



United Way
of Lancaster County

Minutes:

CROSS PROBLEMS AND HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK

Monday, July 20, 2015

2:30 pm, Blair Room, Community Services Center

ATTENDANCE

Doug Hopwood, TLC, Chair, presided. Attendants: Beth Crosby, Love INC/Homes of Hope; Marcy Mercer, LGH-ER; Guy Boyer, Steven Pagden, TLC/TABOR; Ann L. Linkey, Dana Robertson, Yvonne Zeiset, Laura Willmer, Lenara Porter, Tabor; Autumn Nauman, LCBHDS; Amanda Grosh, Lodge Life Services; Matt Barnett, D&A Commission; Teresa Danforth, Lancaster County Housing Authority; Eva Dombrowski, Rachel Abramowitz, Clare House; Jen Koppel, Jason Harnish, LCCEH; Rebecca Hahn, Vanessa Philbert, Gate House; Brian Long, PA LINK to Aging/Disabilities; Channel Lowery, Kristin Labezius, CSG; Kristin Jones; Lancaster County Office of Aging; Amanda Funk, New Choices/New Beginnings; Charissa Gift, Angel Ludwig, Sarah Rutt, Beth Swartz, Revolution; Kelly Quinn, HBP; Amanda Nissley, Bridge of Hope; Olga Rodriguez, DVS-Bridge House; Tara Montgomery, Gaudenzia, Inc.; Meredith Baugh, BHDS; Major Sidney Anderson, Salvation Army; Sol Pellerito, Genesis J. Hernandez, CHI St. Joseph Children's Health; Sandra Valdez, UDS; Toni Gainer, United Way 2-1-1.

WELCOME

Doug opened the meeting with welcome and introductions.

FOCUS TOPICS

Revolution – Presented By Charissa Gift and Sarah Rutt

Started with a group of friends who volunteered at the YWCA winter shelter and the Water Street Mission doing crafts, etc. with the women. Partnering with Water street but will be creating their own nonprofit.

Revolution's mission is to empower women experiencing homelessness through supportive job training and income generation to help them build self-worth, hope for the future, and the ability to thrive in a work environment. Initially, we will be working with the women residing at Water Street Mission by providing opportunities for onsite jewelry-making workshops that offer open opportunity and have the goal of helping to develop crucial soft skills. The women will be paid by the piece (fair wages) and we expect to sell the jewelry products at local retailers, online and at local events. Workshops will begin in October (2-4 women per workshop to start). Future Goals:

- Bridge for venerable job seekers
- Reach out to community employers to create partnerships
- Stepping stone to fulltime, living wage employment
- Help reduce chronic employment in Lancaster county
- Change the perception of homelessness

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As a service provider, we would love to have your input and involvement as we launch our business in the coming months. You can connect with us directly via revolution.lancaster@gmail.com or via Facebook or Instagram at revolution.lancaster.

Jen also noted that social enterprise was mentioned at the National Alliance as a way to help persons with barriers into complete employment.

Link to presentation:

http://prezi.com/feq4tty9i8qb/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=cop

Gate House – Presented by Vanessa Philbert (Men’s Residence) and Rebecca Hahn (Women’s’ Residence)

Gate House provides community based drug and alcohol treatment programs. They are licensed by both the DDAP and CARF. Provides extensive care after a 28 day treatment program. Typical stay is 3-6 months. The program is very distinct from other transitional facilities because they are treatment centered. Separate facilities for men and women. Currently, there are 3 locations in Lancaster county. They are looking for more beds to accommodate women. Target population is persons who has relapsed repeatedly and need a longer term program. The residents also receive help with acquiring job skills and long term plans for recovery. The goal is to NOT transition them into homelessness. The cost can be expensive, but has been shown to also be cost effective. They will work with clients who have financial restraints.

There is a house manager at each location. Goal is to maintain sobriety – curfews are imposed and residents are tested when they return.

A 6- bed transitional program for women is coming soon. A security deposit will be required. It is designed to be a long term (6-9 months) program, however stay will be decided on a case by case basis.

Also see attached PowerPoint.

LCCEH UPDATES

CaseWorthy was launched June 24th. Conversion went smoothly. Jen thanked everyone for their support and patience thru this transition. Customization profiles will start with the Lancaster County Council of Churches, LHOP and then the Elanco Social Services Network. On-site training is offered when needed, contact Jen.

Jason is now a permanent staff member of the Coalition due to a United Way grant. His responsibilities will include program monitoring and outreach.

PIT count is August 27th, volunteers needed.

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A new website for the LCCEH is in the works and once the Coalition is officially under the umbrella of LGH, it will be launched.

News from the National Alliance Conference:

- The Medicaid expansion includes availability of dollars to bill for housing services.
- Next “hot topic” will be Youth Homelessness-addressing the needs of the 18-24 year old population. There is money in the Federal budget to “jump start” this work, so Jen noted this is probably what we will be talking about in the next year.
- Work is being on done bridging the Education and HUD definitions of Homelessness. This will be a welcome change!
- Affordable housing fact: \$17.57 an hour wage is needed to afford a 2 bedroom apartment in PA.

DISCUSSION

The group had a brief discussion about the increase of “K-2” drug use. The ER had 19 overdoses last week. A lot of activity on West Vine Street, staff of WSM and BC/GC are very concerned due to the location of their program. It was noted that the police are working on efforts to become “more present” in this area.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Monday, September 21, 2015 at 2:30 pm in the Blair Room, 630 Janet Avenue. **Focus topics:** CHI St. Joseph Children’s Health, LHOP and Tec Centro.

Minutes and Agendas are posted to: www.pa211east.org.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Toni at gainer@uwlanc.org or 717.824.8118; or Doug at dhopwood@tabornet.org.

Prepared by:
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