

Highland Community Collaboration Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2019  
9:30am

The Highlands Community Collaboration Council had a meeting on December 9, 2019 at the Smyth County DSS conference room.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chris opened the meeting at 9:30 and members introduced themselves. A sign-in sheet was passed around the room. He asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. There were 21 members in attendance today.

**Review and approval of Minutes of August 12, 2019 meeting**

Matt motioned and Linda seconded the motion. All in favor. The minutes are approved

**New Business**

**Guest Speakers:**

- Jimmy Mckenzie and Richard Keene with DARS: A handout was provided to the group. The information is also available on their website: [www.vadars.org](http://www.vadars.org). Their portion of the organization is Voc. Rehab. The population served is people with disabilities. They can accept clients in high school. Substance use and mental health disorders are included. Any chronic diagnosed disability that impacts their ability to work. They focus on employment. To get people prepared for work, seeking work and maintaining employment. Upon referral, we determine the primary barrier to work and which county they reside. They complete an application for services. We ensure they meet the criteria for inclusion. We request permission to obtain official records. We determine which functional limitations apply. Once eligibility is determined, we establish goals based upon the individual's capabilities. We establish a job plan and assist them with any fee based services they may need. We then assist them with maintaining employment. A case example was presented. Business cards were distributed to the group.
- Organizational Meeting: Goals for 2020

**January 2020 Council Presentations: Suggestions?**

Howard Chapman with the Virginia Health Foundation and Amy Compton with People, Inc.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Re-entry Updates**

## Local Coalition Updates

### Sub-Committee Reports:

*Housing Committee/ Service Integration Committee/ Grants/Finance Committee* (Matt, Emma, Andy, Felisha, and Linda)

There are two clients who have been assisted by the committee. A summary of services was provided by Matt.

*Employment Committee:* (Jimmy with DARS, Mike with VEC)

None

*Mentoring Committee/ Substance Abuse Committee:* (Ruth, Teresa, Chris, Chuck)

None

*Public Relations Committee:* (Kim, Manuel)

None

*Executive Committee:* (Chris, Kim, Felisha and Chris).

None

### Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

If the regularly scheduled meeting is cancelled due to a State Holiday, we will meet the following Monday.

Comprehensive Harm Reduction is now up to 95-participants.

The quarterly regional re-entry meetings will be re-established.

The Rural Health Opioid Grant representative provided an update. The old TB ward on hospital hill has plans to be updated and plans to start a residential program for women in addiction. The County has agreed to accept the building.

ASAC has a strategic planning meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> in Lebanon. The average 50 participants per meeting.

The Satira Coalition is opening a sober living home in Tazewell in February.

Saltville is about to open a Mountain Movers coalition.

The Smyth County Recovery Court has graduated 3 participants thus far.

Census jobs are available. \$13.50-15.00 per hour plus .58 cents per mile. March through October.

**Next meeting January 13, 2020. We meet the second Monday of each month.**

<http://www.highlandsccl.org>

Please Like and visit us on Facebook at Highlands Community Collaboration Council

**The meeting adjourned at 10:50am.**

If there is someone you would like for us to invite to a future meeting as either a guest or member, please let one of us know.

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Respectfully submitted,

Chris Austin  
Secretary