

Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness  
Minutes October 2015

Attendees: Kelly Greaves, Brian Smith, Brooke Salls, Joyce Cloutier, Rita Durgin, Elizabeth Eddy, Linda Anderson, Jim Bastien, Holly Olio, Bethany Pombar, Lucie Fortier, Whitney Nichols, Will Eberle, Gilan Merwanji, Aliceanne Lavallee, Rebeka Lawrence-Gomez, Chris Dalley, Dawn Butterfield, Pat Burke, Sara Kobylenski, Renee Sarao, Erhard Mahnke, Daniel Blankenship, Phone: Jennifer Allen, Marya Vincent, Knowles Wentworth

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During check in Chris passed out the first quarter's GA numbers.

**September Minutes:** Motion was made, seconded and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Daniel to accept, seconded and passed.

Dawn also distributed the Membership Dues form. Please distribute to local COC's. Dawn noted this is the second quarter of the fiscal year.

**Nomination Committee:** The council still needed to hear from Franklin, Caledonia/Southern Essex and Bennington as to who their reps to the council were.

Franklin's Representative is Marya Vincent, Caledonia/ Southern Essex' Representative is Jan Rossier and Bennington's Representative is Elizabeth Eddy.

Motion was made to accept by Whitney and seconded by Pat. Passed.

**PIT Form Committee:** Chittenden is interested in having one committee for both continua with a goal of forming a unified statewide report. The following agreed to be part of the committee: Brian, Daniel, Ashley, Joyce, Maryellen, Renee along with the Chittenden folks.

NOFA: Daniel distributed two handouts - an overview and the ranking tool. Daniel discussed HUD's open doors strategy working with other programs.

HUD's Goals for ending homelessness among specific groups:

VETS-2015

Chronic-2017

The rest by 2020

The projects funded by HUD this year will be charged to collaborate with all other related projects.

A motion was made to approve all the submitted proposals by Sara, seconded by Dawn.

Slate of reps:

Franklin Grand Island-yes

Brattleboro-yes

ICA-Yes  
Caledonia/Southern Essex-yes  
DMH/AHS-yes  
Addison-Not represented  
Bennington-yes  
Lamoille-Not represented  
Northern Windsor/Orange-yes  
Orleans/Northern Essex-Not represented  
Rutland-yes  
Southern Windsor-Yes  
Washington-Yes  
Youth-Yes  
DV-yes  
Veterans-yes  
AHS-Not represented  
VSHA-Abstain  
2 at-large-1 yes, 1 not represented  
Motion passed.

Daniel is still accepting leverage letters.

**HMIS:** the policy manual is on the website. An issue was raised with section 4.4 as it presents a conflict for a specific organization.

Motion was made to accept the manual without section 4.4 until the issue is resolved. Motion seconded and passed.

**\*\*Special note:** agencies need to pay close attention to the manual and how it impacts their agency's work.

Jennifer shared that ICA has hired a Vermont representative Jennifer will be in Vermont November 2&3 and is willing to provide training while in the state.

She will be notifying agencies with APR cleanup soon.

**Written Standards:** Review and provide feedback to Daniel. The continuum is required to have written standards. Comments should be tailored to families with broad opportunities. The standards will be reviewed with Sarah.

These four HUD requirements were reviewed approved :

COC Project Ranking Policy and Scoring Tool

Slate of CoC project applications

CoC HMIS Policies & Procedure manual (with the above mentioned condition)

Written standards for Administering Assistance

**Legislative:** Federal Budget is expected to be operating with a continuing resolution until December 11<sup>th</sup>. There is a risk of a shutdown. The President isn't going to sign bills leading to sequestration. The federal government is struggling to find a speaker of the house.

Federal Home Program-Senate budget eliminates this project. There is a sign on letter circulation that needs support.

Erhard distributed Voices for VT's Children has a document called "Choices for Vermont's Children" can be downloaded from Voices website.

Also distributed was the Housing and Homelessness subcommittee's proposal for the governor's council to end poverty.

Top priorities:

- Supporting the GA movement
- Criminalization of homelessness
- Bill in statehouse-homeless bill of rights

\*\*Note: Homeless Awareness Day in the legislature is January 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Brooke Salls is moving on. Her last day is November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Next meeting is November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Daniel will send emails out to get the remaining data needed.