

Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition Meeting

November 14, 2017 Minutes

Attendees:

Sarah Van Cleve, Chair (Exec. Committee), Bremerton Housing Authority, svancleve@bremertonhousing.org
Manny Cruz, KMHS, manny@kmhs.org
Monica Bernhard (Exec. Committee), Kitsap Community Resources (KCR), mbernhard@kcr.org
Kirsten Jewell, Kitsap County, kjewell@co.kitsap.wa.us
Penny Lamping, Housing Resources Bainbridge (HRB), penny@housingresourcesbi.org
Sean Raybell, Department of Corrections (DOC), sean.raybell@doc.wa.gov
Charlene Marshall-Hitch, Northwest Justice Project, charm@nwjustice.org
Polly Garrish, SVDP
Corey Durenburger, Kitsap County Human Services
Helen Havens, Kitsap PCAP
Deanne Conger, Kitsap Regional Library
Yaneisy Grieco, KPHD
Ginny Duff, Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County, familyservice@kitsaphabitat.org
Sheryl Piercy, Salvation Army, Sheryl.piercy@usw.salvationarmy.org
Julie Graves, Beacon Development
Sandra Paulino-Winborn, DSHS, paulis@dshs.wa.gov
Christine Bailey, Agape, cbailey@agape.kitsap.org
Renee Kimball Rouse, PCSH, Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, raven98366@gmail.com
Laura Daley, Housing Kitsap
Robin O'Grady, Kitsap Connect, robin.ogrady@kitsappublichealth.org
Linda Hollingsworth, ESD – WorkSource Vets, lhollingsworth@esd.wa.gov
Robin O'Grady, Kitsap Connect, robin.ogrady@kitsappublichealth.org

Introductions

Approval of Minutes: Moved and seconded to approve the October meeting minutes, approval passed

Sarah reminded everyone to submit nominations for the awards to be handed out at December meeting. The nominee doesn't have to be a Cof CC member. Please nominate someone doing good things in your world!

Year-round shelter: Sheryl asked to talk to the Continuum about the possibility of a year-round shelter. The Salvation Army shelter is only open 12/1-3/31. Last year they planned on serving 50 people but it escalated to 73. This year they have added staff and will have 8 employees. As an aside she informed the group that someone has been adding bath salts to the meth and heroin which exacerbates any mental illness. Salvation Army is not equipped to host a shelter

year around. There needs to be a Plan B for the next 304 years until additional housing units can be built. A lot of people just need a place to die – being discharged from the hospital with nowhere to go. Electeds don't want to see more of these services offered in the downtown area but they need to be located near transit so they can get to other services. Julie Graves mentioned that some of the local churches would host a family after hurricane Katrina. We all know there is a lack of units and there are a lot of empty buildings around town. The faith community is really strong in Kitsap County. Renee mentioned that we need stories to present to elected officials – stories trump data. Laura mentioned the possibility of crowd funding through social media. Kirsten asked Sheryl – what are the key things needed? Sheryl mentioned: a building, public transportation, bathrooms, in Bremerton, well trained staff, security, sealed mattresses, laundry facilities to wash bedding. Sometimes meals. The cost was calculated at \$11.58/person/night(staff, security & supplies). There was a group discussion on possible locations. Sheryl mentioned that finding several temporary locations is better for clients. Something needs to open by 3/31 or soon thereafter. Monica mentioned the housing summit held a couple years ago in Suquamish which brought elected officials, faith based groups, housing advocates and service providers – perhaps convening with the stated goal of solving this problem – a year-round shelter.

Homeless & Hunger Week: Sheryl took 3 busloads of blessing hats & scarves; held a chili feed on Monday, will March on Friday. Sarah took a proclamation to the County Council meeting and the mayor of Port Orchard. There will be an event on Saturday at the Fairgrounds. The library staff has been collection hygiene items. Housing Kitsap is doing a drive making resident baskets and items for seniors. Kirsten suggested we try to start working on 2018 Homeless and Hunger week in the summer so events can be organized earlier.

Project Connect: Flyers are out, starting to collect stuff, still need a dentist. Lenscrafters will be onsite for eye exams. Interfaith group will have a table for kids stuff. The Kitsap Humane Society and Westsound Health will be there.

County Updates: Corey presented brochures for the 2018 Point In Time Count (PIT). A lot of volunteers will be needed because this year there will be 3 sites – Port Orchard, Bremerton and Kingston. There will be some training for volunteers. Spanish speakers are always needed as well as other Hispanic languages. Sarah will contact an OC professor who is on the BHA board. Kirsten mentioned they will need a couple of “door minders” at each location.

The County Commissioners approved the grant recommendation committee's recommendations. Everyone should check the website if you haven't yet received notification. In January there will be a ramp-up to update the Homeless Housing Plan. A couple of new things that Commerce is requiring will need to be added.

Agency Updates:

Julie Graves – mentioned Blockable. They made a presentation to Beacon Development about creating modular housing units quickly and cheaply. These units are designed to meet Wa. State

funder requirements. They are each 270 sq. ft with a kitchen and bathroom. They are \$85,000 each, delivered. They are moveable, made in Vancouver Washington. They can reduce the time and cost and hope to produce 30 units/month by end of 2018. Compass Housing is getting some in spring of 2018. It is housing that provides dignity.

Renee – Youth Build – an organization where high school kids can earn a diploma and learn a trade. There is a construction teacher at Westsound Tech.

Robin – now have 21 clients in the system, 7 have phased out, several have been housed. They brought in 7 new people. She is concerned about it being winter which exacerbates bad health and mental health conditions.

Deanne – Grateful for the overwhelming approval of the library bond.

Linda Hollingsworth – On 11/30 there will be a direct-hire event at Worksource for PSNS. The clients won't have to go through the online application. Be sure to tell folks to have a good resume when they show up.

Ginny – Habitat will be closing on 2 houses this Saturday and will ramp up their next build in January.

Yaneisy – Kitsap Public Health District is seeing a lot more homeless moms this time of year.

Laura – Housing Kitsap has moved its office to Silverdale. 2244 Bucklin Hill Road. They are starting a new partnership with Boys & Girls Club at Knollwood. Check it out on Bremerton Beat Blast.

Charlene – Northwest Justice Project/Kitsap Legal Services is open MWF 1-4 pm for walk in intakes. There won't be attorneys at every time but they can still do the intake and schedule appointments. The NWJP office is moving in January and will have a full time veterans attorney and will be hiring one more attorney. 216 6th Street in Bremerton.

Sheryl – will be open on Thanksgiving, the Christmas party is full but will have a back up gathering on Boxing Day. The bellrings have started and the shelter opens soon.

Corey – 211 will have holiday resource information on the website. Be sure to send stuff to him. The Crisis Clinis will hold new classes in January for counselors.

Monica – HSC will keep bedsite updated.

The December meeting has been changed to 12/13. There will be an awards ceremony and all are invited to bring holiday treats to share!

Meeting was adjourned at 4pm.