



Community Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Portsmouth DSS
1701 High St
Portsmouth, VA 23704
State Classroom, 4th Floor

Members Present:

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS, Co-Chair)
Darlene Washington (PVH, Co-Chair)
Barbara Wagner (VSH)
Donna Hufnagle (VSH)
Gina Harris (PDSS)
Gretchen Hilburger (HAMVAMC)
Holly Toll (Probation & Parole)
India Blake (Probation & Parole)
Jay Hendricks (Hendricks Living)
Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids)
Joy Shaffer (HER)
Kathie Moore (PDBHS)
Lucretia Chapman (VSH)
Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC)
Rev. Harrison (PCOM)
Ursula Murphy (PSO)
Vantoria Clay (ECI)

Other Attendee's:

Heather Plant (SSSEVA)
Karen Joyner (TPC)
Linda MacPhesson (SSSEVA)

Excused Absences:

Annie White – Guertin (PARC)
Jean Jones – (PARC, P&P Co – Chair)
Sharonita Cousin (VSH, P&P Co – Chair)

Meeting Called to Order: 10:05AM.

Review of July 20, 2023, Minutes

Gina Harris noted there was a misspelling of the word their under the agency operational and service delivery updates for HAMVAMC. The change was made to reflect their in lieu of there. Ursula Murphy (PSO) motioned to adopt the meeting minutes with the noted corrections and Joy Shaffer (HER) 2nd the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The meeting minutes were adopted.

Agency Spotlight: N/A

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS, EC Co - Chair) and Darlene Sparks Washington (PVH, EC Co - Chair) respectively, utilized the September 21st Community Meeting to gather input from CoC members on numerous topics. Instead of having a presenter, they asked for suggestions on how to improve the meetings and encourage interactive discussions while staying true to the organization's mission. They proposed changing the format and asked for feedback on the frequency of the meetings. Members also suggested inviting individuals with lived experience to share their perspectives. Members stressed the importance of building relationships, learning about different resources, and promoting collaboration. The in-person nature of the Community Meetings was well-received, with members finding the engagement and participation beneficial for creating a conducive learning environment and networking opportunities.

The CoC members were asked for their preferences on future presenters for meetings. It was also suggested that hard copies of reports could be provided to participants instead of requiring a report out at the community meeting. Members expressed a preference for receiving calendar invites rather than emails or reminders to ensure that no one misses important information. They also expressed interest in ongoing educational training and having the Crisis Response Team attend the meetings. Suggestions were made for members to receive training on NOFO and other grant application requirements, HMIS access, and barriers to ensuring appropriate referrals are made as part of PCAN opportunities.

It was also observed that members expressed a desire to receive further education about the activities of other member agencies and to exchange information about their programs, as well as ensuring that the appropriate individuals are present for discussions. Additionally, there was interest in having a presentation on Strategic Planning items. CoC members have indicated a preference for discussions to be conducted using plain language rather than acronyms, and for meetings to be valuable for all participants, respectful, engaging, and to have a continuous onboarding process.

Agency Operational and Service Delivery Updates

DSS

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS) reported there are no agency updates at this time. However, it was noted that PDSS will continue to work on what Community Meetings should look like and how often they should occur.

Hendricks Living

Jay Hendricks (Hendricks Living) reported his agency has a 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit available for \$1200.00 per month.

PVH

Darlene Sparks - Washington (PVH) reported there are no updates at this time.

PDBHS

Kathie Moore – (PDBHS) reported there are no updates at this time.

VSH

Barbara Wagner (VSH) reported their agency has a new outreach case manager by the name of Lucretia Chapman.

Portsmouth Probation & Parole

Holly Toll (Portsmouth Probation & Parole) reported there are no updates at this time. However, the agency invites CoC members to attend re-entry council meetings held every 1st Thursday of the month at PDSS.

SSSEVA

Linda MacPhesson (SSSEVA) reported there are no updates at this time.

ForKids

Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids) reported there are no updates at this time.

HER

Joy Shaffer (HER) reported that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and there will be a Night of Remembrance Candlelight Vigil held on October 2nd on the Southside and Peninsula.

VBCDC

Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC) reported VBCDC's SSVF Program is currently experiencing staffing shortages. The SSVF Program has been approved to extend SSVF program services to the Upper SCAAN CoC's service delivery area. They are currently hiring a case manager and program manager to support the program extension. Anyone interested in either position can contact Tanisha Davis.

PCOM

Rev. Harrison (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 (ECI) reported there are no updates at this time.

HAMVAMC

Gretchen Hilburger (HAMVAMC) reported The VA still struggles with staffing and the ability to get to all the meetings due to covering such a large area of Hampton Roads (from above Williamsburg and down into North Carolina). Marti (HAMVAMC) and Gretchen are both covering other jobs due to staffing issues and doing their best to keep up with Coordinated Entry roles. They are requesting as many as possible virtual meetings or at least meetings with virtual/hybrid options. Coordinated Entry systems regionally have become incredibly complex (at least 16 CE meetings, 3 mandatory CE workgroup meetings - all COC's with slightly different HMIS, meeting, and referral policies). The VA is advocating for a more regional veteran system and shared use of vulnerability tool (e.g. have all COC's use same vulnerability instrument).

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS, Co-Chair), and Darlene Sparks-Washington (PVH, Co-Chair), have encouraged members to continue building relationships with each other, respecting everyone's time, and remembering the goal of serving the community and promoting the mission of PHAC. They greatly appreciate the ongoing support and believe that change can be positive.

Policy & Planning Committee

Karen Joyner (TPC) reported on behalf of information received via email from Jean Jones (PARC, Policy and Planning Co-Chair) Per Jean - The NOFO is currently being worked on and is expected to be submitted by September 26. The P& P Co- Chairs appreciate everyone who contributed to the edits last week. Non-conflicted agencies, which include active members not receiving HUD funds, were encouraged to vote on the application when they receive it. The application has been reviewed and edited with input from the PHAC service provider, and they are confident in its content. Additionally, there will be a brief debrief about the NOFO at the next week's P&P meeting on September 27th.

Coordinated Entry Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, CES Co-Chair) reported the CES committee did not meet September 13th as a result of the pressing deadlines associated with the NOFO application process.

PCAN

Karen Joyner (PCAN Co-Chair) reported that clients are only identified by their first three initials of their first and last name to protect the client's privacy and comply with HUD guidelines.

Veteran Update

Ursula Murphy (PSO) reported there have been discussions surrounding the topic of a desire for a regional Veteran Committee,

HMIS Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, HMIS Co-Chair) reported that meetings are now held in the Computer Lab at PDSS and members allowing participants to gain a more practical understanding of the system.

Items from the floor:

Vantoria Clay (ECI) asked about the possibility of UAI assessments and whether a nursing home could be considered if there is no shelter available. Vantoria also inquired about whether clients in a nursing home would receive case management services.

With no other business to discuss Katie Moore (PDBHS) motioned to adjourn the meeting and Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC) 2nd motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 A.M.

Prepared by: Karen Joyner (TPC)