



Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

April 14, 2022
Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Housekeeping: Dina called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm. She reminded everyone to sign into the chat and to be mindful that meeting is being recorded to assist with the 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 on Zoom until further notice. The meetings are recorded to help prepare the meeting minutes but will not be shared or posted. Email ciabottonidina@gmail.com for the meeting link and to provide input and feedback.

Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at <https://bccan.org/housing-resources/>

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

Herta Madder (BCBH) announced the Beaver County Bounces Back event at Brady's Run on May 14th. It is a family friendly event with activities, vendors, and food. The focus is on overall wellness.

Sister Sarah Crotty (Sisters of St. Joseph) announced that the sisters will be holding an Earth Day event on April 24th from 12 pm – 3 pm. She stated that the event is for children and adults and there will be a Papa Dukes food truck, clothing exchange, and households goods. Folks can bring items to donate. There will also be educational opportunities on mushrooms, bees, and many other topics.

Marie Timpano (The Cornerstone) reported that they held a groundbreaking ceremony on March 18th for the Men's Emergency Shelter. She stated there will be an informational meeting at the Vanport Municipal building on Thursday April 28th at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be a chance for people to learn more about the shelter, ask questions, review the building renderings, and to discuss any concerns that attendees may have. She reported that they anticipate a fall opening of the shelter.

Heather Slaughter (Self Determination Housing of PA/Inglis) reminded the group about the available training series which can be found listed here: <https://www.inglis.org/programs-and-services/inglis-community-services/self-determination-housing-of-pennsylvania-sdhp/sdhp-calendar>
Heather welcomes ideas for future training ideas.

George Ifill (Highmark Wholecare) noted that he has at-home Covid tests available. If your organizations need tests, you can email him at: gifill@highmarkwholecare.com or 412.316.6077

Lesley Kaluzne (Red Cross) reported 1 incident in the last month involving 2 people (1 was a minor). She stressed that the RC team is back in the office and available to provide trainings including veteran presentations, youth, and elderly. Contact Lesley with your training needs: Lesley.Kaluzne@redcross.org

2. AGENDA

Women's Center – Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Chrissy Noysser

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April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and Chrissy Noysser, a Community Children's Therapist, presented on services available through the Women's Center. She noted that counseling services are available to anyone who is a victim of abuse and anyone with a connection to a victim of abuse. She stated that she conducts trauma focused therapy which helps children identify thoughts and feelings and it is effective in addressing both emotional and behavioral issues. The therapy helps the children to use coping skills. Chrissy went on to provide some statistics about sexual assault including: someone is sexual assaulted every 68 seconds in the United States; a child is assaulted every 9 minutes; 34% of perpetrators are family members, 59% are acquaintances, and only 7% are strangers; people who are transgendered are more likely to be assaulted; 1 out of every 10 rape victims are male; and only 25 out of 1000 rapists end up in prison. She clarified that the WC's services are available to children and adults and that all services are free.

Sister Sarah informed the group that there is an Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition in Beaver County. This group meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 3: 00 pm on Zoom. Email Sister Sarah for the link if you are interested in attending: scrotty@stjoseph-baden.org. Dina noted that these meetings are very informative, and Sister Sarah reported there is an educational component in each meeting.

Fair Housing Month

Marie Timpano

April is Fair Housing Awareness month. Marie presented on the protections offered under the Fair Housing Act. She reported that it is illegal to deny housing to someone based on the following protected classes: race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, familial status, and national origin. She noted that The Cornerstone has a Fair Housing Officer, Bill Brocklebank, who can investigate suspected cases of discrimination. However, he also works to educate Landlords so investigations are not needed. He also educates tenants so they can advocate for themselves as well. Should a discrimination claim appear to be valid, he will then work with Southwest PA Legal Services to address it. Marie went to explain that discrimination can look like refusing a unit; demanding different lease terms; denying certain services; lying about unit availability; and threatening a tenant when they take action against the landlord. Marie acknowledged that support animals are a tough issue and landlords are only permitted to ask if the animal is a service animal and what supports the animal is trained to provide. They are not permitted to ask about disability status. Heather Slaughter from SDHP noted that they provide a training on service animals and also provide trainings for landlords (the next one is April 19th). SDHP also has a landlord newsletter to provide information and support to landlords. You can sign up for the newsletter here:

<https://sdhp.us3.listmanage.com/subscribe?u=28a28469017bf149718499eb0&id=0a0ee15239>

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

Dina reminded the group that changes were made to the Coordinated Entry scoring tool to help increase the PSH numbers. She highlighted the waitlists and noted that since the changes were made that the PSH numbers did go up but unexpectedly the RRH numbers also went up. Marie reflected on the increased numbers and spoke about the challenge of limited affordable housing and an increase in people becoming homeless who are elderly. Dina noted that Beaver County is

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especially at risk for increased elderly homelessness. Melissa Grimes noted that the HA can likely help some of the elderly who are facing housing instability. She included the HA phone number in the chat: 724.775.1220 ext 10 or 25. Dina also pointed to the available HA units indicated on the chart. Discussion occurred around the transportation challenges to Midland and Corak Towers. Marie spoke of her efforts with BCTA to extend a shuttle to the new Men's Shelter and she has also been advocating for the route to extend into Midland. Marie noted that there is supposed to be a BCTA survey to assess this need and she will share it with Dina to share with this group.

NEXT MEETING: 5/19/22 (3rd Thursday of May!!)
IN-PERSON (subject to change) at 1080 8th Ave, 3rd Floor Beaver Falls

SAVE THE DATES & OPPORTUNITIES

5/19/22 Breaking Barriers Re-Entry Summit 1pm – 4pm. For more information, visit: breakingbarrierssummit.com or call: 724-728-4860 ext 215

INFORMATION ON QUARANTINE/ISOLATION: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

TRAININGS AVAILABLE!! VISIT <http://www.bc-systemofcare.org/training/>

AgriStress Helpline for PA Farmers Call 833.897.AGRI (2474) or visit: https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Pages/Mental_Wellness.aspx

Information on NA meetings throughout the county (both in person and online), visit: beavervalleyyna.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 4/14/22 Housing & Homeless Coalition Meeting was held on Zoom. Below is a list of attendees who were visibly present or who signed into the chat.

Harry Angelo	Job Training
Kate Willette	The Children's Institute
Shante' Thompson	CRS
Marie Timpano	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Brett Campbell	Central Outreach Wellness Center

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Heather Slaughter	Self Determination Housing Project
Penny Jones	Landlord/ACRE
Amy Jurich	Harmony House/Lighthouse
Tanaya Curenton	Gateway Rehab/Moffett House
Mary Ann McDevitt	Women's Center
Charles & Donna Roberts	PA MEDI/Office on Aging
Donald Walker	Beaver County Head Start
Herta Madder	BCBH
Chrissy Noysser	Women's Center
Kevin Huwe	DON Services
Branden Dudek	Central Outreach Wellness Center
Adam Loverich	BCRC
Jodi Pavlinch	CYS
Cyndi Gilkey	Neighborhood Legal Services
Jennifer Scranton	Merakey/Beaver County Diversion Program
Barb Reed	OARS
Renee Sannan	Salvation Army
Darcy Casey	Housing Authority
Jeremy Flint	The Children's Institute
Lesley Kaluzne	Red Cross
Amy Frederick	BC CYS
Sister Sarah Crotty	Sisters of St. Joseph
Melissa Grimes	Housing Authority
Angela Pope	CCBC Keys Program
Dina Ciabattoni	CoC Coordinator
Paul Lebanik	St. Vincent De Paul
George Ifill	Highmark Wholecare

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Housing Program	Type	Availability	Units/Beds	Occupancy	Administrator
Crescent Commons*	Permanent	6	24	75%	Housing Authority
Friendship Homes*	Permanent	0	33	100%	Salvation Army
BC On-Call	Emergency	0	2	100%	The Cornerstone
CARL*	Permanent	0	41	100%	Housing Authority
Stone Harbour*	Transitional	2	12	83%	CRS
CRS Transitional	Transitional	3	15	80%	CRS
Help House	Transitional	0	11	100%	Housing Authority
Harmony House	Transitional	0	4	100%	BCCYS/SA
BCCYS Housing	Emergency	0	14	100%	BCCYS
Women's Center	Emergency	0	24	100%	BC Women's Center
Women's Center	Transitional	being used for quarantine	10	#VALUE!	BC Women's Center
SA Rapid Rehousing *	Permanent	0	N/A	N/A	Salvation Army
Safely Home*	Permanent	2	16	88%	Housing Authority
Lighthouse	Transitional	2	3	33%	BCCYS/SA

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

Subsidized or Section 8		Bedroom Types		Wait List Details	
	Location				
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	0 -1BR; 7-2BR; 0 - 3BR	Taking Applications	1BR: 36 applicants; 2BR: 6 apps; 3BR: 9 apps	
Spring Run	Monaca	Full	Taking Applications	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:		

Housing Authority

Ambridge Towers	Ambridge	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Mt. Washington & Morado	Beaver Falls	short waitlist	Family site
Eleanor Roosevelt	Aliquippa	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Sheffield Towers	Aliquippa	many vacancies	must be 62 years old or older
Pleasantview	Beaver Falls	short waitlist	Family site
Harmony Dwellings	Beaver Falls	short waitlist	Family site
Corak Towers	Midland	2 vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
811 Program	Koppel/Roch.	No vacancies	*See back for more information

***Housing Authority applications are accepted for all sites.**

Coordinated Entry Waitlists

PSH: 12 (5)
TH: 5 (6)
RRH: 53 (43) 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: Melissa Grimes mgrimes@beavercountyhousing.org

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: Renee Sannan Renee.Sannan@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: Renee Sannan Renee.Sannan@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

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