



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

November 14, 2019

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Introductions: Dina called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm. She introduced new attendees: Turk Turkovich (Crop & Kettle); Arie Miller (Salvation Army – Harmony House); and Lt. Kimisha Marshall (Salvation Army).

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.

October Meeting Minutes: No errors or omissions were noted.

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

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Rosalyn Johnson (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) announced that the Cornerstone has moved and will be hosting an Open House on 12/3/19 from 4-6 pm at their new location – 600 6th Street Beaver Falls, PA. She handed out the Open House invitation, the new TCBC flyer, and an updated phone extension list.

Lt. Kimisha Marshall (The Salvation Army) noted that she works for all 3 Salvation Army offices in Beaver County. She is currently helping with Project Bundle Up. She stated that they have served 250 children and 33 seniors with getting coats and hats already this year. She noted that some of the celebrities who assist also buy the children other items as well. Project Bundle Up supports people aged 0-18 and those aged 62 or older. Interested households can connect with the program through their local Salvation Army office.

Steve Alger (The Housing Authority of Beaver County) announced that Section 8 is opening up on Monday 11/18 and will remain open through the end of that week. People can come to the Housing Authority office from 9 am – 4 pm to get an application. Folks should bring their ID, social security cards, and birth certificates if they have them. He stated that people who owe money to HA, may be able to work through the issue with the HA. He noted that a history of lease violations are tougher to work through. But he stressed folks should still apply. And he reminded the group that people will be eligible to appeal if they are denied. When asked how many vouchers are available he said that it depends on family configuration. He said that the applications will be reviewed on a first come serve basis while honoring the HA's preferences for veterans, homeless, survivors of DV, and those impacted by natural disasters. Further questions can be directed to the HA at 724.775.1220.

Rebecca Salopek (Housing Authority/Christian Assembly CARE Outreach) announced the annual free Christmas Dinner at Beaver Falls High School on Dec. 25th from 11:30-3:00pm. This is a large event including gifts, resources, and of course the meal. Many volunteers are needed to coordinate the event. If interested in volunteering, contact Darcy Casey at darceycasey@att.net. There will also be a table with information about various resources. If you would like your agency's information included contact Christy Miles at

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412.600.8664. Please help spread the word. And stay tuned for information about transportation. **UPDATE: Transportation information for participants to get and from the dinner has been emailed to Coalition members. Please share widely.**

Christy Miles (Veteran Leadership Program) handed out information about the services offered to veterans by VLP. See attached fliers.

Natalie Mead (Head Start/Early Head Start) reported that they are hiring Instructors, Instructor Aides, PT maintenance, and a Transportation Coordinator. The agency can provide additional training. For more information visit: <http://privateindustrycouncil.com/job-openings/> Natalie also mentioned that they are now located in the Beaver Valley Mall by Uhaul. Interested applicants can walk in for interviews.

Dina Ciabattoni (CoC Coordinator) mentioned that the Thanksgiving Meals schedule is in everyone's packet. Thank you to Darcy for providing the correct dates.

Raeann Grivna (Crossroads) noted that Crossroads is still providing case management, gift cards, and they have some hotel funding. These resources can be accessed by men, women, and families. To access these supports and resources, call 724.846.1303.

2. AGENDA

Crop & Kettle

Turk Turkovich

Crop & Kettle is a non-profit work force development agency for people who have barriers to employment (substance use disorder, homeless status, lacking skills etc). They focus on helping people secure "liveable employment". This is done by focusing on the entire food system – from farm to table. At the end of the training participants receive a SafeServe certificate and an agricultural certificate. The program is based in Christian faith. It also focuses on life skills and personal development asking such questions as who am I, whose going with me, and where I am going. The program is a 6 month commitment – Monday through Friday. Students receive a meal and free vegetables to take home. The program also assists with resume prep, and interviewing skills. Anyone with an interest in the food industry and has a desire to grow personally can apply. However the program currently is not able to accept people with a history of sexual offences as the program is located on the Sisters of St. Joseph campus where there is a school for children. The program can provide bus passes and hopes to be able to expand its transportation options in the future. Potential applicants can visit the website at: www.cropandkettle.org or call: 724.302.GROW. Questions can also be directed to Turk at: f.turkovich@cropandkettle.org

Salvation Army RRH Program update

Luann Duchess

Luann provided a 6 month report on the new Rapid Rehousing program through the Salvation Army. She states the first household was housed in June. Since then they have housed 59 people (23 households, including 13 children). They are currently working with 6 clients. She states that the program pays for the security deposit and first 3 months of rent.

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A reassessment is conducted at the 3 month point. She reports that they continue to have a hard time securing housing for those households with outstanding utility bills and for those with very low incomes. On the positive side she noted strong relationships with landlords. Ros explained that this program only accepts its referrals from Coordinated Entry. And Dina noted that because the program does not have fixed beds, their "openings" depend on the family configuration as that detail directly impacts the amount of rent to be paid.

Homeless Memorial

Marla Talasky

Marla reported that the Homeless Memorial is scheduled for Dec. 19th at 5:00 pm at the Beaver County Transit Authority located at 200 W. Washington Street in Rochester. She said that light refreshments will be available and the service will start at 5:30. She noted that the next planning meeting for the event is scheduled for 12/2 at 9 am at The Cornerstone (600 6th Street Beaver Falls). Anyone interested in helping to plan the event are welcomed to attend! Also Dina noted that we are still assembling the list of names of the people we lost in the last year. Please forward any names to Dina at ciabottonidina@gmail.com

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabottoni

Dina handed out the Bed Availability chart and noted that Valley View currently has a few openings and very short waitlists.

NEXT MEETING: December 12, 2019

SAVE THE DATES

11/15/19 BC Town Hall Meeting "Drug Abuse: National Problem, Local Impact" 9:30-3:30 at CCBC Dome. To register, visit:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0nxHtjAI0XGErB0rLYySRtfXD3fw_USob5yfmfr25obUlcQ/viewform

11/18-11/20 Homes Within Reach Conference at the Hilton-Harrisburg. To register, visit:

<https://housingalliancepa.org/homes-within-reach/>

11/22/19 Youth Mental Health First Aid 9 am – 5 pm at BV Intermediate Unit 145 Poplar Ave Monaca, PA To register email: jennifer@etc-pa.com

12/6/19 Adult Mental Health First Aid 9 am – 5 pm at 911 Center 351 14th Street Ambridge, PA To register email, jennifer@etc-pa.com

12/19/19 Homeless Persons Memorial Details to come!

12/25/19 Annual Christmas Dinner from 11:30 – 3 pm at the Beaver Falls High School. A meal, gifts, resources, and more! Hosted by Christian Assembly Care Outreach Ministry. All are welcome!

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. PLEASE PRINT. Thank you.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Kari Reda	CFLBF	
Marion Walchle	ACP	Marion@acp-beaver.org
Wendy Beechery	NLSA	Deechingw@gmail.com
Paul Lebanik	SUDP	plebanik@verizon.net
Dorey Casey	HACB	
Kevin Howe	DOU PATF	
Mary Ann McDevitt	WCBC	
Marion MacLennan	AOOTS	pauster@psokincl.net
Lynn Duches	SA	
Lt. Kimisha Marshall	SA	
Natalie Meade	HS/ETHS/BC	
Alyse James	HACB	
Rheanna Grima	Crossroads	
Burd Reed	APC Associates	
F. Turkavich	CRP9 KATHLE	F.Turkavich@acp4kathle.org
Christy Miles	Veterans Leadership Program	MilesC@VLPWA.org
Peggy Jones	ACPEE	Jonespt@comcast.net
Jodi Farlinch	BCCEYS	
Marysuz Malesley	BCCEYS	
Jaime Humkead		



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NAME	ORGANIZATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Sylvethia Dent	Project Start	724-513-1189
Katrina Campbell	Choices Pregnancy Services	724-513-1189 Katrina@pregnancychoice.org
Sarah Coffey	Sisters of St. Joseph	sarahc@stjoseph-baden.org
CHRISTY OWENS	Allies for Health & Wellbeing	COWENS@ALIESFHT.ORG
Jane Miller	Aetna	millerj5@aetna.com 412-518-8053
Dina Giabottoni	GC Coordinator	

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