



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

September 10, 2020

Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Housekeeping: Dina welcomed everyone at 1:35pm. She notified attendees that the session was being recorded to assist with the preparation of minutes.

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. Zoom meetings are recorded to assist with the preparation of the meeting minutes. The recording will not be shared or posted.

August Meeting Minutes: No problems or issues with the minutes were noted.

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

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Michelle Medlin (Lifesteps Early Head Start) noted that they operate year round and they are still enrolling students. She stated that they work with everyone including foster parents, grandparents, etc. She stated that they are doing everything virtually at this time. She states that they send out supplies. If interested in enrolling call, 724.240.1575.

Teresa Lukes (Association for the Blind) noted that they are still doing vision screenings and distributing glasses. She stated that the screening machine places a good bit of distance between the screener and the patient. To schedule an appointment, call: 724.506.6477.

Cyndi Gilkey (Neighborhood Legal Services) reported that they are seeing landlords trying to evict for other reasons than nonpayment of rent to avoid the limits placed by the CDC eviction moratorium. In order to be covered by the CDC moratorium, tenants have to fill out a declaration form with which NLS can assist. Finally, Cyndi asked for agencies to send her any pertinent information regarding their services as NLS is working to refer people to additional services as needed. Cyndi's email address is: gilkeyc@NLSA.us

Penny Jones (landlord partner) stated that the PHFA rental relief program requires the household to be one month behind. Cyndi stated that there is a statewide push to change that regulation. Penny asked if there is anything else they can do to assist their tenants. Dina stated that she has heard some landlords in other parts of the state have started to offer partial payments and letting folks pay off owed balances over time. Penny stated that she carries information about these programs back to the Landlord Association, so they are aware of the assistance that is available. Dina thanked her for doing so and offered to speak with them as well if that would be helpful. Angela Melton from Neighborhood Legal Services stated that they hired temporary attorneys to assist with navigating the rental assistance programs and the eviction proceedings.

Nancy Greico (Red Cross) reported that there were two incidents in August. One involved a home collapsing after a car crashed into it. 2 adults and 4 children were displaced. The other

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involved a fire at the Beaver Falls Plaza. The Red Cross and the Cornerstone assisted the families. She noted that the Red Cross is deploying volunteers across the country in response to the wildfires.

Dina Ciabattoni (CoC Coordinator) had several announcements. First, she mentioned Covid-19 Crisis Counseling is available to people who are feeling overwhelmed by the pandemic. She also mentioned 2 Drive Up food distribution events. People must register in advance. Additionally, she provided info on the Caring Place which provides grief support to children and adults. Their services are now available virtually. See flyers for more information on each of these programs. Finally, she mentioned that the First Baptist Church (located at 301 Adams Street in Rochester) is providing free haircuts on Sept. 21st from 10-2:30pm.

2. AGENDA

CDC Eviction Moratorium

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina reported that the CDC has put an eviction moratorium in place for non-payment of rent through Dec. 31, 2020. She stated that the following details must be met to be eligible: best efforts made to secure government assistance for rent, expect to make less than \$99,000 this year, is unable to pay rent due to loss of income, hours etc, is trying to make partial payments, if evicted the household would become homeless, and the understanding that this does not excuse rent owed or any fees accrued. A declaration form must be completed stating these conditions and submitted to the landlord in order to be protected. Dina provided a copy of a template Declaration form. She also noted that the eviction moratorium does apply to nonpayment of rent evictions that were filed prior to the Sept. 4th moratorium as well as new cases going forward. The moratorium does not apply to other lease violations.

Veteran Stand Down

Tom Kaminsky

Tom announced that the Veteran Stand Down is scheduled for November 6th from 10 am – 2 pm in The Cornerstone’s parking lot at 600 6th Street Beaver Falls. Tom stated that veterans will be served first but all homeless people are welcomed to attend. He noted that they are looking for people to help plan the event as well as to be vendors at the event. Donated items to give away are welcomed as well. Contact Tom if you have interest in being involved:

tkaminsky@CornerstoneBeaver.org

Salvation Army children’s programming

Jaime Kinkead

Jaime stated that they Salvation Army Corps are starting to sign people up for Project Bundle Up and Christmas assistance. Each Corps has different processes so be sure to call your local Corps for specifics. She noted that there will not be any special trips as they have done in the past. She also noted that they are going to resume their children’s program. This includes activities, badges, character building, and dinner. She noted that they can also provide transportation. Call 724.846.1089 if interested in participating. She also noted that the Music School will be resuming as well. Call Kimisha Marshall at the Aliquippa Corps for information – 724.378.0875. She also noted that the Rochester Corps runs a men’s group. Call 724.774.8335 for more information.

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Updates

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina provided several updates.

- Home4Good Outreach Proposals are currently being reviewed.
- PHFA Rental Relief program has served 38 households, 33 landlords, and has paid out \$91,000 since the program started in July. PHFA can shift funds between counties who need more and those who need less. Applications are due by the end of Sept. but it is possible that this deadline may be extended due to the CDC moratorium.
- 2020 ESG proposals that were funded include TCBC (RRH, HP, hotels, and BC On-Call) and the Women's Center (Essential Services).
- ESG-CV funds that are currently contracted include TCBC (hotels and the homeless hotline)
- Klavon Design is currently taking a deep dive into the zoning restrictions and processes in several identified communities to determine 3 feasible locations for a men's emergency shelter by October.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina noted that many programs are at capacity but that they are also working on turning units over as folks transition to Mainstream Vouchers. She reported a slight up tick on the CE waiting lists but reported the majority of folks are engaged by a program. She also explained that the CE subcommittee reviews the list biweekly to review cases of households who remain on the lists and to problem solve barriers to their housing. Due to both of these efforts, we are seeing movement on the lists.

NEXT MEETING: October 8, 2020

SAVE THE DATES

9/11/20 Racial Disparities Meeting at 10:00 am. If interested in joining, please email Dina for the info.

9/12/20 Drive-Up Food Distribution 11 am – 1 pm at P279 Braden School Road, Beaver Falls. To register, call 412.460.3663 ext 655 or at www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/drive-up

9/18/20 Drive-Up Food Distribution 12 pm – 2 pm at 2720 Brodhead Rd. Aliquippa. To register, call 412.460.3663 ext 655 or at www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/drive-up

9/21/20 Free Hair Cuts at First Baptist Church from 10- 2:30 pm at 301 Adams Street Rochester

9/24/20 Poverty & Addiction Webinar. 2.5 CEUs available for \$10. To register, visit, www.bccan.org

10/8/20 Compassion Fatigue Webinar. 2.5 CEUs available for \$10. To register, visit, www.bccan.org

10/13/20 Navigating the Housing & Homeless System in Beaver County Webinar. To register, visit, www.bccan.org

11/6/20 Beaver County Veteran Stand Down The Cornerstone parking lot (600 6th St Beaver Falls).

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The September 10, 2020 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/or who signed into the Zoom chat.

Name	Organization
Jaime Kinkead	Salvation Army
Aria Miller	Salvation Army
Michelle Medlin	Lifesteps Early Head Start
Nancy Grieco	Red Cross
Christy Miles	Veterans Leadership Program
Denise DiVittis	Domestic Relations
Lisa Signore	Community Development Program
Penny Jones	Landlord partner
Paul Lebanik	St. Vincent de Paul
Amy Frederick	CYS
Pastor Raeann Barlow	3 rd Step Recovery Ministry
Melissa Grimes	CRS
Kristie Reilly	Prevention – Family Decision Making Group
Mary Ann McDevitt	Women’s Center
Wendy Beeching	Neighborhood Legal Services
Marcy Scott	CRS
Sister Sarah Crotty	Sisters of St. Joseph
Monica Cordell	BCRC
Rebecca Salopek	Housing Authority/Crossroads
Lori Gaghan	Staunton Clinic
Matthew Stahoviak	BCBH
Cyndi Gilkey	Neighborhood Legal Services
Teresa Lukes	Association for the Blind
Lisa Kessler	Housing Authority
Ariel Dickinson	Neighborhood Legal Services
Angela Melton	Neighborhood Legal Services
Kevin Huwe	DON Services
Angela Pope	CCBC Keys
Marie Timpano	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Jodi Pavlinch	CYS
Lakeshia Robinson	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Marla Talasky	Community Advocate
Kimberly Underwood	Alliance for Consumer Protection
Carrie Miller	PA Cyber
Harry Angelo	Job Training
Dina Ciabattoni	CoC Coordinator
Rick Reilly	Job Training

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Jan Davis	TRAILS
Natalie Meade	Early Head Start
Ros Johnson	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Several phone users	Unknown

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Team Pennsylvania

COVID-19 CRISIS COUNSELING PROGRAM

GET CONNECTED WITH A
FREE CRISIS COUNSELOR



CALL 1-855-284-2494



Do you feel...

Stressed?

Overwhelmed?

Alone?

Afraid?

Anxiety?

*During these uncertain
times, you are not alone.
We are here to listen.*

Please call our Pennsylvania Support and Referral Line

1-855-284-2494 TTY: 724-631-5600

There are trained professionals available 24/7 ready to help you navigate these unprecedented challenges.

These services are **FREE & CONFIDENTIAL**.

This publication was made possible by FEMA Grant Number 4506-DR-PA, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

Drive-up Food Distribution

*2nd event: 9/18/2020 12pm-2pm Mt. Carmel Pres. Church
2720 Brodhead Rd.
Aliquippa, PA
* use link below to register.*

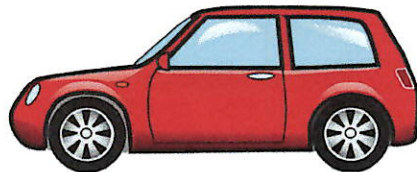
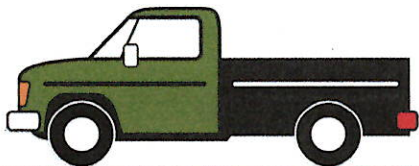
Date: Saturday, September 12

Time: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; no cars will be permitted to arrive before 11 a.m.

Location: Pathway Church
279 Braden School Road, Beaver Falls, PA 15010

More Information:

- Please complete a reservation at pittsburghfoodbank.org/drive-up or by calling 412-460-3663 ext. 655. You will need your name, email, zip code, email address, current weekly income and license plate number for the car picking up food.
- This event will serve 500 households. There are no exceptions to one reservation getting one share of food. For one car to get two or three shares of food, the car must have more than one family or household. Each household must complete a separate reservation. The same car and license plate can be used up to three times for the same event.
- For everyone's safety and to maintain social distancing guidelines, individuals must stay in their cars at all times except to use the provided outdoor restroom facilities. Leaving cars to socialize is prohibited.
- After pulling up to distribution area, put the car in park and then unlock the trunk or backseat for food to be loaded. For everyone's safety, volunteers will not be able to load food into the cars until they are in park.
- Please do not get out of the car when food is being loaded into the car.
- Stay alert and follow the guidance of Food Bank staff and police as they direct cars through the distribution area.



If you or someone you know someone needs help with food, visit the Food Bank's website at pittsburghfoodbank.org or call 412-460-3663.

Greater Pittsburgh
**community
food bank** 

BRINGING THE SUPPORT GROUP EXPERIENCE ONLINE!



HIGHMARK.
CARING PLACE
VIRTUAL



Connecting grieving children and teens, young adults and families – so they know they're not alone in their grief.

Through these groups, children, teens and adults come together in a safe virtual space with others their age.

Group members can find support, share memories of their loved ones, ask each other for guidance, and discover others who understand them.

The groups are facilitated by Highmark Caring Place staff members. Children are guided in fun activities and conversations, where they get to know each other, share feelings and memories, and learn coping skills.

"IT MADE ME FEEL CALM AND SAFE BECAUSE EVERYONE HAD SOMEONE DIE. THEY KNOW HOW IT FEELS."

— 11-YEAR-OLD HIGHMARK CARING PLACE VIRTUAL PARTICIPANT

Groups for adults, including those for young adults, are a forum for discussing the many ways that the death of a loved one impacts them and their families.

Highmark Caring Place Virtual uses the Zoom platform. A device with a camera, microphone and Internet/WiFi is needed. If you don't have access to a device or the internet, you can contact the Highmark Caring Place for special instructions.

WHAT IS THE HIGHMARK CARING PLACE?

Since it began in 1996, the Highmark Caring Place has been providing grief support services to more than 2,000 grieving children and adults every year, and has become the leading model in the nation of support for grieving families.



MORE INFORMATION? www.highmarkcaringplace.com/contact •     



**DECLARATION FOR THE
CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION'S
TEMPORARY HALT IN
EVICTIONS TO PREVENT
FURTHER SPREAD OF COVID-19**

Mag. Dist. No:

MDJ Name:

Address:

Telephone:

**ATTN: CAPTION TO BE COMPLETED ONLY
IF ACTION IS FILED OR PENDING**

v.

Docket No: _____

Case Filed: _____

I certify under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1746, that the foregoing are true and correct:

- I have used best efforts to obtain all available government assistance for rent or housing;¹
- I either expect to earn no more than \$99,000 in annual income for Calendar Year 2020 (or no more than \$198,000 if filing a joint tax return), was not required to report any income in 2019 to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or received an Economic Impact Payment (stimulus check) pursuant to Section 2201 of the CARES Act;
- I am unable to pay my full rent or make a full housing payment due to substantial loss of household income, loss of compensable hours of work or wages, lay-offs, or extraordinary² out-of-pocket medical expenses;
- I am using best efforts to make timely partial payments that are as close to the full payment as the individual's circumstances may permit, taking into account other nondiscretionary expenses;
- If evicted I would likely become homeless, need to move into a homeless shelter, or need to move into a new residence shared by other people who live in close quarters because I have no other available housing options.³
- I understand that I must still pay rent or make a housing payment, and comply with other obligations that I may have under my tenancy, lease agreement, or similar contract. I further understand that fees, penalties, or interest for not paying rent or making a house payment on time as required by my tenancy, lease agreement, or similar contract may still be charged or collected.

¹ "Available government assistance" means any governmental rental or housing payment benefits available to the individual or any household member.

² An "extraordinary" medical expense is any unreimbursed medical expense likely to exceed 7.5% of one's adjusted gross income for the year.

³ "Available housing" means any available, unoccupied residential property, or other space for occupancy in any seasonal or temporary housing, that would not violate Federal, State, or local occupancy standards and that would not result in an overall increase of housing cost to you.

- I further understand that at the end of this temporary halt on evictions on December 31, 2020, my housing provider may require payment in full for all payments not made prior to and during the temporary halt and failure to pay may make me subject to eviction pursuant to State and local laws.

I understand that any false or misleading statements or omissions may result in criminal and civil actions for fines, penalties, damages, or imprisonment.

Signature of Declarant

Date

**DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY FOR THE CENTERS
FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION'S TEMPORARY HALT IN
EVICTIONS TO PREVENT FURTHER SPREAD OF COVID-19**

Supplemental Instructions

This declaration is for tenants, lessees, or residents of residential properties who are covered by the CDC's order temporarily halting residential evictions (not including foreclosures on home mortgages) to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. Under the CDC's order you must provide a copy of this declaration to your landlord, owner of the residential property where you live, or other person who has a right to have you evicted or removed from where you live. Each adult listed on the lease, rental agreement, or housing contract should complete this declaration. Unless the CDC order is extended, changed, or ended, the order prevents you from being evicted or removed from where you are living through December 31, 2020. You are still required to pay rent and follow all the other terms of your lease and rules of the place where you live. You may also still be evicted for reasons other than not paying rent or making a housing payment. This declaration is sworn testimony, meaning that you can be prosecuted, go to jail, or pay a fine if you lie, mislead, or omit important information.

RECORDED 10/28/20
PROTHONOTARY
BEAVER COUNTY PA

2020 SEP -4 AM 10:15

FILED OR ISSUED

Housing Program	Type	Availability	Units/Beds	Occupancy	Administrator
Crescent Commons*	Permanent	0	24	100%	Housing Authority
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	2	12	83%	CRS
CRS Transitional	Transitional	0	15	100%	CRS
Help House	Transitional	0	11	100%	Housing Authority
Harmony House	Transitional	0	4	100%	BCCYS
BCCYS Housing	Emergency	10	14	79%	BCCYS
Women's Center	Emergency	0	24	100%	BC Women's Center
Women's Center	Transitional	0	10	100%	BC Women's Center
SA Rapid Rehousing *	Permanent	0	N/A	N/A	Salvation Army

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

Wait List Details

Subsided or Section 8

Location

Bedroom Types

Wait List Details

Subsided 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.
Scottswood Apts	Hopewell	1BR elderly/disabled	Taking Applications
Valley Terrace	Aliquippa	1 eff. And 2-3BRs	Taking Applications
ValleyView	New Brighton	1-1BR; 5-2BR; 1HC	Taking Applications
Spring Run	Monaca	Full	Taking Applications
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; people: \$30,400

Housing Authority

Ambridge Towers	Ambridge	vacancies	
Eleanor Roosevelt	Aliquippa	vacancies	
Sheffield	Aliquippa	vacancies	
*Applications accepted for all HACB sites.			
81.1 Program	Koppel/Roch.	No vacancies	*See back for more information

The Housing Authority's main office remains closed. Walk-up and high rise units are now being rented and HCVs are being issued.

Coordinated Entry Waitlists

PSH: 14
TH: 10
RRH: 2

Description of Beaver County McKinney Vento Supportive Housing Programs

Community Assisted Residential Living (C.A.R.L.) is a tenant based rental model administered by the Housing Authority of Beaver County in which rental assistance vouchers in the form of Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) will be issued to the chronically homeless or homeless households with an illness or a disability. The Program focuses on households with the longest length of homelessness, homeless households with children, veterans, and victims of domestic violence. It is a Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program within Beaver County's Continuum of Care. Individuals and families live in scattered sites. The program is not funded to provide case management services.

Contact information: Renee Speaker hacbspeaker@comcast.net

Crescent Commons is a permanent supportive housing program administered by the Housing Authority of Beaver County which provides housing vouchers to participants who are chronically homeless with disabilities and who have exhausted all other housing options. At full operational capacity the program should house approximately 31 people. Individuals and families live in scattered sites. The program is not funded to provide case management services. Contact information: Darcy Casey darcycasey@att.net

Friendship Homes is a 33 bed scattered permanent supportive housing program administered by the Salvation Army for both chronically homeless and non-chronically homeless individuals and families and with disabilities. In addition to housing, the program is funded to provide moderate case management services. Contact information: Jaime Kinkead Jaime.kinkead@use.salvationarmy.org

Stone Harbour is a transitional supportive housing program administered by Cornerstone Recovery and Supports (CRS) which provides supportive housing for 12 chronically homeless individuals struggling with co-occurring disorders of mental illness and substance abuse, as well as those with legal histories. Individuals live in a single site in Freedom PA. The program is funded to provide on-site case management services. Contact information: Marcy Scott: msscott@crscares.org

Salvation Army Rapid Re-Housing is a medium term rapid re-housing program for homeless households who score for rapid re-housing through Coordinated Entry and who need longer term financial assistance (up to 2 years). Individual assessment will determine length of financial support and types of supportive services offered. Contact information: Jaime Kinkead at Jaime.kinkead@use.salvationarmy.org

811 Program (not a McKinney Vento program)

A subsidized housing program for disabled adults (age 18-61) who are either in an institution or at risk of institutionalization and who are able to reside in the community with supports. Criteria include:

- Disabled and Medicaid eligible. Also eligible for long-term services and supports
- Income at or below 30% AMI
- Eligible for the Housing Authority

Questions and/or applications can be directed to Lisa Kessler at hacblk@comcast.net