



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

May 14, 2020

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Housekeeping: Dina welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting and reminded them that the meeting is being recorded. She asked anyone whose name is not showing to please sign-in in the chat box. She also asked folks to use the Raised Hand function so as to prevent interrupting each other.

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 on Zoom until further notice.

April Meeting Minutes

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

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Marie Timpano (The Cornerstone) reported that she is currently hiring a full time Housing Coordinator and a full time Receptionist. She stated that resumes can be emailed to Lakeisha Robinson at: lrobinson@CornerstoneBeaver.org

She also announced that she is having a diaper drive on the 21st so anyone in need of diapers can let her know.

Natalie Meade (Early Head Start) announced that even though the classrooms are closed the teachers are still checking in on Zoom and providing activity packets. She noted that they are recruiting students for next year. The application can be found on their website at:

<http://privateindustrycouncil.com/head-start-of-beaver-county/>

Harry Angelo (Job Training) announced that even though their offices are closed they can be reached via phone and email. He noted that they are still working to place students (aged 18-24) at work sights. The number for Job Training is: [\(724\) 728-2020](tel:7247282020).

Katrina Campbell (Choices Pregnancy Services) reported that they are still seeing clients 3 days a week. They are scheduling patients one at a time. They are continuing to do sexually transmitted infection testing, pregnancy testing, and sonograms. She stated they have PPE for staff and patients. She also noted that they have diapers. Folks can call to arrange pick up. Marie noted that their driver can assist with delivery if needed. Katrina stated they are not able to provide mobile services at this time.

Adam (Southwood Family Based Services) noted that they are still rendering services in the home for about 85% of their families. They are using PPE and giving PPE to clients. Staff are following best practices of washing their hands in their cars, and screening clients for symptoms prior to going into the home. He reports that Southwood is about 1 in 3 agencies

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who are continuing their family based services in the home at this time and it has been quite the challenge. Dina thanked him for their service and noted how grateful those families must be to have their supports continue during this challenging time.

Kevin Huwe (DON Services) announced that DON Services received a grant from the Federation of Independent Schools Alumni to support any person with a disability who has needs related to the Covid-19 pandemic. The grant can support up to \$500/household and can be used for food, items needed around the house, appliances etc as long as the need is related to the impact of the pandemic. Folks can apply by calling Melissa Ann at DON Services at 724.698.1817.

He also noted that the USDA home modification program is still available. He noted that the program has served 9 households in Beaver County since partnering with Marlene at the Community Development Program.

Paul Lebanik (St. Vincent DePaul) noted that Catholic Charities has diapers available. Contact St. Vincent DePaul if in need.

Norah Miller (Crossroads) noted that Crossroads is still delivering service to men through outreach, referrals, and gift cards. She reported that there are currently two unsheltered men in Beaver Falls. She states that any in need of shelter and supports can contact Crossroads for assistance by calling 724.846.1303. She also reported on the Great Parish Grouping food distribution initiative in Ambridge. This is a multi-parish effort that operates out of Good Samaritan Parish at 8th and Melrose. The entire parking lot behind the Church is the staging area for food drop off and distribution. The hours of operation are 10:30 to 1 pm every day of the week including weekends. The distribution is open to anyone who needs food. There are no income requirements and participants do not have to reside in Ambridge. She noted that hot food and perishable food items are donated twice a week from Costco and several times a week from Giant Eagle. Bag lunches are available very day. If you would like to make a donation you can do so during the same hours of operation. See attached for more information.

Kristy Minton (CYS) announced that the emergency housing position which has been vacant since Marsha Malesky passed away, has been filled by Amy Fredericks.

Dina Ciabattoni (CoC Coordinator) shared an update from Duquesne Light Cap. Temporary DLC changes include: maximum grant amount is \$1,000; customers who already received a grant since 10/1/19, can apply for a another grant up to \$500; and the maximum income threshold has been raised to 250% FPIG until December 31, 2020. She also noted that LIHEAP will be reopening soon. See attached.

Dina also reported that the county received \$23,000 in PHARE Home2020 funds to employ Technical Assistance for determining a feasible location for a Men's Emergency Shelter. Dina

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stated that the Request for Proposals is posted on the CDP website and that proposals are due by the end of business tomorrow (5/15).

2. AGENDA

Eviction Moratorium

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina announced that the state of PA extended the eviction moratorium until July 10th. It has been clarified that this only applies to households who are having trouble paying the rent. Households who are being evicted due to damages or other lease violations are permitted. Dina acknowledged Judge Mancini for considering our request to extend the moratorium locally prior to the State's decision to do so. Dina stated that any questions about eviction can be directed to Neighborhood Legal Services and Southwestern PA Legal Services. Dina also noted that this extension gives us time to implement the programming for the CARES Act funding that is coming into the county.

Coronavirus Relief Fund Advocacy

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina explained that the CARES Act has made flexible funding available to states to address housing instability and homelessness. She stated that the state of PA is positioned to receive just shy of \$5 billion. Legislators are getting ready to make decisions on how to allocate these funds. The PA Housing Alliance is advocating for them to make some of the funding available for Rental Assistance as this would assist both tenants and landlords. The HA put together information for advocates to reach out to their elected officials. In this case, they asked us to reach out to Senator Vogel. Dina stated that she would email the information to Coalition members so they can decide if they would like to take part in the advocacy effort. She reminded everyone to check with their supervisors prior to engaging in advocacy efforts to ensure it is in line with their agency's policies.

Women's Center Response to Covid-19

Mary Ann McDevitt

Mary Ann presented on the unique challenges the Women's Center is facing during the pandemic. She noted that shelter capacity is reduced due to social distancing practices but they are making every effort to link unsheltered clients to alternative shelter options if they do not have space for them. She stated that therapy continues to be available through telehealth. Legal advocates are still available at the courthouse for emergency PFAs. And she stated that staff are available for face to face mobile response in emergency situations. She reminded the group that stay at home orders can exacerbate a domestic violence situation by giving the abuser more power and control. She stated that they can use the PPE to restrict the person's ability to safely leave the house and that without outside supports victims can be dangerously isolated. She stressed that we should all be on alert for these warning signs and continue to refer to the Women's Center for support.

CARES Act funding/ public comment

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina noted that as a requirement of the CARES Act funding, Community Development Program has to make a special amendment to the Consolidated Plan to outline how the funding will be allocated. See attached. These proposed amendments are available for

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public comment for 5 days. Comments can be directed to Lisa Signore at Community Development Program. Dina noted that the proposed amendment is currently available on the Beaver County Times (timesonline.com) in the Legal Notices. She also emailed a link to Coalition members on 5/8/2020.

Norah Miller noted that the Crossroads Advisory Board of Directors is very appreciative of the county's recognition of the need for a shelter for homeless men as indicated in the CARES Act proposed amendment.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina shared the Bed Availability chart. She noted that the Housing Authority is continuing to limit move-ins for walk-up and high rise properties. They will consider emergency needs on a case by case basis. CRS is currently not accepting new clients until the county is moved into the Yellow phase. **UPDATE:** Beaver County has moved into the Yellow phase.

Other programs are at full capacity at this time. She noted the waitlists are rather short but mused if this meant people are just not presenting for services as much right now.

NEXT MEETING: June 11, 2020

SAVE THE DATES

5/15/20 Quarantine MH Playlist "Dancing with Myself" at 11 am hosted by Jill Perry with guest speaker Marie Timpano. To register visit:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pTxAqQlGTbmcgdXgku0-Mg

6/17/20 Care Giver Support Webinar from 10-11:30 am. To register, visit:

<http://bccan.org/bookshelf/training/>

9/24/20 Poverty & Addiction from 9 – 12 pm at Penn State The Lodge. To be put on the waitlist, email: lscaff@bccan.org

10/8/20 Compassion Fatigue from 9-12pm at Penn State The Lodge. To register, visit:

<http://bccan.org/bookshelf/training/>

10/13/20 Navigating the Housing & Homeless System in Beaver County from 9 -11:30 at BVIU, Rm 107 located at 147 Poplar Drive, Monaca. To register, visit: <http://bccan.org/bookshelf/training/>

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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The May 14th Housing & Homeless Coalition Meeting was held on Zoom due to social distancing guidelines. Below is a list of attendees who were visibly in attendance on the Zoom meeting and who signed into the Zoom chat.

| Name | Organization |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Rebecca Salopek | Housing Authority of Beaver County |
| Tom Kaminsky | The Cornerstone of Beaver County |
| Brendan Dudek | Central Outreach Wellness Center |
| Kevin Huwe | Disability Options Network Services |
| Mary Ann McDevitt | The Women's Center |
| Marla Talasky | Community Advocate |
| Lori Gaghan | Staunton Clinic – Heritage Valley |
| Jaime Kinkead | The Salvation Army |
| Darcy Casey | Housing Authority/Crossroads |
| Penny Jones | Local Landlord |
| Katrina Campbell | Choices Pregnancy Services |
| Marcy Scott | CRS |
| Melissa Grimes | CRS |
| Joanne Koehler | Mental Health Association |
| Paul Lebanik | St. Vincent DePaul |
| Aria Miller | Salvation Army |
| Adam ? | Southwood Hospital |
| Natalie Meade | Early Head Start |
| Cynthia Gilkey | Neighborhood Legal Services |
| Marie Timpano | The Cornerstone of Beaver County |
| Ros Johnson | The Cornerstone of Beaver County |
| Monica Burdick | Beaver County Rehabilitation Center |
| Norah Miller | Crossroads |
| Kristy Minton | Children & Youth Services |
| Jeremy Flint | Project STAR |
| Lisa Signore | Community Development Program |
| Emily Linkenheimer | The Prevention Network |
| Harry Angelo | Job Training of Beaver County |
| Raeann Grivna | Crossroads |
| Abby Opal | Mental Health Association |
| Jaime Milligan | Southwestern PA Legal Services |
| Jodi Pavlinch | Children & Youth Services |
| Amy Frederick | Children & Youth Services |
| Renee Speaker | Housing Authority |
| Luann Duchess | Salvation Army |
| Dina Ciabattoni | CoC Coordinator |
| 7 unidentified callers | unknown |

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the GREAT PARISH
GROUPING

**DO
YOU
NEED
HELP?**

greatgrouping.org/call-for-help

Emergency Food Pantry located at
Good Samaritan Parish
725 Glenwood Ave
Ambridge, PA 15003
(724) 266-6565

**AVAILABLE
7 DAYS
A WEEK**

**10:30 AM-1:00 PM
or by appointment**

FOLLOW US FOR
INFORMATION AND CONTENT

facebook YouTube



Dina Ciabattoni <ciabattodina@gmail.com>

LIHEAP) Recovery Crisis Program - please share






1 message

Dianne Funkhouser <dfunkhouser@washingtongreene.org>
To: Dianne Funkhouser <dfunkhouser@washingtongreene.org>

Tue, May 19, 2020 at 7:10 AM

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Recovery Crisis Program helps Pennsylvanians during the COVID-19 public health crisis. DHS is working with utility companies and deliverable fuel vendors to help Pennsylvanians at risk of losing access to electric, natural gas, or deliverable fuels such as oil, pay utility bills, and maintain access to home energy services.

LIHEAP Recovery Crisis benefits may be available if a household:

-  Has their main or secondary energy source completely shut-off
-  Is notified that their utility service will be shut off in the next 60 days
-  Has broken energy equipment or leaking lines that must be fixed or replaced
-  Is in danger of being without fuel in 15 days or less.
-  Owes funds to a utility provider that would constitute a service termination if not for the Public Utility Commission's moratorium on terminations.

Find instructions and apply on COMPASS: www.compass.state.pa.us

Eligibility guidelines are the same as those used during the 2019-20 LIHEAP season. More Info: bit.ly/2TjIzht

**Proposed Special Amendment in Response to the CARES Act
HUD 5-Year Consolidated Plan 2015-2019
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
2019 (B-19-UC-42-0102)
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) 2019 (E-19-UC-42-0102)
Beaver County, PA Citizen Participation Plan**

2015-2019 HUD Consolidated Plan

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has notified the County of Beaver of a special allocation of funding associated with the federal CARES Act. The funding is intended to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The County has been allocated the following amounts:

Community Development Block Grant – CDBG-CV: \$1,985,606

Emergency Solutions Grant Program – ESG-CV: \$984,814

Total CARES Act Special Allocation: \$2,970,420

These amounts will be added as a Substantial Amendment to the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan, Year 5 of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Input about arising needs for low- and moderate-income people related to the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged. The following activities are being considered for funding:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV)

- **Forgivable Loan Program for Micro-Enterprises (CD-195520)**
(\$1,000,000+\$50,000 Activity Delivery Costs)
 - Provide forgivable loans for qualifying microenterprises that have suffered financial hardship due to COVID-19. 24 CFR 570.203(b), 24 CFR 570.201(o)(1)(i), 24 CFR 570.208(a)(4)
- **Food and Necessities Program (CD-195522)**
(\$150,000+\$10,000 Activity Delivery Costs)
 - Make food and other necessities available to low-income residents impacted by COVID-19. 24CFR 570.201 (e) 24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
- **Schools Respond to COVID-19 (CD-195523)**
(\$150,000+\$10,000 Activity Delivery Costs)
 - Provide low-income students with services, technological products needed to continue their education which has been impacted by COVID-19. 24 CFR 570.201(e), 24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)(i)(B)
- **Men's Emergency Shelter (CD-195521)**
(\$200,000+\$18,485 Activity Delivery Costs)
 - Funding for acquisition and rehabilitation of a men's emergency shelter to meet the increasing needs of homeless men due to effects of COVID-19. 24 CFR 570.201(c), 24 CFR 570.208(a)(2)(i)(A)
- **CDBG Administration (CD-199995)**
(\$397,121)

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) 24 CFR Part 576

- Rapid Re-Housing (\$76,333)
- Homeless Prevention (\$200,000)
- Emergency Shelter (\$500,000 operations, essential services)
- Street Outreach (\$110,000)
- ESG Administration (\$98,481)

Citizen Participation Plan (24 CFR 91.105)

Revised Citizen Participation Plan regarding emergency activities and those covered under the CARES Act – Public Law 116-136. The Citizen Participation Plan is being revised to: (1) allow for a 5-day comment period and the use of virtual meetings during a local, state or federally declared disaster or emergency, and (2) to eliminate language that HUD will approve Urgent Need activities prior to the County submitting an Amendment.

Due to the urgency of the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD has issued a waiver to 24 CFR 91.105(c)(2) and (k), 24 CFR 91.115(c)(2) and (i) and 24 CFR 91.401 that allows for an expedited comment period of 5 days. The comment period will be from May 18, 2020 to May 22, 2020.

Comments on this proposed amendment should be directed to the Director, Community Development Program, 1013 Eighth Avenue, Beaver Falls, PA 15010 no later than May 22, 2020.

Copies of the County's modified Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and Citizen Participation Plan will be made available upon request in writing to the above address.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Daniel C. Camp III, Chairman

Jack Manning, Commissioner

Tony Amadio, Commissioner

Current Beaver County Housing Inventory Availability

May 2020

| Housing Program | Type | Availability | Units | Occupancy | Administrator |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|-----------|--|
| Crescent Commons* | Permanent | 0 | 24 | 100% | Housing Authority Call Darcy for updates |
| Friendship Homes* | Permanent | 0 | 33 | 100% | Salvation Army |
| BC On-Call | Emergency | 0 | 2 | 100% | The Cornerstone |
| Community Residential* | Permanent | 0 | 41 | 100% | Housing Authority |
| Stone Harbour* | Transitional | 5 | 12 | 58% | CRS |
| CRS Transitional | Transitional | 11 | 15 | 27% | CRS |
| Help House | Transitional | 0 | 11 | 100% | Housing Authority |
| Harmony House | Transitional | 0 | 4 | 100% | BCCYS |
| BCCYS Housing | Emergency | 6 | 14 | 79% | BCCYS CYS referrals only. |
| Women's Center | Emergency | 0 | 24 | 100% | BC Women's Center CYS referrals only |
| Women's Center | Transitional | 0 | 10 | 100% | BC Women's Center |
| SA Rapid Rehousing * | Permanent | 0 | N/A | N/A | Salvation Army Refer thru Coordinated Entry |

*McKinney Vento Supportive Housing Programs - See reverse side of chart for HUDs disability & homeless eligibility requirements.

Subsidized or Section 8 Location Bedroom Types Wait List Details

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|---|
| Brightwood Manor | New Brighton | 4- 2BRs; 1-3BR | Taking applications |
| Beaver Falls Plaza | Beaver Falls | Full | Taking applications. Srs. 1 year; Disabled 1+ year. Purge annually |
| Scottswood Apts | Hopewell | 1BR elderly/disabled | Taking Applications |
| Valley Terrace | Aliquippa | 1 eff. And 2-3BRs | Taking Applications |
| ValleyView | New Brighton | 4-2BR; 1-3BR | Taking Applications 1BR: 40 applicants; 2BR: 9apps; 3BR: 6 apps |
| Spring Run | Monaca | Full | 1BR: 2yrs; 2BR: very short; 3BRs:18-24 mos |
| Towne Tower | Aliquippa | 6 - one bedrooms | Taking Applications |
| Pinney Street Manor | Rochester | Sr. 1 BR | Building an accessible waitlist. Income cap 1 person: \$26,600; 2 people: \$30,400 |

Housing Authority 3 & 4 BRs have short wait lists.

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 811 Program | Koppel/Roch. | 1 unit in Koppel | Vacancy | *See back for more information |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|---------|--------------------------------|

*Applications accepted for all HACB sites.

Coordinated Entry Waitlists

PSH: 7

TH: 7

RRH: 0 (all referrals going to SSVF or ESG at this time)

The Housing Authority:
Move-ins are on hold for walk-up and high rise buildings. HA should be notified if there is an emergency need for housing and will review on