



**SVHC General Membership
MEETING MINUTES**

JUNE 10, 2020

Attendees:

Sharon Blackwell, Chesapeake Regional Medical Center
Mary Riley, City of Chesapeake
Juanita Dowdy, ForKids Inc
Alicia Hensley, ForKids Inc.
Sarah Johnson, ForKids Inc
Bill Young, ForKids Inc
Cecilia Allen, Magellan Health
JoLinda Underwood, Magellan Health
Charnitta Waters, The STOP Inc.
Evie Woods, VA Medical Center

Julie Dixon, The Planning Council
Amanda Brandenburg, The Planning Council
Shantelle Haggins, The Planning Council
Jessica Bunting, The Planning Council
John Guglielmino, Norfolk Community Service Board
Vantoria Clay, Endependence Center Inc.
Barbara Wagner, Virginia Supportive Housing
Stacy Wells. LGBT Life Center
Stacy Shepard,
Alicia Mathews. St. Columba

Welcome- Shantelle Haggins called the meeting of the Southeastern Virginia Homeless Coalition (SVHC) to order and leads introductions and introduces presenters.

Approval of Minutes The minutes from February were approved as written.

Program Spotlights

- **Chesapeake Regional High Utilizer Patients:** Presenter Sharon Blackwell shares a study used to determine why certain people continuously come to the Chesapeake Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. The High Utilizer Project helps to determine who the ER high utilizers are and why the continuously come the Chesapeake Regional Emergency Room. During the research period, Chesapeake Regional had a combined visit total of 3,471 people within 12 months. Based on the research, the top utilizers are from the Chesapeake area code 23324, which has been identified as the poorest and most underserved area in Chesapeake. Most of high utilizers are females. The age range 31-25 are high utilizers. Most working age people are over utilizers of the ER due to lack of insurance. Health care disparities among black people has led to their high utilization of emergency rooms. 69 percent of high utilizers have a psychiatric or social issue. No stable income. No transportation. Serious mental illness. They work with Chesapeake behavioral health to connect CIVH with this information, Chesapeake Regional is working to specify and organize better resources for these people so that they are able to access proper medical care, instead of using the ER as their first option.

Business

- **Norfolk Environmental Review:** Presenter Alicia Hensley with ForKids Inc. highly encourages watching the video related to the Norfolk Environmental Review, which was sent to the committee. Alicia has informed the committee to reach out to her directly if they have any specific questions. Shantelle will forward Alicia's contact information to the committee.
- **COVID Updates (Chesapeake):** Mary Riley with the City of Chesapeake has 28-29 people in hotel program. Had to discharge 12 people. Most of the people in the program now where not in the resource program prior to COVID. Most of the people are relatively new to the program. Churches in the area have been giving dinner to individuals and families. The Resource Center is open two or three days weekly, for shower and use of computers. However, an appointment must be made. The program is now housing focused. Their plan for moving forward is to apply for hotel funding to bridge the gap for winter months. They will focus on housing and employment to obtain and maintain permanent housing if the funds are awarded. Many are nervous for winter shelter due to the COVID situation. Hotel clients should be brought to service coordination for the new housing that will eventually show up. Sharon Blackwell

has added that several people have been included in the outpatient clinic and there are several new faces in the hospital for medication. The Hospital is working to employ clients and working to get people into assisted living facilities. Partnership with the hospital has been very helpful based on Planning Council hotel partnership.

- COVID Updates (Norfolk): John Guglielmino with the Norfolk Community Service Board reports that there seems to be a lot of political will to rethink how the CoC handles the unsheltered homeless population. The primary response has been safety hotel programs. PATH funding has been used for homeless with severe mental illness. DVHDS funding. ESG funding. April has placed well over 110 individuals and has discharged about 15 people. Program violations and mental health emergencies were the result of discharges. It is believed that enough funding is available through early September from ESG funding. Due to high need, NCSB is looking into a third hotel and looking to add 30 people within the next two weeks. They are staying diligent with the homeless verification process and all individuals are required to use the Housing Crisis Hotline as a starting point. Program is not 24/7. 12 full time employees are at the hotels. 24/7 security at both sites. Mercy Chefs donate 150 meals daily. Freemason Baptist church provides free meals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Currently, there have been 0 cases of COVID in the hotel due to procedures. Sentara will provide on-site medical care for those who need it.

RoundTable Updates

- Celie Allen and JoLinda Underwood with Magellan Health shared that they serve the whole state of Virginia. They serve the employment and housing team. Medicaid recipients are eligible for these resources.
- Stacy Wells with the LGBT Life Center reports that Vanessa Larkin has left her position and is moving to the HUD office in DC. Her position has been posted for the director of housing program.
- Amanda Brandenburg with The Planning Council reports that VSHP funding was completed at the end of March. SVHC tied for 3rd in the state and received \$100,000 more than previous year's award. July 1 is the start of the new grant period. The process of preparing the NOFA Scorecards is underway.

Next Meeting – Next Meeting in August 12th, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.
Virtual