



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

December 10, 2020

## Meeting Agenda

**Welcome and Housekeeping:** Dina welcomed everyone and introduced new member Michael Latady (Allies for Health & Wellness). She asked everyone to sign into the chat and reminded the group that the session is being recorded to help prepare the minutes. It will not be posted or shared.

*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 on Zoom until further notice. The meetings are recorded to help prepare the meeting minutes but will not be shared or posted.*

**November Meeting Minutes:** No problems were noted.

Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at [www.bccan.org](http://www.bccan.org) and [www.bchmis.info](http://www.bchmis.info)

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## 1. OPEN DISCUSSION

**Marie Timpano** (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) shared her agenda item due to needing to leave early. She reported on the new Outreach program funded through Home4Good. She reports that the program is in partnership with the Ambridge Police Department in an effort to bring concentrated outreach and support to Ambridge and surrounding jurisdictions. She announced that Marla Talasky was hired as the Outreach Coordinator and she starts on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. **UPDATE:** Outreach services can be accessed during business hours at 724.714.4108 and after business hours on the homeless hotline at 724.494.0726. Marie also shared that Chris Anderson will be starting on Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> as a Housing Coordinator.

**Chief DeLuca** (Ambridge Police Department) thanked The Cornerstone for providing information that was included with the Little Athens Thanksgiving dinners. He reported that 178 dinners were given away that day.

**Raeanne Barlow** (3<sup>rd</sup> Step Church) reported that her church operates a recovery ministry and they are currently looking to develop a tiny house village. She reports that they are looking at a camp ground in New Brighton that is currently occupied with temporary Shell workers. She hopes to secure the property and provide tiny homes to homeless people so they have their own space and privacy. She reports that meals and some other amenities will be shared. Dina asked her to continue to keep us posted on this innovative model. You can reach Raeanne at [billandraeannebarlow@gmail.com](mailto:billandraeannebarlow@gmail.com)

**Rebecca Salopak** (Housing Authority/CARE Ministries) thanked Pastor Jan for providing take out Thanksgiving Dinners this year. She also reported that Communicycle is giving away bikes to anyone who needs it. You can contact Lee at 724.252.7702 for more information.

## 2. AGENDA

### Home4Good Outreach Program

See above.

**Marie Timpano**

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## Allies for Health & Well Being

Michael Latady

Michael presented on Allies' Linkage to Care programs. He states that he helps link newly diagnosed HIV positive patients or those who have opted out of treatment for some time back into care and treatment. The goal is to reduce their viral load. The support offered by this program is broader than the other medical case management programs offered by Allies. He reports that although Allies provides direct care and treatment, patients he works with can choose where they receive their care. In fact only half of the patients who receive his services receive care from Allies. Michael can help folks connect to clinics and doctors they are comfortable with. He can even support folks who are incarcerated. He explained that although Allies services are mostly medical based he can assist patients in need of longer term support with case management services as needed. He stated that eligibility for his services include: a positive HIV diagnosis, and meeting income thresholds. You can reach Michael at 412.248.0544 or on his cell at 412.523.2079. See attached letter for more details.

## Updates: Homeless Memorial, PIT, Men's ES Request For Proposals Dina Ciabattoni

*Homeless Memorial:* Dina announced the Homeless Memorial will take place on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm on Zoom. She reported that we will be remembering 9 homeless people who died in 2020. She asked that you please attend with a candle or a virtual one on your phone.

*Point In Time survey:* Dina reported that we will be doing our sheltered PIT survey the same as we have in years past. They unsheltered survey will be conducted in a way to mitigate the risk of spreading the virus. We are currently seeking guidance and permission from HUD to make these accommodations: conduct a very brief survey confirming homeless status and ensuring deduplication, rely on providers who already have contact with homeless people to conduct the survey instead of canvassing the county with outreach teams and using drop-in centers, and conduct the survey over a 7 day period.

*Emergency Shelter RFP:* Dina noted that the County is working on putting out an RFP to acquire and operate a Men's ES. **UPDATE:** The RFP can be found on the County's website at:

<http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Pages/Default.aspx> and on Community Development's website under RFP 21-01 at:

<http://www.beavercountypa.gov/Depts/CommDev/Pages/default.aspx>

Proposals are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. See the RFP for more details.

## Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina shared the Housing Inventory chart. She noted that the PSH waitlist has gone down slightly. She states that more PSH openings are expected in Jan. She also noted that the TH waitlist has gone up. She reminded the group that the Coordinated Entry subcommittee continues to meet every two weeks to ensure the shortest wait times for these folks.



*I hope the holidays you celebrate with your loved ones during this special time of year are warm, healthy, and full of joy.*

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## **SAVE THE DATES**

### **NEXT MEETING: January 14, 2021**

**12/15/20 Racial Disparities meeting at 1:30 pm** Email [ciabatonidina@gmail.com](mailto:ciabatonidina@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**12/21/20 Homeless Persons Memorial** at 5:00 pm. Please bring a candle or use a virtual one on your phone. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81523938391?pwd=UHdnZTdWQlFOWVVVMd0RFWGVpSmZOUT09>

**2021 POINT IN TIME SURVEY – To be announced!!**

**Online training on MH Consent Law:**

<https://preview.mailerlite.com/j5k5m6/1572371400352601731/v3b1/>

**Various online MH trainings** at <http://www.bc-systemofcare.org/training/>

**Online PA Tax Hub** for personal income tax and Rent Rebate filings: [https://mypath.pa.gov/ /](https://mypath.pa.gov/)

**Information on NA meetings** throughout the county (both in person and online), visit: [beavervalleyna.org](http://beavervalleyna.org)

**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 December 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Matt Stahoviak	BCBH
Abby Opal	Mental Health Association
Marie Timpano	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Paul Lebanik	St. Vincent de Paul
Teresa Lukes	BC Blind Association
Barb Reed	OARS
Penny Jones	Landlord partner
Christy Miles	Veteran Leadership Program
Amy Frederick	CYS
Denise DiVittis	Beaver County DRS
Erin Rathbun	Beacon Health Options
Vicki Zanotti	Allies for Health & Wellbeing
Brian Churovia	Riverside BCSD homeless liasion
Norah Miller	Crossroads

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David Simmons	ABC Associates
Kate Willette	The Children's Institute
Mandy Baker	Hope House
Rebecca Salopek	Housing Authority/Crossroads
Natalie Meade	Head Start/Early Head Start
Ondréa Burton	Office of Congressman Conor Lamb
Cyndi Gilkey	Neighborhood Legal Services
Michael Latady	Allies for Health & Wellbeing
Lisa Signore	Community Development Program
Sabine Kane	BCRC
Branden Dudek	Central Outreach Wellness
Kevin Huwe	DON Services
Jan Davis	TRAILS
Harry Angelo	Job Training
Jodi Pavlinch	CYS
Ros Johnson	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Chelsea Ellsworth	Dept. of Military & Veteran Affairs
Colleen Tittiger	Juvenile Services
Tricia Ferricks	Pittsburgh Food Bank
Melissa Grimes	CRS
Lori Gaghan	Staunton Clinic
Jane Miller	Aetna Medicare
Marcy Scott	CRS
Raeann Grivna	Crossroads
George Beegle	HMIS
Angie Pope	KEYS/CCBC
Rita Kaplin	Freedom Area School District
Joanne Koehler	Mental Health Association
Marc de Jeu	First Presbyterian – Beaver
Pastor Raeanne Barlow	3 <sup>rd</sup> Step Recovery Ministry
Andrew Short	Project STAR
Lauren Fair	Salvation Army
Aria Miller	Salvation Army
Chief John DeLuca	Ambridge Police Dept.
Dawn Bartha	PHFA
Alexis Cobb	Homeless to Harvest, Lord of the Harvest
Sister Sara Crotty	Sisters of St. Joseph
Amy Frank	Salvation Army/Harmony House
Marla Talasky	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Kristy Minton	CYS
Lynn Bailey	Salvation Army/Harmony House
John Bryant	Street Pastor – Church Army USA

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Jan Davis	TRAILS/Crossroads
Joyce Nicely	Salvation Army/Friendship Homes/RRH
Dina Ciabattoni	CoC Coordinator
8 unidentified callers	

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# COMMUNICYCLE

Wishes you a Merry Christmas!

THIS CERTIFICATE GOOD FOR  
1 BIKE FROM COMMUNICYCLE

To Redeem, please do  
both items listed below...

1. Register Online at  
[www.Communicycle.org](http://www.Communicycle.org)

then

2. Call Lee at #724-252-7702  
or Bill at #724-650-4611

to schedule a time  
to pick out your bike



Dear providers,

I wanted to reach out and offer myself as a resource to local HIV clinicians and other social service professionals through the Linkage to Care program. Though I've worked with some of your clients before in a variety of ways, **the essential purpose of the program is to investigate the whereabouts of clients who have become lost to care or have never been in care, help them get to their appointments, improve medication adherence and address any barriers to these.**

**We want to ensure that any HIV-positive individuals who could benefit from this program are given the opportunity to connect with it. We have no preference whatsoever as to *where* they receive their care; our only goal is for people to be connected with HIV care and work toward reducing their viral load. For UPMC and AHN providers: I have an established relationship with Pittsburgh AIDS Center for Treatment and Positive Health Clinic and provide support to them regularly. My work with these clinics is supplementary, not substitutional.**

The Linkage to Care program is funded by a federal grant called the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI), which has the particular purpose of connecting minorities with HIV care, though it covers our work with non-minorities as well. We are also able to continue working with clients who may enter the Allegheny County Jail for whatever reason; we can meet with them and check to make sure they are receiving their medication, and then help to coordinate their reestablishment with your agency after they are released.

Though Allies for Health + Wellbeing services generally fall under the umbrella of "Medical Case Management", this program is different, and does not have the same funding source or requirements. For that reason, it is easier for clients to connect with us and for us to continue working with them despite any missing pieces of documentation, and we can work with fewer clients at a time, allowing us to give them as much attention as they need to effectively connect with HIV care.

Our program is time-limited. Normally, we work with clients on getting to three or four medical appointments and then transition them to regular case management. We do our best to make sure that they have all the support they desire before we stop working with them, whether they are content with taking care of their own needs and having support from your team of social workers, or if they would like extra support from our case managers. We are always happy to work with you on determining how best to fit these pieces together.

If you have clients who are falling out of touch with their care (e.g., detectable viral load, missing appointments, etc.), or ones who you think may end up doing so and could use some more support (*particularly, temporary transportation to medical appointments*), please feel free to refer them directly to me. For all of our other case management-related programs, all clients must go through our intake case manager David Shannon.

\*I also want to emphasize the importance of the lived experiences of people of color living with HIV/AIDS. I want to encourage anyone who has personal and/or professional experience with this population to collaborate with me to improve this program's efficacy. Please forward this letter and survey to anyone you feel should be involved in this effort.

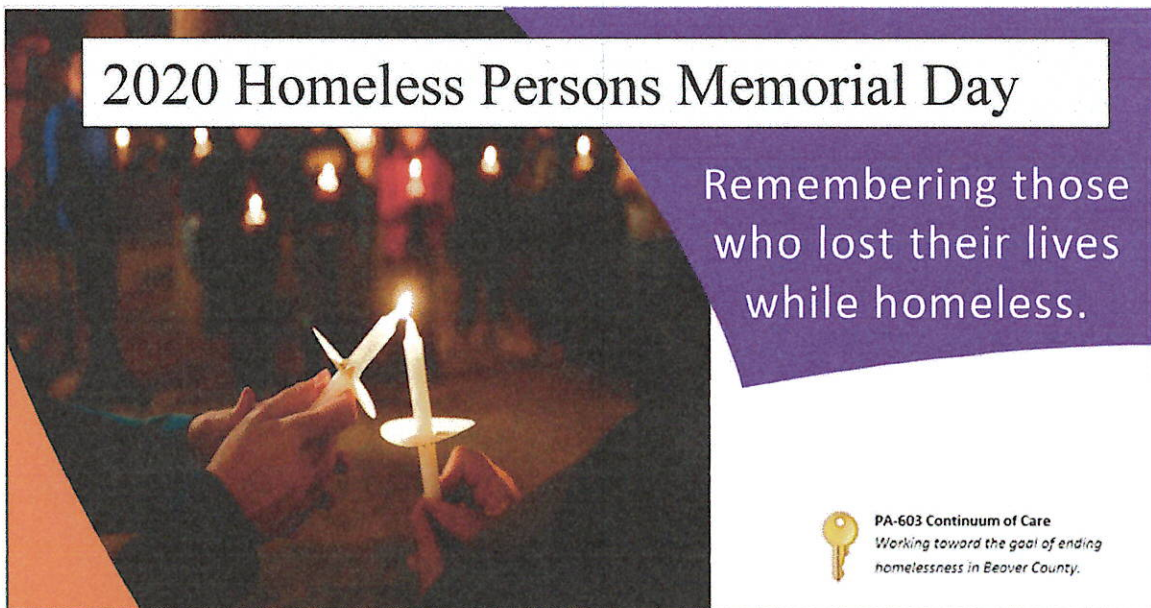
If you'd like to talk about any clients in particular, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Michael Latady, MSW, MPH  
Linkage to Care Coordinator

Allies for Health + Wellbeing  
5913 Penn Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
412-345-7456 x544  
412-248-0544 direct dial  
412-523-2079 work cell  
412-345-7457 fax  
mlatady@alliespgh.org





2020 resulted in nine deaths of Beaver County residents who were homeless. Please join us in remembering them and recommitting to the work of preventing such loss in 2021.

December 21<sup>st</sup>  
at 5 pm on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81523938391?pwd=UHDnZTdWQlFOWVVMd0RFWGVpSmZOUT09>

Please bring a lit candle or download a Virtual Candle on your phone to enhance the memorial. We also welcome your comments and personal reflections throughout the event.

*Questions or requests for a copy of the Zoom link can be directed to Dina at [ciabottonidina@gmail.com](mailto:ciabottonidina@gmail.com)*



Housing Program	Type	Availability	Units/Beds	Occupancy	Administrator
Crescent Commons*	Permanent	6	24	75%	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	3	41	93%	Housing Authority
Stone Harbour*	Transitional	0	12	100%	CRS
CRS Transitional	Transitional	0	15	100%	CRS
Help House	Transitional	0	11	100%	Housing Authority
Harmony House	Transitional	1	4	75%	BCCYS/SA
BCCYS Housing	Emergency	8	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
Safely Home*	Permanent	10	16	38%	Housing Authority
Lighthouse	Transitional	3	3	0%	BCCYS/SA

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

**Wait List Details**

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.
Scottswood Apts	Hopewell	1BR elderly/disabled	Taking Applications
Valley Terrace	Aliquippa	1 eff. And 2-3BRs	Taking Applications
ValleyView	New Brighton	2-1BR; 7-2BR	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; 2 people: \$30,400

**Housing Authority**

Ambridge Towers	Ambridge	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Corak	Midland	vacancies	Fair market ren
Eleanor Roosevelt	Aliquippa	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Rocco Bovalino	Freedom	vacancies	
Sheffield	Aliquippa	vacancies	

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

\*Applications accepted for all HACB sites.

811 Program	Koppel/Roch.	No vacancies	*See back for more information
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**Coordinated Entry Waitlists**

**PSH: 15 (19)**  
**TH: 13 (10)**  
**RRH: 26** this now includes all RRH prgms  
 () indicates last month's count



## Description of Beaver County McKinney Vento Supportive Housing Programs

**Community Assisted Residential Living (C.A.R.L.)** is a permanent supportive housing program for homeless households with a disability. It is a tenant based rental model administered by the Housing Authority of Beaver County. The Program focuses on households with the longest length of homelessness, homeless households with children, veterans, and victims of domestic violence. Individuals and families live in scattered sites. The program is not funded to provide case management services. Contact information: Darcy Casey [darcycasey@att.net](mailto:darcycasey@att.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Jaime.kinkead@use.salvationarmy.org)

**Safely Home** is a medium term rapid re-housing program for homeless households fleeing DV situations. The Women's Center will also provide support to clients. Referrals come from CE and are verified by the Women's Center. Contact information: Darcy Casey at [darcycasey@att.net](mailto:darcycasey@att.net)

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### **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](mailto:hacblk@comcast.net)