

Eau Claire Dairyland Housing Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: 02/18/2020	Time: 1:30pm to 3:30pm	Location: First Congregation Church
Chair	Jeanne Semb	
Co-Chair	Keith Johnathan	
Note taker	Dani Claesges dairylandsecretary@gmail.com	
Attendees	Jeanne Semb COALITION CHAIR COALITION DELEGATE	Western Dairyland (WD) Jeanne.Semb@wdeoc.org
	TJ Atkins	The Community Table director@thecommunitytable.org
	Tia Krueger	LSS-Midway Crisis tia.krueger@lsswis.org
	Stephanie Richardson	ARCW (Aids Resource Center of Western WI) stephanie.richardson@arcw.org
	Christine Warloski	St. James Parish/Community Member
	Dani Claesges	Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) dclaesges@ecasd.us
	Nicole Anderson	Lutheran Social Services nicole.anderson@lsswis.org
	Jen Solfest	ADRC (Aging Disability Resource Center)
	Jodi Bednar	Veterans Housing & Recovery jodi.bednar@lsswis.org
	Dana Schimmel	Veteran Housing Recovery Program dana.schimmel@lsswis.org
	Glenda Enger	Eau Claire County Housing Authority glenda.enger@co.eau-claire.wi.us
	Libby Richter	EC Public Library libbyr@eauclaire.lib.wi.us
	Robin Adams	Western Dairyland robin.adams@lsswis.org
	Amy Giani	FPCV (Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley) agiani@familypromisecv.org
	Melissa Janssen	EC County Board / RCU Melissa.janssen@rcu.org
	Brittany Evans	Western Dairyland Brittany.evans@wdeoc.org
	Brianne Berres	Catholic Charities (Sojourner House/Sojo) bberres@cclse.org
	Casey Levrich COALITION DIRECTOR	Dept. of VA (Veteran Affairs) casey.levrich@va.gov
	Angela Friend	CVI (Center for Veterans Issues) angela.friend@cvivet.org
	Cortney Springer	Eau Claire City County Health Department cortney.springer@co.eau-claire.wi.us

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	Cortney Draxler	Eau Claire City County Health Department cortney.draxler@co.eau-claire.wi.us
	Nathan Dougherty	Western Dairyland (WD) nathan.dougherty@wdeoc.org
	Ken Adler	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic adlerjk@gmail.com
	Jacque Hogan	Western Dairyland (WD)
	Theresa Klingenberg	Western Dairyland (WD) theresa.klingenberg@wdeoc.org
	Angie Engstrom	DHS angela.engstrom@co.eau-claire.wi.us
	Karla Peterson	WDVA
	Ashley Hinke	Vivent Health Ashley.hinke@viventhealth.org
	Sam Harkness	Western Dairyland (WD) samantha.harkness@wdeoc.org

Agency Introductions – Ice Breaker: Tell the group something about you that we may not know.

Approval of January Minutes

Motion to approve minutes made by Breanne Berres and second by Amy Giani. Minutes unanimously approved.

Local Committee Reports

- Point In Time (PIT) Committee (Amy Giani & Samantha Harkness)**
Still working on finalizing the count numbers. Approximately 11 unsheltered people were found or identified by the physical portion of the count and were provided assistance info. The day after the count, Western Dairyland staff went to Positive Avenues to survey individuals. Committee members who are available Thursday, Feb. 20th afternoon to work on reports for WIBOS would be greatly appreciated (email Jeanne). Please join us at our next meeting on March 18th at 11:30am at Cabin Coffee if you'd like to join the committee.
(Minutes Attached)
- Warming Center Committee (Nathan Doughty & Ken Adler)**
<https://www.ecwarmingcenter.com/> Having paid staff has been really helpful to stabilize the center's services. It was helpful to have the center open during the evening that the building behind Sojourner had the fire. They are now looking towards the future and funding to sustain staff and volunteers.
- After Hours Committee (Jeanne Semb & TJ Adkins)**
We will postpone voting on the after hours plan until the March 18th coalition meeting.
Q: Who will be reading/using the plan? Anyone who comes in contact, after business hours, with someone needing shelter. Using the plan, shelter and housing info can be provide to the individual.
- ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Please see included meeting minutes.

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- **Diversion/Prevention Committee (Brienne Berres)**

The committee met for the first time on February 10th at 1pm. We quickly realized we needed to create a detailed list of specific services our community agencies each provide. Using an excel document Christine Warlowski created, committee members will divide up the agencies and document all the services they offer that fall under specific categories (health, food, shelter, etc.). This detailed list can be used by 211 and anyone coming in contact with someone needing assistance. It will provide an accurate description of services available and important details about how to initially access them. The committee is looking to split the awareness piece, required by funding given to the committee, into a separate committee. The next committee meeting is March 2nd at 2pm at Catholic Charities (318 Fulton Street). Please join the committee if interested.

- **Discharge Planning Committee (Nathan Doughty)**

Nathan presented to Mayo on the importance of partnering with the Dairyland coalition and area homeless programs and the benefits of doing so. The next committee meeting is at ADRC on Wednesday, Feb. 26th at noon. The committee is looking for more members- so far they only have representatives from Western Dairyland and ADRC. Jeanne shared that WI BOS has created a draft MOU to use with hospitals (and another for foster care services). Waiting for the final version.

- **Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute Group (HWLI) (Stephanie & TJ)**

HWLI is an opportunity Marshfield Clinic offers to regions of the state every four years and the group has been involved in workshops and have had onsite visits from HWLI staff learn important leadership skills and different techniques coalition can use. For the remainder of our time in the program, we want to focus on a few important things: developing collaborative leadership skills, sharing some of the tools/materials/knowledge we learn with the DHC, and exploring potential next steps of the Sprint. Recently, we came up with a problem statement for HWLI that emphasized the lack of affordable housing and growing housing crisis specifically in Eau Claire County. We intend to use this problem statement to guide our work moving forward. The group handed out a worksheet to use as a messaging tool: **DEVLOPING A 27/9/3** (attached).

- **Veteran's Committee (Casey Levrich)**

70% of veterans do not qualify for veteran homeless and housing services. Looking for people to join this committee.

WI Balance of State Updates – Casey Levrich

- WIBOS is looking for people with a good financial background to help join their financial task force.
- Angela Friend is now on the WI BOS board as a representative of veterans.
- **WI BOS Quarterly Meeting (Feb. 13th-14th in Rothschild, WI)**
Business meeting: EHH- grant application coming out soon. In the past they've required coalitions to be certified before they can apply- this is in discussion on whether to require it this year. The last week in February the application will be released and we'll have six weeks

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to complete it. Currently funded by the EHH grant are WD, Beacon, Sojourner, and LSS. Current funding allows us to maintain local shelters, provide Rapid Re-Housing to individuals and families in our four-county service area, and provide Outreach.

Looking to possibly add a prevention program to Dairyland coalition using WIBOS funding option. Funding is determined by number of clients served, households served, PIT data, returns to homelessness and exits to permanent housing. If we send unused funds back, that would cap next year's funding to the amount equal to what was used the previous year. If agencies do not provide the number of homeless individuals served, it shows that we have a smaller number of homeless and it affects funding that comes down into the community.

In the future, DEHCR may consider using data from local prioritization lists. WI BOS unhappy about distribution of state homeless money to WIBOSCO vs. Milwaukee, Madison and Racine. TBRA money – no match required but also no case management money.

Coordinated entry surveys will be coming soon to all users of the coordinated entry system. Jeanne is on the system performance measures committee and they will be working on and bringing out more data sharing in the near future.

Jeanne as our Dairyland Delegate: voted for Angela Friend to become a WIBOS board member

On the training day of the quarterly meeting, there was a presentation about lobbying (handouts available from Jeanne) and another about Opioids (the presenter was willing to provide local trainings) (Casey Levrich)

Dairyland Coalition is in the top five coalitions with the highest amounts of chronically homeless, homeless youth, homeless veterans and domestic violence persons. We need to address these numbers. Jeanne is currently talking with Westcap to find a way to partner to create a project to apply for a grant to address these needs. They may be able to include the Coulee region.

Q: Could the SMILE house initiative could be picked up by grant funding to complete it and run it?

Comment: DHS has a program (Supervised Independent Living) that works with youth aging out of foster care and works with youth on how to support themselves (Angie). LSS RAYS may have an outreach person that does similar work?

Upcoming Quarterly Meetings coming up: May 21st-22nd at Hotel Meade in Wisconsin Rapids, August 20th-21st at Lake of the Torches in Lac Du Flambeau, and November 12th-13th at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells – Please try to attend one or more if you're able to!

Need to create a committee to focus on the criminalization of homelessness in our committee and how to decriminalize it. Dedicating areas in our community that it's okay to park in a car and sleep. INCLUDE IN MINUTES!!!

- Need as many different agencies to come together to write the next grant application. More info to come on when the first application writing meeting will be.

The following list is given to encourage involvement at the WIBOSCoC and to give ideas of sub-committees for our local coalition.

- Coordinated Entry: Robin Adams
- Discharge Planning

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- Emergency Shelter & Diversion: Amy Giani, Brianne Berres, and Jeanne Semb
- Fiscal & Audit
- Gaps & Needs
- Nominating
- Public Awareness
- System Performance: Jeanne Semb
- Veteran Advisory Board: Casey Levrich
- Youth Advisory Board

(Each committee is chaired by a WIBOSCoC board member)

How to join a Balance of State committee: go to the committee website and find the contact for the committee. Contact the committee representative to express your interest in joining the committee.

Agency Updates

- **Dana Schimmel (Vets – LSS)**
Handed out program brochures and applications for homeless individual males (attached). Not qualified if on sex offender list or dishonorably discharged.
- **The HUB**
Has anyone had contact with new service in EC? One-stop shop for referrals for homeless persons. Starting in March out of Valleybrook. Becky Piper used to work in Chippewa Falls in a similar capacity.
- **The Community Table (TJ Atkins)**
Fundraiser tonight (Feb. 19th) at Cheers Pablo for \$35 and starts at 6:30pm. It is the first of many opportunities.
- **Positive Avenues (Tia Krueger)**
Crisis Stabilization program started on Feb. 17th. Anyone in crisis as defined by DHS can meet with a worker to assess their crisis and work with them to create a plan on how to get out crisis. Coping skills, referrals to other agencies, etc. Open during Positive Avenue's business hours.
- **Eau Claire City Council**
Recently approved the creation of the Housing Opportunities Commission- appointing 10 EC community members for a three-year term. Focused to increase affordable housing in our area. For more info visit <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/boards-commissions-committees/housing-opportunity-commission>
- **ADRC**
Currently has a grant to provide people transportation to get to The Community Table. They would contact the ADRC to authorize the ride. Right now the limit is 10 rides per month per person and then they will review use and adjust if necessary. Has a vehicle modification grant

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to make vehicles more accessible for their disability needs (not repairs for vehicle) contact ADRC for more info.

- **Eau Claire Public Library (Libby Richter)**
Resource center being created on the second floor for people and agencies to access Libby and be available for people seeking assistance.
- **Beacon House (Amy Giani)**
Hiring a part time Family/Volunteer Liaison – must have a some post-secondary education experience. Hours of work are 4:30pm - 8:30pm Monday-Friday and weekend hours.
- **JONAH**
Hosting HOME For Everyone brunch on Sunday, Feb. 23rd, 1-3pm at St. John's Lutheran Church (1804 Highland Ave) Tickets are \$20
- **Western Dairyland (Jeanne Semb)**
Welcome Brittany Evans, new case manager 😊
- **VIVENT HEALTH (Stephanie Richardson)**
Has a grant to educate about Narcan and administering it. Trainer is able to come to agencies to train (usually a 15-30 minute training). They have Fentanyl strips and safe injection materials.
- **City/County Health Department (Cortney Draxler)**
Can provide drug disposal training and more. Contact the Health Dept. for more info

Meeting adjourned at 3pm

Next Meeting: March 18th, 2020 at 1:30 pm at location to be determined

Meeting Location Sign-up Document Link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vK48nPJI-OJHE-v9uwvfYOjCLPy07G1w8_OXU1in7Go/edit#gid=1737334422

Notes for future meeting(s):

- ***LSS and City Housing to share how to refer someone to their TBRA program (HUD's HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance)***

Member documents received so far:

Membership Application

- Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of LaCrosse
- Center For Veterans Issues
- Christine Warloski
- Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
- Debbie Gough
- Department of Veterans Affairs

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- Eau Claire Area School District
- Eau Claire City-County Health Department
- Eau Claire County Housing Authority
- Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley
- Housing Authority of the City of Eau Claire
- JONAH
- Lutheran Social Services
- Lutheran Social Services of WI and Upper Michigan – Midway Crisis
- Lutheran Social Services – Positive Avenues
- Lutheran Social Services – VHRP
- The Community Table
- United Way
- Vivent Health
- Western Dairyland
- WI Dept. of Veterans Affairs

Letter of Commitment

- Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of LaCrosse
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