

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)

Governing Board Meeting

July 28, 2021, 1:00 P.M.

Lee County Human and Veteran Services

Virtual Meeting

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/517946645>

Members Present:

Adina Bridges Centerstone of Florida
Daleen O'Dell Advocate
Daniel Kruse Providence Family Life Center
Danyale Kinney New Beginnings of SWFL
Janet Bartos Lee County Homeless Coalition
Jennifer Nelson City of Cape Coral
Kim Anderson Lee Health
Kim Hustad Lee County Human and Veterans Services
Kristy Santana Catholic Charities
Lisa Vogt Wells Advocate
Lue Richardson Veterans Affairs
Marcia Davis Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers
Myra Fiory Central Florida Behavioral Health Network

Other Present:

Danyale Brown Mission United
Jenna Alvarez Community Assisted & Supported Living (CASL)
Matt Visaggio Visaggio & Co.
Sylvia Jackson Taylor Jewish Family and Community Service (JFCS)
Tony Ceresoli The Salvation Army

**Lee County Human
And Veteran Services**

Staff Present:

Ana Villacis
Cynthia Bantillo
Chris Sebastian
Jeannie Sutton
Jolene Adams
Sylvia Ruff
Tim Gillmore

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I. Call to Order

Jennifer Nelson, Chair

a. Welcome and Board Roll Call

- Jeannie Sutton reviewed the list of attendees. She stated there was enough for a quorum.

b. Members Absent with/without Excuse

- Carolyn Johnson Goodwill Industries SWFL absent without an excuse
- Jerod Murphy Advocate absent without an excuse
- Joe Paterno CareeSources SWFL absent without an excuse
- Linda Hafner United Way absent with an excuse
- Sharon Rozier City of Fort Myers Community Development absent without an excuse
- Sheryl Soukup Residential Options of Florida (ROOF) absent without an excuse
- Tom Felke Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) absent without an excuse

Public Comment-None

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes*(June)

Jennifer Nelson, Chair

ACTION: Janet Bartos made a motion to approve meeting minutes for June. Adina Bridges seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Rapid Transition Collaborative (RTC) and Family Transition Collaborative (FTC)

Jeannie Sutton

Rapid Transition Collaborative (RTC)

They still have individuals in the hotels. They are down to six hotel rooms with one exiting this weekend to go into housing. There are four individuals that will hopefully be housed at Cypress Village that will open late August.

Family Transition Collaborative (FTC)

They currently have 49 households at the hotel. They are actively working to get them housed quickly. Two families exited the hotel and went into housing. They have temporarily paused intakes to allow time for case management to catch up for housing placements to occur. As soon as they catch up, they will reinstate placement into Family Transition Collaborative (FTC).

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IV. Connect List Meetings/100 x 100 Surge

Jeannie Sutton

100X100 Surge

They have exceeded their goal of placing 100 people in households in 100 days. They placed 115 households in 77 days. They have received plenty of funding over the last year in a half. They started to reach the end of those funds that are contracted with other agencies. The placements are starting to slow down. They are trying to move funds around to provide those who are low on funds with additional funds. Things should pick up a little while they work through the rest of the funds.

Connect List Meeting

There has been many placements at the meetings. Their partners are staffed and their caseloads are full. The referrals have slowed down a little and they are trying their best to keep up.

They have been doing a lot of analysis, looking at the number of people going into the system. The inflow numbers through Coordinated Entry are increasing dramatically. There were about 300 individuals coming in on a monthly basis. In January, February and March that number went up to 400 to potentially 500 by October. They are actively trying to find different methods for doing Coordinated Entry and Diversion.

V. Lee County Homeless Coalition – General CoC Membership

Janet Bartos

Janet Bartos will be retiring at the end of August. They have hired a new Executive Director Therese Everly. She is an elected official who is on the Lee Health Hospital Board of Directors. She has also worked at many different non-profits and health care organizations. She is very passionate about the Community. She is active in many different committees Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Ad Hoc Committee.

The General Coalition meeting was their annual meeting. She distributed the Interim reports and the Provider Surveys. They also reviewed the new applications for the Governing Board and were approved by the full membership. The Data Committee and the Communications Committee gave updates at their meeting and their agency spotlight was Lifeline Family Center.

VI. Board Member Applications

Jeannie Sutton

- a. Tony Ceresoli
- b. Karen Hawes
- c. Robert Tabor – for Myra Fiory
- d. Therese Everly – for Janet Bartos
- e. John Campbell was housed through public housing. He dropped off his application at Janet Bartos office and met with Janet. He told her how grateful he was for the program and wanted to be on the Homeless Coalition Membership Board and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Governing Board. He is an individual with lived experience.

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In addition to those new memberships, they have renewals for most of the Board Members.

ACTION: Janet Bartos made a motion to approve the five new board members and returning members. Matt Visaggio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Emergency Housing Vouchers (HACFM) MOU

Marcia Davis

There are 700 Housing Authorities in the Country that received an allocation of Emergency Housing Vouchers. They received 86 vouchers. These vouchers are different from the regular vouchers. These vouchers come with \$3,500 attached to them to help get barriers out of the way to help get individuals housed. It can help with deposits, Florida Power & Light (FPL), water or whatever the case may be. One of the primary requirements is they have to work hand in hand with the Continuum of Care (CoC) to deploy the vouchers through the Coordinated Entry System.

To participate to get the vouchers they had to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) so they can say there is a partnership, which they have been working very closely with even with the mainstream vouchers so they can get this going.

ACTION: Janet Bartos made the motion to pass the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Danyale Kinney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Subcommittee Update: CoC Strategic Plan Review

Strategic Plan Subcommittee (C. Johnson, J. Bartos, M. Visaggio, D. Kruse, M. Tesoro)

- Tabled until next meeting

IX. HRDC Peer Specialist

Heather Cross

- Tabled until next meeting

X. Update: Funded Agencies

Service Providers

Tony Ceresoli with The Salvation Army reports the conundrum about the housing; he thinks there might be a way to work around that. The Homeless Resource Day Center (HRDC) has been extremely busy. They have been working hard with the hotel collaboration

Kristy Santana with Catholic Charities reports their clients have been housed. They had to take a pause because their case managers were at capacity. They just hired a new team member this week and will resume accepting new clients.

Sylvia Jackson Taylor with Jewish Family and Community Service (JFCS) reports they are continuing to serve families. Case Management is a major component to what they do. They get individuals help and help them become financially stable.

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Jenna Alvarez with Community Assisted & Supported Living (CASL) they are getting very close to opening Cypress Village. Their target open date is August 27, 2021. They are in the compliance phase getting those approvals for the applications they received. They plan to start moving individuals in phases August 27th or August 30th. The other part of the building will open September 15th and the last phase October 1.

Kim Hustad with Human and Veteran Services reports they are working hard getting individuals placed. They are fully staffed now and able to take on more clients. They will be receiving funding in September for a new program for water assistance.

XI. Adjourn - Next CoC Board Meeting August 25th

Jennifer Nelson, Chair

ACTION: Janet Bartos motioned to adjourn. Daleen O'Dell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

***Item Needing Action**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Lee County will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in its services, programs, or activities. To request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a reasonable modification to participate, contact Joan LaGuardia by phone at 239-533-2314, adarequests@leegov.com or through the Florida Relay Service, 711. Accommodation will be provided at no cost to the requestor. Request should be made at least five business days in advance.

For translation services or additional information, please contact: Jeannie Sutton, Lee County Human and Veteran Services at 239-533-7958.

Meeting minutes and agenda are posted on our website: <https://www.leegov.com/dhs/funding/coc>