

Chittenden County Homeless Alliance
Steering Committee Meeting (Community Meeting)
Thursday, June 2, 2022 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Attendees

Travis Poulin, Linda Amante, Skyla Winters, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity; Ciara Kilburn, Steps to End Domestic Violence; Jane Helmstetter - Facilitator; Louise Masterson, Karina McNamara, Institute for Community Alliances; Bill Schrecker, Vermont Housing Finance Agency; Jason Brill, Veteran's Affairs; Lily Sojourner, Office of Economic Opportunity; Jennie Davis, Champlain Valley School District; Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, Agency of Human Services; Sarah Russell, Marcella Gange, Chanel Bastian, Harrison Martin-O'Brien, Community and Economic Development Office; Cam Lauf, Turning Point Center of Chittenden County; Tammy Santamore, Committee on Temporary Shelter; Wanda Hines, Joint Urban Ministry Project; Will Towne, Spectrum and Youth Services; Will Vilardo, Vermont Veterans Committee; Lacey-Ann Smith, Community Services Liaison (BPD); Brenna Bedard, Stephanie Bixby, Cystal Jones, Burlington Housing Authority; Amy Carmola, Megan Bridges, Phil Morin, United Way Northwest VT; Elaine Soto, Isabelle Saulnier, Howard Center; Thomas Moore, UVMMC; David Reigel, Mike Ohler, Champlain Housing Trust; Beverly Ebersold, USICH; Josey McDonald, Supportive Services for Veteran Families at UVM; Martin Hahn, Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness; Richard Gagne, Program Manager of Dismas House; Daniel Blankenship, Vermont State Housing Authority; Justin Graham, Community Benefits UVMMC; Mark Eley, Nicole Tousignant, ESD; Steven Murray; Jen Hunter, Cathedral Square; Lindsay Mesa, Pathways Vermont;

Agenda

1. **Welcome** (Will Towne and Sarah Russell, CCHA Co-Chairs)
2. **Introductions and Announcements** (Jane Helmstetter, CCHA Facilitator)
 - a. CEDO is hosting a community meeting regarding the Elmwood Ave Shelter Community, at UU church @ 6-7:30 (6/2/2022).
3. **Housing and Shelter Development Updates**
 - a. CHT Housing Projects (Mike Ohler, CHT)
 - i. Susan's Place Update- was a motel converted to a homeless shelter
 1. A community has fostered in Essex and in the building as a result of the concentrated housing. CHT is looking to interns to document and research this unique case
 - ii. 2 new building projects underway, taking more time than anticipated due to construction delays
 - iii. Ho Hum will be closing
 - b. COTS Main Street Housing Project (COTS Representative)
 - i. Breaking ground on the Main St project is taking longer than originally thought as another ground study was required. Construction should begin October 1st, building 16 units for families experiencing homelessness
 - c. ESD Emergency Motel Program Update (Nicole Tousignant, ESD)
 - i. ESD working with clients to create occupancy agreements
 1. Working to house everyone prior to July 1st to prevent a mass amount of people becoming ineligible after that date as emergency eligibility requirements will end and return to pre-Covid requirements

- ii. ESD could not share much info specific to Chittenden County at this time but hotels are continuing to sign up for participation
- d. Elmwood Shelter Community (Marcella Gange, CEDO)
 - i. Marcella gave an overview of the Elmwood Ave Shelter Community and its current stage. The city has a website which contains a FAQ and other important details including the proposed site layout going to the Development Review Board on June 21st
 - ii. ***Vote Warned*** *The Executive Committee requests the support of the CCHA Steering Committee for the Elmwood Community Shelter and co-located Community Resource Center*
 - iii. Will Towne made a motion for the CCHA steering committee to support the Elmwood Shelter Project. Motion was seconded by Travis. Motion carries with 12 ayes, and 2 abstentions

4. Coordinated Entry Discussion

- a. Summit – CCHA MOU (Will Towne, Spectrum)
 - i. Will gave an update on the MOU developed between Coordinated Entry and Summit properties
 - ii. ***Vote Warned*** *The Coordinated Entry Committee requests execution of the MOU between Summit Properties and the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance for housing placement within Summit's Homeless-designated units, utilizing our Coordinated Entry System.*
 - iii. Sarah Russell made a motion to execute the MOU b/w Summit Properties and CCHA Coordinated Entry. The motion was seconded by Travis. The motion carries with 15 ayes, and 1 abstention
- b. Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures (Sarah Russell, CEDO)
 - i. ***Vote Warned*** *The Coordinated Entry Committee requests approval for edits suggested to the CE Policies and Procedures*
 - ii. Sarah Russell made a motion to approve the edits suggested to CE Policies and Procedures. The motion was seconded by Will Towne. The motion carries with 17 ayes

5. NOFA Ranking Committee (Marcella Gange, Collaborative Applicant, CEDO)

- a. Nomination of NOFA Competition Committee Members
 - i. ***Vote Warned*** *The NOFA Committee requests to elect members to the 2022 Ranking Committee of the CCHA*
 - ii. The following members have been nominated to serve as the 2022 Ranking Committee: Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, Jennie Davis, Lacey Ann Smith, Jason Brill, Bill Schrecker, Jane Helmstetter, Tammy Santamore
 - iii. Marcella made a motion to elect the listed members as the 2022 CCHA Ranking Committee. The motion was seconded by Travis Poulin. The motion carries with 12 ayes and 1 abstention

- b. CCHA Application Ranking Policy
 - i. Presentation and discussion of policy to guide the CCHA in its application and ranking of projects funded by HUD CoC funds and election of members to the Ranking Committee

6. **Built for Zero Conference Discussion** (Sarah Russell, CEDO and Jason Brill, VA)

- a. Improvement Team
 - i. Working to put together a team of folks who are invested across the system to make systems-level changes
- b. Aim, Goals, Big Rocks, Levers, Dependencies, Indicators of Success
- c. Jason Brill shared a presentation which gave an overview of Built for Zero, how their model can work for Burlington, and the proposed first steps to achieving homelessness as rare and brief in Chittenden County.
 - i. ***Vote Warned*** *The Built for Zero Improvement Team recommends setting the Community Aim: To reach Functional Zero for Veterans in Chittenden County by _____, as a first step in making homelessness rare and brief for all members of our community.*
 - ii. Jason Brill made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Built for Zero Improvement Team by setting the Community Aim at reaching Functional Zero for Veterans in Chittenden County by March 31st, 2023, as a first step in making homelessness rare and brief for all members of our community. The motion was seconded by Kerri.
 - 1. Group discussion around logistics and funding followed.
 - 2. The motion carries with 9 ayes
- d. Racial Equity and People with Lived Experience of Homelessness
 - 1. Moved to top of agenda for next meeting due to lack of time

7. **Sub-Committee Updates**

- a. Strategic Planning (Sarah Russell, CEDO and Nicole Kubon, Steps)
 - i. An RFP is going to be released to procure a consultant to assist the alliance with developing a 5-year plan
- b. Housing Retention
 - i. Jennie Davis gave an update for the group and listed the members who have volunteered so far. Anyone else interested can email Jennie or Jen Hunter.
- c. Outreach and Membership (Jane Helmstetter and Lacey Smith, BPD)
 - i. No update to give