

**Greater Virginia Peninsula Continuum of Care Council
Task Force on Homelessness Meeting, Mary Immaculate Hospital
January 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Attendees

<p>ACCESS –A Bradshaw Avalon – S Meacham Community Volunteer-J O'Brien Hampton DHS- A Hill Hampton Military Affairs Committee- B Peters Hampton Neighborhood Office-A Shenk HNNCSB – D Schwartz, J Cipriano HDCHR – Sr. David Ann Niski JCC Housing & Comm Develop – A Taylor HELP – L Davis LINK of HR – N Vollette Malachi House-J Thomas Menchville House – S Jones NNDHS - W Harrison, T Rankins</p>	<p>Office of Human Affairs – B Lester Paul's ONLINE-J Mognihan PICH – E Lemon Resurrection Lutheran Church-B Dolby The Planning Council - J Dixon, J Cohen, J Park The Salvation Army, Williamsburg-EW The Salvation Army, Peninsula –T Satchell Transitions – M Wright UWGW-S Whitley VAMC – D Wall, M Chick-Ebey VEC-C Preston York Co Housing Division – T Keefer York/Poquoson DSS – E Chambers</p>
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Welcome – Sarah Meacham

Introductions of Attendees: Jessica Park, the new Continuum of Care Coordinator for the GVPCCC Task Force on Homelessness, briefly introduced herself to the group.

Approval of Minutes: October 20, 2009 and November 17 meeting minutes were approved

Coordinated Services Committee Report: NONE. The committee did not meet in December or January.

Housing Development Committee Report: The committee has disbanded. Housing Development is a larger task than the task force can take on. As opportunities arise meetings will take place to discuss and will be presented to the task force.

HMIS Committee Report: Angel Hill reported that HPRP data entry issues were discussed at the November meeting. Joel Kirsch is guiding through as there are still issues that need to be resolved. The committee met today before the task force meeting. Josh provided and reviewed individual HMIS null reports to agencies representatives that were present. Overall null values were fine, except length of stay, where old clients need edits. With regards to HPRP, the committee discussed how to track clients that come into contact with another agency, but services were not provided as well as entering clients into HMIS that received case management via intake assessments. The next HMIS Committee meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2010 at 2PM.

Program Monitoring Committee Report:

Julie Dixon reported:

- HUD announced the 2009 renewal awards. No funding was lost. New project award announcement expected to be made at the end of January beginning of February.
- Renewal applications for the 2010 Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA) will no longer be automatic
- HUD may announce the 2010 NOFA in February and a possibility that there may be 2 NOFAs applications in 2010

- The HEARTH Act, which has extended McKinney-Vento, will result in numerous changes, particularly with reporting on performance based measures (i.e. CT leaving program better than upon entry with employment, goals met, etc.)
- The PMC will be meeting at 9:30AM on January 28. CanLink I (Nan Vollette) and Avalon's Transitional Housing program (Sarah Meacham) are scheduled to present, as the PMC begins its performance monitoring schedule.
- HPRP funding from 2 pots on the Peninsula, regional/state through DHCD and federal through Newport News Redevelopment Housing Authority (NNRHA). State is on target with spending funds.
- The final draft of the South Hampton Roads Regional Needs Assessment was presented at the Regional Task Force to End Homelessness (RTEH) meeting. The final report is due at the end of January and Julie will send it out when it is finalized. The needs assessment will be highlighted at the Regional Conference to End Homelessness on March 16, 2010. The assessment was paid for by all 5 cities and coordinated by the RTEH. Briefly, some of the recommendations that can be useful on the Peninsula include:
 - Housing focused service models in ES
 - Transition in place
 - Move from congregate housing to scattered site
 - Funding ideas (mental health block grant, HOME funds, etc.)
 - Merging small CoCs-Peninsula is in good standing
 - Review and plan for HEARTH Act changes now (focus on outcomes), APR reporting in e-snaps
 - Share industry standards, employment, benefits, etc.

Mayors and Chairs Commission on Homelessness (COH) Report: Jessica Park stated that the COH Report will be a standing agenda item at the GVPCCC Task Force on Homelessness (TFH) meetings as will the GVPCCC TFH be a standing agenda item at the COH monthly meetings. Sarah Meacham stated that we need the COH to advocate on our behalf.

The COH met on January 15th and Jessica reported the following:

1. HUD renewal awards
2. Point in Time (PIT) coordination efforts
3. Save the date for Regional Conference on Ending Homelessness
4. The Healing Place initiative (informational handout provided to TF)
5. Some recommendations from the SHR Regional Needs Assessment
6. Scheduled Brown Bag events for January and February

Jessica also report that Joy Cipriano updated the COH on the status of the HPRP regional program, first quarterly report submitted on-time and 1855 individuals served.

2010 Point in Time (PIT) Coordination: Jessica provided handouts on general PIT Information, draft copies of the PIT Survey, Survey Instructions, and the Area Coordinator/Coverage Area spreadsheet for review. No changes or issues were raised. The Peninsula's Annual PIT count will commence at 7PM, 1/27/2010 and run through 7PM, 1/28/2010. Sarah Meacham reports that a group will be meeting in Williamsburg this week to cover street outreach during the PIT count. Dee Schwartz will be meeting with volunteers from Christopher Newport University on Thursday, who will help with street outreach in Hampton and Newport News.

PATH Program Overview: Dee Schwartz, Supervisor of the PATH Program at the Hampton Newport News Community Services Board (HNNCSB), briefed the group on the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program at the HNNCSB. Main points:

- Federal program, administered by the Center for Mental Health Services, a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and McKinney-Vento

- 17 PATH funded program sites in VA
- PATH services include community-based outreach, mental health, substance abuse, case management and other support services, as well as a limited set of housing services.
- Coordinate with partner organizations in the community to assist clients in obtaining benefits, resources, and services to assist them with their transition back into mainstream society and social situations
- PATH workers go out into the community and locate clients with mental health and/or substance abuse issues, who are unable to prioritize treatment.
- PATH workers canvas Hampton and Newport News and take referrals from the community
- Often the first responders to encampments, where Codes and Compliance have notified PATH before they initiate removal
- The objective of the PATH program is to build trust by providing basic needs, providing information to them and to begin to eventually integrated the individual into mainstream society
- Connect individuals with SSI/SSDI access, Outreach, and Recovery (SOAR)
- HNNCSB PATH Program created a continuum of housing: ES, SH, S+C
- Fluid caseload ranging from 75-100 clients
- Walk in Hours: Wednesday 9AM-12PM and 1PM-4PM at the HNNCSB Office located at 2712 Washington Ave. Newport News.
- Needed supplies: clothes, blankets, water, chap stick, sunscreen, lotion, moist towelettes, sheets, towels, personal hygiene supplies
- Contacts: Dee Schwartz, 240-5288 and/or Alicia Gaston, 240-5277

Other Business:

Housing Broker Team for Newport News

Wendy Harrison, the Housing Specialist (926-6684), introduced herself to the group. Wendy's role is to recruit landlords of affordable housing units. Brandy Dudley, the Case Manager (926-6683), will be accepting referrals, completing intakes, determining eligibility, and working with approved families to increase their self sufficiency. Wendy and Brandy will be meeting with all agencies under HPRP to develop and facilitate the HBT process as their goal is to work with agencies that have HPRP funding. Currently the HBT is working on a referral form. They expect to be fully functional in February.

Armory at Ft. Monroe

Status update requested on the possibility of opening a shelter at the armory is still unknown. A representative from the city stated that she was not sure where the city is in the process with that decision and that EDD is working with people on proposals.

Round Table Updates:

Bed Availability:

- Avalon: ES=6 beds, TH=FULL
- Malachi House (female veterans): TH=2 beds, 1 Family (up to 3 children). Referrals through David Wall
- VA DOM (veteran treatment program): rooms available for females
- Menchville House: TH=may have an opening by next week
- H.E.L.P.: 1 room available (mother and 2 children)
- Transitions: ES=4 beds
- LINK: FULL, nothing available until possibly March
- PORT: FULL

Meeting Adjourned – 1:45 PM.