



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

January 10, 2019

Welcome and Introductions: Dina called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. She introduced new attendees: Ben Hampton and Tiffany Kinney (UPMC Community HealthChoices), and Tabitha Reefer (Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank)

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.

January is HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

No changes noted on the December 2018 minutes.

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

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Herta Madder (BCBH) announced a full time grant funded position for a youth outreach worker through Baden Academy. For more information call BCBH at 724.891.2827.

Marie Timpano (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) announced TCBC's Souper Bowl fundraiser on 1/27 from 2-6pm at Beaver Brewery in Beaver Falls. Tickets are \$25 and you get a variety of homemade soups, bread, and raffles. Plus Beaver Brewery will donate a portion of their proceeds from their specialty drink.

Rebecca Salopak (Housing Authority/Christian Assembly) thanked everyone for their contributions to the Annual Christmas Dinner. She reported that it was a great success serving an estimated 1,100 people. She reminded the group that it is never too early to start thinking about next year!

Sister Sarah Crotty (Sisters of St. Joseph) reports that she is in a new role – Campus Outreach Coordinator. She reports that she is looking to meet with organizations and partners who may be able to benefit from the use of their campus space. Her email address is: scrotty@stjoseph-baden.org

Cindy Gilkey (Neighborhood Legal Services) reminded the group that NLS can assist households facing eviction. Call [\(724\) 378-0595](tel:7243780595) for more information.

Dina Ciabattoni (CoC Coordinator) provided the following updates:

- Housing Opportunities is hiring a part time housing counselor. They will train the person. Interested parties should call 724.728.7202.
- The Home4Good awards were announced. 1 project was funded out of the 3 projects who applied. The Salvation Army received \$57,000 to attach a Rapid Rehousing component to Harmony House.

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- All of the CoC funded and ESG programs are still able to draw down funds despite the government partial shut-down. Dina reported that they do not anticipate any problems with accessing funds as long contracts remain current. She did note that the CoC Awards would most likely not be announced until the government is fully back open.
- Dina provided a master copy of the most recently updated street resource card. She stated that we will still be providing cut copies but that agencies can also make their own copies from this master copy as needed.

Lisa Signore (Community Development Program) reported that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant, and HOME applications are due 3/29/2019. A CDBG information session is scheduled for 1/22/19 from 3 pm – 5 pm at BCTA (200 West Washington Street Rochester, PA). More information about these grants can be found at: <http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/CommDev/Pages/default.aspx>

2. AGENDA

Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank

Tabitha Reefer

Tabitha is the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank Outreach Coordinator for Beaver County and surrounding counties. She helps coordinate the summer youth feeding programs in Beaver County and is available to assist with SNAP applications. She informed the group about the mobile market which serves areas that are considered food deserts. Additionally she passed out information on Produce for the People and several other programs. See attached. She also spoke about a research project that the Food Bank is currently conducting to better understand the food security issues facing youth. More information about the project is attached for anyone interested in participating. Tabitha can be reached at: treefer@pittsburghfoodbank.org

UPMC Community HealthChoices

Ben Hampton and Tiffany Kinney

UPMC Community HealthChoices is a managed care organization overseeing the insurance program for adults who are dual eligible for Medicaid and Medicare OR who are eligible for Medicaid and qualify for long term services and supports. Ben and Tiffany provided an overview of the program including several benefits associated with the plan. They explained that DHS determines eligibility and then the individual can chose the managed care plan they want. People can switch between plans to best meet their needs. They report that UPMC Community HealthChoices is set up to coordinate care between mental health and physical health providers. They have a 24 hour concierge team. And they have a community engagement team that can come provide education about the details and benefits of the plan. HealthChoices also provides Care Giver support groups, participant feedback sessions, and Healthcare provider meetings. See attached flier for more information. Also Tiffany is the HealthChoices contact person for Beaver County. She can be reached at kinneytt@upmc.edu with any further questions or requests for an information session.

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Point in Time Survey

Renee Speaker

Renee announced the Point In Time survey is scheduled for January 23, 2019. She reports we are still in need of donations (gloves, hats, toiletries, non-perishable food items) and volunteers to help with packing the bags, covering the drop-in centers, and doing outreach. Renee also asked for people to take fliers and hang them at their agencies and in their communities to help get the word out. She reported that the bag packing for the outreach teams to hand out will take place on 1/19 at 9 am at The Cornerstone.

Dina added that the Point In Time survey is required by HUD and its an opportunity to demonstrate to HUD that our efforts are collaborative, coordinated, and effective. The numbers from the survey become part of our formal reports to HUD and serve as a measure of our progress toward ending homelessness. She also asked for any new information on locations where homeless people have been seen.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina passed out the bed availability chart noting openings at Stone Harbour and at the Kopple 811 site. Contact information for these programs can be found on the back of the chart. She noted that Stone Harbour referrals do have to go through Coordinated Entry.

NEXT MEETING: February 14, 2018

SAVE THE DATES

1/11/19 Shine a Light on Human Trafficking 5 pm – 6:30 pm at the Ambridge Gazebo located at the corner of Merchant and 11th Street to honor victims of human trafficking and to learn more about HT in our community.

1/22/19 Point in Time Planning Meeting 1:30 pm at The Cornerstone 1217 7th Ave., 2nd floor Beaver Falls

1/22/19 CDBG Information Session from 3-5pm at BCTA - 200 West Washington Street, Rochester

1/23/19 POINT IN TIME SURVEY!!! Volunteers and donations still needed! Questions can be directed to Renee Speaker or Dina Ciabattoni at 724.846.6400.

1/27/19 Souper Bowl - The Cornerstone Fundraiser from 2pm-6pm at Beaver Brewery (1820 7th Ave. Beaver Falls). Tickets are \$25 and include soup, bread, and raffles.

2/9/19-4/6/19 Certified Recovery Specialist Training Saturdays from 9 -4. For more information, email Jill Valentine at: jak249@psu.edu

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
Jessica Duca	Heritage Valley	jduca@hvhs.org 724-773-8970
Susan McConnell	trails	S.macconnell@trailscoalition.org
Sharon Duxon	HAEBS	
Joelle Lawler	BACV	
Jennifer Ditt	BCCYS	
Stephanie Magnifico	MHA	
Sandrie Eglew	Beaver County	
Renee Speckler	HNCB	
Herta Mader	BCBH	
GEORGE BEEBLE	HMIS	
Dina Giabattani	CoC Coordinator	
Melissa Gandy	OMS	
St. Sarah Crotty	Srs. of St. Joseph	scrotty@stjoseph-baden.org
Taraol Beeter	Greater BETH Community Food Bank	treefer@gpcfb.org
Suzanne Perkins +	Resident of B.C. & Pastor	the rev Suzanne Perkins @ g mail.com
Judy Ventresca	Crossroads	
ASHA SIGNORINI	CDP	
Philippa Haggis	AEP	



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NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
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MaryAnn McDevitt	Womens Center	
Darcy Casey	SHACB	
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Tiffany Kinney	UPMC CHC	kinneytt@upmc.edu
Ben Hampton	UPMC CHC	hamptonb2@upmc.edu

Dina Ciabattani Col-Coordinator