

Rutland County Housing Coalition
Continuum of Care Minutes
February 23, 2011

I. Call to Order: Meeting Called to order at 12:00pm

II. List of Attendees: Adam Sancic, Beth Diamond, Brittany Parker, Cynthia Fortier, Deborah Hall, Jane Munroe, John Campbell, Julie Mazzariello, Kelly Basley, Kim Bullard, Laura Rosen, Lucia Boatman, Michelle Rock, Pam Petrie & Patrick Riordan

III. Open Issues: Introductions:

IV. RCHC Updates

1. Group vision statement: Everyone received the group vision statement with last month minutes. Tara will send out the form again with this month's minutes and we will work on the Vision Statement at the next meeting on 3/17/11

2. Housing
 - a. S+C on hold until the end of March. Need to evaluate long-term capacity of S+C grants and develop an equitable distribution method of S+C subsidies to make sure under-utilized counties in the State are adequately served. (refer to Daniel's email) further questions regarding S+C can be sent to Daniel@vsha.org

 - b. HUD definition of chronically homeless now includes families: *homeless and lives or resides in a place not meant for human habitation, or safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least one year or at least four separate occasions in the last three years and has an adult head of household with a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability.*

- c. Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program NOFA has been released with a due date of March 11, 2011. Deborah addressed the continuum and let them know that Rutland County Housing Coalition was planning to submit a grant proposal and asked if anyone had any concerns or objections. Since no one in the group had any objection or concerns, RCHC will move forward with the proposal.
- d. Governor's Housing Summit planning agenda. Tentative date June 6, 7, 8th. Deborah will keep the group updated as she receives information.
- e. Seeing many clients who are behind because of extreme medical needs, as well as repeat clients with long term issues. Employment barriers are also a "hot topic" for clients who are chronically homeless.

3. VT PIT survey sheets

- a. More schools have participated in the survey this year and agencies serving homeless veterans.
- b. DOC probation/parole
- c. Expecting to get some results in early March

4. Employment

- a. Lucia Boatman, Employment Resource Consultant with Dept. of Labor.
 - i. Career Readiness Certificate, 10 week program offered at CCV sponsored by CCV, VT DOL and Dept. of Economic Development. Website for more information www.ccvcareerreadyvt.com

A. **Michele Rock, BROC:** Michele gave an overview to the group about the employment program in Bennington; they currently have had 49 successful job placements of clients with multiple felonies. Michele and Matt Ransom are accepting referrals to grow the group in Rutland as well. Michele can be reached at 802-665-1725. The federal Government is looking to

cut the CSBG from the budget. Michelle and Deborah will work on a letter to send to the Federal Government from the Local Continuum of Care in response to the proposal of decrease in funding of the Community Service Block Grant.

- B. **Beth Diamond, VT 211**: 71% of afterhours calls are from single individuals. Beth gave an overview of the monthly reports (included with minutes)
- C. **Adam Sancic, AHS**: Volunteers have been trained on the new online application. AHS is expecting to be caught up with the back log by March 1st.
- D. **Julie Mazzariello, Head Start**: Working closely with RCHC & BROCC with homeless families currently enrolled in the program. Head Start is full and now has a waiting list.
- E. **Kim Bullard, BROCC**: Clients currently apply for GA at BROCC. There has been an increase of “working class” at risk of being homeless. Intense case management and collaboration with community agencies seems to be a key role in the success of clients remaining housed.
- F. **Cynthia Fortier, RCPCC**: POISE Program up and running. As it stands all apartments are spoken for at this time. Potentially the program will have efficiency by the end of February. Send all referrals to Cynthia Fortier at the RCPCC.
- G. **RHA Update**: Forest Park West is going well. The buildings are going up and the plan is to start taking applications in June/ July for lease ups as early as November/December. Although full at this time, we are still accepting applications for the old Forest Park side, Templewood Court and Sheldon Towers. Our Section 8 program currently has 96 Voucher holders (families). The wait list is still closed for the Section 8 program with the exception of Med-Waiver applicants.

V. Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm

VI. Next CoC meeting will be Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 12pm at RPD