



# Blue Ridge Interagency Council on Homelessness

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 |



## Friday, January 13, 2023

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	-	Amanda Sparks	<b>P</b>	Dave Prosser	<b>P</b>	Judy Smith	-	Captain Russell Clay
<b>P = Present</b>	-	Angela Penn	-	David Bustamante	-	Judy Hough	-	Captain Jamie Clay
<b>- = Absent</b>	<b>P</b>	Anne Marie Green	-	Dawn Riddle	-	Kathleen Guilliams	<b>P</b>	Paula Prince
	-	Annette Lewis	-	Debbie Brown	<b>P</b>	Keith Holland	-	Sally Putnam
	-	Sgt Martin	-	Felicia Prescott	-	Kristin Adkins	-	Sherry Stull
	-	Bill Duncan	<b>P</b>	Hope Browning	<b>P</b>	Lee Clark	-	Stacy Shepherd
	-	Brian Geiser	-	Helen Ferguson	<b>P</b>	Leslie Leedy	<b>P</b>	Steve Martin
	-	Brittany Huffer	-	Jeffery Doyle	<b>P</b>	Loretta Freeman	-	Sue Goad
	<b>P</b>	Bryan Hill	-	John Garland	<b>P</b>	Malora Horn	<b>P</b>	Tanyia Jones
	-	Chelsea Pardue	-	Joyce Earl	<b>P</b>	Matt Crookshank	<b>P</b>	Toni McLawhorn
	-	Dani Poe	-	Jo Nelson	<b>P</b>	Ashleigh Bowman	<b>P</b>	Melissa Woodson
<b>GUESTS</b>	<b>P</b>	Alison Jorgensen, Council of Community Serv			<b>P</b>	Brian Burnette, Director CHRC		
	<b>P</b>	Joe Cobb, Roanoke City Council			<b>P</b>	Emily Poff, Legal Aid		
	<b>P</b>	Chris Chittum, City of Roanoke						

- Welcome and Introductions – Paula Prince, BRICH Chair**

- Paula Prince opened the meeting at 9:10 am at the Virginia Career Works Center. The agenda and December minutes were distributed to BRICH members prior to meeting. One change for the December minutes was noted that Ashleigh Bowman was in attendance.
- Bryan Hill motioned BRICH approve the minutes as written with one change; Lee Clark second the motion. Those members present approved the changes.

- ARCH and PSH RFP Update – Matt Crookshank**

- The Community Stakeholders Meeting was held with the ARCH Board. ARCH does not have financial resources to make payroll past January 31, 2023.
- Rescue Mission staff and Trust House team met with those clients who will need shelter. The VA has been working hard to find housing for Veterans currently at Trust House.
- The short-term plan is for Council of Community Services to take over the two PSH grants.
- The revised RFP includes \$400,000 ARPA funds (over 2 years) from Roanoke City to transition the grants long-term to the new recipient. Matt Crookshank has posted the RFP on the CoC

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- website and sent via email to the CoC list serve and to those organizations who have expressed interest.
- ARCH has provided formal notification to HUD and DHCD about their closure and that they will be transitioning PSH grants to CCS on a short-term basis.
- **Council of Community Services – Anne Marie Green**
  - Anne Marie shared some concerns of the CCS Board of Directors.
  - One concern was the need for a MOU to cover the four months CCS takes over ARCH PSH grants. The target date for ending CCS services will be June 1, 2023. CCS' goal is to keep clients safe and housed.
  - CCS will be “agent” for ARCH because their name is on the Master Leases. Anne Marie will draft the MOU to include information on expenses that can be included (salaries, damage repair).
  - Brian Burnette arranged a meeting with ARCH case managers. There are four evictions that need to take place. They have been given discharge notices, but they will not leave the premises. Other residents are in good shape and pay rent on time.
  - ARCH PSH program has 29 units; some need damage repairs. Program problems will need to be addressed (utility overages, overnight guests, drug activity). The Program Supervisor has not been active for some time. Clients are not getting intense case management that will enable them to move out of the program.
  - Family Services will likely partner with CCS if they apply for the RFP. Bradley Free Clinic has also offered to assist.
  - Keith Holland motioned that BRICH approve going into discussions with Council of Community Services to create an MOU to temporarily take over the PSH program from ARCH. Lee Clark second the motion. Those in attendance voted to approve.
  - Lee Clark stated the Rescue Mission team met with clients at Trust House to assist with a smooth transition.
  - Toni McLawhorn, Workforce Development Board, has funds to help support clients while looking for work through the Dislocated Worker Program.
  - Tanyia Jones stated 11 veterans were located at Trust House. Ten have HUD-VASH vouchers and one is in the SSVF program. Tanyia will meet with RRHA to expedite housing because most of the veterans are at the end of their 12 month period in the program.
  - Joe Cobb asked if BRICH has a “Plan B” if no one applies to the RFP. Matt sent Virginia Supportive Housing the revised RFP but has not yet received a response.

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- **Point-in-Time Count Resource Fair – Alison Jorgensen**

- The Resource Fair will be held at the Berglund Center after the PIT count (1/26) to make sure the homeless and those in encampments have access to available resources.
- Flyers have been prepared and distributed. Over 28 organizations have registered and will be providing information on their services.
- Valley Metro will be providing shuttle services from three different locations for those who want to attend (Elmwood Library, RAM House and Samaritan Inn).
- Church Women United is doing a fundraiser to help cover the meal costs.

- **ESG & HOME-ARP – Keith Holland**

- Matt Crookshank and Hope Browning met to discuss possible uses for remaining ESG-CV, ESG, and CDBG-CV funds to help fill gaps in funding agencies are experiencing.
- ESG-CV will have \$5,100 available; ESG will have \$27,213 allocated to Trust House that can be reassigned and \$35,300 for case workers that are covered through another grant. CDBG had \$200,000 set aside for training that can be used if needed.
- CCS has asked for \$55,000 to expand RRH program. Family Promise will get CDBG funds.
- ARCH may have approximately \$20,000-\$25,000 VHSP funds remaining from Trust House operations. Those funds must stay in emergency shelter operations.
- Malora Horn motioned BRICH approve the ARCH VHSP funds be transferred to TAP for the DV shelter. Toni McLawhorn second the motion. Those members present voted to approve the motion.
- Steve Martin motioned BRICH approve the excess ESG and ESG-CV funds go to Council of Community Services for RRH and Family Promise request for \$30,953 of CDBG-CV funds for shelter operations. Paula Prince second the motion. Those presented voted to approve.
- Brian Burnette stated ESG funds have exhausted due to rising rent and utility bills, plus arrears is having to be paid upfront for clients to be housed.

- **Community Outcomes Report**

- The report was distributed with the agenda. Due to lack of discussion time, questions can be referred to Brian Burnette.
- In December, there were 438 persons in emergency shelter compared to 143 in December 2021.

- **Homeless Students Report**

- The Homeless Students Report for December was distributed with the agenda.
- In December, there were 24 students identified as homeless which brings the total for FY2022-2023 school year to 442 (248 families).

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- **Announcements**

- Workforce Development Board will be having workshops in two weeks for youth to learn skills to enter the workforce. Workshops will be held at 3:30pm after school at various libraries. Flyers are posted.
- Malora Horn said ARP funds were used for car repairs done by the Patrick Henry mechanics class who presented the vehicle to a needy family.
- A suggestion was made that Bethany Hall would be a great place for unsheltered youth, particularly LGBT. Malora Horn confirmed there is currently a high number of unsheltered youth.
- HOME-ARP Allocation Plan is in the final draft stage. Once the City Manager approves and allow for the 30 day public comment period, it will go to City Council for approval.

- **Adjourn - The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BRICH will be February 10, 2023.**

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