

Highland Community Collaboration Council
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2018
9:30am

The Highlands Community Collaboration Council had a meeting on May 14, 2018 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.

Review and approval of Minutes of April 9, 2018 meeting

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

New Business

- **Matt Sackwitz: Grant Update**
Considering a public awareness campaign. Rack cards and a professional brochure. Can get 2500 brochures for under \$200. The rack cards are a little more expensive. They are also looking at event hosting. Speakers come in and do presentations. Trauma informed care is one idea. Public service announcements are sometimes free. We would like to take that opportunity to highlight one of our member agencies. The biggest part of the budget is event hosting. It will cost around \$2500. We can pursue sponsors. If the needs are large, we will seek grant funding.

- **Manuel Street: Website Update**
The website was displayed on the screen. Manuel is doing a great job.

- **Agency Presentations:**
Go Virginia...Region 1....Robyn Lee
Robyn provided a PowerPoint presentation and handouts about the opportunities they provide.

- **Speakers:**
- **Linda D. Midgett, Director of Community Services: People Incorporated**
Linda provided an introduction and showed a video that highlights the many programs of People, Inc.

- **Erika Lawhorn, *Resource Specialist – Western Region: Department of Veterans Services***

Work with veterans regardless of discharge designation. If they can prove that they are some was connected to the military we can help them. Brochures were distributed. If counseling or substance abuse services are needed, they can assist. If you have a veteran and don't know where to start, please give us a call. They partner with the CSB's. If they need same day access, back pay is available. We don't want payment to be an issue for the veteran receiving services. We also have a justice veteran's specialist who can go into the jails and work with them before release date.

June 2018 Council Presentations: Suggestions

Ruth (Michelle) will present about the drug court in June. Shatona Williams with Volunteers of America (Chesapeake) will discuss supportive services to veterans. Mike Frye or Robert Myers with the VEC will present about services available for veterans.

- **Sub-Committee Reports:**

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

None

Employment Committee: (Jimmy with DARS, Mike)

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

Re-entry Updates

None

Local Coalition Updates

None

Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

James says they received a \$787,000 grant for Hersa to hire a supervisor and two coordinators to mobilize existing resources to address the substance abuse issues. It will kick off on October 1st. The consortium of local agencies will meet tomorrow night to make preparations.

The NAS Summit will be providing a training. A flyer will be e-mailed to Chris.

Next meeting June 11, **2018**

<http://www.highlandsgcc.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.

christopher.shortt@vadic.virginia.gov

kimberly.ayers@dss.virginia.gov

manuelstreet14@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Austin
Secretary