

Friday, October 14, 2016

ATTENDANCE	-	Angela Penn	-	D.E. Hartman, II	P	John Garland	-	Pat Rolley
P = Present	-	Annette Lewis	P	Dan Merenda	-	Judy Cusumano	P	Paula Prince
- = Absent	P	Ashley Marshall	-	Dani Poe	P	Judy Hough	P	Pete Clark
	-	Lt. Barry Booth	P	Dave Prosser	-	Judy Lash	-	Sally Putnam
	P	Ben Bristoll	-	David Bustamante	-	Keith Holland	-	Sherry Stull
	P	Bill Duncan	-	Dawn Riddle	-	Kristi McCoy	-	Sheryl Walters
	P	Brenda Thornton	-	Debbie Brown	P	Lisha McCargo	P	Susan Carroll
	P	Brian Geiser	-	Felicia Prescott	-	Malora Horn	P	Suzanne Adcock
	-	Bruce Phipps	P	Isabel Thornton	P	Matt Crookshank	-	Tamy Mann
	P	Bryan Hill	-	Jane Conlin	P	Nancy Reid	P	Tanyia Jones
	-	Carly Villarreal	-	Jim Weber	-	Pamela Hall	P	Tracy Kochel
	P	Carol Tuning						
GUESTS								

1. Welcome and introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair

- Announced Susan Carroll’s retirement from Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare and welcomed her replacement, Tracy Kochel.
- Welcomed Bill Duncan from the Blue Ridge Independent Living Center.
- Welcomed Isabel Thornton from Restoration Housing.

2. Approval of Meeting Notes – May and September, 2016

- Corrected “Askins” to “Adkins” in Section 4 of the May meeting minutes.
- Tanyia Jones moved to approve the corrected May and the September minutes; Ashley Marshall seconded, and the minutes were approved by a voice vote.

3. Roanoke City Schools Homeless School Report – Malora Horn

- Malora was not in attendance, so Paula Prince read from Malora’s report.
- Housed 10 students/families so far this year.
- 70 fewer homeless students this year than the same time last year.

4. RYSE Update – Ashley Marshall Reynolds, UWRV

- RYSE is the “safety net under the safety net”.
- There are 140 children doubled up and 130 children staying in hotels/motels.
- Much of existing funding can’t be applied to those situations, but RYSE funding can.
- Uses case managers from ARCH, Family Promise, Salvation Army, and CHRC.
- Will announce at Interfaith breakfast where the community money raised through the WSL-10

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

telethon will be spent; working with 5 families.

- RYSE is a hand-up, not a hand-out; the families are working.
- Secured a \$40,000 grant from Islamic Relief USA.
- A big “up” to Matt for housing people!

5. System Performance Report – Matt Crookshank

- Matt introduced 5 metrics to track over time.
- Dan Merenda asked if we can trend the data; Matt said yes.
- Dan asked if we have the last year’s data in the system; Matt said yes, and we can trend it.

6. ESG Quarterly Report – Brenda Thornton, City of Roanoke

- Usage of funding is on track so far:
 - Council of Community Services has used 11% of their allocation.
 - Family Promise has used 27%.
 - ARCH’s numbers are coming next week.
- Upcoming grants
 - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) – \$1.5M - can be used for rehab, new construction, building ramps for handicapped individuals, etc.
 - Home Funding - \$400K – Habitat for Humanity has all of it.
 - ESG Funding - \$130K available.
 - Applicant meeting on November 10th at 6 PM in Room 159 South of the Municipal Building.
 - Applications due January 9th, 2017.

7. BRICH Workgroups – Update on Projects – Chairs

- Public Relations/Marketing – Debbie Brown, GMUMC
 - Debbie was not present, so Paula Prince filled in.
 - Paula said this committee would be more appropriate to be “Community Education” to reflect its role in educating the community about homelessness efforts.
 - Dave Prosser was concerned that “Education” could give an incorrect impression about what the committee does.
 - The group ended up approving the name “Community Outreach”.
- Youth and Family Homelessness – Carol Tuning
 - Carol requested updates from the chairs.
 - From Marie Muddiman for the Family Initiative By-Name List Committee:
 - 38 total families on the By Name List.
 - 19 are active, 17 have been housed, and 2 are inactive.
 - 16 families went to housing, 1 received a voucher.
 - 57 children amongst all of the families.
 - Still need domestic violence shelters to report number of families.

- 1/25/2017 PIT Count – Paula Prince – Report: Homelessness in the Blue Ridge Continuum of Care
 - Physician’s Assistant students from Jefferson College will do the count.
 - Volunteers will meet at Greene Memorial Church at the crack of dawn (or earlier).
 - Will do regular shelter count.
 - The survey will combine the PIT count survey and the VI-SPDAT; there will be training.
 - Paula showed off the King County, WA PIT infographic sheet that we want to emulate.
 - Hope to have it to present to City Council on 4/17/2017; BRICH will review on 4/14.
 - The Point-In-Time Survey is taken all across the U.S. on the same day.
 - Dan Merenda: our first year was 1987 (coming up on 30 years!).
 - If anyone is interested in participating, let Paula know.

8. Other announcements

- We wish a heartfelt retirement to Susan Carroll.
- Tanya Jones: The V.A.’s “Stand Down” event is on November 16th.
- Susan Carroll: Final application for BRBH’s supportive housing money is available; see Tracy.
- Dan Merenda: The numbers are confusing in Malora’s report; could it be made clearer?
- Carol Tuning and others will attend a V.A. conference in Richmond on Nov. 2-3.
- Matt Crookshank will attend the Governor’s Housing Conference at end of November.
- John Garland stressed the importance of outreach to our cause, because for example, most people are not aware that there are homeless children in our schools.
- Isabel Thornton described her new organization, Restoration Housing:
 - 2 projects underway; working with Family Promise.
 - Rehab houses in older neighborhoods to provide affordable housing and reduce blight.
- John Garland described the proposed zoning ordinance change that will go before City Council:
 - Currently, housing lots that are 5,000-6,999 square feet are single-family only.
 - Lots that are 7,000+ square feet can be multi-family if approved by Board of Zoning Appeals.
 - The new ordinance would lower the lot size eligible for multi-family to 5,000 square feet.
 - Concerns were expressed about this ordinance allowing more rental properties, which are seen as causing problems in neighborhoods when not managed by landlords responsibly.
 - John noted that demographics are changing, with more younger people renting than past generations, and that some landlords (like John) do a good job vetting tenants.
 - Isabel Thornton noted that all proposals must go through the BZA’s strenuous process that weeds out bad proposals/landlords.
 - Chris Chittum anticipates on average about 3 more applications per year.
 - The ordinance is planned to go before City Council on November 21st, but that could change.
- Paula Prince: The next BRICH meeting will be Nov. 11th, followed by the annual Homeless Memorial Service at Greene Memorial United Methodist Church on December 21st.

9. Adjourn



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



The next meeting of the BRICH will be November 11, 2016

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

www.rvarc.org/homelessness



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



Meeting Dates – 2016 thru 2017

October 14 – Regular Meeting

November 11 – City of Salem (Roanoke County)

December 21 – Annual Homeless Persons Memorial Service @ Greene Memorial

January 13 – Meeting at local shelter (TBD)

February 10 – Extended Meeting (ESG Funding Distribution)

March 10 – Regular Meeting (Release of PIT Data)

April 14 – TBD

May 12 – Regular Meeting

June 9 – Regular Meeting

Unless otherwise noted, the meeting location will be the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission upstairs conference – 313 Luck Avenue SW, Roanoke Virginia, 24016.

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

www.rvarc.org/homelessness



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany
REGIONAL
commission

Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



Blue Ridge
Continuum of Care
A Place to Call Home

Recommended BRICH Workgroups – Provide Action Team Reports at Monthly Meetings

Data Collection and Assessment – Data, PIT and planning will be the focus of this group

Paula Prince
Tanyia Jones
Bryan Hill
Brian Geiser

Matt Crookshank
Brenda Thornton
Judy Cusamano
Ben Bristoll

Grant Review

Dawn Riddle
Nancy Reid

Susan Carroll
Judy Hough

Public Relations/Marketing and Communications

Debbie Brown
Bruce Phipps

Dave Prosser
Dan Merenda

Youth and Family Homelessness

Malora Horn
David Bustamante
Suzanne Adcock

Bill Duncan
Angela Penn
Todd Gearheart

NOTE: The Chair of the CoC will facilitate each of the above groups.

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

www.rvarc.org/homelessness



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



WORKGROUP DESCRIPTIONS

(Workgroups are considered short term, task specific groups that may be reconstituted as needed.)

Data Collection and Assessment:

Members will work to identify capacity strengths and challenges of our BRICH process and establish capacity building goals to assist in assessing the critical elements for effective planning around ending homelessness. This group will assess current leadership capacity and identify those areas that need strengthening. Members shall assist in conducting the annual homeless count. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that each Continuum of Care (CoC) perform a [Point-in-Time Count](#) of all its sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families. The count is necessary for the CoC application along with other non-HUD funding sources. The Blue Ridge CoC conducts the count in 8 jurisdictions each year.

Grant Review:

Members shall participate as reviewers of applications that are received by BRICH for homeless programs. The workgroup reviews and evaluates applications and performs site visits using criteria and guidance provided by the CoC monitoring staff. The initial workgroup will participate in developing guidelines that further define the committee's role.

Public Relations/Marketing and Communications:

Members shall direct BRICHs overall comprehensive marketing and communications strategy. Oversee a consistent and active communication strategy to all stakeholders for the purposes of recruitment, program messaging, fundraising, awareness and branding. This workgroup will contribute expertise to assist staff in establishing organizational marketing, branding and communication plans and initiatives; develop creative market outreach programs that will promote awareness.

Youth and Family Homelessness

Members shall foster CoC-wide coordination to address the multiple problems of individuals and families experiencing homelessness; identify risk and protective factors to prevent episodes of homelessness for at-risk populations and identify risk and protective factors to prevent chronic homelessness among persons who are already homeless.

Serving the Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem and the Counties of Alleghany,
Botetourt, Craig, and Roanoke

www.rvarc.org/homelessness