

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: January 24, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chair: Tammy Black, Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion

Attendance

Leslie Wagner, Celene Steckel, Corey Hardinger- Wilt, Gabby Zelaya, Sue Doyle, Danielle Yates, Claire Payne, Scott Yard, Bobbie Lawrence, Amy Baker, Nicole Jackman, Vicky Keller, Stephanie Krome, Gina Valentine, Heather Powell, Deputy Brian Colussy, Eric Brown, Scott Yard, Joanna Waters, Jenny Graybill, Tammy Black

- 1. Welcome and Announcements from Board Members**
- 2. Approval of January 3rd's Meeting Minutes**

January 3rd CoC Executive Board Minutes, Jenny Graybill motioned to approved, all were in favor.

- a. Past Meeting Minutes will be posted online**

<https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/citizen-services/circle-of-caring-homelessness-board/past-meeting-minutes/continuum-of-care-executive-board-meeting-minutes/>

- 3. Access Carroll Updates – Tammy Black**

If someone needs tested or vaccinated, Access Carroll has them! Open 7 days a week!

- 4. HSP Updates**

- a. Shelter Utilization/Vacancy Update**

Saint Paul's United Church of Christ has agreed to move to a month-to-month lease. This will allow HSP to continue the Day Center for the next two to three months. Since January 1st the Day Center has served 44 individuals. Meals are provided by volunteers every day. There has been a slight uptick with the colder weather. Starting to see ~20 people per day. The Day Center is also serving as the warming location.

Are individuals who are banned from shelters also banned from Night by Night? No, but they have strict hours of 10pm-6am. However, there are two individuals who are completely banned from our shelters after they've caused multiple threats of harm upon the shelter participants and employees. Individuals who are banned can always appeal. They are also given supplies, food, and case management if they choose.

Call HSP at 410-386-6679.

Adult Only Shelter, there are currently 3 female and 1 male openings. There will be a few pending lease ups at the beginning of March. There are 2 new families in family shelter. There are a few families already in shelter who have some housing options. Night by night is averaging 18 individuals per night in January. Highest night has been 25 individuals and lowest has been 12. We are seeing new people arriving frequently. Recently had a 75-year-old woman show up. Judi Nance continues to meet throughout the county. Judi is available to work with anyone who has been banned from shelter.

b. COVID Vaccination Update

43 shelter participants have received the vaccination incentive. 3 of the new people have shown their vaccination cards and also received the incentive. Families in shelter have not shown interest. Access Carroll can order the 5–12-year-old Pfizer shots.

c. Perm Housing Update

19 households in perm housing. 3 to get HCV. Lot of movement which will allow us to take on 1 new household this year!

d. Eviction Prevention Update

Year to date we've spent \$1.8 million and continue to receive a steady number of applications. They're becoming trickier to approve now since the requirements have been tightened up. So far this month there has been 30 denials due to applicant not having proper documentation.

e. Staffing Updates

HSP's Corbin Ferguson with ERAP has provided his 2-week resignation after he received a promotional opportunity. Hoping to rehire for his position soon. All other positions are filled!

HSP is still helping with regular eviction prevention- the client just needs a court order.

Round 2 of ERAP funding- Stay tuned, it's coming!

5. Outreach Efforts – HSP/Health Dept./Springboard

Judi and Deputy Colussy have confirmed all active encampments. Deputy Colussy checked park and rides in the middle of the night, took license plate numbers of those sleeping in their cars, and is keeping a list to follow up on. Outreach Committee is meeting on Thursday at 1pm.

6. Shelter Plus Care-Amy Baker

Shelter Plus Care supports homeless people with serious mental illness (substance use disorders can be co-occurring) who have been in the criminal justice system and helps the individuals find and keep housing. S+C subsidizes all or a portion of a person's rent or utilities. All participants go through coordinated entry and then Mike Clavin is our case manager. Mike continues to see new people every week and is noticing people with much more severe mental health issues. Mike is working with them where they are and with what they want. CCHS is working on filling Stacia's position.

8 people are in the S+C program. Leased 1 on 12/23. One is looking for an apartment and another is looking for a 2 bedroom. Presented the participant with a few 2 bedroom options that he has declined. Taking on an additional 3 that'll bring us up to 11.

7. Veterans Services Update – Gina Valentine & Jason Sidock

Jason Sidock not present.

8. COC NOFO – Celene Steckel

a. Full COC Training Calendar

Tammy for March.

Vicky for July.

Still have May, September, and November to fill.

Possibly contact legal aid for the gender equity topics.

b. Input from those with Lived Homeless Experience

i. Quarterly Town Hall meetings at the Shelters/Day Center

ii. Inviting people to COC/Exec. Meetings

A gentleman with lived homeless experience will be joining the full circle!

9. HMIS/PIT Count -Danielle Yates

a. January 26th. January 31st - snow date

Stephanie Krome has started as our new HMIS Analyst! She is familiar with programs we already offer. Danielle has set up appointments with agencies to meet Stephanie this week. HUD is allowing us to move PIT count to the last 10 days in February. PIT count will now be February 23rd with a snow date of February 28th. Working with groups to do sheltered counts. No outside volunteers, just agency volunteers. Encampment groups got together on Friday to discuss active encampments. We've decided to serve hot lunch to entice folks to come in and fill out the survey.

10. Update on DV/Safehouse Utilization – Springboard Community Services

All DV victims are being hoteled due to low staffing levels at the shelter. There has been a slow pattern in last 30 days. High volume of calls coming in on the DV Hotline. We've had 2 had unsuccessful discharges. One was because they brought other individuals in and the other disclosed the location to the abuser.

11. CoC Subcommittee Report Schedule

a. January 24th- Veterans-by-Name List Subcommittee– Gina Valentine, Bobbie Lawrence & Amy Baker

i. Successes/Barriers

PowerPoint included at end of minutes

b. February 28th – Outreach Committee

Outreach Committee was asked to show the “why” behind influx of homeless individuals coming into Carroll County in their upcoming report.

- c. **March 28th – Regular Meeting- determine next subcommittee to report out**

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place VIRTUALLY on Monday, February 28th from 2pm to 4pm.