



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Friday, November 3, 2017

ATTENDANCE	-	Angela Penn	P	Carol Tuning	-	John Garland	-	Pamela Hall
P = Present	-	Annette Lewis	P	Dan Merenda	-	Judy Cusumano	P	Paula Prince
- = Absent	-	Lt. Jennings Tardy	-	Dani Poe	P	Judy Hough	-	Sally Putnam
	-	Ben Bristol	-	Dave Prosser	-	Keith Holland	-	Sherry Stull
	-	Bill Duncan	-	David Bustamante	-	Lee Clark	-	Sheryl Walters
	-	Brenda Thornton	-	Dawn Riddle	P	Leslie Leedy	-	Tamy Mann
	-	Brian Geiser	P	Debbie Brown	-	Lisha McCargo	-	Tanyia Jones
	-	Bruce Phipps	-	Felicia Prescott	P	Malora Horn	-	Tracy Kochel
	P	Bryan Hill	-	Isabel Thornton	P	Matt Crookshank	-	Robin Salo
	-	Carly Villarreal	-	Jim Weber	P	Mike Patterson	-	Pete Clark
					-	Kathy Beverage		
GUESTS								

- **Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**
- **Approval of Meeting Notes – October, 2017**
 - Mike Patterson should be added to the list of attendees for the October meeting. Those attending approved the October minutes by a verbal vote.
- **Roanoke City Schools – Homeless Student Report**
 - Malora Horn distributed a report for August through October 2017. There are approximately 50 more students compared to last year.
 - Out of 320 students identified as homeless, 231 are “doubled-up”. According to the state conference attendees, this has been a state-wide trend.
- **Community Outcomes Report – Matt Crookshank**
 - Matt reviewed the Community Outcomes Report showing how we ranked on the metrics versus last year.
 - The average length of stay for emergency shelter is 35 days, down from 114 days last year.
 - Next month, Matt will include the destinations and reasons for leaving in Metric 3 (from emergency shelters).
 - Matt AHAR draft was submitted early this year and looks good enough to send to HUD.
 - CHRC has done eight HMIS training sessions with Rescue Mission staff. They are working on migrating data and mapping elements. January 1 is the target date.

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

- **Faith Community Meeting**

- Carol Tuning, Dan Merenda, Debbie Brown, Matt Crookshank and Central Intake Staff met with several persons from the faith community partners to discuss the increase in utility/rent assistance and how to expand the partnership.
- DSS utility assistance was deleted as of July 1, 2017. United Way Safety Net funds were also reduced 50% this year.
- A member is going to speak with RAM and ask them to join the roundtable.

- **Other Business**

- Breakfast with Santa will be at William Fleming High School on December 2 from 8:00-11:00 am. Sodeco donated products last year and Malora Horn said it is the “best bacon around”. The revenue goes to the Help the Homeless Fund which provided \$12,500 to Central Intake last year.
- Homeless Memorial Service – December 20, 2017 at 11:00 am @ Greene Memorial United Methodist Church. Lee Clark will be providing the message during the service.
- If anyone has suggestions for a T-shirt sponsor for the PIT Count (January 24, 2018), please let Carol Tuning know. Carol will get T-shirt requirements for Debbie Brown; Malora Horn also knows someone she can ask.
- Dan Merenda attended a luncheon at Trinity Lutheran Church for the 70th anniversary to discuss homelessness.
- Paula Prince asked for suggestions for next summer’s annual conference. There will be reductions in funding next year so ideas to save money will be appreciated. Greene Memorial was suggested as the location. Debbie Brown offered to make arrangements with other churches to use their parking and run shuttle buses to and from.
- Second Helpings was suggested for box lunches for the annual conference.
- The topics suggested were “Cost of Homelessness”, “Affordable Housing”, “Mobilizing the Faith Community”, “Rights and Responsibilities for Landlords/Tenants”.
- 2017 Stand Down for Homeless Veterans will be November 15 at the Salem Civic Center from 9:00-3:00 pm.

- **Adjourn**

The next meeting of the BRICH will be January 12, 2018.