



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Friday, September 14, 2018

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

- **Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**
 - Introductions by those in attendance.
- **Approval of Meeting Notes – May, 2018**
 - The May meeting notes will be distributed at the next meeting. All BRICH documents are posted on the website.
- **Funding Announcements**
 - The City of Roanoke received \$6,000 from Foundation for Roanoke Valley (Al & Olivia Graham fund) for Crisis Housing.
 - DHCD/VHSP – (\$683,615) – for ARCH, City of Roanoke, Council of Community Services, and Safehome Systems
 - Built for Zero – (\$45,000) – for TA providers who are assisting the community to end veteran and chronic family homelessness. Roanoke has been selected to receive \$30,000 for TA assistance because we are extremely close to ending veteran homelessness.
 - Carol Tuning, Tanyia Jones, Jeanne McCormack and Matt Crookshank will be going to Detroit to speak with funders/foundations regarding funding opportunities.

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- **Since We Last Met – Carol Tuning**

- The annual Symposium was very successful. Presentations are posted on the CoC website.
- Paula Prince presented Debbie Brown with a letter of thanks from BRICH for the hospitality during the symposium; thank you to Judy Hough for the parking passes; thank you to the Council of Community Services for pulling the event together.
- Connecting Housing and Health for Stronger Communities was a meeting Carol and Paula attending in Richmond. Purpose of this meeting was to acknowledge homelessness was a health issue and how to access more funding.
- Roanoke City Schools, Carilion and Freedom First are in a joint venture at Fallon Park to build a component of the new elementary school that is going to assist with financial education.
- Carol and Paula presented a training session on Homelessness and Poverty to district leadership from the faith community. Part 2 is being planned to address different issues.
- National Alliance to End Homelessness conference in Washington, DC was attended by Carol Tuning, Jeanne McCormack and Matt Crookshank. There was information available on program data on race/equity in communities and how systems are performing across the board. Youth homelessness and the impact it is having on larger cities was another session lead by a group of energetic youth.
- Summer PIT counted 331 individuals as homeless; 6 were unsheltered students. An infographic was distributed by Matt Crookshank.
- Amy Shirkey noted the new Salvation Army Day Center has demonstrated positive outcomes with youth. The youth are very comfortable in seeking their guidance.
- HUD CoC application was submitted September 13 for \$1,081,179.
- Build for Zero Project Part 2 will be in Detroit on sustaining functional zero in veteran homelessness. Carol Tuning, Jeanne McCormack, Tanyia Jones, and Matt Crookshank will attend the training session. An average of 8-12 veterans are housed each month but the inflow keeps increasing.
- RRHA is establishing a new policy to make homeless individuals a priority when vouchers are available.
- RRHA has been awarded 40 additional mainstream vouchers for November 1.
- Debbie Brown is spearheading the development of a Faith Community database that will encompass all of the services provided by local ministries.
- The RAM House will be implementing HMIS by the first of the year. Matt and Ben are working with them on training and connectivity issues.

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- **Strategic Planning Overview – Dan Merenda**
 - Tuesday, September 18 at Greene Memorial from 12 noon to 3 pm will be a design session to develop new three-year goals and one-year outcomes.
- **Roanoke City Schools – Homeless Student Report – Malora Horn, RCPS**
 - School has been in session for 3 weeks and 250 homeless students have been identified.
- **System Performance Report – Matt Crookshank**
 - Matt distributed the August report. The average stay in an emergency shelter was 51 days.
- **Other Business**
 - BRICH annual calendar is available.
 - Workgroups will be established as needed for different BRICH initiatives.
 - Lee Clark is working on a policy on how to handle the transgender population when they come in to the Rescue Mission. If anyone has information on Best Practices, please contact him.
 - On Saturday, September 29, Greene Memorial is sponsoring a speaker, Jessica Stallings, on how to deal with different generations. Everyone is invited. Contact Debbie Brown for more information.
- **Adjourn - The next meeting of the BRICH will be October 12, 2018.**

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