



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

MINUTES

The November 2022 meeting of the Roanoke Valley Collective Response Advisory Committee was hosted from 313 Luck Ave SW. Roanoke VA 24016 on November 9, 2022.

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Lee Clark, Chair of the RVCR Advisory Committee.

Voting Members in Attendance:

Lee Clark	Roanoke Rescue Mission
Nancy Hans	The Prevention Council
Cheri Hartman	Carilion Clinic
Jeremy Hartman	City of Salem Fire EMS
Linda Hentschel	Family Promise
Robert Natt	President, The Prevention Council

Others:

Niles Comer, Secretary	Director, RVCR of RVARC
Jeremy Holmes	Executive Director, RVARC

Absent:

Letitia Hawkins-Beatty	Blueridge Behavioral Healthcare
Janine Underwood	Bradley Free Clinic
Christine Wright	The HOPE Initiative

2. ACTION NEEDED

Niles Comer made a motion to amend an item to the agenda and to add an item to the agenda; OD Maps update would be provided by Niles Comer on behalf of Kristen Adkins and the addition of a brief FAQ on Virginia marijuana laws would be provided by Nancy Hans of the Prevention Council.

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A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended by Linda Hentschel and seconded by Nancy Hans. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

3. UPDATES

- a. White Paper Updates: running a bit behind, something sent to coordinators of group by end of week with basic physical outline of report with template and layout instructions. Priorities pre covid, post covid, greatest needs, data. Rather than a unified voice, unified tone to keep individual voices. Editorial group will establish tone. The tone will act as guardrails. This document will act as a funding guiding document to the city regarding Opiate Abatement money. Main goal remains to build the recovery eco system.
 - i. Concerns raised around individualizing too much. Since the paper is coming from an organization it should have one voice. Possible social media coordination can focus on more voices and keep goals prioritized.
- b. SAMHSA Grant Updates: Staff is hired, and project is moving forward through meeting with Health Department and Bradley Free Clinic to ensure no duplications. Salem Fire/EMS program will act as beta program. Roanoke County MOU has been signed for a peer recovery coordinator. Spread out grant and government money by complementing established programs in the area. Program design beginning.
 - i. Dr. Annie Ickes addiction medicine potential for collaboration and plan for Peer Recovery Coordinator to connect.
- c. Recovery Housing Updates: RVCR director has met with city. Developer approved discussion of recovery housing possibilities. Trying to fill the delta, bridging the gap of what we have with what we need. Opportunities with Virginia Housing and Community Development have been applied for, met with them personally and now waiting to hear back. While we are applying for money, trying to make 'addicts in recovery' a dedicated population under the housing group. It is not right now. People in recovery are protected under ADA and that changes the landscape of rules and requirements. As we move forward, we hope to change policy. Things are moving along, but slowly. City Council really paid attention to needs for recovery housing and affordable housing in last meeting.
- d. Recovery Community Center Updates: Mercy Place, Inc. is a registered non-stock corporation and federal 501c-3 papers will be filed this week. Tag line "Where Healing Comes to Grow". A variety of interested folks are meeting, there is a church interested in leasing their space. Developer who has been working on recovery housing has facilitated meeting with pastors and elders of church to discuss. Cannot disclose name of church. City agrees that we need a recovery

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community center. Founding board is 65% people in recovery. Plan is to open 7 centers in 5 years. Funding will affect geographic limitations, but the footprint is the same as The Commission.

- i. Concerns raised about access and inclusion of Roanoke County.
- ii. Brief explanation of Opiate Abatement Funding as it pertains to jurisdictions.

4. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- a. OD Map Update: Health Department requested funding from The Collective Response to pay for OD Map implementation from now to first quarter of 2023. Statewide implementation and financial backing will be required in January 2023 so this would only be bridge until then. Collective Response was unable to assist but recommended ARPA funds.
 - i. Captain Jeremy Hartman described the connection of EMS data from Image Trend Solutions to OD Maps. As of today, this information is being shared manually via email. This creates a lag time. The statewide implementation in January will make this information available immediately.
 - ii. Clarifications about FAACT (Virginia's Framework for Addiction Analysis and Community Transformation) requested. IT Leadership Lauren Gonzalez asked for meeting to be brokered with The Collective Response.
- b. Agenda for December 2022 Stakeholders Meeting: Bethany Hall closing; wrapping up white paper; moving from Zoom to in person/hybrid in 2023; community updates; Mercy Place, Inc.; updates on Peer Recovery Network and SAMHSA grant; engaging and fostering participation from other groups (5-minute spotlight).
- c. Virginia Marijuana Laws Overview: handout provided.
 - i. What solutions are we an avenue for?
 - ii. Lobbying
 - iii. Involvement of Dr. Michelle Peace
 - iv. Importance of regulating
 - v. How horribly this is affecting our kids
- d. Action items attached to discussion at this meeting:
 - i. Clarifying FAACT.
 - ii. Distribute White Paper draft at least a week prior to next meeting.
 - iii. Begin announcing and encouraging the hybrid option for January 2023.
 - iv. Create a sign up for the 5-minute spotlight where a community representative can share 3 things about their organization or services, a call-to-action, and questions or support requests for The Collective

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Response. Hopeful this will foster input, involvement, engagement, and collaboration.

- v. Inviting Sherriff Hash to Collective Response meetings, particularly for the purpose of Opiate Abatement Funding discussions and R-IGNITE Program.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Notes completed by Bailey Helgeson
Roanoke Valley Collective Response

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Clark', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lee Clark, Chair
Roanoke Valley Collective Response Collective's Advisory Committee