

Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness  
November 17, 2015

Attendees: Elizabeth Eddy; BROCC, Aliceanne Lavalley;SSVF, Maryellen Mendl; VT211, Shaun Gilpin;DHCD, Holly Olio;NCSS, Bethany Pombar, Sara Kobylenski; Upper Valley Haven, Renee Sarao; VCEH, Margaret Bozik; CHT, Brian Smith; DMH, Jim Bastien; VA, Jan Rossier; NEKCA, Ashley Greenfield;HPC., Sarah Phillips;OEO, Gilan Merwanji; VNADSV, Dan Ward; Veterans, Inc., Kristen Briggs; CMC-Safe Haven, Arwen Farrell; TPHT, Pete Kellerman; John Graham Shelter, Emily Clever; Winston Prouty, Chris Dalley; DCF/ESD  
Phone; Whitney Nichols; Consumer rep, Linda Anderson; Capstone, Rebeka Gomez; Pathways, Jennifer Allen, ICA,

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**Announcements:** Friday A celebration of Pine Tree Lane purchase, West Lebanon, Turning 100 units over to the portfolio to the housing trust for the area and will help the Upper Valley.

**Sarah Phillips**-Emily Higgins will start with OEO after Thanksgiving. Part of her work will be to manage the ESG portfolio and will be attending the meetings eventually.

**Chris Dalley**-Cold weather exception starts tonight in five districts.

**Minutes and Treasurers Report**-Tabled.

**PITCommittee**-requested to stay after the meeting to touch base.  
May be hearing from the committee before the next meeting.

**HMIS**-Update Megan Morrow is their new Vermont representative. She will be going to agencies to get acquainted. By end of December or beginning of January will be ready to begin trainings. Megan can currently be reached at: [VTHMIS@ICalliances.org](mailto:VTHMIS@ICalliances.org)

**Legislative Committee**- Isn't anything particular to draw our attention to yet, however the Governor's Poverty council has submitted its report to the Governor. Can be viewed on the [helpingtohousevt.org](http://helpingtohousevt.org) website

**\*\*Reminder:** Homeless Awareness Day on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Gather at the card room at 8:00 am.

Go to the chamber when they convey around 9:30 or 10:00.

Noon have a vigil on the statehouse steps.

**NOFA**-Tabled until December. It has been submitted.

Request made to have our HUD consultant on attend the meeting via phone during our debrief time.

**Coordinated Entry Workgroup**- Committee workgroup meeting this afternoon. Sarah sharing some handouts.

Developed a plan-local lead agency, assessment partner, referral partner.-(see attachment)  
**Local Committee**-shepherd partnership-training, outreach, MOU in place, manages and keeps a local homeless inventory,

**Lead Agency**-go to place, clearing house role, housing barriers assessment and may refer on.

Assessment partners will also do the assessment.

Multiple organizations will be referral partners. Handout is an example: there could be other referral or assessment partners.

Question: How are we coming with the HMIS and the shared record process....are we using that yet?

Answer: it's a work in progress.

Draft Milestones: Committee's goal is that all CoCs will be using Coordinated Entry by July 1, 2016.

1. Did we have an orientation on Coordinated Entry with the local CoC.  
Plan to develop an orientation plan.
2. Complete a local inventory.  
There is a template in process- Should be distributed this month
3. Executing MOU  
Under development
4. Complete a partner training  
Under development

Recommendation: Use the chart to start determining who the local partners will be to ensure outreach prior to July 2016.

5. Begin using the tools  
Review tools to make sure questions are posed to meet the needs of specific populations.
6. Use assessment tool
7. Establish local committee
8. Create local flow chart
9. Define local process for managing committee list
10. Gain Consumer feed back

Assess each local CoCs are meeting these milestones.

Doc's posted on the helpingtohousevt.org website.

A committee is being formed of agencies that provide services to VETS. There is a meeting this Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> From 1-2. These are call in meetings and open to those interested. 1-800-767-1750 67655# Probably won't meet on Thanksgiving. Will begin meeting weekly the following week.

“Functional Zero” is the goal. Functional Zero definition: in transitional housing, Shelter, case management. Those considered homeless are those not willing to participate in any of the programming available. It's a process whereby you've accounted for all the VETs and are working with them to get them housed.

If we feel we have reached that goal we can apply to become certified by the feds as having met the goal.

Goal to create a by-name list.

Vermont isn't likely to meet the goal by the end of December.

Request: is there a way to hold the information for this workgroup on the helpingtohousevt.org website.

**Question:** Who sits on the governor's poverty council to represents the VETs? No one is sure.

Proposal for staffing: Is it possible to get any staffing capacity for the State CoC and Local CoCs. Potentially an .5FTE

**Ideas:** Someone who could provide some technical assistance to local CoCs.

Position would report to the State CoC. Provide some ongoing technical support.

Multiple administrative responsibilities.

OEO is willing to fund a .5FTE

Folks are in support however needed to streamline duties into a doable position.

**GA & Cold Weather Planning around the state:**

**Upper Valley Haven**-will be opening again by Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Capacity is 12, could go beyond that number if needed.

5:30pm-9:30am

Will be taking people in late through 211 referrals.

North Springfield and Bellows Falls are open.

Brattleboro opened on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November

Chittenden opened the first week of November

Addison opened Mid October.

John Graham Shelter has set aside some space for families.

St. Johnsbury is looking like it will open we will know after November 24<sup>th</sup>'s  
Development Review Board

There are two shelters in New Hampshire with 60 -80 beds that have closed which may impact the shelters in the Upper Valley.

**Rutland**- there is talk about expanding some options. BROCC has submitted a proposal and it is in limbo. One of the faith providers has stepped forward to provide a potential day station.

Current provider is exploring expanding from 10-20 beds.

Cold weather exception will be posted on the ESD website each morning by 8:00 am.

If someone is referred to a shelter, and they do not show they are not eligible to go back to ESD to request motel for 30 days. Additionally if they are asked to leave due to bad behavior the same policy applies.

Next meetings-December 15, 2015 and January 19, 2016