

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 17, 2021

PRESENT: Kim Cable (Couleecap), Sarah Bowman (CAC), Mark Schimpf (St. Clare Health Mission), Mary Jacobson (Family & Children's Center), Randall Brown (CAC), Jeanne Meyer (Families First of Monroe County), Michael Fitzpatrick (ILR), Pat Ruda (FSPA), Tenille Spears (YWCA La Crosse), Mike Hanke (LSS-Chippewa Falls), Ellen Oligney (ILR), Tenilla Amerine (Couleecap), Tina Tryggestad (Couleecap), Toni Van Kirk (Catholic Charities), Migdalia Simpson (Catholic Charities), Amanda Kind (Brad Pfaff's office), Ricardo Acevedo (Social Security Administration), Kevin Fox (Vivant Health), Kristi Bechtel (La Crosse County Human Services), Susan Bennett (La Crosse County Public Health), Anneliese Skoda (La Crosse County), Michelle Burkhardt (Western Workforce Development Board), Daniella Fohr (The Salvation Army), Desiree Parker (Veterans Administration), Katie Berkedal (La Crosse Community Foundation), John Pesch (La Crosse County), Izabel Balk (ILR), Sadie Nelson (ILR), Kevin Hundt (Coulee Tenants United), Nancy Parcher (YMCA), Senator Brad Pfaff, Julie McDermid (The Exchange), Jen Roberdeau (YWCA La Crosse), Kevin Burch (Catholic Charities), Anthony Larson (CVI) Lauren Journot (YWCA La Crosse), Amy Schanhofer (Scenic Bluffs Community Health Center), Shannon Parker (Catholic Charities), Abby Mestad (Great Rivers HUB)

EXCUSED: Teresa Byland

1. Approval of June 2021 Meeting Minutes: No comments or changes made. June meeting minutes approved.
2. Presentation by Wisconsin State Senator Brad Pfaff
 - a. Seeking information on what can be done to address homelessness
 - b. Thanks for all the work everyone does
 - c. Interested in learning more about what the coalition does
 - d. Address: 22 State Capitol Building, welcome anytime to visit. Please invite Brad in the future for other events in the area.
 - e. Phone number: 608-266-5490
3. Balance of State Updates: Kim Cable
 - a. WIBOSCOC Dues update: Our COC will need to vote on a dues structure in our October meeting. Then the option the COC votes on, our delegate will bring that vote to the Annual BOSCOC meeting in November. Further information attached to these meeting minutes.

- b. Board member opening: Youth representative
 - i. Application deadline is August 28, 2021
 - c. COC Competition: has not been announced yet. Waiting to hear when the NOFA will be released.
 - d. Youth Transitional Housing Grant Update
 - e. Ryan Dowd Training Update- future trainings
 - i. September 30, 2021: Ryan Dowd Training meant for supervisors of homeless programs, however others may attend.
 - ii. December 16, 2021: Ryan Dowd Core Training (for anyone to attend)
4. Day Center and Youth Shelter Updates: YWCA La Crosse Staff Lauren Journot
- a. Youth Shelter: currently working on licensing the space. Tentative opening in November. Currently recruiting for staff in multiple positions. Reach out to Jane Benschawel at: jbenschawel@gmail.com if interested or if you know someone who would be interested.
 - b. Day Center: YWCA staff are moved in. Partners will start moving in next week. We are working. Working with the Downtown Neighborhood Association to communicate about the center and the opening date. The Next Door Open House information will go out soon to Downtown Neighborhood and Washburn Neighborhood members. Will also have a Grand Opening in September for everyone.
 - c. Agencies currently planning on having agency presence: YWCA La Crosse, Couleecap, Salvation Army, ILR, Catholic Charities. We will be having other discussions with other agencies/services to be involved in the space.
 - d. This is not a Day Shelter model where people can hang out all day, but people will be welcomed to the space and meet with various service providers. However, if people need to come in and warm up or cool down and have a snack and a beverage.
 - e. Services offered by various agencies:
 - i. Coordinated Entry
 - ii. Landlord Liaison
 - iii. Outreach Services
 - iv. Mental Health Outreach
 - v. Information and Referral services
 - vi. Other services related to housing instability
 - f. We have a regular service provider meetings on Tuesday afternoons. If you would like to join these meetings let Lauren know. You can reach Lauren at: lauren.journot@ywcalacrosse.org

5. CCEH Transition/Restructuring Update:
 - a. Update website: Catholic Charities has access to do this. Kim will connect with Kevin to get the updates made to the website and to add meeting minutes, meeting dates, etc. added to the website.

6. Consumer Advisory Council Update: Randall Brown and Leanne Martinez
 - a. CAC is excited about the Day Resource Center and has begun conversations for utilizing the Day Center for Peer Support
7. Point in Time Count Update: Kim Cable and Becky Koske

8. 2021 Homeless Memorial Planning Committee: Kristi Bechtel
 - a. The committee is planning an event to honor those who have passed away in 2021 who were homeless or formerly homeless.
 - b. Looking for people to join the committee: we meet every couple of weeks and then less frequently when details are set.
 - c. May look at holding the event virtually

9. Agency Updates:
 - a. Veterans Housing Recovery Program:
 - i. There are openings at the Chippewa program for single male veterans. Please reach out to Mike Hanke if you have a referral.
 - b. Abby: Great Rivers Hub
 - i. Currently has a job opening in the HUB for a health worker to work with pregnant mothers and a HUB worker opening in Monroe County to work with individuals with Type 2 Diabetes (needs to be someone who is fluent in Spanish).

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Cable