



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

December 13, 2018

## Meeting Agenda

**Welcome and Introductions:** Dina called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm. She introduced new attendees: Tom Franz (Disability Options Network); Marion Waelchli (Alliance for Consumer Protection); Wendy Beeching (Neighborhood Legal Services)

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm in the CYS Conference Room.*

**November 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)

---

---

## 1. OPEN DISCUSSION

**Herta Madder (BCBH)** reported that the Wolfe Administration recently launched the Drug and Alcohol Referral Tool – an online resource designed to help people seeking substance use disorder treatment. The tool can be accessed at: [www.ddap.pa.gov/GetHelp](http://www.ddap.pa.gov/GetHelp)  
She also announced a recently released request for information from DHS to explore existing individual or family needs assessments, methods of connecting households to community resources, and models for providing whole person case management. Agencies with input or expertise can provide it at: <http://www.emarketplace.state.pa.us/Solicitations.aspx?SID=0>

**Makesha West (Resources for Human Development)** announced that the planned Ohioville detox/rehab unit is scheduled for its licensing visit on Monday (12/17). She states that means they are currently looking to hire. They are looking for direct care staff and people with lived experiences. Some criminal backgrounds can be waived. Interested candidates can email [makesha.west@rhd.org](mailto:makesha.west@rhd.org) or log onto RHD.org and search Ohioville positions.

Makesha reported the facility is a Level 3 detox which means it is a non-hospital setting with 16 beds for short-term rehab and 6 beds for detox.

**Rebecca Salopak (HACB and Christian Assembly)** reports this is the 25<sup>th</sup> year for the Annual Christmas Dinner at the Beaver Falls High School. She reports they served 1500 people last year. They are still in need of resources and donations – particularly monetary donations as that allows the flexibility to cover any remaining needs prior to the dinner. Volunteers and resource information are still needed too.

**Elizabeth Focer-Repman (Columbia Gas)** announced that LIHEAP/Crisis are now open. Dollar Energy is also open. She reminded the group that if you apply for LIHEAP and are on CAP that the payment goes to CAP. She encouraged people to call her directly to work through options. She can be reached at [efocer@nisource.com](mailto:efocer@nisource.com) or 724 773-5338.

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.



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

**Cindy Gilkey (Neighborhood Legal Services)** reminded the group that NLS has a grant to assist with eviction prevention. Call the Bridgewater (724-378-0595) or New Castle (724.598.4182) office for assistance. They can also do training for staff and clients on habitability standards, safety issues, landlord/tenant issues etc.

**Wendy Beeching (Neighborhood Legal Services)** announced that NLS is now able to do legal advocacy for victims of crime under the Victims of Crime grant. She stated that NLS is also available to do outreach at tabling events. Call 1.866.761.6572 for more information.

**Tom Franz (Disabilities Options Network)** reported that DON received a grant to make needed repairs and renovations for rural owner occupied, very low and low-income homeowners who have a disability, or a household member with a disability. Payments will not exceed \$3,000 and homeowners are required to provide a match. DON will assist the homeowner with securing the match and locating a contractor to conduct the work. Payments go directly to the contractor. For more information visit: <http://doninc.org/HPP/> or call 724.652.5144

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

- The Homeless Memorial Event is scheduled for 12/20 at 5 pm at Uncommon Grounds. All are welcome to attend to remember those who died due to homelessness and to refresh our commitment to ending homelessness in 2019.
- Today is Free Narcan Distribution day. It can be obtained from the Health Department. An online training is available to learn how to administer it.
- TCBC will providing gift wrapping services at the Beaver Valley Mall on 12/23 from 12-6pm
- Beaver County was recently awarded \$86,000 through DCED-ESG. She also stated that we should hear about the Home4Good awards on 12/17.

**Jack Lyden (VA)** passed out flyers on the VA's Center for Treatment of Addictive Disorders and the Domiciliary Program. See attached.

## 2. AGENDA

### Beaver County Veteran Stand Down

**Christy Miles**

Christy announced that a committee was recently formed to plan the first Veteran Stand Down in Beaver County. She explained that a Stand Down is a day to bring services and resources to a single location for veterans to access to address their immediate needs such as housing, food, medical screenings etc. The committee is working on pulling these services and partners together for the Stand Down which is scheduled for Sept. 21 2019 at the New Brighton American Legion. She reports that the committee is in need of a dentist to be available that day as well as donations of socks and hygiene kits. Questions and inquiries can be directed to Christy at: [cmiles@CornerstoneBeaver.org](mailto:cmiles@CornerstoneBeaver.org)

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.



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

## **Recap December Outreach Event**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina reports that the outreach event conducted in partnership with the Heritage Valley medical residents went well. She noted that 17 residents participated alongside of 18 experienced volunteers. Through these efforts, 1 person was found, 2 households were reported in hotels, and 5 sites were encountered with evidence of people staying there (including 2 new sites). Also the teams visited Police stations and Fire Departments to drop off information. Dina thanked everyone who participated in any way.

## **Point in Time**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina announced that the 2019 Point In Time survey will take place on 1/23/2019. She noted that there are two planning meetings scheduled for 1/8 and 1/22. Both meetings are at 1:30 at the Cornerstone. She stated that we are in need of volunteers to help with street outreach, to be at the drop in centers, and to help with putting the outreach bags together. Anyone interested in volunteering should plan on attending the planning meetings. She also noted that we are need of donations to hand out while doing outreach including: hygiene products, hats, gloves, and scarves. Questions can be directed to: [hacbspeaker@comcast.net](mailto:hacbspeaker@comcast.net) or [ciabattomidina@gmail.com](mailto:ciabattomidina@gmail.com)

## **Bed Availability**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

See attached bed availability chart.

**NEXT MEETING: January 10, 2018**

### **SAVE THE DATES**

**12/16/18 The Cornerstone's Gift Wrapping Event** from 1 pm to 6 pm at the Beaver Valley Mall (next to Verizon). Proceeds support The Cornerstone's efforts to end homelessness in Beaver County.

**12/20/18 Beaver County Homeless Memorial** at 5:00 pm in Beaver Falls - location to be determined.

**12/25/18 Free Christmas Dinner** from 11:30 am to 3 pm at Beaver Falls High School. Donations and volunteers still needed. Call 724.846.3751 for more information.

**1/8/19 and 1/22/19 Point in Time Planning Meetings** 1:30 pm at The Cornerstone 1217 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Beaver Falls

**1/23/18 POINT IN TIME SURVEY!!!** Volunteers and donations needed. Questions can be directed to Renee Speaker or Dina Ciabattoni at 724.846.6400.

**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.

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.



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

December 13, 2018

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
Judy Storker	Housing Authority	
Margon Weelicki	ACP	
Marcy Scott	CRS	
Cyndi Gilkey	NLSA	Gilkeyc@NLSA.US
Pam Franz	Drinking Water Network	tfrauz@downco.org
Christy Miles	TABLE	
Penny Jones	ACEE	Jonespt@comcast.net
Kari Keda	CFLBF	Kreda@beaverlibraries.org
Rachael Wala	CFLBF	vwsluc@beaverlibraries.org
Suzanne Perkins	local pastor	theres.suzanneperkins@gmail.com
Monica Corbell	BRC	
MaryAnn McDevitt	Womens Center	
Melissa Grimec	CRS	
Margha Mulesky	BCCYS	
Jodie Kaminich	BCCYS	
Jennifer Ditt	BCCYS	
Stephanie Magnifico	MHA	
Wendy Beeching	Neighborhood Legal Services	beechingw@NLSA.US



If you didn't sign in please do so. Thank you.

# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

December 13, 2018

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
Herta Madden	BASH	
MAKESHA WEST	BHD	MAKESHA.WEST@BHD.ORG
Marvin Mareano	ROOTS	Roots@rockinflux.org
Wynell Scaff	BCCAN	
Jack Lyden	VHA	jack@lyden.com
Marla Talasny	Neighborhood Advocate	marlartalasny@gmail.com
Wendy Beeching	Neighborhood Legal Services	wbeeching@NLSA.US
Elizabeth Focer Repman	Columbia Cross	efocer@Nisource.com
Frank Wilson	HOBC	FWilson@hobcinfd.org
Kevin Campanaro	HEBC	KCampanaro@hbcind.org
Art Donsky	Life Beaver County	ARTHUR.DONSKY@LutheranSeniorLife.org
Natalie Meade	Headstart/Early Headstart	
Judy Ventresca	Crossroads Shelter	
Rebecca Salopak	HACB	
Dina Ciabattoni	CoC Coordinator	