

Chittenden County Homeless Alliance Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:00PM – 4:30PM

Champlain Housing Trust, 88 King Street, Burlington, VT – 2nd floor conference room

MEETING MINUTES

1. Introductions & Announcements:

Present: Jane Helmstetter (VT Agency of Human Services, meeting chair), Paddy Shea (Chittenden County Homeless Alliance, meeting note taker), Margaret Bozik (Champlain Housing Trust), Jan Demers (Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity), Kevin Pounds (ANEW Place), Marcy Esbjerg (Community & Economic Development Office, City of Burlington), Stephen Marshall (Homeless Community), Amy Carmola (United Way of Northwest Vermont).

Announcements:

Jane is in the process of stepping down as chair over the next few months/once we find someone else to be chair.

Amy Carmola from United Way of Northwest Vermont will facilitate our discussion again today.

2. Agree on Goal for Today:

Handout (see Appendix A): Margaret Bozik (Champlain Housing Trust) hands out the “Outline of Mutually Reinforcing Activities” document.

The goal is to get this draft of the (“Outline of Mutually Reinforcing Activities”) in a place to share it with the CCHA Steering Committee. The document (“Outline of Mutually Reinforcing Activities”) is a statement of what it would take to make homelessness rare and brief. It is not a statement of what we are doing, or even what we will do, but an ideal.

3. Setting Context: Recap of Last Meeting/4. Edits So Far:

Reviewing minutes and Amy’s notes from last meeting.

Amy Carmola:

We didn’t need to change the top/1st goal/gold level (“Goal: Make Homelessness Rare and Brief”)

We talked about maybe on the 2nd level/green level, do we need to further define “unhoused”?

We also had wondered should we add a 4th green box of “Know and engage the community’s homeless and precariously housed population”?

Margaret: thinks that would be better to have as a guiding principle at the bottom because it should be something we do across all levels and areas. Team agrees.

To ease in discussion we agreed that, for the purposes of today, we would label the lowest 2 rows of boxes numerically from left to right, resulting in Blue Boxes 1-11 and Orange Boxes 1-12 to start off.

Blue boxes:

Blue box 1 : We talked about adding “mortgage payments”

Blue box 2: change “other” to “individual” = “individual supportive services” (now we are thinking “individualized supportive services” sounds even better—change it to that)

Add a Guiding Principle: People attain access to fair and equitable resources by standardized assessment at all doors.

We also agreed that we would take a look at this and think about it before today’s meeting.

5. Jumping In:

We might need to have two lists at the bottom. One called “Guiding Principles” and one called “Universal Strategies”.

Blue Box 5 (jobs) – we would want to provide that across all 3 of the green box categories
Add the words “and financial resources/benefits”

Stephen Marshall – let’s have the Universal Strategies be listed directly under the top goal (gold box)/above the green boxes. They would be in a purple box.
Group agrees.

Stephen Marshall – Helping people develop positive social skills
Paddy Shea - Habits of Mind curriculum is a very popular way of teaching social skills and a positive outlook (used by VT Dept. of Corrections and many others)
Jane Helmstetter – Connection to community is so important
Margaret Bozik – Circles of Accountability used by VT Dept. of Corrections

Amy Carmola – Remember that this is supposed to be an aspirational document, not what we can actually do.

Possible wordings for a new Purple Box:
Social fabric/connections & positive relationships
Healthy/positive social connections
New Purple Box: (we chose this one)

So, Blue boxes 2, 3, and 5 would be moved to Universal Strategies (purple) box.

Universal Strategies (to be used where appropriate):

Financial counseling is available
Individualized supportive services are available
Connections to jobs, training, child care, health services, and financial resources/benefits are available
Healthy social network

Blue Box 6: change to “housing is available”

Blue Box 8: change to “landlord deems applicant acceptable” or “applicant meets landlord criteria”? We need to think about this wording.

Paddy Shea – Can we add something in the Guiding Principles about being inclusive and culturally competent?

Group agrees.

Blue Box 10 – “Children receive M-V services” means “Children receive McKinney-Vento services” add: “(educational stability)” to that box to make it clear to a layperson what that means. McKinney-Vento helps children maintain stability by continuing to go to the same school if they want to even if they are staying in a shelter in another town. (They can also switch to the school in their new town if they want to.)

Add a Blue Box 12: People camping/living rough are safe? (Not sure of the wording here)

Orange sub-box under Blue Box 12: good relationship with police?

Or, should we have a purple box/universal strategy about this? – Public understanding and awareness. Should Blue Box 12 be about “minimizing danger”?

We need to fit in the idea of dignity and exposing myths somewhere. (Guiding Principle?)

Kevin Pounds - Do we need a 4th green box about community awareness, reducing stigma, etc.?

Jane Demers – there is a lot of anger in the community, including by people who “have” and “don’t have.”

The orange row looks pretty good.

Add Orange Box (“8.5”) called “Risk pool for landlords” (for them to have funds to fix trashed apartments and pay legal fees, since many landlords are hesitant to rent to people who were homeless).

Combine orange boxes: 9, 10, 11, and 12 into one box.

Add a new orange box: “By population: family, youth, DV victims, single adults”

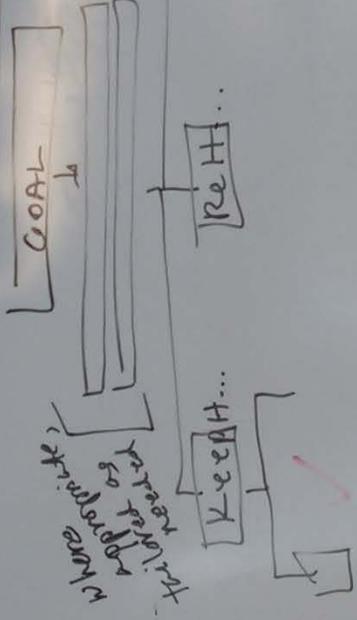
(See page 4 of these minutes for the photo of the notes Amy Carmola wrote on the whiteboard.)

We collected a lot of info. at our last quarterly meeting. Should that be fed into CCHA Coordinated Entry, or CCHA Strategic Planning, or both? Group says both. If Diana Carminati is able to work on that before the next CE or SP meetings, great, but if not, we could just look at it.

Next CCHA Strategic Planning Committee Meeting: Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM, at Champlain Housing Trust, 88 King Street, Burlington, VT – 2nd floor conference room.

On agenda: Timeline for ongoing work for this committee

10/28/2017



Changes (Part 1)

- Add mortgage to first blue box
- Change "other" to "individualizing supportive services..."
- Blue box ~ job training = across all 3
- Blue box ~ financial coaching = across all 3
- Individualized SS w/ orange embedded
- Add: (Social fabric ^{connections} Relationship) Healthy Social Network
- Remove "access to" & "is available" awareness
- Add: "Public understanding & awareness"

What would it take

NOT "DO" "How going"

Guiding Principles / Foundational Strategies

Add: Know + engage the community's homeless + Prec H population.

Add: → standardized universal assessment "at all doors"

Fair + equitable access to resources thru

Somewhere ← Pending

- Minimize danger
- Public safety
- other connections between Blue boxes? See Arrows Connecting #3 + #8.

Changes Part 3 Under Box 9 - two orange boxes

1 = Populations - Individual, Family, Youth/Teen, PV

2 = Type - Low barrier (Day, day sleeping, Sober)

6. Timeline for on-going work for this committee

Changes Part 2

- Change "vacant apartments" to "Housing" orange boxes below help explain...
- THINK about Blue box 8 - otherwise sounds too vague from panel
- Add new orange box under Blue box 8 - "G.P." ... are inclusive & CC
- Add "Cultural competency" - Add " (Educational Stability)"
- Clarify/Define "H-V Services"