

Friday, January 11, 2019

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

- **Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**
 - Introductions by those in attendance. Copies of the PIT Community Infographic were distributed.
- **Approval of Meeting Notes – November 2018**
 - Judy Hough motioned to approve the November meeting notes as written; Carol Tuning second the motion. Those present voted to approve.
- **Communication Strategy**
 - To get information out regarding the work being done in the CoC, please invite others to look at the Blue Ridge Continuum of Care Facebook page. Debbie Brown and Carol Tuning can post articles and other information to share.
 - Kristin Adkins suggested taking smaller blocks of information from the Infographic and set them up on the page.
- **Review of Current ESG Projects – Keith Holland**
 - Applications for FY2020 are due Monday, January 14, 2019.
 - Grant applications will be reviewed at the February meeting (lasting 1.5 hours).
 - Keith distributed a report showing the program balances through December 2018.



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- System Performance Report – Matt Crookshank**

Matt distributed the December performance report that provided the following information:

December 2018 – 566 persons in Emergency Shelter, Avg length of stay 71 days.

December 2017 – 482 persons in Emergency Shelter, Avg length of stay 63 days.

	<u>YTD 2018</u>	<u>YTD 2019</u>
Total Number of Persons	658	864
Exiting to Permanent Housing	22.19% return	23.15% return
Total Sheltered Homeless Persons	813	1,019 (increase 25.3%)
Employment/Income Growth	(1) out of (4) who exited CoC funded projects	(0) out of (1)
First-Time Homelessness Persons who entered ES, SH, or TH during the period	779	978 (increase 25.5%)
Persons who exited to permanent housing destinations	83	115

- There were some concerns regarding the increase in homelessness. HMIS has primary reasons but information is not complete due to not being collected consistently.
- Reasons for homelessness have been added to the PIT count questionnaire to better track the reasons.
- Carol Tuning suggested a “Note” section be added to each performance measure to account for the reasons for the increase.
- Some increases may be due to outlying areas sending their clients to Roanoke due to better services available.
- The reduction in funds available for emergency utility funds may also be a cause.

- Roanoke City Schools Homeless Student Data – Malora Horn, RCPS**

- Since the beginning of the school year, a total of 467 students have been identified as experiencing homelessness as of December 31, 2018.

- Other Business**

- Judy Smith, Jefferson College of Health Sciences, announced two donations from former students who volunteered during PIT counts. A donation of \$1,000 in McDonald gift cards and \$200 for bus tickets for the homeless.

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- Carol Tuning will prepare an announcement for the Facebook page keeping the donors anonymous.
 - The PIT count is January 24 and there are plenty of volunteers. Lee Clark will be the media contact at the Rescue Mission. Carol Tuning and Matt Crookshank will provide a webinar training for those working in rural areas.
 - Matt Crookshank added another question to the PIT questionnaire in the reason the person remains unsheltered when shelter is available.
 - The Annual CoC Symposium will be held in August. Anyone wanting to be on the planning committee, please contact Carol Turning. Tenant Rights will be one of the sessions.
 - The BRICH April meeting will be at the Rescue Mission.
 - The BRICH May meeting will be at the Salvation Army office in Covington.
 - RAM House is now up and running with HMIS. They are currently receiving hands-on technical assistance and developing procedures. The Clothes Closet is also in HMIS.
 - VASH vouchers are now in HMIS.
 - Carol Tuning will send everyone an article from the Virginia Housing Alliance that discusses effects on the drawn down of HUD funds during Government shut down. Food Stamps will be funded through February.
 - HUD Programs under the current program (funded through June) will be able to access HUD funds. State money for HOPWA is also funded through June.
 - Legislators need to know if the Roanoke Valley starts to experience homelessness due to the government shut down.
 - There continues to be a need for certified SOAR representatives. Contact Tracy Kochel if interested.
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- **Adjourn - The next meeting of the BRICH will be February 8, 2019.**