**Hartford & NHCEH Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday July 27, 2017**

**Present:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AGENCY / ORGANIZATION** | **E-MAIL** |
| Linda Anderson | Capstone Community Action | landerson@capstonevt.org |
| Rick Bauer | HCRS | rbauer@hcrs.org |
| Pat Burke | SEVCA | Pburke@sevca.org |
| Faye Grearson | Twin Pines Housing Trust | Faye.grearson@tphtrust.org |
| Lynne Goodwin | City of Lebanon Human Services | Lynne.goodwin@lebcity.com |
| Jennifer Hobbs | Twin Pines Housing Trust | Jennifer.hobbs@tphtrust.org |
| Doug Kleintop | Vermont Economic Services | Douglas.kleintop@vermont.gov |
| Ramsey Papp | Capstone Community Action | rppap@capstonevt.org |
| Justin Wagner | Clara Marin Center | jwagner@claramartin.org |
| Renee Weeks | Upper Valley Haven | rweeks@uppervalleyhaven.org |
| Angela Zhang | Listen Community Services | Angela@listencs.org |

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am in Room 170 at the State Office Building at 118 Prospect Street in White River Junction.

1. **Approval of Minutes from June 29th Meeting**
   * Minutes were not available at this time. They will be voted on at the August 31st meeting.

1. **Work Group Development**
   * Timing has made it difficult to get the work groups off the ground. Will re-visit this in August.
2. **Coordinated Entry**
   * The assessment is in Service Point. Meghan is supposed to send the data sharing agreement. This should be used for all HUD homeless clients for the purpose of prioritizing vouchers, etc.
   * There will be a Rapid Re-housing workgroup on August 4th at Capstone’s Barre office at 2:30.
   * We should invite Sarah Phillips to our next CoC meeting to discuss the reality of coordinated entry in our community and how best to implement it.
   * Question – which homeless definition are we using? HUD? HOP?
3. **VCEH** 
   * Everything stayed the same.
   * Meghan Morrow presented interesting data from HMIS.
   * September 13th will be the Annual Meeting – location to be determined.
   * Potential need for a halftime position for structural support at VCEH
   * All GA Alternatives were funded for the full Fiscal Year.
   * Cold Weather Exceptions won’t be changed for this year. *(someone stated they thought this might still be getting worked out).*
4. **Updates**
   * Safe Haven – still has an empty bed and will have another in 30 days. Applicant must be literally homeless but not chronically homeless. This is a 2 year program.
   * SEVCA – They still have some Farm to Family coupons left.
   * Upper Valley Haven – both shelters are full. They are looking for an additional 2 bedroom apartment in Randolph through June 30, 2018. They are exploring the idea of holding “Getting Ahead” classes in the community. They could travel but would need 18-20 people to offer the class. The classes are held twice a week for 3 hours for 9 weeks. Participants receive a $200 stipend if they successfully complete the class and also get a certificate at graduation. Landlords might look favorably on participants and take it into consideration during an appeal. They are seeing huge numbers of people coming in for food.
   * Twin Pines Housing Trust – there will be a new food drop date. Parkhurst – for chronically homeless will provide studio apartments with voucher and service coordination. The apartments are being renovated and should open around March in Lebanon. They are adding senior housing units in Hanover.
   * Listen – purchased Bridgemans Furniture Store in Lebanon. Their current Lebanon store will be moving there. Other services moving to the Vermont Site.
   * Lebanon – TripCap is again without a homeless outreach coordinator. People are camping but no one seems to know where.
   * Capstone – Upper Valley Strong is helping people with flooding from the past few storms.
   * ESD – lots of families are coming through. Reach Up numbers are up. They are seeing a lot of 2 parent families**.** There’s a post-secondary education program available for families under 150% FPL. It’s similar to Reach Up but focuses on obtaining Associates or Bachelors degrees.
   * Strengthening Working Families Initiative (SWFI) – help for families with children that have low-end jobs – an opportunity to obtain certificates for manufacturing.
   * There’s a new cabinet – Criminal Justice and Substance Abuse. All members are high level – no representation from people on the ground.Some folks have heard from people asking providers to taper them off from Suboxone and their being told no. The cabinet is looking for stories.

**Next Meetings**

* *Thursday August 31, 2017*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Ramsey Papp

*w/ edits by Linda Anderson*