



Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

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



Friday, May 12, 2023

ATTENDANCE	-	Angela Penn	P	Dave Prosser	P	Lee Clark	-	Sally Putnam
P = Present	P	Anne Marie Green	-	David Bustamante	P	Leslie Leedy	-	Sherry Stull
- = Absent	P	Annette Lewis	-	Felicia Prescott	P	Loretta Freeman	-	Sue Goad
	-	Bill Duncan	P	Hope Browning	P	Malora Horn	-	Tanyia Jones
	-	Brian Geiser	-	Judy Smith	P	Matt Crookshank	P	Toni McLawhorn
	P	Bryan Hill	-	Judy Hough	P	Melissa Woodson		
	-	Brian Geiser	P	Kathleen Talbot	-	Captn Russell Clay		
	P	Bryan Hill	P	Keith Holland	-	Captn Jamie Clay		
	-		-	Kristin Adkins	P	Paula Prince		
GUESTS	P	Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Serv			P	Brian Burnette, Director CHRC		
	P	Joe Cobb, Roanoke City Council			P	Jillian Moore, City of Roanoke		

- **Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**
 - Paula Prince opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The agenda and April minutes were distributed to BRICH members prior to meeting.
 - Lee Clark motioned BRICH approve the minutes as written; Anne Marie Green seconded the motion. Those members present approved the minutes.
- **2023 Winter Point-in-Time Presentation – Matt Crookshank, Alison Jorgensen**
- The PIT count was on January 25, 2023 and the results have been finalized. The full report will be posted online next week (<https://www.endhomelessnessblueridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-Point-in-Time-Report.pdf>).
 - The PIT covered 7 localities within the CoC, consisted of 6 outreach teams and PA students assisting with the unsheltered count and surveys. Data from HMIS was collected for the report.
 - There were 334 persons experiencing homelessness; an increase of 54.6%. Children under the age of 18 were 15.9%. There were 18 unaccompanied youth.
 - Homeless veterans (30), a 57.9% increase over 2022.
 - Per the survey results, three primary reasons for homelessness were:
 1. Relationship conflicts
 2. Loss of job
 3. Lack of affordable housing

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 |



- **PSH Update and Grant Transition – Brian Burnette, Matt Crookshank**
 - Brian stated they are assisting clients in looking for alternative housing due to the Notice to Vacate requests from landlords.
 - CCS has started the transition and discussed challenges with Catholic Charities staff. The full-time case manager positions are being posted. Brian anticipates working closely with Catholic Charities to ensure a successful program transition.
 - Brian is working on a Transition Notice to landlords that should go out next week.
- **Coordinated Entry Update – Alison Jorgensen**
 - Coordinated Entry Committee has been working with the HUD technical assistance representative to assess, refine and implement the updated coordinated entry process.
 - The CES stakeholder committee has developed a localized assessment tool and anticipate six-month reviews to ensure the most vulnerable are being served.
- **Committee Updates – Alison Jorgensen, Brian Burnette**
 - Community Engagement is chaired by Marie Muddiman Beebe. The committee is trying to reach multiple audiences, including landlords. Certain pocket neighborhoods are causing misleading chatter.
 - The committee would like to take one “homeless myth” each month and address on social media.
 - The Data Quality and Performance Committee would like to change its name to the HMIS Steering Committee.
 - As the Data Quality committee is starting to meet more frequently, they will continue updating the policy manual. The User Agreements will be updated and additional training provided.
 - The Rhode Island CoC has a HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual that is very informative and portions may become part of our new manual.
- **Community Outcomes Report – Brian Burnette**
 - The April report was distributed with the agenda prior to discussion.
 - In April, there were 455 persons in emergency shelter compared to 335 the same time FY2022. Even though there is an increase in homelessness, the “Return to Homelessness” rate is decreasing.
 - Year-to-date, the number of school-aged children in emergency shelter is 144 compared to 79 the same time last year.
 - Persons prevented from becoming homeless through prevention programs was 1,009 YTD compared to 837 the same time last year.
 - Persons placed in permanent housing through Rapid Rehousing programs was 300 YTD compared to 261 the previous year.

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 |



- **Homeless Students Report – Malora Horn**
 - The Homeless Students Report for April was distributed with the agenda.
 - In April, there were 21 students identified as homeless which brings the total for FY2022-2023 school year to 590 (327 families).
 - This school year, 171 students have been permanently housed (85) families.
 - Malora would like to get a group together to discuss the high AEP bills and funding resources. They have paid over \$14,000 in utility bills and will not be able to continue at this rate before funds are diminished.
- **Announcements**
 - The Summer PIT is scheduled for July 13, 2023.
 - The BRICH members chose to continue meetings during the summer due to various agenda items needing attention during the next few months.
 - Joe Cobb will be temporary director at Family Promise while Marie Muddiman takes a two-month sabbatical. She has been director for 12 years.
 - TAP's funding guidelines will no longer allow them to place Veterans in hotels.
- **Adjourn - The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be June 9, 2023.**

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

www.rvarc.org/homelessness