

# Eau Claire Housing Coalition Meeting Minutes

<b>Dairyland Coalition</b>		
Date: 12/18/2019	Time: 1pm to 4:00pm	Location: RCU Corporate Center
Chair	Jeanne Semb	
Co-Chair	Keith Johnathan	
Note taker	Dani Claesges <a href="mailto:dairylandsecretary@gmail.com">dairylandsecretary@gmail.com</a>	
Attendees	Jeanne Semb <b>COALITION CHAIR</b> <b>COALITION DELEGATE</b>	Western Dairyland (WD) <a href="mailto:Jeanne.Semb@wdeoc.org">Jeanne.Semb@wdeoc.org</a>
	Keith Johnathan <b>COALITION VICE-CHAIR</b>	Housing Authority of Eau Claire County <a href="mailto:Keith.Johnathan@eauclairewi.gov">Keith.Johnathan@eauclairewi.gov</a>
	TJ Atkins	Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
	Stephanie Richardson	ARCW (Aids Resource Center of Western WI) <a href="mailto:stephanie.richardson@arcw.org">stephanie.richardson@arcw.org</a>
	Lieske Giese	Eau Claire City County Health Department <a href="mailto:elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us">elizabeth.giese@co.eau-claire.wi.us</a>
	Christine Warloski	St. James Parish/Community Member
	Dani Claesges	Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) <a href="mailto:dclaesges@ecasd.us">dclaesges@ecasd.us</a>
	Jen Solfest	ADRC (Aging Disability Resource Center)
	Kevin Burch	Catholic Charities
	Paul Savides	JONAH <a href="mailto:psavides@wwt.net">psavides@wwt.net</a>
	Amy Giani	FPCV (Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley) <a href="mailto:agiani@familypromisecv.org">agiani@familypromisecv.org</a>
	Denise Kurtz	Women's Way <a href="mailto:Denise.Kurtz@lsswis.org">Denise.Kurtz@lsswis.org</a>
	Ryan Graham	WIBOSCoC <a href="mailto:ryan.graham@wibos.org">ryan.graham@wibos.org</a>
	Carrie Poser	WIBOSCoC <a href="mailto:carrie.poser@wibos.org">carrie.poser@wibos.org</a>
	Kelly Christianson	Concerned Citizen <a href="mailto:kellychristianson@att.net">kellychristianson@att.net</a>
	Debbie Gough	Community Member
	Brianne Berres	Catholic Charities (Sojourner House/Sojo) <a href="mailto:bberres@cclse.org">bberres@cclse.org</a>
	Casey Levrich <b>COALITION DIRECTOR</b>	Dept. of VA (Veteran Affairs) <a href="mailto:casey.levrich@va.gov">casey.levrich@va.gov</a>

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	Angela Friend	CVI (Center for Veterans Issues) <a href="mailto:angela.friend@cvivet.org">angela.friend@cvivet.org</a>
	Cortney Springer	Eau Claire City County Health Department <a href="mailto:cortney.springer@co.eau-claire.wi.us">cortney.springer@co.eau-claire.wi.us</a>
	Tanya Alexander	LSS-R.AY.S (Lutheran Social Services Runaway Youth Services)
	Cortney Draxler	Eau Claire City County Health Department <a href="mailto:cortney.draxler@co.eau-claire.wi.us">cortney.draxler@co.eau-claire.wi.us</a>
	Leigh Polodna	WIBOSCoC <a href="mailto:leigh.polodna@wibos.org">leigh.polodna@wibos.org</a>
	Nathan Dougherty	Western Dairyland (WD) <a href="mailto:nathan.dougherty@wdeoc.org">nathan.dougherty@wdeoc.org</a>
	Ken Adler	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
	Nicole Benson	Eau Claire County Housing Authority <a href="mailto:nicole.benson@co.eau-claire.wi.us">nicole.benson@co.eau-claire.wi.us</a>
	Alyssa Greene	LSS- Positive Avenues <a href="mailto:Alyssa.Greene@lsswis.org">Alyssa.Greene@lsswis.org</a>
	Nicole Anderson	LSS <a href="mailto:nicole.anderson@lsswis.org">nicole.anderson@lsswis.org</a>
	Jacque Hogan	Western Dairyland (WD)
	Theresa Klingenberg	Western Dairyland (WD) <a href="mailto:theresa.klingenberg@wdeoc.org">theresa.klingenberg@wdeoc.org</a>
	Kelsey Gross	Inclusa <a href="mailto:Kelsey.gross@inclusa.org">Kelsey.gross@inclusa.org</a>
	Karla Peterson	WDVA

## Approval of December Minutes

Motion to approve minutes made by Denise Kurtz by Amy Gianni. Minutes unanimously approved.

## Agency Spotlight: WIBOSCoC – Carrie Poser (PowerPoint included)

- Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care (WIBOSCoC) covers 69 counties in Wisconsin (minus Madison, Milwaukee and Racine).
- WIBOSCoC is focused on ending homelessness.
- The Hearth Act was created to address the mortgage collapse in 2006-ish. It defines what a CoC is, it requires them to exist and explains that they are in place to create a coordinated system of homeless assistance options. The Wisconsin Balance of State is a CoC. The Dairyland Coalition is a local homeless coalition, not a CoC. The Hearth Act also requires communities to measure their performance as a coordinated system and use that data to drive our decisions and initiatives.
- History: WIBOSCoC started in 1992 and was connected to the entire state. In 2011, they split off from Racine, Milwaukee and Madison to become their own 501(c)3. In 2015, they hired the Director (Carrie Poser) and since have hired a Monitoring & Compliance Coordinator (Meredith McCoy), Coordinated Entry System Specialist (Ryan Graham) and Grant Specialist (Leigh Polodna). The Articles of Incorporation were restated and the Bylaws of the WIBOSCoC were approved in February 2019.
- The WIBOSCoC Corporation Structure: A volunteer board is run by a Chair. The corporation has 21 members (aka: directors from each local coalition in WIBOSCoC).

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- The Dairyland Coalition is made up of four counties: Eau Claire, Buffalo, Trempealeau and Jackson Counties. State funding received by a local coalition cannot be used outside of their local coalition territory.
- HUD provides money for housing programs, not shelter operations. ESG funding can be used for shelter. Those funds go from HUD to the State, then to the agencies.
- What should ending homelessness look like in your coalition: The coalition can claim it has 'ended' homelessness when it has created a local system that prevents homelessness and, if it can't be prevented, a person's homelessness is a rare, brief and non-recurring experience.
- Purpose of WIBOSCoC: (see slide) (main stream program= promotes access to and effectiveness... )
- What should be the composition of the WIBOSCoC? (see slide)
- Board of Directors: 27 volunteer members, 21 from the local coalitions, 6 voted from full membership: (see slide) Executive committee, Nominating Committee, Finance & Audit Committee and System Performance Committee and seven other committees.
- What is Diversion (Rapid Resolution): Purposeful conversation that diverts someone from becoming homeless as defined by HUD (shelter stay, unsheltered, and more)
- The Committee structure is successful to help coalitions accomplish actionable initiatives (examples of CoC committees) in addition to the ongoing committees created.
- Local Coalition Have-Tos: represents a defined geographical area, in local coalition adopt and follow governing documents
- The Dairyland delegate is Jeanne Semb speaks and votes in the interest of the local coalition. The Dairyland Director (Casey Levrich) is a WIBOSCoC Board member and she makes decisions and votes in the interest of WIBOSCoC.
- Member (local coalition) Responsibilities: (See Slide)
- Dairyland Local Coalition: (See Slide) representatives, chairs, funds and the agencies receiving them.
- WIBOSCoC is inviting all state senators and representatives to join their local coalitions for the Point In Time.
- A COALITION: coming together for a common purpose (See Slide) and why. Barriers: turf issues, bad history, domination by 'professionals', poor links to the community, minimal organizational capacity, funding, failure to provide and create leadership within the coalition.
- Why are YOU here? In Dairyland local coalition meetings and work, be sure to identify why participants are attending the coalition meetings and not so much on where you're from.
- How can Dairyland included Bolton the Dairyland Coalition meetings? They are eligible for CoC DV Rapid Rehousing funds (\$800,000 in 2019).
- General Protocol to develop your local coalition: Communicate! Be inclusive and participatory as you can. Network. Set concrete reachable goals. Be creative about meeting. Be realistic and keep your promises,
- The Coordinated Entry After Hour Plan is for ALL counties in the Dairyland Coalition.
- We, as a local coalition, can change our coalition's name.
- Look at your coalitions meeting structure? (See Slide) Study and answer the questions to figure out what we want to be and where to we as a local coalition want to go?
- See Handout #1: Homeless Crisis Response System (attached). Has definitions of each part of the defined Homeless Crisis Response System components and questions to ask about each of those components in our local system.
- DATA: (See Slide). Our coalition's typical shelter client is a 45 year old white male, non-Hispanic/Latino, non-Veteran without children in their household and have a disability.
- Coordinated Entry: (See Slides) All agencies can participate in Coordinated Entry, even if you're not using Service Point or are a funded agency – the Non-HMIS Coordinated Entry List. Our numbers from our CE list tell us how many housing units we would need if none of the persons on the list could self-resolve: Permanent Supportive Housing Units, Rapid Re-Housing Units with intensive case management and the regular Rapid Rehousing.

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- Q: Are shelters considered part of ? Their operational costs are not funded with federal dollars (except a little from ESG funding – it's complicated) but they are an important part of the local homeless system.
- Q: Why is the CoC dues required? It provides the 'match money' required by HUD (cannot use other federal money to pay this. It must come from non-CoC funds). It must be paid by February to be in good standing or the coalition must pay a fine to get back into good standing with WIBOSCoC. (Jeanne stated that in the past the different agencies receiving funding split the dues cost, but lately Western Dairyland has covered the entire cost).
- Q: Who is our Board member? Casey Levrich
- Q: Who are the State-wide Board members (six members)? (inquire with Carrie for list)
- Q: Do agencies who are serving broad areas have to only spend their funding in designated geographic areas? Yes, whatever geographical area was defined in the funding application is the only area that the funding can be used.
- Q: Is it strange that some areas of the local coalition gets more funding then others? If there is a need in other parts in your coalition, the funding needs to be shared with them.
- Q: What funding should Dairyland be accessing ? TBRA – the City of Eau Claire is in an entitlement area can't apply for state TBRA because they automatically get their own and Eau Claire LSS has TBRA funding for Eau Claire County (non-city area). The rest of the Dairyland coalition can apply for TBRA funds.
- Q: What funding is provided to the Dairyland Coalition as a whole? EHH money is awarded to the Dairyland Coalition, which the coalition decides how to divided up among agencies. CoC funds go directly to applying agencies- awarded by non-funded WIBOSCoC board members.
- Q: Are there places where we can find extra funding? Yes, asset mapping. Be sure to note housing funding vs. case management funding. New state funding is on the docket (4 million total).
- Q: Is there a coalition like Dairyland local coalition that are a good example of how to run a coalition well? They each have their strengths- some that stand out are North Central – they have an interesting mix- United Way is highly involved. LaCrosse does well. Lakeshore Coalition rotates their meeting locations among counties. Connect with agencies in other agencies in the other counties to build your participation. Gain knowledge from each other, network and partner.
- Q: What is the breakdown of costs per year per unit for permanent supportive housing, rapid-rehousing? (Carrie has breakdowns.)
- Handout #1: Next Steps – This is 15 pages of stuff that the coalition should be able to answer.
- Q: What is the difference between a housing navigator and housing counseling? West Central has one and we have Robin at WD. A navigator works with landlords and build relationships to provide needed housing. The tipping point is when landlords start calling the navigator to offer housing to clients. The navigator works towards the goal of creating coordination between housing services and landlords.
- Q: What is our coalition's official name? Dairyland Local Homeless Coalition.
- Q: How do market the coalition? What is our elevator speech? What is the coalition. Why do we want to end homelessness.

## Governing Documents – Paul Savides

- First- Jeanne thanked the leadership group for all the work and time put into the bylaws, the funding applications for the Dairyland coalition and their participation in the division of funding in 2019.
- Review of Bylaws: We are now including all Dairyland counties in our meetings. April's meeting will be in Buffalo county, July's in Jackson county and October's in Trempealeau county. Agency-paid attendees, Concerned Citizens and Persons with Lived Experience are asked to turn in the Membership Application and the Commitment Letter by January. Hand them in to a member of the leadership team or email to [dairylandsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dairylandsecretary@gmail.com)

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- Committees can be very important for in providing a way to handle actionable initiatives and ongoing coalition and community supports.
- Other coalitions meet for 2 hours when they meet as a whole.
- We will need to suspend the bylaws at January's meeting to allow for nominations to happen and voting to happen in February. Per the bylaws, this is normally supposed to happen in November and December, respectfully.

## Warming Center- Brianne/Nathan

- Brianne shared that the warming center opened last Sunday night (December 15<sup>th</sup>) and have been open two nights since total so far. Each night they had three clients.
- A TV News station only included some parts of the interview about the warming center and made it sound like it was part of Catholic Charities.
- Ken Adler and Pastor Mike Henry co-chair the warming center committee, Nathan Dougherty coordinates the volunteers and Pastor Mike has been instrumental in giving real-world perspective of the clients they will likely see.
- Media coverage has been great!
- 60 people have shown interest in volunteering overnight, but only 10-15 of those have become active volunteers.
- Their website is [www.ecwarmingcenter.com](http://www.ecwarmingcenter.com) and it has great info the website.
- People who work 3<sup>rd</sup> shift could be a great pool of people to possibly volunteer because they could keep their same sleep schedule.
- Q: Why are some of the interested volunteers not actively volunteering? Suggestion to call them individually and discuss why.
- Brianna shared the committee's thankfulness for everyone's support towards the warming center.

## Agency Updates

- LSS R.A.Y.S- Tanya shared there's a presentation tomorrow (December 19<sup>th</sup>) from 9:30am – 1:30pm at the State Theatre. Presenters are Joli Guenther (Part I) and George Chavez (Part II). Part I: Community Collaboration for Runaway and Homeless Youth and Part II: Confronting the Compartments & Preparing for the Trauma.
- Stephanie at Aids Resource Center of Western Wisconsin shared that their name will be changing to Vivent Health in January.
- Sojourner is seeing an increase in clients receiving Rapid Rehousing vouchers, and there seems to be more families and friends willing to house homeless individuals.

## Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm

**Next Meeting: January 15, 2020 at 1:30 pm at First Congregational Church Chapel (310 Broadway St.).**

## Notes for future meeting(s):

- *Jeanne and Keith to add Sprint final report discussion to January Agenda*
- *LSS to share how to refer someone to their TBRA program (HUD's HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance)*

## Documents Received at Meeting:

### Membership Application

- Eau Claire County Housing Authority

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- Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley
- Center For Veterans Issues
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Lutheran Social Services
- Housing Authority of the City of Eau Claire
- Eau Claire Area School District
- JONAH
- Christine Warloski
- Eau Claire City-County Health Department

## Letter of Commitment

- Eau Claire County Housing Authority
- Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley
- Center For Veterans Issues
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Lutheran Social Services
- Housing Authority of the City of Eau Claire
- Eau Claire Area School District

## Documents Received through email

### Membership Application

- Western Dairyland
- United Way
- Debbie Gough

### Letter of Commitment

- Western Dairyland
- United Way