

2/8/2024  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm. Email [ciabottonidina@gmail.com](mailto: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/>*

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**1. Open Discussion**

**Francie Booterbaugh (The Cornerstone of Beaver County)** announced they hired a new outreach employee. She introduced Patrick Lee to the group. He can be reached at 724.846.6400 ext 112.

**Shante Thompson (Cornerstone Recovery & Supports)** shared that Stone Harbour has a new director Tammy VanEvera.

**Annie Dayich (Veteran's Association Clinic)** announced that the VA will be having a food and clothing drive, recipients must be veterans. Annie shared that the clinic will be doing a 90 day shuttle program to assist veterans to their appointments. The department of veteran's affair also provide transportation for veterans and can be reached at 724.770.4452.

**Toni Whiteleather (Children and Youth Services)** shared an upcoming drug and alcohol and pregnancy training on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Seven Oaks in Beaver. The speaker will be Dr. Ira Chasnoff and will discuss screening, systems, long term outcomes. Toni also shared that children and youth services can refer to family treatment court to meet with the judge and develop a service plan.

**Harry Angelo (ERAP)** announced there is an end date for the ERAP program, it will end May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Nancy Grieco (Red Cross)** reported two single family fire with six adults, three children, and one fatality. No assistance is needed.

**Denise DeVittis (Domestic Relations)** shared that CareerLink will be hosting a re-entry summit.

**Zabriawn Smith (Housing Opportunities)** announced an upcoming home owner workshop on February 21<sup>st</sup> at Huntington Bank in Beaver from 6:00pm to 7:30 pm. The training will cover cost assistance, grants and mandatory steps for closing. Zabriawn shared they are looking to hire an office manager.

**Saffra Rahmany (Fair Housing Law Center)** shared pamphlets.

## **2. Agenda**

### **Point in Time**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

See attached. The point in time survey was conducted on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dina thanked all volunteers for their time and shared that 13 unsheltered were found.

### **Eviction Rates**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina announced that the eviction rates are the top 20 of the highest rates. She opened the floor for discussion amongst the group. Penny Jones of ACRE shared that people don't follow guidelines and stop paying rent. Harry Angelo of ERAP stated they've experienced tenants having their rent and future rent paid, then they come back for more payments. Mike Litte of HACB questioned case management and if that would help. Shante Thompson of CRS stated not every case manager is good. She shared that maybe the government levels need to be stricter and that clients are used to the behavior or culture. She stated there should be a timeline for assistance and should require credit counseling. Francie from TCBC shared the ESG program can't put many restrictions in place. Renee from Salvation Army questioned why landlords are allowing rent to get backed up so much and asked how many evictions ended in homelessness. Ashley recommended budgeting classes for long term success and an eviction diversion program. Zabriawn of Housing Opportunities shared they provide assistance for consolidation court on foreclosures. He asked for housing authority data on rate of increase in rent and shared he would like to see more rental counseling, credit and budgeting. Paul shared they have made a lot of referrals to ERAP and that ACP does provide budget counseling but there is limited follow through.

### **Bed Availability**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

See attached. Dina announced that Valleyview has 2 bedrooms available. Beaver Falls has donations for those in need.

**NEXT MEETING: March 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm**

## **SAVE THE DATES & OPPORTUNITIES**

**Pillars of Truth: Navigating Freedom with Integrity in the Shadows of Wrongful Conviction** 2/28/24 at 7 pm at Deneva College Skye Lounge

**2/29/24** Last day to donate to the **Love Thy Neighbor donation event** for hygiene and comfort items. Items can be dropped off outside the Mayor's office in the Beaver Falls City Building located at 715 15<sup>th</sup> Street Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Items will be distributed to Coalition partners to give to unstably housed individuals and families.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> Street Beaver Falls, PA)

**Updated Free Meal Schedule and Food Pantries can be found at: [www.bchmis.info](http://www.bchmis.info)**

**Information on NA meetings** throughout the county (both in person and online), visit: [beavervalleyna.org](http://beavervalleyna.org)

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