|  |
| --- |
| **Brown County Homeless & Housing Coalition** |
| Unaccompanied Youth Task Force |

**Meeting Minutes**

**ZOOM CALL**

**Wednesday, September 16th, 2:00 pm**

**Newcap, Inc.**

<https://zoom.us/j/98311572848?pwd=aktjY3RZUUJ2LzZjdWtjK04yVGlKZz09>

1. Welcome
2. Roll call
   1. Present: Marc Seidl (Brown County Child Protection), Beth Hudak (House of Hope), Alex Tran (Community Member), Debbie Bushman (Newcap), Erika Villacrez (Newcap), Sheri Konitzer (Brown County Health and Human Services), Karen Brown-Schaible (Green Bay Schools, West High School), Kara Hurst (Open Door Youth Services), Katie Gazella (Open Door Youth Services), Eunice White (Journey to Adult Success), Sue Loberger (House of Hope)
   2. Excused: Cheryl Detrick (Newcap)
3. COVID Impact on Youth
   1. Consensus was that during the COVID shut down, youth were stir crazy but now with everything being opened back up, youth are adjusting well.
   2. Concerned about the youth that they are not hearing from – where are they? Are they doing okay? Are they participating/engaging in school?
   3. Anyone 0-18 years old (student or not) can pick up breakfast, lunch, and dinner from the Green Bay Area Public Schools
   4. Discussed that it will be difficult to identify young pregnant mothers who may be at risk of homelessness, running away, or are homeless (youth do not have to identify this to school on paper and are typically identified by visual changes in the youth)
   5. CPS referrals are down but the cases are more significant than before (screening in 60% of calls which is higher than normal)
      1. Example: more kids are being tested for substances and are coming back positive for things like cocaine or their parent’s mental health prescriptions
   6. Golden House shelter is currently full but hadn’t been during the course of the pandemic (decrease in kids numbers)
   7. Will there be an increase in area children testing positive now that some districts in the community are doing in person classes?
   8. Newcap has Project Recovery; people can get connected with a crisis counselor if impacted by COVID by calling 211 or reaching out to Newcap directly
4. House of Hope Sheltercare update
   1. Had a licensing visit last Thursday; has to fix 11 things before re-inspection can occur
   2. November 1st is the target start date
   3. Licensed to serve 0-16 females (and their kids)
   4. Will be able to accommodate 12 people total (this includes client children)
   5. No specific screening tool will be utilized however the referring entity will be responsible for the initial packet of paperwork
   6. Expects to obtain clients quickly from school district and CPS
   7. Target population is young women that are not already in the system
   8. Youth have a 20 day limit, while have to exit for 1 night, and then can come back for 20 days
      1. Discussed safety concerns and committee member concerns about discharging a vulnerable youth to the street for 1 night
      2. Group discussed partnering with JAS House or are host homes if able to provide a safe place for the youth to stay for that 1 night
      3. House of Hope will be requesting the ability to forego that required 1 night exit
   9. CPS calls will be on a case by case basis but will be working closely with child protection
5. YHDP Application
   1. No update; NOFA is not out yet
6. Youth Surveys
   1. Was originally sent to the schools last spring but was never dispersed; looking at re-sending it to the schools
   2. Revisted the survey questions to evaluate our goal and what we will need the information for
   3. Consensus was that the survey questions were still applicable but the group was discussing adding additional questions
      1. At what age did you first become homeless?
      2. Questions around gender identity
   4. Discussed the fact that the school already does a Youth Risk Survey questionnaire (Beth will email out); do any of these questions provide the data we are seeking?
7. Drop In Center/Youth Shelter Building
   1. Continue looking for a building
   2. Alex stated that she knows someone who wants to donate a portion of the warehouse. She will keep us updated on whether or not this will come to fruition.
8. Budget
   1. Alex will touch base with Cheryl
9. Other business
   1. November is Youth Homelessness Awareness Month
      1. What can we do as a committee to bring awareness to this topic?
      2. Alex will ask the Mayor to have the bridge lights green one night
      3. Alex will look into getting the company that has the digital billboard on 172 to donate a screen
      4. 1-800-Runaway hotline will be doing public service announcements and mass marketing that month.
   2. Human Trafficking walk is on Saturday
10. Next Meeting – October 21, --Point Source National Symposium-
    1. Plan for November 18th 2:00 pm