



Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness
 February 21, 2017
 Meeting Minutes
 St. Joseph's Church, Randolph, VT

Rep (R) or Attendee (A)	Board Representative or Attendee	Affiliation	Present Y/N/P (P= phone)
R	Doug Sinclair	Charter House	Y
R	Elizabeth Eddy	BROC	Y
R	Jan Rossier	Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NECKA)	N
R	Margaret Bozik (Erin Ahearn, alternate)	Champlain Housing Trust, (CHC)	N
R	Holly Olio	Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS)	P
R	Cynthia Trautner	Clarina Howard Nichols Center	N
R	Renee Weeks	Upper Valley Haven	Y
R	VACANT - Orleans CoC	VACANT	
R	Ashley Greenfield	Homeless Prevention Center	Y
R	Lauren Higbee	Youth Services Inc.	N
R	Pat Burke	Southeastern Vermont CA	Y
R	Brooke Jenkins	Good Samaritan Haven	Y
R	<i>Co-Chair</i> MaryEllen Mendl	United Ways of VT/VT211	N
R	<i>Co-Chair</i> Peter Kellerman	John Graham Housing and Services	Y
R	<i>Treasurer</i> dawn butterfield	Capstone Community Action	Y
R	<i>Secretary</i> Rebeka Lawrence-Gomez	Pathways Vermont	Y
R	Bethany Pombar	Vermont Coalition of Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs (VCRHYP)	N
R	Kara Casey	Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence	Y
R	Jim Bastien	Veterans Administration	Y
R	Whitney Nichols	Person with Lived Experience	P
R	VACANT - Person with lived experience	VACANT	
R	Emily Higgins	AHS - Office of Economic Opportunity	Y



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R	Brian Smith	AHS - Department of Mental Health	Y
R	Shaun Gilpin	DHCD	N
R	Erhard Mahnke	VAHC	P
R	Daniel Blankenship	Vermont State Housing Authority	Y
R	Meghan Morrow	Institute for Community Alliances	Y
A	Eric Peterson	Capstone Community Action - Lamoille	Y
A	Ari Kisler	VCRHYP	Y
A	Kelly Greaves	St. Johnsbury DCF	Y
A	Justin Wegner	Randolph	Y

- 1) 10:05 Peter calls meeting to order
- 2) Introductions
- 3) **Kara moves to accept January minutes with correction (changing Rapid ReHousing to 18-24 months)**
 - a) *Ashley seconds*
 - b) *Unanimously Approved*
- 4) Treasurer's Report - dawn butterfield
 - a) Clarification that Washington County Youth Service Bureau payment is for VCRHYP
- 5) Legislative update - Erhard Mahnke
 - a) Requesting VCEH support for [Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition \(VAHC\) priorities](#)
 - i) Highlighted specific priorities:
 - (1) Full funding for VHCB
 - (2) \$2 occupancy fee - could double revenue for affordable housing
 - (3) MH subsidies
 - (4) Increase HOP grant
 - (5) Expand Family Supportive Housing
 - b) Three major housing bills in legislature related to:
 - i) Moderate income housing
 - ii) Easier to develop housing in downtowns other areas
 - iii) Registration of rental properties around state, increasing inspections of substandard housing
 - c) **dawn moves to support VAHC priorities as presented**
 - i) *Pat seconds*
 - ii) *Motion Passes with 5 abstentions (Daniel, Ashley, Rebeka, Doug, Holly)*
 - d) Federal administration potentially cutting AmeriCorps VISTA program
 - i) For now plan is to maintain (VAHC/VCEH) position
- 6) Point-In-Time Update - Daniel Blankenship
 - a) Reviewing forms by county - looking for any missing ones - following up with county lead if there are questions
 - b) Many programs utilizing HMIS (ServicePoint)
 - c) 211 to enter PIT data
 - i) Comments/objections please let Daniel know
 - ii) ICA will be able to support 211 staff (within the same building)
 - d) Report will be completed beginning of April
- 7) CoC Planning grant amendment was submitted
 - a) Included in the grant are the Americorps position, lived experience stipends
 - b) Amendment adjustment included:
 - i) PIT data entry payment (\$1200)
 - ii) Funds for Technical Assistance
 - iii) 1/2 Americorps position
 - c) Coordinated Entry (people to get reimbursed for time in committee?)
- 8) CoC Specialist position

- a) Laurel Chen - starting Monday
- b) Working out of VSHA primarily, field and some home
- c) Solely dedicated to continuum and planning activities
- d) Will be attending CoC meeting
- 9) Consolidated Plan Advisory Group needs a volunteer from CoC
 - a) Advisory group members include VHCB, VHFA, VSHA, Vermont Economic Development Agency, Department of Housing and Community Development, broader context re: housing funding in Vermont
 - b) Brooke and Ari interested in participating
 - c) Emily to follow up with nomination process
- 10) Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) - Meghan
 - a) Rapid Re-Housing (22 outstanding), S+C (12 outstanding)
 - b) Extended to Friday
 - c) Meghan to send list to Daniel
 - d) Question re: VSHA running report vs. individual providers
 - i) Starting last year providers ran report
 - ii) Meghan can go through reports with providers (all RRH providers)
- 11) System Performance Measures - Meghan
 - a) Must be done in March/April
 - b) ServicePoint organizations should run data completeness reports
 - c) Meghan will send out email with specific dates
 - d) We want 95% accuracy
 - e) 7 System Performance Measures
 - f) 2013 - 2016 data
 - g) System Performance Measures are "newer" data collection system
 - h) Lower points on our most recent NOFA application - one reason is that major providers are not integrated in the HMIS system
 - i) HOP grant requires utilization of HMIS
 - i) HUD does expect improvement in data quality/participation
- 12) Rapid Rehousing program update - Daniel Blankenship
 - a) 4 (eventually 5) RRH grants operating under one program
 - b) *RRH #1 and #2* (Groundworks, Homeless Prevention Center) 24 units funded - 32 units leased and/or pending
 - c) *RRH #3* (Capstone and CVOEO), 12 funded - 9 pending
 - d) *RRH #4* (Capstone 4, BROCK 13, Lamoille 4, UVH 6, NECKA 4, John Graham 3) 37 funded - 1 leased, 12 pending (other households working through local continuum)
 - e) *RRH #5* 8 new subsidies, starting October 2017 (Addison county, others)
 - f) Question regarding formal process for requesting additional RRH funds
 - i) Providers can let Daniel know
 - ii) Will assess breakdown/division of subsidies in considering funds request
 - g) Section 8
 - i) Normally persons in RRH would have Section 8 preference - Standard Section 8 currently closed

- ii) In a week closing waitlist for Section 8 even with a preference
- h) Question regarding low-barrier consideration
 - i) We can provide RRH up to 24 months
 - ii) Low-barrier is automatic eligibility
 - iii) During 24 months can work on payment plan, criminal background appeal, etc.
 - iv) Hoping for movement within Section 8 within 24 months
 - v) Could qualify for S+C if met criteria (serving over 200 households, funded for 158)
- 13) No HMIS update - Rebeka
- 14) VRS Update - Emily
 - a) Memo sent out by Secretary
 - b) AHS will provide \$350,000 one-time funding to sustain VRS subsidies through end of fiscal year
 - c) Question re: Occupancy Fee covering VRS deficit
 - i) Current occupancy fee bill could be "funneled into where it needs to go"
 - d) **Participants must still complete VRS extension paperwork**
- 15) Coordinated Entry - Renee
 - a) Last meeting refined prioritization for permanent supportive housing
 - b) Workgroup is following HUD guidance with "tweaking"
 - c) HUD released Coordinated Entry notice/checklist
 - d) Looks like Vermont on-track for statewide implementation by February 2018
 - i) Communities have identified lead agencies, referral partners and assessment partners
 - ii) Working on partnership agreements among agencies
 - e) Sarah Phillips offered to meet with local communities if CE things are "stuck"
 - f) Meeting today at 12:30 (here in Randolph)
- 16) Veteran's Committee - Jim Bastian
 - a) Working on priority list
 - b) Moving individuals to permanent supportive housing
 - c) More veterans housed who are CH than on active list
 - d) Participation from many providers (GPD, SSVF (Veteran's Inc., UVM))
 - e) Committee focus on street outreach - not clear all literally homeless veterans are identified
 - i) Partnering with PATH providers, UVM
 - ii) Looking to reconcile OEO one-day count and PIT to priority list - VA will reach out to organizations
 - f) Looking at federal benchmarks to consider making application for designation of ending veteran homelessness
 - g) New TA through regional SSVF consultant - working with group out of Boston (ended homelessness in Boston/Maine)
 - h) Question re: Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Grant-Per-Diem applications (GPD); only current GPD can apply

- i) VA looking for different models of GPD, low-demand (non-exclusion), hospital to housing (from inpatient to GPD), clinical model (persons who want to engage in clinical services - on-staff clinical), bridge program (short-term 90-day stay working with SSVF/VASH for permanent housing)
 - ii) NOFA emphasis on these four new models - moving away from high-intensity model. Preference to these four alternative models.
 - i) VA has 205 VASH vouchers statewide 94% in use, 90% housed, currently 3 available (VA looking to have these leased up)
- 17) No Membership Committee Report - Whitney
- 18) Youth Committee - Ari
 - a) Met with Judy Rex (DCF)
 - b) First meeting planned for end of March
 - i) Meeting at WRJ
 - ii) Bethany to send out three potential dates
 - iii) Meeting: definitions, framework, housing supply/stock, data, timeline for work
 - c) Had call with Marie Herb (HUD TA), Daniel, VCRHYP
 - d) Angus Chaney meeting
 - e) Report on Youth Homeless Summit
 - f) Section 8 waitlist preferences will be closed except for persons referred from DCF through the Family Unification Voucher
 - g) Planning 2-hour meetings every other month
- 19) RRH Training - Daniel
 - a) Addison county, southern Windsor/northern Windham, Brattleboro - planned for late spring
 - b) Hill House in Addison county 4 of 7 individuals served through S+C (funds transitioned to RRH)
 - c) Still working with Twin Pines and Upper Valley Haven re: transitional
- 20) Roadmap - has been presenting to legislators (Larry Oaks and Jen Holler)
 - a) Focus of the committee on new housing
 - b) Better received than thought it may be
 - c) Online training resource from CSH - coordinated by Angus (limited licenses)
- 21) Occupancy Fee Bill - Kara
 - a) See notes above from Erhard
 - b) Bill active in house and senate
 - c) Over 50 organizations signed-on in support
 - d) Strong co-sponsorship in both houses
 - e) Press conference held at statehouse for announcement (on VPR)
 - f) Governor not supporting new taxes or fees (assumed to not support)
 - g) Legislation being proposed for utilization of occupancy fee for lake clean-up (\$5)
 - h) Workforce Supported Housing Fund - place where funds would go. VHCB would be in charge of distributing funds
 - i) Conversation re: Vermont Homeless Council
 - i) Hotel conversions (for medical respite beds)

- ii) If interested speak with Angus Chaney
- iii) Powerpoint slides can be shared

22) Poverty Council - Kara/Whitney

- a) Future of council? Scott administration wanted to have staff in place before made decision re: poverty council
- b) Erhard was checking in again re: status of council with new administration

23) HOP- Emily Higgins

- a) Looking for feedback, funding priorities, performance measures
- b) Shared report
- c) HOP program guidance sent to current recipients - will double check re: publication on VCEH website
- d) Performance measurement targets - based on national standards
 - i) Variation within meeting targets by community
- e) HOP recipient list available on website
- f) [VCRHYP blog related to HOP report](#)
- g) ICA licenses and TA funded through HOP
- h) Lead agencies received funds for Coordinated Entry (~\$200,000)
- i) Conversation re: Planning staff and Coordinated Entry partnership/responsibilities

24) Next Meeting

- a) 3/21 10:00 in Randolph
- b) 4/18 10:00 in Randolph

12:00 Lauren moves to adjourn the meeting