

Minutes
Highland Community Collaboration Council
Bland, Bristol City, Russell, Smyth, Washington and Wythe
Hybrid Meeting
August 14, 2023 (Monday)
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

The Highlands Community Collaboration Council had a hybrid meeting on August 14, 2023.

Welcome and Introductions

Charles opened the meeting at 9:30 and members introduced themselves. Charles asked for additions or corrections to the agenda. There were 31 members in attendance today. 23-virtual.

- Check in: Brief introductions for all attendees.

Old Business:

- Review and approval of Draft meeting notes from the last HCCC meeting. Russ motioned and Jennifer seconded the motion. All in favor. The July minutes are approved.

Guest Speakers:

- Jennifer Helbert: District 17 Senior Probation and Parole Officer. A PowerPoint presentation on The Gender Responsive Policy... (women in corrections) was presented to the group. The presentation will be shared on the HCCC website after approval from the source is received. . Less likely to have disciplinary reports. The result is a burden on the children. Most report homelessness. Many on foster care at some point. 53% did not finish high school. More likely to be jobless prior to arrest. Over 58% SAD. Mental health history is 47%. Most living with their children upon arrest. Most include an unhealthy relationship. Large homeless population in Bristol. 1791 District 17. 563 women. Largest percentage in Virginia. Oxycontin 1996. 65% higher overdose rate. Dopesick and Pain Killers cover this. Drug misbranding \$600 million penalty. Addiction became generational. Selected 200 women to participate. Housing and childcare were issues. Available jobs were primarily low wage positions. Inconsistent service availability through CSB's due to staffing issues. Transportation was a major issue. Yearly vulnerability assessments. Will begin conducting exit interviews. CSB's are restricted from hiring women with barrier crimes. Will include gender responsiveness to performance evaluations.

New Business:

None

- Determine agenda for September 2023. Russ will coordinate with someone.
- Continue Discussion resource fair for Smyth County. Have had a lot of turnover. Venus transferred to Washington County. Looking for a new point of contact to coordinate the event. We may need to push it to next year.

Wrap Up:

Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

Mended Women opened today.

Tony Hoffman was scheduled to present in Marion but there was a tornado warning. 300 Narcan trainings to students.

9/18 Dinner at Higher Ed. 9/19 Lunch and CEU. Substance Misuse Across the Lifespan.

10/12 ASAC. Southern Gap. Outdoor event.

Make sure Medicaid recipients are completing renewals.

9/29 Recovery Event in Wythe.

Sub-Committee Reports

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

Employment Committee: (Jimmy with DARS, Mike with VEC)
None

Mentoring Committee/ Substance Abuse Committee: (Ruth, Teresa, Chris, Chuck)
None

Public Relations Committee: (Manuel)
None

Executive Committee: (Charles, Richard, Felisha and Chris).
None

Board: (Linda, Charles, Matt, Richard, Felisha, Jimmy, Chris and Emma)

Re-entry Updates

Local Coalition Updates

None

Next meeting September 11, 2023: 2nd Monday

<http://www.highlandsccc.org>

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The meeting adjourned at 10:37am.

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