

Burlington County Coalition for the Homeless (BCCH)

April 20, 2023

9:00 AM

Marge McGinley - Chairperson

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98738446386?pwd=aHM2dJNNWdTcHVhSUVGd04yb0RQZz09>

Meeting ID: 987 3844 6386

Password: 7zctYp

PRESENT: Dawne Belfon, Kim Scott, Malukah Morris, Mecca Mitchell, Brandon Markowski, Maureen Fahey, Cinthia Gonzalez, Lila Myers, Dawn Harvey, Donald Brown, Claudine Archer, Julianna Heck, Lashaunda Carter, Mariesa Best, Madelyn Sutton, Inell Sutton, Catherine Galesky, Kent Pipes, Ashni Mathew, Nia Perry, Richard Gober, Stephen Scheuren, Anne Greenwood, Jessica Carruolo, Rachel Hamlin, Ola Olorode, Darlene Trappier, Bob Wright, Nicole Gambardello, Kim Gilmore, Jahmila Smith, Aleyah Lopez, Justine Eryn Saliski, Nikia Johnson, Brielle Winslow-Majette, Kyle K., Heather Cook, Ron Stephens, Evelyn Rosado, Ratona Stokes-Robinson, Shauna Kane, Heather Coleman, Nichole Simmons Graham, Arielle Levin-Morton, Lauren Simone-Carpenter, Monica Rego, Casey Carty, Jennifer Hiros, Jaclyn Robinson, Patricia Lake.

- 1) Call to Order at 9:03 AM
- 2) Approval of February Meeting Minutes – Motion to accept the February minutes by Darlene Trappier, second Catherine Galesky, **Motion Carried.**
- 3) Spotlight Presentation – Garden State Equality
  - Garden State Equality is the leading LGBTQ+ non-profit organization in New Jersey. Garden State Equality's services include advocacy, policy work, and training while addressing safe environments for youth; improvement of health services meeting LGBTQ+ community needs, and respectful treatment of seniors. Garden State Equality works to ensure that the LGBTQ+ along with the formerly incarcerated community, is not discriminated against in the housing market. Garden State Equality works tirelessly to ensure the human right of housing is upheld.

Reports

a) HMIS

i) Cinthia Gonzalez reported the following for April:

- (1) The next General User Training session will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 10:00 AM.
- (2) Runaway and Homeless Youth Training session will take place on Friday, April 28, 2023.
- (3) HMIS data element changes will take place beginning October 1, 2023.

Examples of data element changes for site administrators include project set-up and bed and unit inventory. Two new elements will be added: Element 2.08 Participation and Coordinated Entry Participation. Changes made to client-level data collection are:

- social security number representation
- race/ethnicity, and gender information
- Destination of a client upon discharge to temporary or permanent housing.

More information will be given as becomes available.

- (4) Runaway and Homeless Youth quarterly reports are due Friday, April 28, 2023. Anyone needing assistance, please contact Cinthia Gonzalez.

b) Veterans Sub-Committee – No report given.

c) Providence House

i) Heather Cook reported the following for April:

- (1) There were 36 residents in motels, due to shelter renovations.
- (2) Providence House reports exits into apartments via grant dollars. Clients were also placed by the Board of Social Services and others returning to family.
- (3) Providence House reports 2 employment vacancies for Case Managers.

d) Board of Social Services

- i) Lila Myers reported the following for April:
  - (1) The Board of Social Services has hired additional staff.
  - (2) Some SNAP benefit recipients have been the target of a skimming scheme. Benefits are being skimmed from clients' accounts unknowingly. The State of New Jersey is aware of the situation. Anyone having problems with their benefits should contact the Board of Social Services.
- e) Housing Hub
  - i) Malika Morris reported the following for March:
    - (1) 216 new intakes; 181 emergency shelter request; 59 rental assistance; 22 security deposits.
    - (2) Bring Health Home will be held on April 28, 2023, at the Human Services Building 1 - 5 PM. 6 spots are remaining for vendors, please contact Human Services at [humanservices@co.burlington.nj](mailto:humanservices@co.burlington.nj) for table information.
    - (3) The referral process remains the same, the Housing Hub should be contacted at the following: [housinghub@co.burlington.nj.us](mailto:housinghub@co.burlington.nj.us)
- f) Community Development and Housing – Jennifer Hiros reported the following for March:
  - a) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
    - (1) The FY2023 Annual Action Plan is complete and out for Public Comment.
    - (2) The Division of Community Development and Housing has conducted the 1st Public Hearing for the Annual Plan.
    - (3) HUD will be conducting audits for The Community Block Grant Program as well as the Continuum of Care beginning the first week of May. HUD-McKinney Vento NOFO recipients will also be monitored.
    - (4) The Division of Community Development and Housing is preparing for the upcoming year's HUD-McKinney Vento NOFO application process. If you are part of a subcommittee or Ad Hoc Committee regarding the HUD-McKinney Vento NOFO, you will be notified.
    - (5) All recipients of HUD-McKinney Vento NOFO will be contacted for their grant inventory worksheet, housing inventory information, and strategic planning involved in this process.
  - b) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Funding (CARES ACT):
    - (1) HUD announced CV1 and CV3 funding streams have been extended. Recipients should continue with their projects and continue spending down.
  - c) HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME -ARP) – Monica Rego reported the following for April:
    - (1) The HOME- American Rescue Plan has been submitted and approved by HUD.
    - (2) The Division of Community Development and Housing is moving forward requesting The Board of County Commissioners of the County of Burlington to accept the funds.
- g) Rapid Rehousing
  - i) Casey Carty reported the following for February/March:
    - (1) BCCAP – No report given.
    - (2) Chrisitan Caring Center – 11 households searching for affordable housing; 7 families pending move-in; and 9 households discharged to housing, consisting of 17 individuals.
    - (3) Belmont Homes – No report given.
- h) Continuum of Care Updates –
  - a) Governance Board – Madelyn Sutton reported the following:
    - (1) The Governance Board met in March giving updates and reports on all programs.
    - (2) Two Letters of Consistency have been signed and returned via email.
  - b) Social Services for the Homeless Update – Casey Carty reported the following:
    - (1) The Division of Community Development and Housing will be contacting partner agencies regarding upcoming monitoring.
    - (2) Social Service for the Homeless recipients and those wishing to participate are reminded requests for proposals are being accepted in 2023. Notification of requests for proposals should be available in August and September.
  - c) Data Quality and Coordinated Assessment – Jaclyn Robinson reported the following:

- (1) The Division of Community Development and Housing is working with Monarch for the Housing Inventory Count, as well as the deduplication of the Point in Time Count. The Division of Community Development and Housing will submit all required information by the deadline of Friday, April 28, 2023.
  - (2) The Data Quality and Coordinated Assessment meeting, held Tuesday, April 18, 2023, was poorly attended. HMIS users are required to attend 60 percent of all Data Quality meetings to ensure the most accurate data.
  - (3) There are currently 3 consumers on the Housing Prioritization List to be reviewed for removal.
  - (4) The next Data Quality and Coordinated Assessment meeting is Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 10:00 AM.
- 4) Discussion
- a) Christian Caring Center is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a dinner at 6 PM on April 27, 2023, at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church in Moorestown, NJ. Today is the last day to purchase tickets, \$35.00 each. Interested parties should contact [christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:christiancaringcenter@yahoo.com).
  - b) The Beloved Project is hosting its 1<sup>st</sup> Community Hero Award on June 29, 2023, at 6 PM. Malika Morris will be honored as a recipient of the Community Hero Award. Details and invitations will be sent shortly.
  - c) Nichole Simmons-Graham questioned where she could refer an evicted family requesting assistance. Malika Morris suggested contacting Catholic Charities, as they are the family services provider for the county. Cynthia Gonzalez stated that Family Promise also assists families. Donald Brown stated that God Squad may be able to assist the family.
  - d) Ron Stephens stated that the Volunteers of America has opened their new office in Hainesport, NJ.
  - e) Richard Gober stated there will be a 2-bedroom apartment available in Beverly, NJ, for \$1,200.00 per month. Please contact [richardgober@comcast.net](mailto:richardgober@comcast.net) for further information.
  - f) Donald Brown stated a law passed in February 2022 that seals the client's eviction records for 7 years.
  - g) Madelyn Sutton stated homelessness is rising. There are 5 individuals living in the Christian Caring Center parking lot.

There were no further comments.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*Patricia Lake*

PL/CC

cc: JLH  
CC