

Burlington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH)

February 16, 2023

9:00 AM

Marge McGinley - Chairperson

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98738446386?pwd=aHM2dlJNNWdTcHVhSUVGd04yb0RQZz09>

Meeting ID: 987 3844 6386

Password: 7zctYp

PRESENT: Marge McGinley, Dawne Belfon, Kim Scott, Tim Hurley, Malika Morris, Mecca Mitchell, Brandon Markowski, Maureen Fahey, Cinthia Gonzalez, Lila Myers, Dawn Harvey, Donald Brown, Claudine Archer, Julianna Heck, Lashaunda Carter, Carol Clark, Mariesa Best, Amanda Mackie, Amy Gannon, Jenny Allen, Pat Booker, Laurie Bowden, Pam Moore, Michael Maltalano, Corey Panati, Sam Rudd, Madelyn Sutton, Catherine Galesky, Richard Ferreira, Kent Pipes, Ashni Mathew, Nia Perry, Coriell Vokoun, Shelja Touri, Rann Miller, Deborah Thompson, Richard Gober, Stephen Scheuren, Rhonda Walls, Rachel Morgan, Ratona Stokes-Robinson, Shauna Kane, Heather Coleman, Nicole Simmons Graham, Arielle Levin-Morton, Lauren Simone-Carpenter, Monica Rego, Casey Carty, Jennifer Hiros, Jaclyn Robinson, Patricia Lake.

- 1) Call to Order at 9:04 AM
- 2) Approval of January Meeting Minutes – Motion to accept the January minutes by Catherine Galesky, second Madelyn Sutton, **Motion Carried.**
- 3) Spotlight Presentation – The Diversity and Equal Opportunity Network (D.E.O.N.), a non-profit group addressing racial disparities along with social and economic equity, all while helping to improve the human condition through education. D.E.O.N.'s mission is, through education, people can achieve a positive impact on society. D.E.O.N. works with companies, governments, and other non-profits to address complex challenges in the community. For more information, visit their website www.deon4change.org, or call 856-315-0877.
- 4) Reports
 - a) HMIS
 - i) Cinthia Gonzalez reported the following for February:
 - (1) The next General User Training session will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 10:00 AM.
 - (2) There will be a Household Composition Training on February 24, 2023, case managers within agencies struggling to correct errors in household composition are encouraged to attend.
 - (3) Annual assessments for consumers in projects for more than a year should be updated.
 - (4) Social Services for the Homeless Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) reports for 2021 and 2022 are currently under review. A reoccurring

issue has been TANF funds being used for individuals. Please run reports before submitting them to the county.

b) Veterans Sub-Committee

i) Corey Panati reported the following for January:

- (1) Approximately 25-30 new veterans have been identified since the last meeting.
- (2) Since the last Veterans Sub-Committee meeting, 3 veterans have been housed.
- (3) If any agency knows of any housing availabilities, please contact Corey Panati at cpanati@wesoldieron.org
- (4) The next Veterans Sub-Committee meeting is Wednesday, February 23, 2023, at 2 PM.

c) Providence House

i) Ratona Stokes-Robinson reported the following for January:

- (1) There were 117 residents in motels due to shelter renovations, 54 children, and 63 adults.
- (2) Providence House reports exits into housing, apartments, and rooms. Consumers also exited to family situations.
- (3) Providence House also reports discharges due to hotel violations, and lack of funding.

d) Board of Social Services

i) Lila Myers reported the following for January:

- (1) Additional allotments for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are ending on February 28, 2023. Customers will begin receiving regular SNAP benefits on March 1, 2023.
- (2) Medicaid waivers established during COVID will expire in April 2023. Medicaid households will be re-evaluated to determine continued eligibility.
- (3) Madelyn Sutton inquired about the 28-Day Work Force Program available through the Board. Lila Myers explained the General Cash Assistance Program (available to adults without children) requires applicants to participate in a 28-day work program before receiving benefits.
- (4) Board of Social Services is actively hiring additional staff.

e) Housing Hub

i) Malukah Morris reported the following for January:

- (1) 230 new intakes; 142 motel nights; 42 rental assistance; 12 security deposits.
- (2) Lunches and Information For Tenants and Underserved Populations (LIFT UP) will begin in the Spring. Dates and locations will be announced.
- (3) Bring Health Home will be held in April; details will be forthcoming.
- (4) Monthly Food Distribution will be on Saturday, February 25, 2023.
- (5) The referral process remains the same, the Housing Hub should be contacted at the following:

housinghub@co.burlington.nj.us

- f) Community Development and Housing – Jennifer Hiros reported the following for January:
 - a) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - (1) HUD announced in a state-wide meeting on February 14, 2023, the Executive waiver for Zoom meetings for the The Annual Action Plan has expired.
 - (2) The Division of Community Development and Housing is revising its schedule to accommodate in-person Public Hearings of its Annual Plan as a result of this notification.
 - (3) FY2022 Projects going smoothly, continue to bill down monthly.
 - b) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Funding (CARES ACT):
 - (1) Projects are moving forward and billing monthly. Please contact The Division of Community Development and Housing if anyone needs assistance.
 - c) HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME -ARP) – Monica Rego reported the following for January:
 - (1) The HOME- American Rescue Plan Draft is out for Public Comment and will be submitted to HUD on March 31, 2023.
 - (2) The Plan can be found on the county’s website <https://www.co.burlington.nj.us/DocumentCenter/View/17145/HOME-ARP-Allocation-Plan-DRAFT-PDF->. There is also a copy in the office of The Division of Community Development and Housing for view.
- g) Rapid Rehousing
 - i) Casey Carty reported the following for January:
 - (1) BCCAP – 2 individuals/families working on Division of Community Affairs (DCA) applications; 1 household pending approval; 14 families searching for affordable housing and 1 applicant moving into a new development on March 1, 2023.
 - (2) Chrisitan Caring Center – 8 households searching for affordable housing; 3 families pending move-in; 3 discharged to housing.
 - (3) Belmont Homes – No report given.
 - h) Continuum of Care Updates –
 - a) Governance Board – No report given.
 - b) Social Services for the Homeless Update – Casey Carty reported the following:
 - (1) Request for Letter of Consistency: Please submit letters 30 days in advance. Please keep in mind the Governance Board meets bi-monthly.
 - (2) The Division of Community Development and Housing does not have the Point in Time Count (PIT) numbers for 2023, however, is confident in the county coverage supplied by staff and volunteers.

- c) Data Quality and Coordinated Assessment – Jaclyn Robinson reported the following:
 - (1) 9 consumers were removed from the Housing Prioritization List and into permanent housing. There are currently 9 consumers on the Housing Prioritization List to be reviewed for removal.
 - (2) The next Data Quality and Coordinated Assessment meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 10:00 AM. This will be the first in-person meeting; all meetings will now be in-person.

5) Discussion

- a) Richard Gober, a landlord, commented on revenue lost due to COVID. Richard Gober stated he has 42 units available for sale. For more information, call (609) 822-8449.
- b) Claudine Archer thanked The Division of Community Development and Housing for including the Beloved Project in the Point in Time Count. The Beloved Project will continue its Project Restart. Claudine Archer will provide further information.
- c) Kent Pipes stated The Department of Civil Rights Memorandum in terms of housing, states any source of funding is equal to any other source of funding.
- d) Madelyn Sutton stated Code Blue is still in effect, and anyone needing assistance should call 211 to find the nearest shelter. Madelyn Sutton stated with SNAP benefits declining, please refer clients to food pantries.

There were no further comments.

- 6) Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 AM.

Respectfully Submitted

PL/CC

cc: JLH
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