

# Hartford & NHCEH Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes

Thursday December 8, 2016

**Present:**

NAME	AGENCY / ORGANIZATION	E-MAIL
Linda Anderson	Capstone Community Action	landerson@capstonevt.org
Brandyn Arnold	Agency of Human Services	brandyn.arnold@partner.vermont.gov
Rick Banen	HRCS – Adult Mental Health	rbanen@hcrs.org
Ben Dana	HCRS – Adult Mental Health & Addiction Services	bdana@hcrs.org
Jennifer Fontaine	Upper Valley Haven	jfontaine@uppervalleyhaven.org
Noreen Fordham	Community Health Team – Gifford	nfordham@giffordmed.org
Lynne Goodwin	City of Lebanon Human Services	Lynne.goodwin@lebcity.com
Faye Grearson	Twin Pines Housing Trust	Faye.grearson@tphtrust.org
Debbi Kelin Smith	Dept. of VT Health Access, VT Chronic Care Initiative	Deborah.Smith@vermont.gov
Karen Lipinczyk	WISE	karen.lipinczyk@wiseoftheuppervalley.net
Dianne Munson	TRI-County CAP	dmunson@tccap.org
Ramsey Papp	Capstone Community Action	rpapp@capstonevt.org
Jim Tonkovich	VT 211	Jim@unitedwaysvt.org

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am at the White River Junction ESD Office.

## 1. Approval of Minutes from October 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- October 27<sup>th</sup> – minutes passed by unanimous vote with 1 correction – Jennifer Fontaine requested we reflect that these are a combination of Hartford & NHCEH CoC meetings.

## 2. Housing Vermont Presentation & Discussion – Kevin Wiberg, Connections Manager (kevin@hvt.org or 802-863-8424)

Housing Vermont is the largest developer of affordable housing in Vermont. Housing Vermont Connections is a new program that the board of directors came up with during their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting. They have:

- Secured millions of dollars for affordable housing
- Worked to figure out how they can better work with people in housing to avoid high turnover which is costly for landlords (*can range from \$6,000 - \$12,000*) through connecting people to community resources that many are unfamiliar with – for example:
  - Health and wellness
  - Child care & education
  - Transportation
  - Food insecurity
  - Community access – engagement & opportunity

In one of their developments – a 29 unit scattered site development, 67% of residents using local food shelves and 17% receive free school lunches. Their hope is to work closely with community partners to bring programming to residents. They are currently working with Capstone Community Action to provide financial capabilities classes starting in January 2017.

They surveyed residents and found the following information:

- Residents need access to WIFI given how much school work is now done utilizing the internet and the amount of communication done on line
- There wasn't a lot of interest in programs and services although they have been working with SASH and Ladies First on women's health issues
- There is money available but they are having a hard time getting interest and engagement.

Other items of interest:

- They received a grant to take NOFA pizza ovens around to different sites.
- They are developing a model of service coordination to spend a day at each site.
- They hope to work toward “workforce” housing instead of “affordable” housing. Most of their tenants are working.
- They also want to address the 28 day stabilization goal and determine how realistic it is.
- Another idea they have is looking into a housing retention fund to reward good behavior.

### 3. Coordinated Entry Partner Mapping

- Overview – Coordinated entry is a HUD mandated process which seeks to streamline and coordinate all housing referrals. The Lead Agency (Upper Valley Haven for Hartford District) will determine priority and make the appropriate referrals.

- Suggested Additions:

*\*Capstone should be under Assessment Partners*

#### **Veteran Organizations:**

- Hanover Vets
- Silent Warriors

#### **Substance Abuse Services:**

- HABIT OPCO
- Road to Better Life
- Valley Vista

#### **Elderly & Disabled Services:**

- Council on Aging
- SASH
- Senior Solutions
- Grafton County Senior Center

#### **Health Services:**

- Little Rivers Health Care
- VT Chronic Care
- HIV/HPV Resource Center
- Mt. Ascutney
- West Central Services NH

#### **Education / Child Care Services:**

- Orange County Parent Child Center
- TLC / Good Beginnings
- Vermont Adult Learning

#### **Food & Nutrition Services:**

- Randolph Food Shelf

#### **Domestic Violence Services:**

- Safeline

#### **Housing Services:**

- DownStreet
- Lebanon Housing Authority

#### **Transportation Services:**

- Stagecoach
- Advanced Transit
- Service Line – Transport NH

#### **Police & Security Services:**

- Lebanon PD
- Randolph PD

### Other Organizations:

- VT 211

#### 4. PIT Count Planning

- The PIT Count is likely to be held the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> of January. We will hold the January Meeting early and discuss it further at that meeting.

#### 5. Reports / Updates / Announcements

- **Upper Valley Haven:** Jennifer provided information on the Haven's Homeless Vigil on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Seasonal shelter opened the 20<sup>th</sup> and has been at capacity for the past few nights – they still had to put some people in a hotel. They are seeing more men than women and they are seeing significant mental health and substance abuse issues. They are spending a lot of time in the café during the day. *\*(Hixson House is substance free)* They are looking for 2 social workers to provide service coordination at Hixson House.
- **VT Chronic Care Initiative:** They are seeing lots of people having trouble w/ Medicaid renewals. SEVCA has a navigator at the ESD office at the Department of Health. People can make appointments to see her there.
- **HCRS:** they are running into a big need for subsidized housing. They are seeing a lot of clients with past evictions. They are offering a smoking cessation class.
- **Twin Pines:** Overlook's amendment was approved to go from 7 transitional units to 3 but they can keep people longer and there will be more flexibility.
- **Gifford Blue Print:** Starting new substance and alcohol abuse program. They have 1 counselor and 2 physicians. They have a number of classes being offered – healthy living, chronic care, tobacco cessation, diabetes. They also have Ladies First.
- **211:** There was misinformation that 211 wasn't handling housing calls after 8 pm – that is not the case. They do take housing calls but those calls go to Maine 211 and the person is new. They had handled 1,050 After Hours calls as of November. Out of 15 calls in Hartford in November 11 were not eligible.
- **AHS Americorp:** They are looking for participants –homeless households from community partners to follow up with. They are meeting with the Field Service Directors to find the best way to go about this.
- **Lebanon:** The ordinance passed to regulate camping on public land. Community partnerships have been strengthened. All but one of the people who were at the encampment have left. One third of the people were successfully housed. They are struggling to find a solution for the remaining person who has been there for about 10 years.
- **Tri-Cap:** They just had someone get subsidized housing after 10 years in New Hampshire. They have ESG funding still available that has no income limit but can't be used with a subsidy. They also have EHP funds which can't be used with a subsidy and the client has to contribute 30% first. ESG and EHP can be used to provide up to 3 months of subsidy. They also have a loan fund that does have income limits. There will be a vigil in front of the Tri-County Cap office at 5:30 on January 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Capstone:** Crisis Fuel is open. They are very busy with Vermont Health Connect. They have been working with a number of community partners to hold community dinners / conversations throughout their Orange County service area. The 1<sup>st</sup> was held December 3<sup>rd</sup> in Randolph. There is one planned in Tunbridge for March, Wells River / Newbury for April and Rochester in May. They will be holding a homeless vigil on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 in Randolph.

#### Next Meetings

- *Thursday January 19, 2016 – PIT Count*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Ramsey Papp

*w/ edits by Linda Anderson*