



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

October 12, 2017

## Meeting Agenda

**Welcome and Introductions:** Dina called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm and welcomed new members: Susan Houy and Karen Marucci (American Sr. Benefits); and David Cummings (Resources for Human Development)  
*The Housing & Homeless Coalition is open to the public and welcomes new members to all monthly meetings. Meetings take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm in the CYS Conference Room.*

**Review of September Meeting Minutes:** No changes noted.

*Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at [www.bccan.org](http://www.bccan.org) and [www.bchmis.info](http://www.bchmis.info)*

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## OPEN DISCUSSION

**Rebecca Salopak** (HACB) reported a great turnout at the Harmony and Morado community events. She reports 30+ haircuts were provided and about 50 bicycles were repaired at each event. She reports that supportive resources were on site for folks as well.

Also, Rebecca reminded us that the Christian Assembly Church will be hosting the annual Christmas Dinner again this year. She passed out flyers for folks to post at their agencies. She states that they are in need of volunteers and agency resources to hand out. She states that they will have toys, clothing, and of course a delicious dinner for guests. She states any donations can be brought to the Nov. Coalition meeting.

**Gianna Wright** (Urban League of Pittsburgh) reports that LIHEAP is now open. Previous customers will receive renewal information in the mail. They can renew over the phone by calling Gianna at 724.846.6400. New customers can enroll starting Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Gianna also mentioned that she is hosting a Lunch & Learn on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 in the CYS conference room. The topic will be on identity theft. RSVP to Gianna at 724.846.6400 ext 31.

**Lynell Scaff** (BCCAN) announced the upcoming Elder Financial Abuse training at Center at the Mall on 11/9/17 from 9 am to 11:30. The training is geared toward professionals but seniors are welcomed to attend. The training is free. Register by emailing Lynell at [lscaff@bccan.org](mailto:lscaff@bccan.org)

**Marie Timpano** (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) announced their fundraiser, Rockin Thru the Ages, on 10/28/17 at the Rochester VFW from 6 to 10 pm. Three bands will perform - including Marie's band, the Hoot Owls. Food, raffles, and a cash bar will be available too. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at The Cornerstone (1217 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Beaver Falls) or by calling 724.846.6400.

**Dan Neff** (Southwood Hospital) announced a 3 day training series titled Keystone Pride that addresses issues with access to and inclusion in behavioral health services for LGBTQI individuals. It is aimed to increase sensitivity and proficiency in staff. If interested in attending the training contact Dan at: [Daniel.neff@southwoodhospital.com](mailto:Daniel.neff@southwoodhospital.com)

**Joyce Nicely** (Salvation Army) announced the Beaver Falls Halloween block party on 10/29 from 1:00- 3:30 pm at 414 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Food, games, safety demonstrations, and give-aways will be available. All are welcomed!

**Dina Ciabattoni** (CoC Coordinator) made four announcements:

- The CoC funding application was successfully submitted on 9/27. Dina states that she expects HUD to announce their funding decisions around the new year.

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- There is a monthly support group for people living in Beaver County with HIV/AIDS. It is facilitated by Allies for Health & Well Being (formerly Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force). The facilitator is Alisia Zerbe and she can be contacted at 412.345.0574. The group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month from 12:00-1:30 pm. Location varies so call ahead for details.

- Reminder that signed HMIS User Agreements are due tomorrow for current HMIS users. Email them to: [georgebeegle22@gmail.com](mailto:georgebeegle22@gmail.com)

- The Intermediate Unit will be holding the Fall Homeless Education Meeting on 10/19/17 from 9 am to 12 pm at the Beaver Valley IU located at 147 Poplar Ave Monaca, PA 15061. To register, email Sara Salopek at: [sara.salopek@aiu3.net](mailto:sara.salopek@aiu3.net)

**Dianne Funkhouser** (CareerLink) announced that the Job Fair at the Mall is coming up on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. She states that there is still one more pre-job fair training available next week. Contact Dianne with questions: [dfunkhouser@washingtongreene.org](mailto:dfunkhouser@washingtongreene.org)

## AGENDA

### Domestic Violence Awareness Month

### Mary Ann McDevitt

Mary Ann announced that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She reports that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men experience DV in the US. Despite this prevalence she states that DV is an issue that people tend to not talk about. She passed out the "Put the Nail in It" flyer which asks folks to paint their ring fingernail purple to start the conversation. She then explained the empty place settings around the table with framed portraits. She states that these empty spaces represent people who have died because of DV. She also handed out a Power & Control wheel and explained that these components, not so much anger, are significant to DV. She states that the shelter has a variety of programs and presentations to help raise awareness and planning for DV situations. She states that agencies should have a plan in case a coworker is a victim of DV. She states that the WC also has advocates who can sit in on trials to offer support. And they have legal advocates who can assist with filing a PFA. They have staff who can sit with someone at the hospital if a rape kit needs to be completed. She explained that people who become victims of human trafficking often had prior DV or sexual abuse in their life. Mary Ann also stated that boys who witness DV are 3-4 times more likely to go on to abuse. She reminded everyone that the WC has to maintain confidentiality of the guests at all times. She states that their privacy is often the only thing some victims have left and the WC honors that. Dina asked when someone is referring a client even though the WC can't reveal information will they make note of the information and consider it in establishing eligibility. Mary Ann replied yes and stated that they appreciate the additional information. Mary Ann mentioned for folks to like their Facebook page found at: <https://www.facebook.com/womenscenterbeavercounty/> Marie stated that TCBC has some time on WBVP ahead of their fundraiser and that Mary Ann can join for one of the sessions to promote DV Awareness Month.

### Medicare and Retirement Specialist

### Susan Houy and Karen Marucci

Susan and Karen reported on the American Senior Benefits program. They are Medicare specialists who can work with seniors free of cost to understand their Medicare benefits (copays, premiums, coverage etc) and to make selections that best meet their unique needs. They can also screen for eligibility for other programs. They explained that open enrollment is Oct. 15 through Dec 7<sup>th</sup> and that their services are available during that time to help folks decide which plans best meet their needs. She stated that you can call them directly to schedule an appointment at a location that is convenient for you. Their phone number is 412.919.0100 ext 124. See flyer for more information.

### Outreach Subcommittee Update

### Renee Speaker

Renee announced that the outreach subcommittee will be conducting another outreach event on November 16<sup>th</sup>. There will be a sign up meeting on Oct 24<sup>th</sup> and a planning meeting on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. Both meetings are at 1:30 pm in The mission of the Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County is to provide support, direction, and collaboration in effectively addressing the issues of homelessness and affordable, sustainable housing in Beaver County by identifying and utilizing all available resources.



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The Cornerstone conference room (1217 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Beaver Falls). Both volunteers and hygiene item donations are needed. Contact Renee or Dina with questions.

Marie reported that there will be a resource table at the Cornerstone's fundraiser and that the outreach subcommittee could recruit volunteers there.

## System Performance Subcommittee

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina announced that she is recruiting volunteers to take part in the System Performance Outcomes Subcommittee. This group will meet quarterly and will be analyzing the system outcomes data to monitor for trends and to make recommendations for planning. Dina stated people who enjoy reviewing data would make a great addition to the committee. Interested folks should contact Dina at: [ciabattomidina@gmail.com](mailto:ciabattomidina@gmail.com)

## Bed Availability

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina handed out the bed availability chart. She noted that CRS has 3 female openings. Eligible candidates should be adults 18 or older, have severe mental illness, and be able to share a room. Dina also noted that the 811 program is taking on another tenant. Dina reminded folks that they keep a prioritized waiting list so don't hesitate to refer your clients. Dina also reminded everyone to always call the program to get an up to date census report.

NEXT MEETING: November 9, 2017

### SAVE THE DATES

**10/19/17 Fall Homeless Education Meeting** from 9 am- 12 pm at Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit 147 Poplar Ave Monaca PA 15061. Send name, number attending, and affiliation to [sara.salopek@aiu3.net](mailto:sara.salopek@aiu3.net)

**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](mailto:Mmedernach@phfa.org)

**10/28/17 "Rockin Thru the Ages" - The Cornerstone Fund Raiser** from 6-10pm at the Rochester VFW. Come hear great music by 4 bands, enjoy 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>

**11/4/17 Diabetes Awareness Day** hosted by HVHS at Center at Beaver Valley Mall from 11 am -3pm The event is free and will include free screenings, giveaways, and "Ask the Diabetes Team"

**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](mailto:lscaff@bccan.org)

**11/12/17 Crossroad's Potluck For a Purpose** at 4:00 pm at Rehoboth Lutheran Church. Bring a covered dish and donate what you would expect to pay for a dinner out.

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.

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Jody Stortek	Housing Authority	
Karen Marucci	American Senior Benefits	
Renee Speaker	CARL	
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James Miller	Fair Housing Law Center	
Maria Mulesky	BeCLS	
Danue Funkhouser	PAC Beaver CO	
JEFF DESANTIS	RHD	jeffrey.desantis@rhd.org
Pina Ciabattini	CoC Coordinator	

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