

Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County, Inc.

Continuum of Care (COC) Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

DATE OF MEETING: MARCH 28, 2024

LOCATION: VIRTUAL

TIME STARTED: 10:04 A.M.

TIME ENDED: 11.15 AM.

ATTENDANCE			
JENNIFER WATTS	ROSANNE SMITHWICK	KAREN NORRIS	BEN ORTBERG
DAVID MILLER	KATHY HUNT	SHAWNA MACHADO	CHRISTINE LONG
MELISSA GILES	MARCY ESBJERG	LEESA FRYER	JENA BLAIR
AMANDA WANDER	JEFF SKLET	TISHIA MOBLEY	NICOLE CINEAS
TIFFANY ADAMS	SAM PICARD	GEORGIA YOUNG	JASON SAFFELS
THOMAS O'CONNOR BRUNO	PASTOR TROY PEDERSON	GREG CRUMPTON	
AGENDA	ACTIONS		
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order by Rosanne Smithwick.		
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Approval of February 2024 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes: Date change and name spelling change made for final upload. Motion to approve by: Marcy Esbjerg Motion seconded by: Sam Picard No Opposition		
OLD BUSINESS	Times Building Marcy Esbjerg: Nothing new. Spoke with Cathy Pearson recently and at the last meeting they had agreed to wait ninety days, which would be sometime in April, so she will go back to them if nothing is heard before that. Rosanne Smithwick: Meeting with Cathy Pearson April 11, 2024, to continue discussion of needs of a new shelter. Emphasizing permanent housing. Committees/Workgroups Strategic Planning Marcy Esbjerg: Second Thursday of every month at 10am, virtual meetings. Outreach and Unsheltered Homeless Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Fourth Wednesday of the month at 10am. The last meeting of the outreach committee discussed that there is a delta between time of reidentification and intake being done by housing agencies when a client is referred. At times, clients can go missing and housing agencies reach out to outreach to help find. Outreach finds and then there is a delay between the housing agency getting back to outreach. Looking to put a plan and procedure in place that holds the housing agencies more responsible. Will discuss with housing agencies to be part of this plan, and to present to LC at April meeting.		

PIT

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Have numbers but cannot announce until HUD has a first look. The numbers are very similar to last year. Some changes due to the hotel/motel of families through the SIT program at the schools. Presentation of numbers at next meeting.

HMIS

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Nothing at this time.

Marcy Esbjerg: Do we use HMIS to coordinate with the PIT count?

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Yes, it is a complete upload directly from HMIS into HUD. We do go in and massage it some as some of their questions do not match up with all that is in the HMIS systems.

Marcy Esbjerg: There are a lot of naysayers of the PIT count. FHC did a numbers count of BNL, PIT and annual count coming from system. Can we do that again this year?

Amanda Wander: We will be doing that as part of the GAP of needs assessment. There is one system performance measure in HMIS that would be a useful tool to use in conjunction with PIT numbers.

Rosanne Smithwick: Isn't it correct that a person can refuse to be counted? So, the number is going to be higher than the people we actually count.

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Less individuals that filled out surveys had more refusals this year than last. Last year we did approximately 680 for sheltered and unsheltered. This year will probably be between 650 and 700, but again we have to wait for HUD to look at the count first.

Jason Saffels: When someone refuses can we still count as observed?

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Yes, but we do not do observations anymore. The way outreach plans PIT count they do not overlap where they go during the count so we can assume that these refusals are not being duplicated.

David Miller: So many people out here that have been homeless for years and refuse to do the survey as they feel they are not going to be picked.

Nicole Cineas: Are there any incentives offered? Tangible items?

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Outreach offered emergency services and supplies as needed.

Sam Picard: Pinellas uses bus passes.

Rosanne Smithwick: Something to consider for next year.

Executive Committee

Rosanne Smithwick: Next meeting April 3, 2024, at 1:30pm. Meet in months the Leadership Council does not meet.

APPR

Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Will start setting up meetings soon once we get out of PIT and performance measures. Will devote time in August September October depending on when next NOFO's are due.

Master Leasing Workgroup

Jennifer Watts: First Friday of the month at 3pm.

Onboarding Package Workgroup

Karen Norris: Binders with step by step, introduction video about process, white board type of video. Outline to be reviewed and presented to Leadership Council for responses.

CE Committee

Melissa Giles: Second Wednesday of the month at 1pm.

BNL Numbers

388 Total

288 Households

216 Individual's

27 Adult Families

45 Families with minors twenty-eight on family shelter waitlist

Veterans BNL-zero

Christine Long: Expansion of the Metropolitan Ministries Transitional Housing program. Using Coordinated Entry to refer clients.

Jennifer Watts: Yes, already in discussion with Sonya Flores to start looking at families to refer. Would also like Gia Parker to be part of future BNL meetings.

Bios

Jennifer Watts: Email sent to complete bios. Will send out another email as a reminder.

House Bill 1365

Jennifer Watts: Has been signed by governor. Is happening. Under the impression that it will not be enforceable until January 2025. We need to continue to move forward. Hoping Times Building or an alternative option comes into play.

Karen Norris: Looking for information about designating an area where people can go and meeting DCF guidelines and inspections? Has Marcy heard anything about the county in the interim, tent city?

Amanda Wander: No, they have not looked through what that process will look like on the DCF side.

Marcy Esbjerg: This is typical of the state that legislation is passed and people have to scramble. I hesitate to speak on behalf of the Board of County Commissioner, but they do not look favorably on tent cities. Going back to our Strategic Plan where it was suggested to have some small daytime shelters that can turn into a night shelter with a small number of beds. I have money to spend. We are actively looking and with CBDG money could buy a small building. We can do that in as short as 3 months' time. But not sure we have the capacity for someone willing to operate the building as the county would only be buying it.

Rosanne Smithwick: Reminder that the cost for Pasco County for tent city would run at approximately 10 million dollars.

Amanda Wander: Yes, that is right and an extreme amount of money. Another alternative is looking at pallet shelter ideas, which provide more safety and shelter than a tent, or prefabricated manufactured housing. Zoning and regulations have to be looked at.

Marcy Esbjerg: Affordable housing advisory committee starts meeting next week can take something like this up and also soon coming to BCC is an affordable housing workshop in May. Could look at the Vincent House on Denton, clubhouse model, in process of putting together 39 prefab homes for their members. Will be watching this closely as it could be a model.

COC Coordinator Position

Jennifer Watts: Any feedback from the group on the position? Please call or email with any questions/suggestions.

	<p>Case Management training</p> <p>Jennifer Watts: Two Part-May 7,2024 and May 28, 2024, from 2-4 by the FHC. Training will take place at the Pasco Utilities Building. It is open to all community partners. There will be a survey going out as well to help steer the direction of what future training should be offered.</p> <p>Christine Long: Are there any agencies we are funding through the COC, where we can make these trainings mandatory?</p> <p>Jennifer Watts: Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>Marcy Esbjerg: Can we get United Way involved?</p> <p>Ben Ortberg: It should not be a problem. I will talk with Chuck Anderson.</p> <p>Rosanne Smithwick: It is essential that we define what Case Management services are.</p> <p>Christine Long: We need to look at caseloads as well to improve quality.</p> <p>Tiffany Adams: Regardless of a person’s role or title, we know that there are core components to CM and will be presenting these trainings from the perspective of the Homeless Response System. There are guiding principles, that we should be providing the services. Should be done in a trauma informed way with a housing first philosophy, person centered and recovery oriented. It is an organizational responsibility.</p> <p>Christine Long: Maybe we should call it something rather than Case Management training.</p> <p>Tiffany Adams: It is called Pasco County Frontline Training. But if there are other suggestions we are open to it.</p> <p>Karen Norris: Can we include a course descriptive required by our training department.</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<p>Marcy Esbjerg: Several events coming up:</p> <p>Virtual Lunch and Learn with AMSkills: 4/3/24 at noon. There has been a lot of synergy between AMSkills and the people we serve.</p> <p>Open House Friday 4/5/24 11-2:30.</p>
<p>PUBLIC COMMENT</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>AJOURN</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 11:15General Membership Meeting April 25, 2024, at 10AM 2432 Collier Pkwy, Land O’ Lakes, FL 34639</p>