



COC STAKEHOLDERS MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 16, 2020

11:00 am

Brooks-Beal Center

100 Beal Pkwy

Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

- I. Call to Order, Chair Stephanie Bailey
- II. Introductions
- III. Point in Time Count- Maggie Tomecek
- IV. Crestview Update-Ann Sprague
- V. Housing Program Update
- VI. Executive Director's Report
- VII. Adjournment

The Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care Stakeholder meetings are open to anyone that would like to participate. We encourage attendees to notify persons experiencing homelessness or persons who are formerly homeless of these meetings. HHA would appreciate their participation and can help arrange transportation if needed.

Homelessness & Housing Alliance
CoC Meeting
January 16, 2020

The Homelessness & Housing Alliance is the Lead Agency for the Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care. The CoC is a membership organization of social service agencies, business and civic leaders, consumer advocates, and interested community members working collaboratively to plan and invest in long-term solutions to the problem of homelessness. We promote a community-wide commitment to provide a comprehensive homeless assistance system of housing and services to meet the needs of persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in Okaloosa and Walton County. The Continuum of Care believes a systemic response to homelessness is necessary to meet our mission. Our vision is a community without homelessness and our mission is to end homelessness in Okaloosa and Walton Counties. We achieve this by fostering shared responsibility, data- driven decisions, collaborative planning, and aligning resources essential to implementing the strategic plan. If you would like to become a member please go to our website www.hhalliance.org or email sarah@hhalliance.org for a membership registration.

HHA provides a systemic approach to addressing homelessness in a way that is appropriate and sustainable for our community by informing local Stakeholders on how to create a crisis-response system to homelessness that makes this social barrier brief, rare, and non-recurring. HHA is responsible for developing and implementing strategic planning, gaps analysis, data collection and analysis, and creating programs and initiatives to fill unmet needs. HHA has coordinated a centralized intake method that is easily accessible for all persons in our area in need of housing assistance.

Upcoming Events:

1. Point in Time Count January 24, 2020
2. Point in Time Count Training in FWB January 21, 2020
3. Point in Time Count Training in Crestview January 23, 2020
4. Crestview Landlord Lunch-n-Learn February 25, 2020
5. State legislative session has begun
6. System Performance Measures due February 28, 2020

Announcements:

Crestview Area Homeless Advisory Council:

Crestview Mayor, J.B. Whitten has implemented a new initiative to address homelessness in the Crestview Area. This initiative is the Crestview Area Homelessness Advisory Council (CAHAC). Members of the Council include Sarah Yelverton, Nathan Boyles, Mark Broadhead, Stephen McCoskers, Ryan Price, Ann Sprague, and Cynthia Brown. The council will advise the Mayor's office on the prevention and reduction of homelessness in and around Crestview. This council is comprised of community leaders representing the faith-based community, businesses, non-profits, law enforcement, and local government. The goal of the council is to bring awareness to Crestview regarding the issue of homelessness, identify the number of persons experiencing homelessness, inventory local resources, and develop a plan to manage and reduce homelessness.

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Fort Walton Beach Homeless Outreach Team:

The Fort Walton Beach Police Department has implemented a new Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) with its Community Policing Team. The HOT has been instrumental in connecting unsheltered persons to case management, shelter, and other in-patient facilities. The goal is to reduce the number of persons experiencing homelessness in FWB. The HOT is working closely with HHA and other providers. HHA is seeking funding to employ a case manager to ride along with HOT to expedite service connection and access to housing.

Mental Health Diversion Program:

New Mental Health Diversion program opened in Okaloosa at Bridgeway Center on Shell Ave. This is a 15 bed facility. The program will reduce repeat jail visits for mentally ill persons accused of petty non-violent crimes. The courts will determine who is assigned to the facility, where they will receive treatment and wrap-around services.

Housing Navigator: HHA now employs a Housing Navigator, Rachel Kuhn. Rachel creates a weekly Available Units Spreadsheet and emails it out to the various housing programs. She creates marketing materials for the housing programs, develops relationships with property owners, and assists clients in filling out applications, and finding resource to help pay for application fees, rental assistance, and furnishings for those that have found units.

Point in Time Count: The Point in Time Count is a federally mandated project that each CoC must participate in. It's basically a census count of all unsheltered and sheltered persons experiencing homelessness. Staff from multiple other organizations are required to assist. A training is set for 10am January 21st at NWF State College rm 308/309. We are using an application from Hyperion.

<https://pointintimecount.com> is the link to Hyperion Point in Time Count.

The surveys for unsheltered persons are being distributed today. Dianne McManus is the coordinator of Walton County and Maggie Tomecek is the coordinator for Okaloosa. We will be purchasing incentives, using persons with lived experience, and experienced staff from other agencies, as well as law enforcement, and volunteers. Participants will be assigned certain locations at certain times and will survey unsheltered persons. Once the data is collected it is submitted to HUD, the state, and local municipalities. If anyone would like to participate or observe this activity please reach out to Maggie@hhalliance.org, Laurel@hhalliance.org (Destin), or Dianne@hhalliance.org for Walton. Sarah will be assisting Mayor Whitten of Crestview with counting persons in the Crestview area. He specifically wants us to search the woods for persons experiencing homelessness. Ann Sprague will be coordinating other Point in Time Count efforts in the Crestview area. Catholic Charities in FWB will be opening the food pantry from 9-12 for sandwiches for the PIT count.

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Crestview Lunch-n-Learn: HHA and the Dept. of Health will be hosting a Landlord Lunch-n-Learn on February 25, 2020 at the Crestview Chamber of Commerce. A flier is being distributed with the information on it. We will be inviting property managers and landlords to attend in hopes of educating them on the various housing programs and rental income opportunities.

One Hopeful Place: One Hopeful Place has been busy growing and expanding its services. They have partnered with Bridgeway Center so their clientele have on-site access to mental health and substance abuse services. They have obtained funding to finish construction of Phase 2, which will be 50 plus bed facility for men, which will allow them to use the current shelter facility for women. Construction on Phase 2 is starting this month.

Strengthening Families: The Strengthening Families Committee was implemented by the Dept. of Health and I Championed that committee for the last two years. After reviewing our progress and measuring our outcomes it has been decided that we have met all the obtainable goals we had set. It was determined that this committee, which focused on increasing affordable housing in Okaloosa County should now be led by HHA and fall under the Continuum of Care’s Housing Committee.

CoC Awards Tier 1:

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Awarded Amount</u>
FL-505 - Fort Walton Beach/Okaloosa, Walton Counties CoC		
New Project Application 2019	CoC	\$155,754
Planning 2019	CoC	\$19,752
PSH 2019 Renewal	CoCR	\$409,237
Renewal HMIS Project 2019	CoCR	\$52,552

Tier two awards have not been released. The New Project is a HUD CoC Rapid-Rehousing Program. HHA will be facilitating this RRH program. Tier 2 included the rest of PSH and DV RRH program.

Fair Market Rent Values Okaloosa & Walton County 2020

The FY 2020 Okaloosa County, FL HUD Metro FMR Area FMRs for All Bedroom Sizes

Final FY 2020 FMRs By Unit Bedrooms					
Year	<u>Efficiency</u>	<u>One- Bedroom</u>	Two- Bedroom	<u>Three- Bedroom</u>	<u>Four- Bedroom</u>
FY 2020 FMR	\$941	\$947	\$1,116	\$1,528	\$1,959

The FY 2020 Walton County, FL HUD Metro FMR Area FMRs for All Bedroom Sizes

Final FY 2020 FMRs By Unit Bedrooms					
Year	<u>Efficiency</u>	<u>One- Bedroom</u>	Two- Bedroom	<u>Three- Bedroom</u>	<u>Four- Bedroom</u>
FY 2020 FMR	\$751	\$773	\$880	\$1,269	\$1,545

PIT Data from 2015

FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	683	629	401	495	399	-284	-41.58%
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Chronic Count

FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	305	306	92	119	269
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Veterans Count

FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	117	37	27	30	21
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Rental Income Opportunities

In Okaloosa & Walton Counties

LUNCH & LEARN

Tuesday February 25, 2020 • 11:30am-1:00pm • Crestview Area Chamber

*Our Affordable Housing inventory is critically low!
Learn about the incentives and funding available.*

* WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Developers • Current and Future Landlords • Realtors
Entrepreneurs interested in generating guaranteed income

FUNDING SOURCES & PANELIST SPEAKERS:

HUD • Veterans Administration • Homelessness & Housing Alliance
90 Works • Catholic Charities • Public Housing Offices

RESERVE YOUR FREE LUNCH SEAT & MORE INFO:

Contact Rachel at (850) 226-6219 or rachel@hhalliance.org



* This seminar is **NOT** for people seeking affordable housing or available rental units.



CoC Stakeholder Meeting Minutes January 16, 2020

CoC Stakeholder Meeting

11am at the Brooks- Beal Center

- I. Call to Order: S. Yelverton 11:09am
- II. Introductions: Sign-in Sheet
- III. Point-in-time Count: M. Tomecek// Attendees were provided the training power point for the PIT count and the 2020 survey questions. M. Tomecek reviewed the purpose of the count and how the count will be conducted this year. The count will begin at 6am on Friday January 24th, 2020 and conclude at 6am on Saturday January 25th. All those who wish to volunteer should reach out to Maggie to determine what slots need to be filled.
- IV. Crestview Update: A. Sprague// A. Sprague updated the attendees on news from Crestview. A. Sprague stated that the emergency shelter is up and running and remains full on a regular basis. She reports that 76 unduplicated individuals stayed at least one night at the shelter in December 2019. A. Sprague introduced the new Case Manager, Alicia. She stated that the best way to make a referral is to call 850-398-5670 and ask for Alicia. S. Yelverton added that Mayor Witten has formed an advisory committee in Crestview to determine a more accurate number of persons experiencing homelessness and ways to effectively reduce that number in Crestview.
- V. Community Updates: S. Yelverton// Sergeant D. Rosenberg spoke about the Homeless Outreach Team of which he is in charge in FWB proper. D. Rosenberg reports that he and his team are working to learn the homeless assistance system to effectively improve community relations.
S. Yelverton reports that a new jail diversion program has opened in FWB through Bridgeway to encourage those experiencing mental illness to seek help instead of being taken to jail. She states that the patients/ guests may stay up to 90 days.
T. Hoodless reports that they have started Phase II renovations and hopes to be able to halt the need for the Cold Night Program next winter. T. Hoodless introduced Keith Larson who is in charge of fundraising and marketing for OHP.
E. Proctor, Director of Caring and Sharing, Walton County reports that they will have a poverty simulation and is asking for volunteers.
Bethany, from Legal Services reports that she in conjunction with 90Works will hold the second Justice on the Block where folks may walk up to get assistance with civil matters only. More will be coming out about that soon.
- VI. Executive Director's Report: S. Yelverton// S. Yelverton reviewed the many handouts. She spoke about the upcoming legislative session and the need to contact your representatives regarding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Within this fund are SHIP dollars that can be a massive amount of funding for both Okaloosa and Walton Counties. At the current dollar amount, Okaloosa would stand to receive \$2.3million in SHIP funds. Contact your local rep to advocate that the house NOT sweep the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- VII. Adjournment: S. Yelverton 12:35pm

Signature: _____ Date: _____