



Community Meeting Minutes March 16, 2023 VIA Go-To Meeting

Members Present:

Pat Chambers (PCOM)
Gina Harris (DSS)
Vantoria Clay (Endeppendence Center)
Annie White-Guertin (PARC)
Holly Toll (Probation & Parole)
Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC)
Gladys Baker (STOP, Inc)
Jackey Miles (HVAMC)

Other attendee's:

Karen Joyner (TPC)
Fatima Tomlin (SSSEVA)
Brad Lazernick (SSSEVA)
Saran Day (Matriarch Foundation)
Shernita Bethea (HRPDC)

DeAnna Valentine (DSS, Co-Chair)
Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids)
Latifah Blow (HRCHC)
Melissa Peele (Firm Foundation)
Joy Shaffer (HER, PHAC Secretary)
Donna Hufnagle (VSH)
Sharonita Cousin (VSH)
Darlene Washington (PVH, Co-Chair)
Ursula Murphy (PSO)
Jean Jones (PARC)

Meeting Called to Order: 10:05AM.

Review of January 19, 2023, Minutes

Gina Harris (DSS) noted on page two (2) there was an error under the PVH section. The information was corrected to reflect Echoes of Joy in lieu of Echols of Joy. Gina (DSS) also pointed out an error on page three (3) under the DSS section. The information was corrected to reflect The Healthy Portsmouth Coalition in lieu of Covid Portsmouth Coalition.

Annie White - Guertin (PARC) motioned for the January 19th minutes to be approved with the noted corrections. Gina Harris (DSS) 2nd the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The minutes were adopted with the noted corrections.

Agency Spotlight: Shernita Bethea (Hampton Roads Planning District Commission)

Shernita Bethea (HRPDC) provided an agency overview and presentation of some of the services offered by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Additionally, Ms. Bethea provided information on the Regional Hosing Assessment Project and the PDC Core Housing Program. HRPDC is the administrator of home funds for regional down payments and closing cost assistance program. HRPDC is the direct administrator for the City of Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Isle of Wight, Smithfield, James City County, Williamsburg, York County and Poquoson. Generally, the clients that are served are credit ready but may not have the available finances to support the downpayment and closing costs.

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Agency Operational and Service Delivery Updates

PARC

Annie White-Guertin (PARC) reported there are no updates at this time.

SSSEVA

Fatima Tomlin (SSSEVA) reported there are no updates at this time.

PVH

Darlene Sparks-Washington (PVH) reported the agency continues to operate under the modified service delivery. There are no updates or changes at this time.

DSS

DeAnna Valentine (DSS) reported the agency is in the process of ramping up vacancies and to provide the best services possible to the community.

VSH

Sharonita Cousin (VSH) reported there are no updates at this time.

STOP, Inc

Gladys Baker (STOP, Inc) reported there are no updates at this time.

Portsmouth Probation & Parole

Holly Toll (Portsmouth Probation & Parole) reported there are no updates at this time.

HVAMC

Jackey Miles (HVAMC) reported there are no updates at this time.

ForKids

Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids) reported the agency has new staff members in training. Additionally, ForKids is working on an eviction reduction pilot and the release date is underway.

HER

Joy Shaffer (HER) reported there are no updates at this time.

Firm Foundation

Melissa Peele (Firm Foundation) reported there are no operational updates. However, Melissa (Firm Foundation) did share information on an upcoming event for March 25, 2023 – Empowerment Tea Fundraiser (Hosted by the Firm Foundation).

VBCDC

Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC) reported the agency in not taking prevention cases for the SSVF program but there are plans to re-open. Additionally, Olisha (VBCDC) reported that the Stafford Act which allowed for increased flexibility during COVID -19 for the SSVF Veteran Housing Program that assisted with unlimited rent, utilities and other support services will come to an end on May 11, 2023. The SSVF program office plans to reset the rental and utility tolling periods for enrolled veterans.

PCOM

Pat Chambers (PCOM) reported there are no updates at this time.

PSO

Ursula Murphy (PSO) reported there are no updates at this time.

Endeppence Center

Vantoria Clay (Endeppence Center) reported there are no updates at this time. However, Vantoria (Endeppence Center) did share information on an upcoming event for March 21, 2023 – Seminar on Affordable Housing Options (Hosted by VB Thrive).

HRCHC

Latifah Blow (HRCHC) reported that the agency provides healthcare services to the homeless population.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

DeAnna Valentine (DSS, PHAC Executive Co-Chair) reported there are upcoming food distributions targeted for the homeless population, but anyone can participate. Food Lion has partnered with PHAC for the event, and the first distribution will take place May 20th (Food Lion -1503 London Blvd. Portsmouth, VA 23704) & the second distribution will be held June 17th (Food Lion - 2012 Victory Blvd. Portsmouth, VA 23702).

Policy & Planning Committee

Sharonita Cousin (VSH, Policy and Planning Co-Chair) reported a Debrief of the Point in Time Count was held on March 7th. Some of the feedback given was to provide training on how to use the app, training on how to interact with clients, marketing strategies, and earlier meet up times for the volunteers. Additionally, PIT will be a standing item on the Policy and Planning agenda.

Coordinated Entry Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, CES Co-Chair) noted that Coordinated Entry Committee Meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of each month. The meeting is designed to review processes and to work towards solutions for any issues that may arise. Participation and attendance are encouraged. There are upcoming plans to have conversations pertaining to vacancies, chronicity, and documented disabilities.

PCAN Update

Karen Joyner (PCAN Co-Chair) reported that the PCAN Committee is working to streamline reporting including wrap around services during case conferencing meetings to ensure that appropriate referrals are

being sent. Additionally, it was reported that Eggleston and Legal Aid are attending PCAN.

Veteran Update

Ursula Murphy (PSO) reported that the next Veterans Leadership Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2023, at 10:00Am and is hosted by VBCDC. There will be conversations to gather clarification on the process for the Transitional Housing component for SSVF.

HMIS Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, HMIS Co-Chair) reported that the committee voted. C to meet on the odd months of the year. Additionally, PHAC adopted the HMIS Standards of Care. Attendance and participation are encouraged. There are plans to have conversations to help improve data quality and to ensure agencies are submitting annual performance reports on time.

Items from the floor:

Annie White - Guertin (PARC) reported the agency is facing leasing dollar challenges with assisting PSH clients who are in need of a live in caregiver. Annie (PARC) was informed by HUD that PARC cannot reduce the number of units in the grant from six (6) to five (5). Additionally, Annie (PARC) was informed to work with the CoC for a solution. Darlene (PVH, PHAC Executive Co-Chair) requested Annie (PARC) to submit a written statement to the Co-Chairs so the concern can be presented at the Executive level.

With no other business to discuss Ursula Murphy (PSO) motioned to adjourn the meeting and Joy Shaffer (HER) 2nd.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

Prepared by: Karen Joyner (TPC)