

Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness

May 20, 2014 Minutes

Attendees: Erhard Mahnke, Rick DeAngelis, Auburn Watersong, Amber Chase, Cara Collins, Sara Kobylenski, Brooke Salls, Linda Anderson, Sarah Phillips, Richard Rankin, Geoff Ayers, Kelly Homiller, Angus Cheney, Rebeka Lawrence-Gomez, Dawn Butterfield, Joshua Davis, Justin Henry, Paul Dragon, Pat Burke, Mary Cargil, Kathy Metras, Jan Rossier, Daniel Blankenship, David DeAngelis, Whitney Nichols, Brian Smith, Sharon Gilpin

Consent Agenda-Tabled until June meeting

Coordinated Plan Workgroup-The group is working on a timeline with some areas acting as pilots. The committee is hoping for a full roll out by spring of 2015. Tools-common screening tool, common consent form, common release of information, MOU/MOA. Group is defining the Intake, Assessment, screening. Coordinated entry is going to encompass a range of services.

The group is open and if anyone is interested in participating they can contact Sarah Phillips or go to the website for more information.

Delegates for Input to the Consolidate Plan-The Consolidated Plan committee is looking for delegates from the CoC to participate in the process. This will be for future meetings to develop the 5 year plan for 2015-2020.

Housing Study-a recommendation was made to invite Authur Hamelin to the July meeting to present information regarding a housing study.

AHS Technical Assistance Contract-It is expected that this contract will be renewed.

Pathways From Poverty Council-It was recommended that there be a conversation between this council and the CoC. It was also recommended that COC members familiarize themselves with the membership of this council and utilize it when possible. (the council membership is listed on the Governors website)

RFP-A Housing Needs Assessment RFP was distributed for review.

VISTA Position-It was announced that Justin will be leaving his VISTA position in August and a search is on for a replacement.

Annual Meeting-This is the July meeting and new officers will be elected. If anyone is interested in serving as an officer they can contact the nominating committee—Whitney Nichols or Sarah Phillips.

Joint Meeting with Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition-Date and location still pending . May depend on the availability of guests.

Standing Rules-it was suggested that the standing rules need reviewing and potentially revision. Kathy, Sarah, Daniel and Brian agreed to convene to review the standing rules.

HUD Letter-revisions were being made and it was being sent out for review and sign on ASAP. A recommendation was made to send it to Chittenden for sign on.

Legislative Highlights-

- Family supportive Housing Grants-Expanded
- Community Housing Grants-Level funded
- Emergency Solutions Grants-increased \$300,000
- EA/GA Motel \$2.6 Million
- Pathways gained specialized status to Medicaid bill
- Mental Health Vouchers-level funded
- Transitional Housing for Ex Offenders-level funded
- Reach Up \$1.2 million increase for Substance Abuse Case Managers
- Additional benefits for Reach Up –second year of child care for Reach Ahead
- Disregard raised to \$250
- A study was mandated to look at increasing the federal foodstamp benefit
- GA Temp housing expectation of using resources decreased from 50% to 30%
- Renters Rebates remained intact
- Small Landlord Education-\$30,000 RFP to go out

Access to Housing

The event was successful. Group would like to continue the momentum.

Next steps:

- Mail out the records of all the dialog to each Coc
- Review Action Plans
- Promote local Coc's to continue the conversation

Recommendation to take info to the joint meeting, organizing committee could check in with local CoCs.

Warming Shelters Conversation at June Meeting-location of June meeting will be the Memorial Baptist Church. Draft agenda: The regular Coc meetin will be from 10:00-11:00

11:00 Warming Shelters

12:00 Lunch (will be provided for a \$5.00 fee, preregister with Justin)

Treasurer's Report-

Year ago the coc's balance was: \$4,248.35

Current Balance 634.49

Still missing some dues for this year. Dawn will notify those who still need to pay their dues.

Requests for this year's dues will be going out in July.

Next Month's Agenda Items

Consent Agenda

Committee Updates

September Planning

Nominations

Update on Hud Letter

Warming Shelter Session