

4/11/2024
Meeting Agenda

Welcome and Housekeeping

The Housing & Homeless Coalition welcomes ideas, opinions, and knowledge from a broad spectrum of partners; thus meetings are open to the public and new members are always welcomed. Meetings take place the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm. Email ciabottonidina@gmail.com for the meeting information and to provide input and feedback. Meetings are not permitted to be recorded.

Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at <https://www.bchmis.info/>

1. Open Discussion

Francie Booterbaugh (The Cornerstone of Beaver County) introduced Teresa S as the new housing coordinator. She is currently in training and will be helping with ESG referrals, ESGHP, SSVS, and lobby duties. She can be reached at 724.846.6400 ext 113.

Emily Shuster (PA CareerLink) stated that 287 job seekers attended the spring job fair. She shared that they are working on future events to possibly help with driver's license and birth certificates. August 30th will be the re-entry summit scan the code to register.

Natalie Thomas (Family Matters) shared that Family Matters food bank serves 300 families weekly. You must register online and show proof of residency, no appointment is required. Monday is for veterans only, Tuesday and Thursday is for anyone else.

Dina Cibattoni (CoC) reported that Harmony House is hiring a full-time case manager and that more details can be found on indeed. She also shared that Habitat for Humanity is looking for applications for new properties in three locations. Contact Regina for additional information.

Nancy Grieco (Red Cross) reported two single family fires with four adults, and two children, both cases are closed. She also reported 11 flooding cases affecting 16 adults and 14 children.

Harry Angelo (ERAP) announced that the ERAP program will be taking applications for 7 more weeks, until May 31st then the program will be wrapping up.

Jessica (Fair Housing Law Center) announced HUD released \$30 million total funds for fair housing protection. She shared that they will be doing a poster contest for April which is fair housing month.

2. Agenda

Sexual Assault Awareness Month
McDevitt

Mary Ann

Mary Ann shared that every 98 minutes adult sexual assault occurs and every 9 minutes a child sexual assault occurs with only 25 out of 1000 perpetrators going to jail. The shelter provides assistance with the exam process, advocates for court, therapy, and shelter. She reported 182 sexual assault victims from July 2023 to March 2024 with 53 being children from age 0-12 year old and 55 being age 13-17. Mary Ann stated that 51% of victims were assaulted by a family member. She shared the location statistics of the sexual assaults. 55% near or at the victims' home, 54% in public, 12% relative, 10% enclosed public, 8% on school property. Sexual assault can cause long-term effects such as using substances to cope, loss of employment, impacts on relationships, and homelessness. There is a higher risk of sexual assault when individuals are homeless. If a victim discloses information please call the Women's Shelter hotline or bring them in to the shelter. Assistance will be provided to support the victim with going to the hospital and going to the police. Contact Kaitlyn for outreach and education information.

Milton Hershey School

Nadia Engel

Nadia announced that Milton Hershey School is in need of house parents and more students. All cost is covered by the school and scholarships can be earned. To be eligible for Milton Hershey School you must be a working class family, have an IQ of 80, with no serious behavioral health problems. Older students live with other students and learn life skills. The school provides longer holiday breaks, transportation, and a team that works to keep parents engaged. There are significantly better learning outcomes from students. The students have the opportunity to have a home life environment, focus on academics, travel, complete internships, work, and participate in sports. The admission process can take approximately 3 to 6 months to determine eligibility and hotels can be provided if needed during this time. Families in need can be referred to Nadia. She will be hosting an information pizza party at Pappy's Candles in New Brighton April 23rd. Nadia reported that Hershey Milton School currently has 6 children participating from Beaver County.

Feedback on CoC Strategic Plan

Dina Ciabattoni

See attached.

Bed Availability

Dina Ciabattoni

See attached.

NEXT MEETING: May 9th at 1:30 pm

SAVE THE DATES & OPPORTUNITIES

5/2/2024 TRAINING: Identifying Potential Funders and Writing Grant Applications for 100% Compliance with the Funder's Guidelines at 1:30 pm. Presented by Dr. Beverly Browning – renowned author and expert on grant writing. This training will take place on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88637271311?pwd=UEhuYVF1c2grWIRjK2VscjVMVTN6UT09>

5/15/24 CoC Funding Competition Training at 1:30 pm on Zoom. The training will be recorded and shared with those who were unable to attend.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81533678177?pwd=WTNjQmorcGtITBka0lFK0J1Y0VBdz09>

For assistance with SNAP benefits, contact Patricia Ferricks from the Pittsburgh Community Food Bank at: pferricks@pittsburghfoodbank.org, cell: 724.549.8463, or visit at TCBC (600 6th Street Beaver Falls, PA)

Updated Free Meal Schedule and Food Pantries can be found at: www.bchmis.info

Information on NA meetings throughout the county (both in person and online), visit: beavervalleyyna.org

TRAININGS AVAILABLE!! VISIT <http://www.bc-systemofcare.org/training/>