

Homeless Liaison Minutes

Date and Time

Tuesday, November 17th, 2015, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location

New Horizons for NH, 199 Manchester St, Manchester, NH

Attendees

Matt Bouchie, Kevin Kintner (chair), Bill Sullivan, Nicole Clark, Jocelyne Pinsonneault, David Harris, Andrew Clark

11:00 Meeting begins

General Updates

- I. Do You Know Him? Ministries
 - a. Bill shared the contact information for Cassie Gudek, from NH Job Corp as a person that would be good to have present, both at Homeless Liaison and General Assembly meetings in the future.
 - b. He also provided some information about the program- it is a federal government program; free to those who qualify (must maintain sobriety and meet income requirements). Homeless youth live there for 6 months and are provided with food and shelter, so long as they continue the program.
- II. Child and Family Services
 - a. David Harris and Andrew Clark came to represent CFS, serving homeless, runaway, and at risk youth from the ages of 12 to 22.
 - b. Their big news is that their teen drop in center is moving from its Hanover St location to 330 Lincoln St.
 - c. Kevin reminded them that New Horizons does serve meals, but it helps to have outreach workers with them as it makes them more comfortable.
- III. New Horizons for NH
 - a. Kevin gave an update on NH's Housing First program. This program targets those most at risk or likely to die on the streets and provides them with housing with little to no barriers. He is currently in the process of reviewing funding options, in order to eventually fund more spots.
 - b. Housing Frist has proven to be a cost-reducing program. An additional benefit is that it increases accessibility to resources (ie, outreach workers know where to find these individuals and can check in regularly).
 - c. Currently, the program serves singles, not couples.
 - d. Bill asked about the possible supervision and support these people receive. The committee agreed that to maintain the Housing First model, services need to be offered, but not required.
- IV. Manchester Continuum of Care
 - a. Upcoming meeting on Nov. 19th. Elections for leadership positions and bylaw amendment votes will occur.

- b. The MCoC also needs to have a _____ formerly homeless person on their Leadership committee. The Homeless Liaison committee should begin to consider who would be a good person to fill this role.
- V. Manchester School District
- a. Jocelyne updated the committee on homeless youth within MSD’s schools. There are currently about 500 students identified as homeless, possibly more.
 - b. While MSD homeless outreach maintains a great relationship with CFS, the committee had general frustration with 2-1-1 (ie, no weekend help). Lots of families are navigating without help; don’t know where to turn to.
- VI. The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester
- a. A couple of intake coordinators have been hired recently, reducing the intake period of time to 2 months. This frees up the emergency service section.
 - b. Matt also mentioned that new camps have been popping up lately.

Upcoming Events

- I. Day of Thanks- meal provided by DYKHM. Two times available: 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Salvation Army will be giving out coats and other winter clothing items.
- II. CFS will be opening their drop in center on the 23rd.
- III. New Horizons will be open earlier on Thanksgiving and Christmas (around 10:00). They are also delivering Thanksgiving baskets starting Saturday and going on until next week. At this point of time, people can also sign up for Christmas baskets.

11:55 Meeting Concludes

Minutes Prepared By

Nicole Clark

Manchester Continuum of Care Coordinator, VISTA