

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: February 28, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chair: Tammy Black, Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion

Attendance

Leslie Wagner, Celene Steckel, Jason Martin, Judi Nance, Gabby Zelaya, Scott Yard, Sue Doyle, Bobbie Lawrence, Danielle Yates, Gina Valentine, Stephanie Krome, Amy Baker, Mike Clavin, Heather Powell, Corey Hardinger, Nicole Jackman, Jenny Graybill, Joanna Waters, Vicky Keller, Carly Long, Tammy Black, Jason Sidock, Alma Balsamo

1. Welcome and Announcements from Board Members – Round of introductions – New attendee, Alma Balsamo from the Salvation Army

2. Approval of January 24th's Meeting Minutes

Amy Baker has correction regarding Shelter plus care update. Revise to state that they subsidize all or a portion.

January 24th CoC Executive Board Minutes, Scott Yard motioned to approve with correction, Amy Baker 2nd, all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

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

- Joint Commission Accreditation progress this past week – very complimentary of community impact
- Provided data to support the need for behavioral health care
- Will be looking at other areas of support to continue to expand and grow

4. Outreach Presentation – Jenny Graybill and Judi Nance

Engaged 60 participants, provided ongoing case management services to 10 of those individuals; 58% exited to positive destinations
2022 - 20% of Homeless from outside of Carroll County up from 14% in 2017

First Time Homeless – not homeless within 24 months – 277 in 2017 down to 109 in 2022

Only half a year collected for 2022 data

Homeless Outreach Survey:

- How did you become homeless? Top answers were poor choices and family and friends
- Where are you currently staying? Top answers were shelter 64%, Couch surfing 12%
- Willing to stay in a shelter? 84.8% said yes
- Still a stigma with people wanting to stay in shelters; possibly couples who don't want to be separated, or have an animal
- Additional resources needed? Top two answers were better housing options 62.5% and transportation 46.9%
Next two answers were employment assistance 21.9% and therapy/counseling 21.9%
- How can we market consistently where it is attractive for them to engage in the resources we already have?
- Will continue the survey and then conduct a full evaluation
- Plan a spring Resource Fair
- Next Outreach meeting is on March 24th

5. HSP Updates

a. Shelter Utilization/Vacancy Update

- Adult Only has several openings 5 male/3 female – intakes are scheduled – 7 left and 6 went to housing
- Family Shelter is full – last opening filled Friday, 2 families went to housing
- Night by Night had 43 unique individuals in February; 21 highest, 14 lowest; filled with females; seen an increase of older adults and people with mental health needs
- BOAD Coordinator of Case Management services, P/T staff, for older adults, will also be working with homeless older adults, starts 3/17
- BOAD worked with a few last week, coordinated transportation to get to appointments, this new staff member would follow those individuals not served in current programs
- Explanation of coordinated entry, eligibility and diversion screening required by HUD – CCHD is seeing older adults who need navigating, on the brink of homelessness or hospitalized

b. COVID Vaccination Update

- Still doing the incentive, will run that until out of money – will try at the day center

c. Perm Housing Update

- 2 HH leave for HUD vouchers – working on two more

d. Eviction Prevention Update

Decreased payment numbers in ERAP; looking harder at paperwork and less applying have Covid hardships

e. Staffing Updates - None

6. Day Center/On Our Own Utilization

- Laurie Galloway & HSP asked to reschedule

- HSP Day Center Update – on the third CSPG grant, EHP grant, new grant can fund to the end of May and into June
- Utilization was 46 different individuals at Day Center in February; data shows 71% of Day Center enter Night by Night shelter

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

Springboard – fully staffed now, will reach out to Judi/Mike to be on Outreach committee and do street outreach

8. Shelter Plus Care-Amy Baker

- Person left, evicted and not engaging, terminated from program
- No one new since December – two are pending, waiting for an apartment
- Firm up policy with Coordinated Entry staff and Shelter plus care. Mike and Lori meeting weekly for new referrals – barrier is not a lot of one bedroom available, plenty of two bedrooms – they can combine as roommates if they agree. Currently have three openings. Jenny requested an email when there are openings. The process for application is to receive referral. Then an additional 6 to 7 forms are completed and sent to State Behavioral Health Authority. Provisional approval is given and then they look for an apartment. Next is inspection/service plan/send to BHA, then received full approval, sign lease, then move in.

9. Veterans Services Update – Gina Valentine & Jason Sidock

- Courtney Edwards working with multiple veterans; some are already housed or will be in a couple of days
- Bobbi has one client housed through VASH, another has a VASH and Main Stream voucher that will be housed tomorrow, and one additional in April.
- One client in shelter that has a VASH has reached out to Courtney today and will be housed soon as well.
- Jenny Graybill will send the form for the Rescue Mission to Gina Valentine for a furniture voucher.
- Jason – CCVIP - active caseload of 87, brought on second case worker, helping apply for benefits, has 4 clients coming in and using resources; has 9 clients who are homeless and are crossovers with county Veterans Services Program
- HUD has a waiver that can be applied to extend time to find a unit, check with Eric Brown/Loretta at Westminster City
- Day center is open whenever their doors are open, coffee/snacks/water/charging station, local church has sponsored – link with CCHD if any needs behavioral/mental health services

10. COC NOFO – Celene Steckel

a. Full COC Training Calendar

March is for Behavioral Health – Tammy and Amy leading

b. Input from those with Lived Homeless Experience

- i. **Quarterly Town Hall meetings at the Shelters/Day Center** – subcommittee- Jenny, Scott, and Amy – coordinate a meeting after the Resource Fair

- ii. **Inviting people to COC/Exec. Meetings**

11. Home – ARP funding and DHCD feedback – Corey Hardinger

- Carroll Co is not entitlement district to receive HOME funding – through the ARP the state is getting more money for HOME projects – DHCD asked to provide feedback regarding gap in shelter and supportive services. Current recommendations include sustaining HSP homeless outreach position and RRH funding once the grant runs out, shelter for youth under the age of 18, service providers that speak Spanish or other languages, hoarding issues/cleaning services (Amy to send information to Corey). Heather Powell mentioned having clients with MVA fines that deter from employment. This is future funding, late summer/early fall – competitive process across the state - \$5M – funds not available after 2024 (ARPA).

12. HMIS/PIT Count -Danielle Yates

- First committee meeting that Stephanie Krome is attending
- Created 8 teams to go out and count; found one new encampment in Taneytown
- Still gathering data; did sheltered and unsheltered count this year
- Support from Allied Agencies
- Next CoC EC meeting will report the final counts

13. Emergency Food and Shelter Program Update – Celene Steckel

- Jason Martin will be coordinating another launch of additional funding
- No date given
- Two separate phases; Phase 39 and ARPAP

14. Update on DV/Safehouse Utilization – Springboard Community Services-Nicole Jackman

- DVSH numbers have been consistent, 3 enrolled currently and 5 within the last 30 days (2 left due to breach of confidentiality), total of 52 hotline LAP calls – hoteling as shelter
- Family Support Center will be opening 3/22
- Seeing a slight uptick (total of 3-4 for last 30 days) for homeless non DV calling for shelter services and we are directing them to HSP
- Need therapists, waitlist at 20

15. CoC Subcommittee Report Schedule

- March 28th – Regular Meeting- determine next subcommittee to report out for April Meeting
- Amy will work with Laurie at On Our Own on the data and information to present

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place VIRTUALLY on Monday, April 25th from 2pm to 4pm.

