**Eau Claire Housing Coalition**

**April 19, 2017**

**Eau Claire County Court House, Room G302**

**2-3:30pm**

**Minutes**

Attendees: Kelly Christianson-Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley, Jeanne Semb-Western Dairyland, DeAnn Judson- Hope Gospel, Amanda Radle- The Salvation Army, Carrie Bloom-Western Dairyland, Sara Dutter-Western Dairyland, Kerry Kincaid- PORCH, Ken Adler-Chippewa Valley Free Clinic, Emily Carlson-Eau Claire City County Health Department, Michael Xiong- Veterans Housing and Recovery, Sarah Steffen- Marshfield Clinic Community Connections Team, Jenny Chaput- Western Dairyland, Nadine Jentzsch- Catholic Charities, Katie Richel-Sojourner House, Julienne Linberg-Catholic Charities, Shayne Gerberding-Western Dairyland, Measha Vieth-Western Dairyland, Tom Wirth- DHS, and Jennifer Solfest -ADRC.

1. **Call to Order/Introductions**: The meeting was called to order by Kelly Christianson.
2. **Approval of March minutes:** Minutes were approved by Sara Dutter and seconded by Nadine Jentzsch.
3. **Coordinated Assessment Update:**  No update.
4. **Housing First Update:** Unfortunately, they have experienced the first death in one of the units. They now have a one bedroom unit available. Western Dairyland has acquired a triplex apartment building that will provide housing for permanent supportive housing clients. University students and Western Dairyland are working together on a survey of Housing First.The students are working on surveying 5 different areas. This will basically help the Housing First caseworkers see what they can do differently with the program. The students will present the findings in May.
5. **ETH Update:** The Eau Claire Continuum funding for this year will be $109,000. The state is looking at performance measures when they divide the money to Continuums. This includes, average length of homelessness, reoccurrence in two years, number of persons first time homeless, successful housing placement and successful employment and growth. Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley, Western Dairyland, Catholic Charities and Bolton House will meet on April 20th to divide up local ETH funding. All members are invited to attend and take part in the process.
6. **COC Update:** The process has started for the 2018-2019 application for the SHP grant. Outcomes are very important with this application.
7. **PORCH Updates:** Adult Group is also working with the University with surveys. The students visited Positive Avenues and are focusing on Mentorship. The students will present on May 9th. They have also found that transportation is an issue for the homeless. Many jobs are not on the bus route and shifts start/end when buses are not running. Getting laundry done was another major issue for the homeless community. They are looking at talking with the Unitarian Church downtown or Positive Avenues to possible put in a washer and dryer to have that service be more available.
8. **Poverty Summit Updates:** Committees have been set up and have broken off into Action Teams.

**8a. Shelter Operations-** By January of this next year, need to have a plan in place on where to send person/s that needs shelter late at night and can’t get into any shelter because intake is closed. Other communities get them to the local Police Department lobby. At next meeting, try to get a sub-committee together to come up with a plan.

1. **Agency Updates:**

* Catholic Charities has two new employees, a new shelter Director and Financial Wellness Advocate/Homeless Liaison.
* Eau Claire City/County Health Department- **Eau Claire Healthy Communities Celebration** taking place next **Thursday, April 27th from 5:30-7:30pm**. Event is free and open to the public**. RSVP** at [https://healthycommunitiescelebration2017.eventbrite.com](https://healthycommunitiescelebration2017.eventbrite.com/)
* DHS- County Board has approved six new positions to help residents with mental health and substance abuse. Comprehensive Community Services is open to anyone in the county. Those on medical assistance will be covered 100% by Federal and State dollars. Those who are not on medical assistance are still eligible and will be able to get help obtaining medical assistance.
* UWEC Drama students have written a play called Invisible Truths. They will be performing at Banbury Place April 27, 28 and 29. All proceeds go to Positive Avenues for a new dishwasher.
* Family Promise is sponsoring a Float-Fly-Pie triathlon on Sunday, 4/23/17, from 4-9 p.m. at Action City. There are team and individual events.

1. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 1:30-3:00pm at The Salvation Army.**