

# Veteran Homeless Committee Minutes

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## **Date and Time**

Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

## **Location**

Family Willows, 161 S. Beech St, Manchester, NH

## **Attendees**

Julie Darling, Nicole Clark, Ashley Kitchell, Emily Reisine, Keith Howard, Angela Webber, Cathy Kuhn

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## **2:00 Meeting Begins**

### **By Name List**

- I. Committee discussed the names contributed by BAE. Since the creation of the list, there has been 1 discharge and 4 more veterans who will be using vouchers. Cheryl will be updating the list between this meeting and the next.
- II. For example, the BAE has one individual with a SMI (severe mental illness) who has been with the program for three years. This is skewing their results data. Cheryl's having a hard time placing him.
  - a. Angela offered to reach out to a landlord who has worked with other individuals with SMIs in the past.
  - b. Emily said she could possibly look into a landlord the VA has worked with in the past.
- III. After some restructuring, their program will shift its goals from a stay of 2 years to 5 months.
- IV. Committee discussed who should fill out information next. Ashley agreed to begin compiling SSVF names from Veterans Inc.
- V. Keith pointed out that from the side of Liberty House, names will be entered on the list only if the veteran signs the ROI.
  - a. Discussion highlighted the importance of properly training their staff.
  - b. We need to share with the veterans the purpose and reason behind sharing their information, which ultimately is to more efficiently house veterans
- VI. We discussed the possibility of adding additional factors that we might want to track, including: employment, income sources, and felon status.

### **Other Business**

- I. Committee discussed the possibility of organizing a roommate-finding event to match up some participants who are ready to move out of their programs. This would be a meet and greet event. Group discussed ways in which we might overcome some common barriers in this group to make the housing a good fit for all participants.
- II. Harbor Homes is currently hiring. There are a lot of positions to fill including clinicians, intake specialists, etc. Send resumes through the Harbor Homes website, if interested.
- III. Cathy Kuhn and Julie Darling attended our meeting to discuss the MCoC's Coordinated Entry efforts. Group discussed how and if we wanted the veterans to be involved in this process. Attention was given to not only the language of how this might be communicated, but also how to keep from alienating veterans from other services. Harbor Homes would potentially be able to do this, depending on if they can fill certain positions.



**Next Steps**

- I. Ashley will compile Veterans' Inc information for the by-name list.
- II. Cheryl has agreed to update the names on her list.
- III. Anyone interested in accessing dental services for veterans should reach out to Sandy Chandler at Liberty House by the sixth of May.

**3:15 Meeting Concludes**

**Minutes Prepared By**

Nicole Clark

Manchester Continuum of Care Coordinator, VISTA