



Central Virginia Continuum of Care HHS Minutes for July 26, 2023

Services Committee works to improve the homeless response system through developing consistent with best practices in homeless assistance while overseeing the implementation and improvement of coordinated entry for the CVCoC.

In attendance: Amy Phillips, Sharon Beaden, Madelyn Pemberton, Jeffrey Snow, Allie Frantz, Emily Parker, Hannah Yarosh, Lisa Bailey, Jennifer Hemke, Alexi Perry, Carrie Jennings, Angela Davis, Sarah Fuentes, Brittany McFadden, Emily Brown, Arnold Corneal, Evelyn Jordan, Antonette Howard, Linda Ellis-Williams, Paul Bernard, Courtney Baldock, Sarah Quarantotto, Ken Vance, Jacqueline Jones

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Sarah Quarantotto welcomed the attendees to the Homeless and Housing Services Committee and reminded them of the purpose of the committee to the CoC's work. All attendees went around and introduced themselves.

- II. **Gaps in homeless response services:** Sarah reminded the group that a major responsibility of this committee is to identify needs and gaps in the homeless response system and to problem solve solutions. The first gap is expanding shelter capacity. Courtney shared that the Shelter at RESET will cap their bed capacity at 16 beds. The CoC is also in need of a day shelter as the growing unsheltered population needs a safe place to be during the day to receive services. There has not been an update on a nonprofit taking this over but the committee had several ideas. Paul with the Salvation Army shared that their dining room was available if temperatures rose above 90 degrees. Allie suggested reaching out to Tree of Life and she will connect them with Sarah Fuentes to discuss this further. The homeless hotline, CHIA, will resume nights and weekends availability next month as Roads to Recovery can take this over. Ongoing conversations continue with the City of Lynchburg regarding an extreme weather shelter.

- III. **Coordinated Entry**
 - a. *CHIA:* Angela Davis provided the following report for the last two months for the homeless information line:
 - i. 30 referrals were sent to homeless prevention at IOA
 - ii. 15 households were referred to emergency shelter at RESET (Salvation Army no longer fills beds through CHIA)
 - iii. 8 households were referred to domestic violence services
 - iv. 97 households were referred to street outreach
 - v. Angela reported that the 83% of callers were provided with other resources as they were not at-risk of or experiencing homelessness or they were repeat callers needing to talk through their situations as they were still in a crisis but not able to access needed resources.

 - b. *HOME:* Carrie Jennings was introduced as the new street outreach worker. She will have a report at the September meeting.

 - c. *Domestic Violence Shelters:* Linda Ellis-Williams reported that Sadler House provided shelter in June to 17 women, 1 man and 12 children. She indicated that there was significant inflow from other communities and her staff was actively working to connect persons fleeing domestic violence with shelters in their community and/or state. Lisa Bailey with BDVS reported that they

served 1 family of 7 this past month and currently have shelter openings for households fleeing domestic violence.

- d. *By-Name List (veterans, families, youth & chronically homeless)*: Sarah Fuentes shared data on our current priority subpopulations. Currently more households came into our homeless response system over the last two months than moved into housing.

IV. Sarah Fuentes provided a training on coordinated entry.

I. **Agency/Program/Resources Updates**

- Paul with the Salvation Army shared that there would be a resource fair for homeless providers on 8/25 from 2pm-3:30pm
- Courtney with the Shelter at RESET shared that she was in need of toiletry items and twin bedding.

II. **Next meetings-** (all CoC meetings are listed on the CoC website at centralvirginiacoc.org/calendar)

HHS: Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 10am, United Way Conference Room

CoC Community Meeting: Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 9am – 11am, in-person, Craddock

Auditorium at Virginia Baptist Hospital

Minutes provided by Sarah Quarantotto, Chair of HHS