



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

February 8, 2018

**Welcome and Introductions:** New members introduced themselves. Natalie Wittingham and Sarah Lozier (NHS); and Ami Probst (Ameri Health Caritas)

*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 January Meeting Minutes:** No changes were 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

**Lynell Scaff (BCCAN)** announced a cultural competency training on 4/5 at BVIU. This training will set the stage for the upcoming Bridges Out of Poverty training on 5/10. CEU's will be available. See flyer for more information. To register email: [lscaff@bccan.org](mailto:lscaff@bccan.org)  
Lynell also reported that 211 received 3,000 calls in 2017. She states that people can text or dial 211 for resources. She stated that they are working on raising awareness about the service. She stressed that agencies should be sure that their information is up to date. Unmet needs are reviewed every month to identify gaps in service.

**Michelle DeBord** (Neighborhood Legal Services) reported a new program for landlord-tenant disputes. She states that they can assist people with incomes at or below 125% of the federal poverty line. She states they can also assist with mortgage foreclosures and tangled titles. For assistance call, 724.378.0595. See flyer for more information.

**Judy Stonfer** (Housing Authority of Beaver County) announced that the Housing Authority will be going smoke free on 7/30. She states that this does not apply to tax credit buildings.

**Aaron Vietz** (TRAILS Ministries) announced the "Ties & Tiaras" father-daughter formal dance on 2/25. Call Kolbe at 724.891.7541 for more details.

**Dee Gilbert** (Crossroads) announced a 5k run, walk, crawl fundraiser on 4/28 at 8 am. Registration can be found on the Crossroads of Beaver County Facebook page. They are also looking for sponsors and agencies to set up tables. See attached flyer about sponsorships.

**Harry Angelo** (Job Training of BC) announced the Coalition on Law Enforcement which will be hosting events to foster better outcomes between the community and law enforcement. A Beaver County Unity Day for younger children to interact with police is scheduled for July. More details will be coming.

**Jaime Milligan** (Southwest PA Legal Services) stated that April is Fair Housing month. She announced a training for FH Officers and CDBG Administrators in Greensburg on 4/6. And another training on 4/4 from 8-4 on design and construction for builders and code enforcement officers. See attached flyer for more information.

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**Sandi Hutchinson** (Crossroads) reported that the church building in which Crossroads operates has been purchased by Lord of the Harvest. She stressed that Lord of the Harvest will continue to host Crossroads in the building and that the shelter is not closing. She states that the Crossroads board continues to look for a more appropriate space but for now the shelter will continue to operate out of the church at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> street and 4<sup>th</sup> avenue. Sandi also clarified that the Homeless Hotline (724.714.6203) answered by Crossroads is an after hours and weekend hotline only. Dina reminded everyone that homeless calls during business hours should go to The Cornerstone – 724.846.6400.

**Marie Timpano** (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) announced that The Cornerstone recently launched their website – [www.cornerstonebeaver.org](http://www.cornerstonebeaver.org) Also she announced that the Beaver Falls Business District Authority is hosting a community discussion on the impact that Shell may have on our community. It is scheduled for 2/15/18 at 6 pm at 1000 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Beaver Falls. All are welcomed.

**Dianne Funkhouser** (Career Link) shared 2 flyers – one on a series of workshops for job seekers and one on the Manufacturing Job & Career Fair on 2/22.

**Bobby Catley** (HVHS) announced the opening of the Dental Center in partnership with Primary Health Network located at 176 Virginia Ave in Rochester. They accept most insurance and offer sliding fee billing. See attached flyer for more information.

## AGENDA

### 412 Food Rescue

### Jennifer England

Jennifer reported that we waste about 40% of our food while many people still go hungry. She stated that 412 Food Rescue rescues food and delivers it to agencies that are working to solve food issues. She reports that in Allegheny County they have partnered with the Housing Authorities and that the HAs report significantly reduced call volume on food issues. In Sept., 412 Food Rescue launched 724 Food Rescue. They are looking to bring on partners to receive and distribute the food in Beaver, Butler, and Westmoreland counties. She states that interested agencies can sign up at [www.412foodrescue.org](http://www.412foodrescue.org) They use an app to link receiving agencies with the appropriately sized and timed donations. Essentially they send out an alert and the first agency to respond will receive the donation. Agencies who turn down a donation are not penalized in any way. Once a match has been made, 412 Food Rescue will deliver the food to the site. Someone asked about the details of making donations. Jennifer stated that the food has to have been prepared in a commercial kitchen, it has been properly stored, and that it has not been touched by the public. For more information visit the website or email: [info@412foodrescue.org](mailto:info@412foodrescue.org)

### Point In Time

### Dina Ciabattoni

Dina reported that the official PIT reports will be ready for the March meeting. In the meantime, she handed out a brief summary. She highlighted that for the unsheltered count 6 individual men were counted. She states that 5 of these 6 men were already working with agencies on housing which she interprets to mean that our on-going outreach efforts have been effective in linking people with supports. She also compared the 6 unsheltered count to last year count of 10. She states that because of our outreach efforts throughout the year, combined with the use of 7 drop in centers (including the 3 mobile sites that the Salvation Army canteen provided), that we conducted more thorough

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outreach. She reminded the group that the PIT numbers will become part of several official reports to HUD so showing a reduction demonstrates to HUD the impact of our efforts to reduce homelessness.

## **Miracle Dental Associates**

**Lisa Tovcimak**

Lisa reported on the mobile dental clinic for children and adults with special needs (including physical health, behavioral health, and cognitive/development issues). She states that they set up a full service dentist office at locations throughout the community. All they need from the location is a plug. She states that they do not do house calls; rather, they prefer to set up at a site where they can see 6-10 people. She stressed that dental issues can have a dramatic impact upon one's health so the mobile clinic is truly an effort to provide preventative care and early treatment. She stated that they accept all insurances and can waive fees for those without insurance. She reported that there is a brick and mortar office if more intensive treatment is needed. In that office they have sensory and quiet rooms as well as a therapy dog. See attached flyer for more information.

**UPDATE:** The Miracle Dental Mobile Clinic is scheduled to be at the Salvation Army in Beaver Falls (414 16<sup>th</sup> Street beaver Falls) on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. More details to come.

## **Coordinated Entry**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina reported that CE Policies & Procedures can be found on [www.bchmis.info](http://www.bchmis.info) under OTHER. She stated that the process has been formally in place now for over a month. She asked if the group had any feedback or input. Dina reminded the group that the objective of CE is to screen folks for the correct program and to ensure priority to those households with the most need. Positive comments were expressed about the objective of CE. Dina asked that if folks encounter issues with the process to please let her know. The CE subcommittee continues to meet regularly so feedback will be reviewed by them. See CE flyer for more information. Dina also asked for agencies to post the flyer to help promote the new process.

## **Bed Availability**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina stated CoC Programs, ESG, and SSVF referrals have to go through CE first but that case managers can still call the programs for insight on when they may have openings and for guidance. She still reported their census on the Bed Availability chart as well as the census of other housing resources. She noted an error on the chart and stated that the 811 program does have an opening at the Rochester site. To make a referral contact Lisa Kessler at [hacblk@comcast.net](mailto:hacblk@comcast.net)

NEXT MEETING: April 12, 2018

## **SAVE THE DATES**

**3/10/18 Healthy Foods & Wellness Expo** 10am-2pm at CCBC Dome For more info visit:  
[www.heritagevalley.org/expo](http://www.heritagevalley.org/expo)

**3/12/18 Yoga for Trauma** 9am-5pm at the BVIU located at 147 Poplar Street Monaca, PA To register email: [jennifer@etc-pa.com](mailto:jennifer@etc-pa.com)

**4/5/18 Cultural Competency Training** sponsored by BCCAN from 9am-11:30am at 147 Poplar Street Monaca, PA To register email: [lscaff@bccan.org](mailto:lscaff@bccan.org)

**4/5/18 Strategies for Successful Aging** 9am-12pm at 100 Norman Drive Cranberry Township, PA Registration is \$60. To register email: [jmcclelland@alz.org](mailto:jmcclelland@alz.org)

**4/28/18 Crossroads 5K Fund Raiser** Click here to register: <https://www.active.com/fallston-pa/walking/spring-to-action-for-crossroads-shelter-2018>



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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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Kelli Hovee	US Cam Keith Retiree	
Diana Funkhouser	PATL	

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NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
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Lisa Toucman	Miracle Dental	LISSITIBIZ@yahoo.com
Gina Farzetti	BCDR	
Sarah Hobson	Crossroads	
Pina Ciabattani	Continuum of Care	

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