

# Coulee Collaborative to End Homelessness

*Collaborative, diverse, and compassionate individuals working to eliminate homelessness in La Crosse, Vernon, Monroe, and Crawford Counties.*

## MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2020

Present on Zoom: Kristina Bechtel, Molly Betts, Sarah Bowman, Sandy Brekke, Randall Brown, Teresa Byland, Kim Cable, Stephen Curns, Mari Freiberg, Isaac Hoffman, Kevin Hundt, Becky Koske, Catherine Lange, Anthony Larson, Mai Lee, Le Anne Martinez, Meredith McCoy, Julie McDermid, Jeanne Meyer, Alicia Place, Jeff Richardson, Amy Schanhofer, Mark Schimpf, Joella Stribel, Heidi Svee, Abby Waters, Daniella and Krista (didn't get the last names). *If I missed anyone or spelled your name wrong, please let me know so I can correct the minutes.*

1. June Meeting Minutes – No changes or additions.
2. After Hours Plan – had been sent out prior to meeting, was reviewed by Kim Cable, plan approved and finalized.
3. Point in Time Count – the report is not yet completed. 63 people were found living outside. There were none in Crawford, Monroe and Vernon counties. The Salvation Army reported 15 people in shelter that night, all singles. Couleecap Housing First was nearly full on the night of the count, is now full. The report will be sent out when complete. Julie McDermid commented that the Outreach Team is now seeing around 80 people living outside, including some that are believed to be new to the area. Actual number may be close to 100.
4. Membership Agreement – was reviewed and members are being asked to complete this and submit ASAP. Each organization around the table should submit one agreement and designate one voting member. Anyone attending our meetings as an interested community member not affiliated with an organization should submit an agreement. This must be completed before the October meeting, since we will be voting for our BOS rep at that meeting. That position needs to be in place in time for the BOS November meeting.

Kim gave some background on what this all means since there were several new faces at the meeting. The Balance of State (BOS) is a guiding body that provides oversight of funding streams and grants, develops policy and practice, and reviews outcomes of homeless programs.

Our region elects a representative to the BOS, anyone who might be interested in encouraged to apply. It is a significant time commitment which involves 4 quarterly meetings each year of which you must attend a minimum of 3. You are also expected to chair or co-chair one of the subcommittees. The nomination form was sent out in an email prior to the meeting.

5. System Data review – Julie presented this info, which can be found on the CCEH website. If you don't have the password or need help navigating the site, please contact Julie. One of the highlights was the July 2020 Prioritization List Housing Recommendations. Of 136 households on the Prioritization List in July, 120 were households without children and 16 were households with children.

6. Strategic Plan – also presented by Julie. Erin Healy is wrapping up her work with us and will be stepping aside. Materials were sent out prior to the meeting, the major sections are Vision, The Problem, Guiding Principles, Goals/Milestones and Path to Functional Zero. Members are being asked to go through this and offer input. Julie mentioned the Tracker document that was also sent out prior to the meeting, which tracks Assets, Need, and Opportunities. Please review – Mark will be sending a link to facilitate comments.

7. CCEH Structure – Julie presented this info on the “Team of Teams” structure of the CCEH. This includes Innovation Teams that carry out projects that will have an impact, the Consumer Advisory Council that reviews what the teams are doing from a consumer perspective, and the Driver Team, which works with Julie to support the work of the Innovation Teams. Another example is the Landlord Liaison Team, which is putting together a plan to hire and support a Landlord Liaison, details yet to be worked out.

8. Updates – Le Anne Martinez gave a brief update from the CAC. She said she is personally referring homeless individuals with whom she comes into contact to appropriate resources. Also, the peer support project continues to move forward, right now the focus is on getting training in place for everyone.

Kevin from Coulee Tenants United expressed concerns about the upcoming Hearts in the Park event - he is asking about whether the people running the event are trained in/understand homeless issues. If not, it may not be helpful. Julie assured the group that she is working with Sandy Brekke at Gundersen to make sure it is a well-planned event. Some of the offerings would have normally taken place at Homeless Connect, which was cancelled due to COVID-19, such as foot care. Info about the event can be found on Facebook.

**NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 AT 2:30PM**

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa Byland, Secretary