, and great music. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased by calling or stopping by The Cornerstone. Sponsorships are still available too! 724.846.6400/1217 7th Avenue Beaver Falls, PA 15010.

Judy Stonfer (HACB) announced:

- A house for “rent to own” located at 114 14th street, Beaver Falls. The home was constructed 12 years ago and is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Applicants must meet low income housing income guidelines. Rent is \$650 and there are no subsidies available. Contact Judy for more info: 724.775.1220
- As of 7/31/18, ALL public housing units will be smoke free. HACB will hold meetings with tenants to prepare and they will offer smoking cessation courses.

Charlie Crawford (Red Cross) announced that they need volunteers with all types of skills to respond in Florida, Texas, and Puerto Rico. They are looking for help with shelter, feeding trucks, assessing, working with adults, children, etc. Volunteers must be able to deploy for a minimum of 2 weeks to Florida and Texas and for 3 weeks to Puerto Rico. The Red Cross will train you in anything you may have some aptitude in. This may be ideal opportunity for people who don't currently have employment but want experience and training. The Red Cross will fund the travel costs, food and shelter for the time you are deployed. They will also provide a list of items to help you pack accordingly. Once accepted as a volunteer, the Red Cross will call you with travel details. If you cannot deploy, the Red Cross is also looking for caseworkers who can work the phones.

AGENDA

H.E.A.R.T. Group Meeting

Amy Frank

Please see attached flyer regarding the Heal Encourage Accept Restore Trust (HEART) group for people in recovery including those who are in medication assisted therapies. Meetings will take place every Tuesday at 1:00pm at the Beaver Falls Salvation Army (414 16th Street). Some clients reported not feeling welcome at traditional 12 step groups, especially if they were participating in a Medication Assisted Treatment Program or on psychotropic medications. This group will be open to help anyone interested in recovery. Before someone will be able to attend, Amy would like to set up a pre-group informational meeting. This can be done by calling 724.728.3350. Some topics they will cover include, but are not limited to: Relapse Prevention, Warning Signs, healthy coping skills, relationships, and any other topics group members are interested in. Call 724.728.3350 for more information.

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PA Assistive Technology Foundation

Kevin Huwe

See attached info card. In addition to working for the Self-Determination Housing Project, Kevin also works for the PATF. PATF is PA's cash loan program for PA residents with disabilities to fund assistive technology for anything that is not covered by medical insurance or waiver service. PATF is a 501 C3 non-profit organization receiving federal funds and will cover any tangible need due to a disability - including a fence for a parent with dementia or a child with autism. Other examples Kevin provided include a child on a medication that made her photosensitive - this program paid for roof over the back deck so the child could play outside on the deck. A person with low vision could qualify for a 72" screen tv. One can even apply for a loan to cover copays.

The program provides low interest loans to cover these needs. If the loan amount is under \$1500/month, then the loan collects 0% interest and payments are \$20 per month. If the loan amount is between \$1501 and \$60,000, then the loan collects interest at 3.75%. They will look at one's ability to pay back the loan when deciding to make the loan, but the eligibility is much more flexible than traditional loans in how it considers credit history.

Kevin states that any PA resident with a disability can apply and the process is simple. You can email patf@patf.us for an application. Kevin stated that one can pay off the loan in advance and the balance of the loan is forgiven should the person die. PATF will also work with other funding sources and insurances to help the person receive the maximum benefit.

Outreach Report

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina reports that the 8/29 outreach event was a success. 11 teams canvassed the county and completed 7 surveys. She reports that referrals and follow up were provided to link these households with housing. She detailed that the BF Business District, BF Police, BF Fire Dept, and WBVP donated items, time, and services to the effort. Dina stated that the outreach subcommittee would like to conduct another outreach event in November. She reminded folks that anyone can join the committee. Also she reported that knowing places to search is critical to these efforts so passing along any information from your neighborhoods greatly helps the committee. She asked everyone to keep their eyes open for an email regarding the next outreach committee meeting. In the meantime, any information about where homeless people may be staying can be directed to Renee or Dina.

HMIS Update - new user agreements

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina reports that we are currently in the process of switching to new HMIS software - the PA HMIS system. This is the same system that many of PA's CoCs use and it is the system that the Community Development Program already uses for some of the state funds they receive. This switch will streamline our reporting and enhance our ability to use data in our planning processes. As a result, she asked all current users to complete a new User Agreement. She states that signed electronic copies are fine and can be scanned to George at georgebeegle22@gmail.com. Dina reports that once the new system is up and running that they will conduct a training for all current users. After that a training will be available for any interested new users.

2017 NOFA Update

Dina Ciabattoni

See attached summary and ranking of the funding that will be requested in this year's CoC Program Competition. She also announced that the full CoC Application is available for review and feedback at The Cornerstone (1217 7th Avenue Beaver Falls) and online at www.bchmis.info and <http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/CommDev/Pages/default.aspx>

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She explained the funding in each tier and stated that the funding in tier 2 is at higher risk of not being funded. She stated that if HUD works on the same timeline as last year that we should hear about their funding decisions around the New Year. Dina stated that she expects to submit the application on Monday or Tuesday of next week and is open to all feedback and happy to answer any questions you may have.

UPDATE: the CoC Application was successfully submitted on 9/27/17.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina handed out the bed availability chart and stressed to folks to always call the programs as census can change rapidly. She shared that BC On-Call is still temporarily not available as we are waiting on funding but she reminded the group that hotel funds are available as a resource of last resort through The Cornerstone. 724.846.6400

NEXT MEETING: October 12, 2017

SAVE THE DATES!

9/29/17 HMIS USER AGREEMENTS DUE by 4:00 pm (for current users only) Email them to: georgebeegle22@gmail.com

10/5/17 Fair Housing Training for Landlords 1:00 pm -3:00 pm in the CYS Conference Room
Questions can be directed to: jaime@splas.org

10/6/17 Fair Housing Training for Subsidized Housing Providers 10:00 am -12:00 pm in the CYS Conference Room Questions can be directed to: jaime@splas.org

10/24/17 Applying Skills, Processes, and Ethics of Mediation & Conflict Resolution at Home and Work 8:30 am -12 pm at 400 Park Manor Dr. Butler, PA. Register by emailing: Mmedernach@phfa.org

10/28/17 "Rock the Ages" - The Cornerstone Fund Raiser from 6-10pm at the Rochester VFW. Come hear great music by 4 different bands, enjoy some delicious food, and raffles while supporting The Cornerstone!

11/2/17 The Art of Aging 9 am - 4 pm at Pittsburgh Marriott City Center hosted by Alleg. Co Area on Aging
Register here: <https://www.eventleaf.com/AlleghenyCountyAgingConference2017>

11/9/17 Elder Financial Abuse Training from 9 am - 11:30 am at Center at the Mall. Contact Lynell Scaff to register, or to sign up for a resource table at lscaff@bccan.org

FYI - The PA Dept. of Drug & Alcohol Program has established a 24 hour, 7 days/week hotline for those seeking D&A treatment services. The phone number is 1.800.662.4357.

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There is no need to add all your contact information if you are already receiving Coalition emails.
Just sign in with your name.

| NAME | ORGANIZATION | CONTACT INFORMATION |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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| Dani Wilson | American Red Cross | |
| Kevin Howe | SDHP - PATF | kevin@sdhp.org |
| Penny Jones | SCRE | pkjones |
| Rosalyn Johnson | corner stone | |
| Courtney Di Muzio | Life Care Behavioral Health | laurin.demusio@lhcwv.hospitals.com |
| Marsha Malesky | BCCYS | |
| Jodi Farnica | BCCYS | |
| Diane Funkhouser | ATCL | dfunkhouser@washingtongreene.org |
| Marie Timpano | The Cornerstone of Beaver Co. | mtimpano@cornerstonebeaver.org |
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| Gina Farzati | Domestic Relations | |
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Just sign in with your name.*

| NAME | ORGANIZATION | CONTACT INFORMATION |
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| Nancy Casey | CHAB | |
| Judy Stoner | housing authority | |
| Cassie Myers | ABC Associates | |
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