



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

October 11, 2018

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Introductions: New attendees were welcomed. Kevin Kordzi (Resources for Human Development); Cyndi Gilkey (Neighborhood Legal Services); Gabrielle Antonicelli (Neighborhood Legal Services); Dr. Quynh Chu (HVHS Family Medicine Center); and Judy Ventresca (Crossroads)

Since the Housing & Homeless Coalition welcomes ideas, opinions, and knowledge from a broad spectrum of partners, meetings are open to the public and new members are always welcomed. Meetings take place the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm in the CYS Conference Room.

September Meeting Minutes: posted at www.bchmis.info Feedback can be directed to Dina. Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at www.bccan.org and www.bchmis.info

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Rebecca Salopak (Housing Authority & Christian Assembly) – welcomed Crossroads new Executive Director, Judy Ventresca, and expressed the boards excitement to have her strong leadership directing Crossroads.

Rebecca also announced the free Christmas Dinner hosted by Christian Assembly. The dinner will take place on Christmas Day. There will be a resource table organized by Darcy Casey again this year so please start bringing your resources/items to the Coalition meeting to give to her. Rebecca reports that they generally need about 400 volunteers for the event. Shifts are generally 1.5 hours. If interested in volunteering let Rebecca know. Also flyers for the event will be coming out next month.

Kevin Kordzi (Resources for Human Development) announced that RHD is working on developing a residential D&A program to include detox in Beaver County. He will update us with details as they develop.

Darcy Casey (Housing Authority) announced on behalf of ROOTS that ROOTS is holding recovery meetings three days a week. See attached flyers for details. She also made available updated 211 cards and stated that if folks need more 211 information to reach out to Mike Rubino at rubino@unitedwaybeaver.org

Phil Huggins (First Baptist Church of Rochester) announced that there are 3 churches in Rochester who are thinking about establishing a homeless shelter and Phil inquired if we thought there was enough need to justify this. Dina stated that we will be looking at data later in the meeting that may be useful for this group to consider. She also reported that there is often a scramble to secure emergency shelter for folks especially ones that the traditional shelters are not able to accommodate. She further explained that hotel funding is limited and that hotel vacancies are becoming more difficult to find. There are also 47 households currently on the CE waiting lists. With this information, she felt an additional shelter would be justified and offered to assist the group with any planning.

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Lynell Scaff (BCCAN) announced the next training is an Active Shooter training. It will focus on what to do should a shooter event occur in a public place. The training will take place Nov. 1 at Center at The Mall. Contact Lynell to register: lscaff@bccan.org

Marie Timpano (The Cornerstone) announced the new Outreach Coordinator is Kelli Bogolin who comes with homeless outreach experience. She said that she will be bringing Kellie around in the coming weeks to meet everyone. She also announced that The Cornerstone is hiring a full time Administrative Assistant. They are currently interviewing but will still accept resumes. UPDATE: This position has been filled. She also announced The Cornerstone's fundraiser on 10/20 at the Rochester VFW. There will be bands performing, and a pasta and dessert bar. Tickets are still available for \$20 a piece. Finally, the Beaver Falls Business District is hosting a trick or treat event in Beaver Falls on 10/27 from 1pm-3pm.

Stefanie Magnifico (Mental Health Association) stated that MHA is starting a Men's Group on 10/31 from 5pm-7pm. This will include activities, discussion, and dinner. See flyer for more information. She states that there is already a women's group and it meets on 10/23 at 4:30.

Dianne Funkhouser (CareerLink) announced the Annual Job Fair on 10/24 from 10am-2pm at the Mall. Employers and training providers will be on site. She also announced that Job Training will be offering Entrepreneurship Workshops. Job Training also has some grant funding available to help fund training and education opportunities. See attached flyers for more information on these three opportunities.

Gabrielle Antonicelli (Neighborhood Legal Services) announced the Tangled Title program which helps people living in homes that were gifted to them but whose homes are not in their name. There are income limitations. See attached flyer for more information and to make referrals. The program has funding for 2 more years and they have already untangled 10 titles in the first year.

Tom Kaminsky (The Cornerstone) announced the 2nd Fair Housing roundtable discussion on 10/19 from 12pm to 1:30pm. This month's topic is about fair housing as it relates to people with criminal histories. He also announced the Beaver Falls Carnegie Free Library purse bash on 10/23. Tickets can be purchased from Tom.

Cyndi Gilkey (Neighborhood Legal Services) is new to NLS and is available to go magistrate eviction hearings with tenants. She is available in Lawrence and Beaver counties.

Nancy Brown (Southwest PA Legal Services) reports that SPLS is currently focusing on fair housing testing. She reports that they have trained testers available in all counties but that they are still hiring. If interested, call 724.225.6170.

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PSH, 38 in RRH, 28 in TH, and 83 in ES. The average time homeless in time in these programs is 277 days (please note that includes PSH). Dina then went on to explain the various funding opportunities for which the CoC has applied to address these gaps. Two RRH projects were applied for through the CoC Competition. One for people fleeing DV and one that offers medium term financial support for households who need a longer period of support in order to stabilize and take on the rental payment independently. In the Home4Good competition, we applied for three projects. One is to add RRH vouchers to the Harmony House program thereby creating a supported transition into permanent housing upon exit from Harmony House. The second proposal includes a case management position to assist the households with long wait times on the Coordinated Entry wait lists. The third project enhances The Bridge TH program run by New Hope Community Church which serves people who are at risk of homeless when exiting institutions.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina shared the Bed Availability list noting that census information can change rapidly. She also noted that the CoC funded programs are accessed through Coordinated Entry.

NEXT MEETING: November 8, 2018

SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH!

10/20/18 *The Cornerstone Of Beaver County Fundraiser* at the Rochester VFW. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased in advance at The Cornerstone or at the event.

10/24/18 *Job & Career Fair* from 10 am – 2 pm at Beaver Valley Mall

11/2/18 *BCBH Drug and Alcohol Town Hall Meeting: Beyond the Opioid Crisis* from 9:30 am to 3 pm at CCBC. Register by calling: 724.432.3474 or online at: www.KeystoneWellnessPrograms.org

12/7/18 *Outreach Event* Donations and volunteers needed. Contact hacbspeaker@comcast.net

TENTATIVE DATE: 12/20/18 *Beaver County Homeless Memorial* Details to come!

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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