

# La Crosse Collaborative to End Homelessness

*Collaborative, diverse, and compassionate individuals working to eliminate homelessness in La Crosse County.*

Meeting Minutes  
April 18, 2017

Present: Kim Cable (Couleecap); Kristina Bechtel (La Crosse ISRS); Mark Schimpf (Catholic Charities); Chandler Miller (Salvation Army of La Crosse); Derek Johnson (Salvation Army of La Crosse); Becky Koske (Couleecap); Molly Betts (Couleecap); Teresa Silcox (YWCA La Crosse); Anneliese Skoda (La Crosse Co. ISRS); Jim Bagniewski (Shelter Development); Joel Miller (City of La Crosse Police Department); Alex Burg (City of La Crosse Police Department); Melanie Hamel (YWCA La Crosse); Tristine Bauman (Catholic Charities); Teresa Byland (La Crosse Co. Justice Support Services); Chandra Cox (Couleecap); Amy Gerold (Great Rivers 2-1-1); Mary May

1. Agency Presentations: None this month, Family & Children's Center asked to reschedule.
2. Outreach/Tent City Update:
  - a. Outreach Team went out today, still an issue with contacting people and encouraging people to come into shelter. There have been some issues that the police department have had to respond to: arson of a car that belongs to someone at tent city; dog call; some other complaints and issues. Tensions seem to be high. These are huge public safety concerns. Garbage and mess seem to be creeping back in. Talked with about 6 people regarding their long term plans, emphasized getting on housing list; seeking resources. Most people are receptive, somewhat.
  - b. Clean Up happened a couple of weeks ago. Various entities involved: Police Dept., Bucket Project, Catholic Charities, Couleecap and community members. Went well.
  - c. Tent City shut down: Signs have gone up by the City, No Camping. As a warning that Tent City is going to be shut down by May 31. Committee is developing flyers about what people can expect, where they can store their personal property, and information about resources and opportunities. Right now about 20 people camping. New tents have settled in after the clean-up, 3-4 new tents. Some new faces, which is exactly what we don't want to see.
  - d. River stage is down right now, but worried about rising waters could cause flooding and flash flooding.

3. Erin Healy/Action Lab Update
  - a. Tomorrow, April 19<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Design Teams and Leadership Teams are set
  - c. Targeting Chronically Homeless
  - d. Currently 65 people
  
4. Nomination committee:

Sent out a survey monkey survey for nominations.  
Chair: Kim Cable was nominated, Tristine, Chandra  
Tristine won the vote, and she accepted.  
Vice Chair: Tristine, Becky, Chandra. Chandra gets it and she accepts.  
Secretary; Mark Schimpf, Becky, Mary Jacobson. Mark was chosen, and Mark accepts!
  
5. Homeless Connect Update:
  - a. July 27<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Need help with fundraising. Approach United Health Care
  - c. Services are well organized and ready to go
  - d. Vendor space is secured.
  - e. Food Coordination committee has met. Our Saviors is doing the food again.
  - f. Tristine is sending out a volunteer "Save the Date"
  - g. Vendor flyers will go out soon.
  - h. Tristine needs Amanda Kubicek to contact her.
  - i. Hours of the event: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - j. Vendor Bags for people who didn't make it to the event.
  - k. Triage tables again to screen and interviewed for Housing Prioritization List.
  
6. Agency Updates:
  - a. May 25<sup>th</sup> is the Mental Health Awareness Walk at noon. Meeting by the statue at Human Services. If you want to join, show up!
  - b. Chandler Miller is working to get Resident Resource Fair for Lunch and Dinner Hours at the Salvation Army starting in June. Will invite local agencies to come in and provide information to shelter residents.
  - c. Warming Center is closing on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Cook Out on April 25<sup>th</sup> along with Karokee. Stop by at 7:00 p.m.

7. Next Meeting: May 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room at La Crosse City Hall.

Submitted by:  
Kim Cable  
Couleecap