

Overview: The Brevard Homeless Coalition holds a monthly meeting where Coalition members receive updates from BHC staff, committee leads, and other members, as well as share experiences and Best Practices. Each meeting covers a special theme. The theme of this month's meeting was Collaboration.

The January 7, 2016 meeting was attended by BHC agency members, faith-based organizations committed to addressing various aspects of homelessness, as well as individual volunteers who are active in supporting BHC initiatives.

Meeting minutes are attached.

The next meeting of the Brevard Homeless Coalition Providers group will take place on February 4, 2016.

Mark Broms
Interim Executive Director, Brevard Homeless Coalition
February 1, 2016

Brevard Homeless Coalition Providers

Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2016

The meeting started with all in attendance being invited to introduce themselves. Meeting was called to order by John Farrell.

Minutes form Last Meeting

Deb Stull made a motion to accept the minutes submitted for the December meeting. Rosa Reich seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Last Month's Action Items

1. Cindy Short - name of the lady who worked with Florida Partners in Crisis who conducted Mental Health Forum.
Cindy reported that the she had been promoted and was not with them any longer.
2. Ericka Jackson – write up on Circles of Care, Path Brochure
This information was sent out on 12/22/15.
3. Sally Shinn – internet link re: McKinney Vento Act
Sally was unable to attend this month's meeting. Will follow up at February's meeting.
4. Deb Stull – name of group willing to remodel a building for emergency shelter
Deb reported that she will need permission from the group before releasing their name.
5. Mark Broms – provide BHC Strategic Plan to end homelessness
On BHC
website: <http://www.brevardcounty.us/HumanServices/CommunityResources/CareCoalition>
6. Keith Heinly will send out email reminders of BHC events to take place in the future.
Keith will continue to send out emails.
7. Keith Heinly will also send out new membership forms for each agency to file with the Providers Committee.
Several emails which included the membership form have been sent out.

Prioritization of Six Most Pressing Issues from Last Meeting

This month's theme presentation from John Farrell, Ken Stackpole and David Vu on COLLABORATION

John Farrell presented first.

Webster Dictionary's definition of Collaboration is to work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something. John extended that definition to relate to non-profit agencies working together: Working together unselfishly, with other agencies that have common goals, sharing resources, knowledge, abilities and desire to provide assistance to people in need.

6 required elements of Collaboration:

1. Willing agencies with resources, knowledge, ability and desire to assist people in need.
2. Timely communication between willing agencies to share information and resources to assist people in need.
3. Partnership – developing an understanding, written or otherwise, as to how to collaborate, and provide assistance to people in need
4. Willingness to advocate for the needy, extending beyond own agency, to find resources and reference to provide the assistance to those in need.
5. Collaboration is a two-way street in providing and receiving referrals to provide assistance.
6. The willingness to seek advice and hear from the experts, and follow their lead.

Discussion on the above included the importance of trust among agencies, the ability to have access to one another. Keith Heinly suggested establishing a written MOA in the charter of the BHC.

John shared examples of Collaboration of Daily Bread and their partners. The topic of HMIS as a partner for all dealing with all types of services for the homeless transpired. After a great deal of time was spent discussing many aspects of agency participation and possibilities, it was suggested that an HMIS Steering Committee be organized to field the major discussion of many aspects of HMIS and its importance to the agencies.

Ken Stackpole spoke briefly on the how 211 was essential to the process of Collaboration. He then introduced David Vu who met with Libby Donoghue, Executive Director of 211 Brevard.

David Vu reported on:

1. Learn how 211 Brevard works, its' purpose and how they execute providing information to those looking for assistance in Brevard County
2. Learn what information they have regarding non-profit agencies and services are available to help those in need.
3. Learn how they update information on existing agencies and information regarding new agencies not currently in the system
4. Learn how they train their "operators" to provide the information requested
5. Advise that the BHC Providers are interested in assisting in their mission

Discussion that ensued involved the following:

- The possibility of creating a forum that could be used by agencies to be able to discuss immediate needs of the clients.
- The need for an increased awareness of 211
 Deb Stull reported that creating a marketing plan for 211 is actually a project Lead Brevard is working on
- Newsletter from 211
- Several people spoke about HMIS and the need to explore ways to work together. Deb Stull suggested the agencies reach out to 211 to update them with any changes to their particular agency so that 211 always has the most up to date information about their agency. David Jeczala suggested the HMIS User committee to invite the non-HMIS users to a meeting to explore ways to work together

BHC Executive Directors Report and Committee Reports

Mark Broms

Michelle Clough will be making an announcement soon on their success with Veterans Initiative

Brevard Homeless Coalition Board has made a decision to host a Spring Summit. This will be a community wide event with leaders from the community leaders and outside speakers. The ¾ of a day event will be held on the FIT campus. A marketing plan is in the works.

There has been an Intervention discussion in regards to Mental Health. There needs to be a way to strengthen the interaction/relationship between BHC and Healthcare Providers.

The Homeless Resolution was presented in mid-December along with the Resolution from the City of Titusville.

Challenge Grant was approved, then agreement has been signed and received. Those affected were Family Promise which will receive funds towards Mark Sexton time devoted to CHAT and For Joni Pugh, who has been newly hired by the BHC, to assist Mark on the CHAT team.

Keith Heinly

PITC is coming up on January 25th. There will be a meeting with volunteers to follow the providers meeting. Keith reported there is expanded Station locations, he had about 154 volunteers and that only one route in Titusville needed 1 volunteer.

Cindy Short

Mike Chapman reported to HUD on the AHAR (American Homeless Assessment Report) that bed coverage rates for Brevard agencies were greater than 88% in most categories.

With no new action items and no further business, Deb Stull made a motion to adjourn. Rosa Reich seconded the motion, which passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Minutes submitted by:

Kristen Snyder