

# Hartford & NHCEH Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 27, 2017

**Present:**

NAME	AGENCY / ORGANIZATION	E-MAIL
Linda Anderson	Capstone Community Action	landerson@capstonevt.org
Lynn Boyle	AHS	Lynn.boyle@vermont.gov
Pat Burke	SEVCA	pburke@sevca.org
Corbin Burstein	Pathways VT	corbin@pathwaysvermont.org
Dick Davis	St. Paul's Church / Haven	RA214Davis@gmail.com
Lynne Goodwin	City of Lebanon Human Services	Lynne.goodwin@lebcity.com
Karen Lipinczyk	WISE	Karen@wiseuv.org
Rhonda Mabey	ESD	Rhonda.mabey@vermont.gov
Ramsey Papp	Capstone Community Action	rpapp@capstonevt.org
Jim Tonkovich	VT 211	jim@unitedwaysvt.org
Justin Wagner	Clara Martin Center	vwagner@claramartin.org
Renee Weeks	Upper Valley Haven	rweeks@uppervalleyhaven.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 March 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

- March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes passed by unanimous vote

**2. Reports / Updates / Announcements**

- Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness
  - HOP Grant Applications are due May 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Jim Bastien spoke about the Veteran's Group – they review the list of homeless vets
  - They are forming a new committee focusing on youth in White River. Their next meeting will be May 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - The occupancy fee bill did not go through
  - CWE was renewed but with less money
  - Discussion at last VCEH meeting re: who votes and whether they need to get feedback from their CoCs before voting on their behalf
    - Hartford NHCEH CoC confirmed that we elected Renee Weeks as our representative to the VCEH and given a situation where VCEH needs immediate feedback, she has our full support to vote without seeking our feedback as we have confidence that she will vote / make decisions on our behalf in a manner consistent with our CoC's priorities.
    - If there is time and opportunity for the CoC to provide feedback, Renee will send the information out to the CoC for a vote by e-mail, or to be discussed at our following CoC meeting as applicable.
  - Coordinated Entry forms were approved by VCEH
  - PIT #s for the state have been released

	2016	2017
<b>Emergency Housing</b>	470	622
<b>Transitional Housing</b>	217	203
<b>Safe Havens</b>	4	3
<b>Unsheltered</b>	94	106
<b>Total</b>	785	934

- Coordinated Entry – Renee
  - Upper Valley Haven has sent the agreement with partnership materials out. They have only received one reply. They need the paperwork completed by May 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - We will begin utilizing the assessment paperwork on July 1<sup>st</sup> for all homeless households. For these purposes, homeless will include couch surfing.
  - At the June meeting we will discuss the roll out of the coordinated entry process. Renee will send out digital copies and talking points.
  - VCEH is seeking participants for coordinated entry subgroups – each group should only require a few meetings each.
    - Policies & guidance
    - Rapid re-housing access / referral
    - Assessment tool tracking
    - HMIS data management
    - Emergency shelter & street outreach
    - Coordinated entry grievance & appeal
    - Coordinated entry evaluation
    - Non-discrimination
    - Training
    - Prevention
  
- Vermont 211 – Jim Tonkonvich
  - Call volume through March is up. They have seen ½ of the total call volume for the previous year in the first quarter of this year.
  - March was the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest month on record.
  - They have seen a 28% increase in housing needs.
  
- Upper Valley Haven – Renee Weeks
  - The numbers served in the warming shelter were down this year (119 last year / 98 this year), however the length of stays this year were longer. There was a core group that stayed all season. They were able to move many of them into the singles shelter but a number opted to camp once the shelter closed.
  
- Safe Haven / Clara Martin Center – Justin Wagner
  - They currently have 2 beds available
  - Must be chronically homeless
  - If you have a client potentially eligible for Safe Haven – contact them at 802-728-4466 x 359
  
- St. Paul’s Church – Dick Davis
  - He vacations in Florida. In Florida they struggle with what to do with homeless people. One town decided to put money in the budget for homelessness. This led him to a question – what is the role of a volunteer for people who want to help in the fight against homelessness?
    - Active churches
    - Active youth – young adults to do community service
    - How do we create a structure for that? To help encourage that?
  
- Capstone – Linda Anderson / Ramsey Papp
  - Health Connect is ending
  - JFI still needs referrals to build data to show more support works – we will be recruiting through October
  - Capstone is partnering with RACDC and VDOL to organize the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual White River Valley Career & Job Fair on Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup> at VTC. 10:00 – 11:30 will be open to high school students. 11:30 – 4:00 will be open to the general public.

- Lebanon – Lynne Goodwin
  - Tri-Count CAP hired a new homeless outreach specialist
  - City of Lebanon has not given any citations about camping – they are trying to refer people to services.
  - Housing options are being explored as well as the option to camp somewhere.
  
- Pathways – Corbin Berstein
  - They are at capacity in Windsor County and Bellows Falls right now
  - Any referrals should be sent to Amos Meacahm
  
- ESD – Rhonda Mabey
  - Things are going smoothly
  
- AHS – Lynn Boyle
  - Everything is up in the air right now
  
- SEVCA – Pat Burke
  - They have a little WARMTH left
  - They were able to move \$2,000 from Rapid Re-housing to Prevention with permission from OEO
  - They will be hosting a Community Action Day – they are asking agencies to come May 25th in Brattleboro to get the community involved.
  
- Twin Pines
  - They have moved – as of May 1 they will be located at 226 Holiday Drive, Suite 20, White River Jct.

#### **Next Meetings**

- *Thursday May 25, 2017 – we will begin working on an action plan – what is one area that we can affect change?*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Ramsey Papp

*w/ edits by Linda Anderson*