

Chittenden County Homeless Alliance (CCHA)

Steering Committee Meeting Sept 3, 2020

Online Meeting

- Meghan Morrow Raftery, **ICA**
- Travis Poulin, **CVOEO**
- Jane Helmstetter, **AHS**
- Margaret Bozik, **CHT**
- Chris Brzovic, **CVOEO**
- Liz Whitmore, **BHA**
- Sarah Russell, **CVOEO**
- Al Beluchi, **BHA**
- Todd Rawlings, **CEDO**
- Elizabeth Kanard, **Safe Harbor/ CHCB**
- Will Towne, **Spectrum**
- Amy Woodruff, **LUND**
- Erin Armstrong, **UVMHC**
- Paul Dragon, **CVOEO**
- Lindsay Mesa, **Pathways**
- Justine Donahue, **The Family Room**
- Kim Colville, **VCIL**
- Mary Ellen Mendl, **United Way, 2-1-1**
- Laura Wilson, **CS**
- Rita Markley, **COTS**
- Laura Zeliger, **BHA**
- Kevin Pounds, **Anew Place**
- Stephen Lunna, **SSVF @ UVM**
- Bill Schrecker, **VHFA**
- Lily Sojourner, **OEO**
- Jason Brill, **VA**
- Katie Kinstedt, **CEDO**
- Louise Masterson, **ICA**
- Phillip Snay, **Veterans Inc.**
- Caroline Trevarrow, **Anew Place**
- Stephen Marshall, **Lived Experience**

DRAFT

Please send corrections to:
edacosta@vhfa.org

PRELIMINARIES

- Kim Colville/VCIL: There's a fund available specifically for people with disabilities. To help individuals meet additional costs due to Covid-19 such as masks, personal care assistance, other electronic devices that they may need to get in touch with health care providers and other specific equipment. **The criteria: 1. You must have a disability 2. The equipment must be necessary 3. It must be a reasonable cost.** Please contact me if you want more information:(802) 861-2896
kcolville@vcil.org
- Steve Lunna/ SSVF@UVM: The Veterans Committee submitted an application to USICH and it has been approved. We are one of 32 states that has at least one CoC who has ended veteran homelessness. **Great news.**

A Discussion of CCHA Financials

- Laura Wilson/CS: We currently have just over 60K in the bank at year end (year ending June 30). The major costs are admin expenses and fiscal agent. We need to do some fundraising or grant seeking. Please reach out to Laura Wilson for thoughts or questions. We have more than a year of support remaining at this point. **Here is the year end statement** (linked)
- Margaret Bozik/ CHT: Question for Todd. Do you think CCHA will be able to count on some money from the planning grant that the city receives?
 - Todd Rawlings/ CEDO: I don't think it will be different from past years.

UPDATE from Balance of State

- Travis Poulin/ CVOEO: BoS are working toward hiring a full time executive director as well as a part time support person.

CARES GRANT Rapid Resolution Housing Initiative (RRHI)

- Travis Poulin/ CVOEO: Applications continue to come in. The more detailed the better. Most are resulting in people being housed. We're clearing up barriers. I have 7 applications in process right now. We expect to get more.

CARES GRANT — Housing

- Margaret Bozik: Regarding, the **Rental Rehab program**. We had sent out applications to 48 landlords. As of Tuesday we've had one application from a landlord in Winooski. [Audio began to fail.] If you know people who own properties that are not up to code and/or vacant and are interested in up to 30K per unit and are willing to cap their rents, please send them to CHT Home Ownership Center.
 - We applied for money to buy 3 hotels and we were funded for 2. One will be named Susan's Place and will be 68 units in two wings: 51 one bedrooms in one wing and 17 two bedrooms in the other wing. A couple of these apartments are already set aside. On October 1, the one bedrooms will come available and there are tenant based vouchers available through BHA for up to 30 of those units.
 - The second wing, with the two bedrooms, will come online in December after some renovation. We've asked for 30 project based vouchers from. [audio dropped]... We've heard back that we need to do an environmental review before we start, but not whether we may be able to receive these vouchers.
 - We've applied to buy another hotel. [Audio began to fail.] This one would become a Covid facility. This would allow Harbor Place to return to its normal function. We're waiting to hear from OEO about whether we might receive funding for running it.
 - For Susan's Place, we're working on a plan for the people currently there who are recovering from Covid.

CCHA Anti-Racism Initiative

- Megan Morrow Raftery/ ICA: I asked one of our data analysts to pull data from the census and HMIS data that looks at permanent housing, length of time homeless, employment and income growth. I'm not sure where the data came from that appeared in the 2019 report.
- Margaret Bozik/ CVOEO: The data from the 2019 Racial Disparities report came from HUD.

- Chris Brzovic/ CVOEO: I think we're going to have to develop a plan to help us understand if there are racial disparities.
- Megan Morrow Raftery :We can do a racial disparities presentation in Vermont as we have in the past. We can look at each project type and break those down by race and then see where those people are exiting to. We can also look at income.
- Chris Brzovic: I'd like to look at both exits to housing (outflow) but also causes of homelessness (inflow). Over the next year I'd like to incorporate this data capture into the C. E. process. When people show up at our doorstep they are already homeless but we need to see what brought them to us in the first place.
- Jane Helmstetter/ AHS: For people who are interested in this effort, please let us know.
- Kim Colville/VCIL: I think it's important to have someone of color involved in this process.
 - Here are the people who made themselves known, so far, as interested in the Racial Disparities workgroup — NOT assumed to be comprehensive:
 - Amy Woodruff, **Lund** amyw@lundvt.org
 - Kim Colville, **VCIL** kcolville@vcil.org
 - Jamaica White, **Lund** jamaicaw@lundvt.org
 - Mary Ellen Mendl, **United Way** maryellen@unitedwaysvt.org
 - Justine Donahue, **The Family Room** justine@thefamilyroomvt.org
 - Margaret Bozik, **CHT** Margaret.Bozik@champlainhousingtrust.org
 - Bill Schrecker, **VHFA** BSchrecker@vhfa.org
 - Elizabeth Kanard, **Safe Harbor** ekanard@chcb.org
 - The City of Burlington is interested in joining.
 - BHA will send a representative.
- Liz Whitmore/BHA :“I really like the idea of joining with the Balance of State, specifically when it comes to analyzing data. The more data we have available, the better we can glean meaningful trends.”
- Paul Dragon/ CVOEO: Our director of racial equity starts next Tuesday and she might be able to offer some technical assistance. I also encourage this group to think about disparities in other areas.

Annual Meeting — October 1st

- [Here's the current slate of members and officers.](#) (linked)
- We got a nomination for Liz Whitmore from BHA to co-chair which is fantastic.
- Todd Rawlings/ CEDO: I got a reminder from Val Russell that we should recruit new members at the annual meeting and have a broad based discussion around policy.

SHELTER UPDATES

ANEW PLACE / LOW BARRIER SHELTER

- Kevin Pounds: Census at North Beach is 25 to 26. Our end date at the campground is September 30th. We're having conversations with Sarah Phillips about having temporary space elsewhere until we have a permanent space. Our application to VHCB was turned down but they reached out to us afterward and we submitted again. We're hopeful. Our relationship with CCHA means a lot to us.

SPECTRUM

- Will Towne: We're busier than we've been in a long time. Our year round shelter is at full capacity at this point.

- We've been having a problem with putting clients in motels because of the under 21 rule which was waived temporarily but is now in effect again.

HOTEL UPDATE

- Paul Dragon/ CVOEO: Our census is at 142 and a week ago it was 121. We might have 20 more people coming in. We really need more case management staff. We are sub-contracting with Howard for a mental health counselor. Margaret Bozik/ CHT: Does anyone have a total number of people in hotels right now in Chittenden County?
 - Jane Helmstetter/ AHS: Over 400 rooms.
 - Chris Brzovic/ CVOEO: We continue to get calls to connect. We refer them to Tammy's team now. There are 508 households in C.E. including D.V. at the moment. This also includes motels. It seems we have 32 families right now. All these numbers shift daily.
 - Lily Sojourner/OEO: I think ESD can do a breakdown of household type (individuals and families). They do this at least weekly. COTS is also partnering with CHCB team to have a mental health person as well.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

COORDINATED ENTRY

- Chris Brzovic/ CVOEO: There are 2 big resources: 1. Cares vouchers (90 total) 2. Susan's Place. We're stilling waiting for full information about what the second wing of Susan's Place is going to look like (the wing under renovation & containing 2 bedrooms). We plan on referring 10 high needs and 20 lower needs households to the first wing hopefully next week.

DATA, PIT

- Stephen Marshall: The committee has met twice. Because of the Covid crisis, nearly everyone who was homeless in Vermont has been housed. We'd like to share this information with not just CCHA but the community at large.
- Megan Morrow Raftery/ ICA: Data and HMIS committees need to be separate committees or if they're one, I need to be invited since we manage almost all of the data. Last year, we were not invited.
- Stephen Marshall: My term on the Steering Committee is up this year so you'll want to find someone else to take my place.
 - Jane Helmstetter: You've been a very valuable member of the committee and perhaps you may know someone you could recommend to fill your spot.

NOFA

- Todd Rawlings: As of this morning, the NOFA has not opened yet. We're expecting late September.

Next Meeting: October 1

For more information, go to cchavt.org