

**VCEH Monthly Meeting March 18, 2014 Randolph, VT  
Chandler Music Hall**

**In attendance:** Amy Perez (CVCAC); Chris Dalley (ESD-VT); Jenni Demant (Springfield College); Brooke Salls (GSH); Kelsey Ballard (VCRHYP); Liz Whitmore (DOC); Geoff Ayers (DMH); Richard Rankin (Data Remedies); Josh Davis (Morningside); Pat Burke (SEVCA); Daniel Blankenship (VSHA); Michelle Sayles (VAHC); Justin Henry (VCEH/VAHC); Anna Gouznova (Morningside); Jeanne Montross (HOPE); Chris Husmann (VA)

**On the Phone:** Auburn Watersong (VT Network); Erhard Manhke (VAHC); Mariah Murphy (NCSS)

- Agenda (Approved)  
December Minutes (Approved)  
January Minutes (Approved)
- Treasurer's Report (Amy Perez): several agencies have not submitted member dues, Amy will be sending a reminder. This meeting is first time at Chandler, which everyone loves; but space costs \$30 which is not part of budget; budget is running a deficit.
- VSHA Update (Daniel Blankenship): we are seeing movement within the HCV waitlist but it still closed; although we are accepting FUP applications through DCF; also accepting S+C applications for the time being. A monthly update of vacancies at VSHA project-based properties can be found on our website at [www.vsha.org](http://www.vsha.org). A description of all subsidized units in VT (VSHA and non-VSHA) can be found at [www.housingdata.org/doarh](http://www.housingdata.org/doarh).
- Legislative Update (Erhard Mahnke): The legislature is proposed to address budget gap with cutting of ESG/VHCB funding. A new legislative committee has been formed review chronic homelessness, housing first, and other housing issues. H790 proposes to change Reach Up eligibility by increasing asset test from \$2K to \$5K and increase income disregard to \$300 plus 50% of remaining earnings. EA/GA eligibility reform to reduce amount household contributes from 50% of income to 30%, with potential ESD Individual Development Accounts for the 30% so people can pay for security deposit/rent. H620 proposes to hold households harmless who receive overpayments for 3SquaresVT. Renter's Rebate reform with desire to eliminate due to administrative burden to tax department, landlords and tenants; including creation of a VT Council on Homelessness committee to conduct a study.

H.791, An act relating to the Housing First Study Committee -

<http://www2.leg.state.vt.us/CommitteeDocs/House%20General/Bills/H.791/Drafts%20and%20amendments/3-14-2014~David%20Huber~H.791~As%20Passed%20by%20Committee.pdf>

H.699, An act relating to temporary housing -

<http://www2.leg.state.vt.us/CommitteeDocs/House%20Human%20Services/Bills/H.699/Bills.%20Amendments%20and%20Summaries/3-14-2014~David%20Huber~H.699~Draft%20No.%202.1,%203-14-2014.pdf>

H.790, An act relating to Reach Up eligibility -

<http://www2.leg.state.vt.us/CommitteeDocs/House%20Human%20Services/Bills/H.790/Bills.%20Amendments%20and%20Summaries/3-12-2014~Jen%20Carbee~H.790~As%20Passed%20HHS%20Committee%20,%203-12-2014.pdf>

H.620, An act relating to payment error rates in 3SquaresVT -

<http://www2.leg.state.vt.us/CommitteeDocs/House%20Human%20Services/Bills/H.620/Bills.%20Amendments%20and%20Summaries/3-14-2014~Katie%20McLinn~H.620~As%20passed%20HHS%20Committee.pdf>

- Committee Updates: Coordinated Assessment Workgroup- Sarah P. out of town but Deb Hall and Brooke Salls provided update that Washington County and Rutland County may be first pilot projects for coordinated assessment by August 2014 with full, statewide implementation planned sometime afterwards. ESG and CoC recipients are required to participate. *NOFA Committee (Daniel)*- At the request of Designated Mental Health Agencies, VSHA and DMH met with the CRT directors to discuss HUD's emphasis on permanent housing in a move away from transitional housing. If non-MH TH projects are interested, similar conversations can occur. *Single HMIS Workgroup (Daniel)*- Meg (CVOEO) and Paul (OEO) will be contacting about four CoCs in the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions to set up interviews of their HMIS. Interviews will be open to the public via conference call/webinar.
- PIT Update: Rough draft data completed and will be reviewed/formalized by PIT committee next week; a written section of the PIT report will be created by Justin (VISTA) for April 1st. Michelle Sayles (VISTA from VAHC) has started a postcard campaign for VAHC to get pictures/stories to state legislators and public to increase awareness. Would be able to assist in adding narratives to PIT Report. For folks interested send email to michelle.vahc@gmail.com or justin.vahc@gmail.com.
- Homeless Radio Marathon (Josh Davis): National Homeless Radio Marathon took place last month in Brattleboro, event was a success, would like to host again. Broadcast can be heard at: <http://news.homelessnessmarathon.org/>
- Olmstead information (Brian Smith/Whitney Nichols): Latest about Olmstead.
- AHS GA motel update (Chris Daley): Cost running higher than last year to due persistent cold weather; all records are hard copy, none computerized.

- Overflow Shelters: GA discussion opened up into talk about coordination between GA and overflow shelters and emergency shelters, which Josh says doesn't exist, often without follow-up or case management. Brooke said that several folks have called only wanting a motel room (with an "unnecessary doctor's note") when the Barre Overflow Shelter has been completely empty and there are vacancies at the GSH shelter. Limited overflow availability for families as most are set-up for individuals only/low-barrier. **Proposal to conduct a meeting of overflow shelter providers** after a VCEH meeting (June?) to learn from each other and improve system.

- Discussion on future monthly meeting location. Space at the Vermont Enterprise Center no longer reliable for monthly meetings. Chandler Music Hall in Randolph would cost \$30 per meeting. Discussion of local CoCs donating money for future meetings to stay at Chandler. Commitment from folks at meeting to contribute to stay at Chandler for the immediate future. Amy to check on future availability at Chandler. Next month's meeting will take place at the Catholic Church in Randolph.
- Upcoming Events: Housing First Events this week in Rutland and Burlington. VHCB is hosting the "Access to Housing" event in Randolph in April after the monthly VCEH meeting. Some agencies are sending their whole staff which limits access for others.