

Eau Claire Dairyland Housing Coalition Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/20/2020	Time: 1:30pm to 3:00pm	Location: Zoom Meeting
Chair	Jeanne Semb	
Co-Chair	Keith Johnathan	
Note taker	Dani Claesges dairylandsecretary@gmail.com	
Attendees		
	Jeanne Semb COALITION CHAIR COALITION DELEGATE MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland (WD) Jeanne.Semb@wdeoc.org
	TJ Atkins MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	The Community Table director@thecommunitytable.org
	Kelly Christianson MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	United Way GCV kchristianson@uwgcv.org
	Stephanie Richardson MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Vivent Health stephanie.richardson@arcw.org
	Dani Claesges MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Eau Claire Area School District (ECASD) dclaesges@ecasd.us
	Nicole Anderson MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Lutheran Social Services nicole.anderson@lsswis.org
	Jen Solfest MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	ADRC (Aging Disability Resource Center) Jennifer.solfest@co.eau-claire.wi.us
	Suzanne Marsolek MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland suzanne.marsolek@wdeoc.org
	Paul Savides MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	JONAH psavides@wwt.net
	Amy Giani MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	FPCV (Family Promise of the Chippewa Valley) agiani@familypromisecv.org
	Brianne Berres MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Catholic Charities (Sojourner House/Sojo) bberres@cclse.org
	Casey Levrich	Dept. of VA (Veteran Affairs) casey.levrich@va.gov

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	COALITION DIRECTOR MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	
	Angela Friend MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	CVI (Center for Veterans Issues) angela.friend@cvivet.org
	Samantha Harkness MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland samantha.harkness@wdeoc.org
	Cortney Draxler MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Eau Claire City County Health Department cortney.draxler@co.eau-claire.wi.us
	Nathan Dougherty MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland (WD) nathan.dougherty@wdeoc.org
	Ken Adler MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Chippewa Valley Free Clinic adlerjk@gmail.com
	Jacque Hogan MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland (WD) Jacque.Hogan@wdeoc.org
	Tanya Alexander	LSS RAYS tanya.alexander@lsswis.org
	Deb Gough MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Community Member goughdm@uwec.edu
	Kevin Burch MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Catholic Charities kburch@cclse.org
	Robin Adams MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Western Dairyland robin.adams@wdeoc.org
	Karla Peterson MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	WDVA karla.peterson@dva.wisconsin.gov
	Keith Jonathan COALITION VICE CHAIR MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	City Housing keith.johnathan@eauclairewi.gov
	Jodi Bednar MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE	Lutheran Social Services jodi.bednar@lsswis.org
	Kelsey Gross	Inclusa kelsey.gross@inclusa.org

Approval of April 2020 Minutes

TJ Atkins approves the minutes and Angela Friend seconds the motion.

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COVID-19 Coalition Updates

Health Dept.

Thursday, supreme court overturned stay-at-home order. Friday the Eau Claire City-County Health Dept. made a COVID-19 Prevention and Control Order for businesses to maintain safety standards. <https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/>

The Community Table

Onsite Coordinator and volunteers must wear masks at all times and they continue to serve by drive-up/walk-up. Call Outreach Coordinator, Julia (715) 835-4977, for a box of food for a family or individual. Tuesdays they have a pop-up food pantry.

Western Dairyland

Eau Claire office – waiting until the 28th until staff return, then it will be a soft opening with limited staff in the building. Once plexiglass is installed at receptionist desk, the receptionist will be back. Independence office – opening next week, but following CDC recommendations for limiting staff- mainly just finance staff returning at this point.

United Way

Staff are mostly continuing to work from home but some are working a few hours in office. Starting June 5th, they will be closed at 12pm on Fridays. Hotel voucher funds administered through applications that were due May 15th. Not sure if anyone requested motel vouchers for E.C.

Eau Claire Area School District

School meals will continue through June 30th as it looks now (middle school site distribution and school bus distribution). Unsure if meals will be offered beyond June 30 for the summer. School district buildings will be closed on Fridays during the summer, June 5th – August 14th.

Catholic Charities

Main office getting ready for staff to come back, but they don't have a date when they will open for walk-ins yet. Sojourner still operating at Hobbs. Showers and laundry at Sojourner building are offered Mondays & Wednesdays 10am-1pm, staff are at the building 10am-1pm. Wil-Kill offers disinfection services (**info included**). Partnering with Chippewa Valley Street Ministries.

Lutheran Social Services

Staff still working from home, outreach at Hobbs one day a week. RAYS still working with youth, mainly on the hotline, but can meet face-to-face soon, if needed.

Family Promise

Continuing to serve four families because of bathroom capacity, at least until mid-June.

L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library

Closed until July and looking at how to limit people coming in when it opens. WIFI is on 24/7 and range has been extended farther beyond the building to allow people to use it if they are near the building. Created Community Resources flyer for outreach (**flyer included**).

Free Clinic

Open every Tuesday night, 1st & 3rd Wed. and call-in hotline. Precautions taken at the door. Planning on going to Sojourner once a week to provide limited services. <http://cvfreeclinic.org/>

*Hope Gospel shelters are still taking people as of two weeks ago.

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CARES Act funding

- No updates – just assuring that there will be funding, but unsure how much Dairyland Coalition will receive.

Together Chippewa Valley

- Have raised \$160,000 of the \$200,000 goal. Family Promise is one of the agencies involved. www.togetherchippewavalley.org

Neighbors Helping Neighbors (partnered with JONAH)

- Helping undocumented families who are not working to receive food and other living items. Hoping at some point to provide rental assistance.
- Donations should be sent to St. Mary's charitable funds ([email Deb Gough for more info](mailto:Deb.Gough@stmarys.org))
- To access funds, there's a short screening process with the person needing assistance to find out why they need funding then the request is sent to exec. committee for approval

Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program (W.R.A.P.)

- Administered through cap agencies (Western Dairyland)
- Jeanne will oversee funding distribution.
- Dairyland Coalition receiving approx. \$700,000
- <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/LocalGovtsGrants/COVID-Grants.aspx>

Homeless Services Community-Wide Planning

- Last meeting was May 14th (**Meeting minutes included**)
- Part of planning is focused on working with unsheltered to get them on coordinated entry list and housed.
- Using Western Dairyland's Rapid Rehousing (RRH) funds and Lutheran Social Services TBRA funds.
- Landlord information has been gathered and will be shared with coalition
- Please Join the next meeting: Wednesday, May 27th, 1pm-2:30pm next meeting on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84395886752>

Election Process

- Easy to use
- Good option to provide equitable voting for all members
- Do we need to change bylaws to allow for online voting?
- Can consider using this voting process in the future

EHH Funding Meeting

- Meeting was May 13th at 1:30pm
- Good meeting and good variety of attendees
- Upcoming grant money (\$218,000) will be allocated accordingly:
 - \$81,000 towards shelters (WD, Sojo & Beacon)
 - \$19,000 towards WD Outreach position
 - \$82,000 towards RRH for singles and families
 - \$20,000 towards Prevention

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PSH Waiver Request

- Dairyland Coalition lost one of the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) grants, which housed five individuals. It was due to a low-ranking of our coalition (we didn't spend all of our coalition money, higher number of clients returned to homelessness, our shelters were not full on the last Wednesday of the first quarter)
- Grant ends July 31st and we need to approve the waiver request to allow those five individuals who are not ready to move up to transfer to another housing program. This would bypass the process of using the coordinated entry list to fill the spots in the other housing program.
- Jeanne Semb explained the positive and negative effects of transferring the five individuals to another housing program (they will not return to homelessness, not using coordinated entry list to house most vulnerable)
- Discussed for understanding (Would funding from state help bridge gap? Is it specific to five certain individuals? Could families transfer to City Housing programming for two years instead?)
- Kelly Christianson motioned to allow the waiver to pass, Amy Giani second the motion. 17 coalition members participated in voting to allow our coalition to use the waiver. Voting outcome was a unanimous "Yes" by all 17 participating members voting.

Criminalization of Homelessness Policy

- The coalition needs to adopt a Criminalization of Homelessness Policy
- We can review WI BOSCOG policy and Coulee's policy (included) to create Dairyland's https://www.wiboscoc.org/uploads/3/7/2/4/37244219/wiboscoc_policy_on_criminalization_of_homelessness_2018.pdf
- There is criminalization of homelessness in Eau Claire
- We will need to work with local law enforcement and jail system to create a policy that is effective (agreed upon and implemented)
- Deb Gough is willing to help Discharge Committee work on policy 😊

Committee Updates

- **Advisory Committee:** (Dani Claesges) **(minutes included)**
- **PIT:** (Samantha Harkness)
Point In Time Count is July 22nd. We are moving forward on planning as usual. Will implement precautions for COVID if necessary. Brought up idea of Vivent Health coming to evening to quickly train volunteers on NARCAN. **(minutes included)**
- **Discharge Committee:** (Nathan Doughty)
Haven't met since Safe-At-Home began. Hoping to meet soon. Will take a look at the Criminalization of Homelessness policy for the Dairyland Coalition.
- **Prevention & Diversion Committee:** (Brienne Berres)
Last meeting we discussed what we were working on in the WI BOS COG statewide prevention committee – creating a training of how to have diversion and prevention conversations. We also discussed the announcement of LSS providing prevention services in our coalition and having them on the prevention sub-committee.
The next meeting was Tuesday, May 26th @ 2pm **(minutes included)**

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Agency Sharing

- City Housing – NOFA is out for the CDBG-CV funding (Community Block Grant tied to COVID Response <https://www.eauclairewi.gov/services/community-development-block-grant>). NOFA was published Sunday and applications were due on Friday, May 22nd.
- ECASD – Students need to return school items (electronics, books, materials, instruments, etc.) on June 5th, unless they are participating in virtual summer school.

Meeting adjourned at 3:13pm

Next Meeting: June 17th, 2020 at 1:30pm Zoom meeting

(Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm unless otherwise noted)

Meeting Location Sign-up Document Link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vK48nPJI-OJHE-v9uwvfYOjCLPy07GJw8_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)*

Current Members

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

Application for coalition membership is included. Please complete if your agency is not listed 😊