Kanawha Valley Collective

Membership Meeting

November 6, 2019

Attendance: Eric Abston- Synergy Health, David Bennett- Covenant House, Zane Blackledge-CPD, Jane Bostic-City of Charleston Mayor’s Office, Jeremy Brannon-KVC Vista, Terenia Combs-Kan Co Schools, Kerri Cooper- UWCWV, Aleigha Cox-Recovery Point, Amanda Deitz- Rea of Hope, Ron Gibbs-CAMC Ryan White program, Julie Haden-YWCA RFAP, Melissa Harper-Kan Co Schools, Lucia Hayden-VAMC, Jennie Hill-WVARR, Kevin Jackson-Jobs & Hope WV, Danielle Justice-Pollen8, Inc., Michelle Maack- HMIS Specialist, Danielle Mathes-Branches DV shelter, Vicki Pleasant-Daymark, Brandi Radford- Volunteers of America, Serena Seen-CKHA, Traci Strickland-KVC, Margaret Taylor-YWCA Sojourners, Mark Taylor-CKHA, John Thompson-RSLC, Tiffany Tyson-Jobs & Hope WV, Tonya Vannatter-Cabin Creek Health Systems, Mindy Young- City of Charleston MOECD

Mark Taylor called meeting to order.

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

October minutes were approved – Motion made by Eric Abston and Kerri Cooper seconded.

**Committee Updates**

Public Affairs – Only five people showed up at the last meeting. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. The next Public Affairs committee will be on Nov 18 at 9am at United Way. Veltri Dinner needs volunteers to deliver meals, if interested contact Kerri or Angie Douglas at Covenant House. Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week November 16-24. Roark Sullivan Lifeway Center hosting ‘Love Thy Neighbor” walk on Nov 20th. Walk will begin at RSLC to Manna Meal to Haddad Riverfront Park. Homeless Persons Memorial Day will be held on December 20th . Cabin Creek Health Systems will be showing “A Community Response to Addiction” at the Labelle Theater in South Charleston on Tuesday, Nov 19 from 5:30-8pm.

Community Solutions – There will be no meeting in November due to the Love Your Neighbor walk. Darkness to Light training will be held at the December meeting and Human Trafficking will be the topic in January.

HMIS – Michelle distributed and explained a Client Served Report (October 2019) to the membership. showing a year to year comparison.

Project Resource- Committee of HUD funded agencies (COC & ESG) and Charleston PD, although anyone is welcome.

* There will not be a meeting in November.
* Week of Nov 18, provider agencies will meet to discuss process for SOR funding. enough supplies to put together 50 more. Contact Traci at kanawhavalleycollective.org if you need baskets for folks who are newly housed.
* The KVC will have $305,804 available for RRH, Street Outreach, Homeless Prevention and Peer Support Services from State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funds. The KVC received a statement of work but are still waiting on a grant agreement from the state. Provider agencies will meet the week of November 18 to set process (will follow the Housing First model).

The BY Name List (BNL) weekly meeting is making progress and getting list cleaned up (determining who has received services/housing and who have been gone for more than 90 days)

KVC Website – [www.kanawhavalleycollective.org](http://www.kanawhavalleycollective.org) The KVC website is complete although, Jeremy Brannon (KVC Vista) will continue to gather information to make resources available on the website (clothing closets, food pantries, services including showers, rental units and landlords). Send any suggestions or feedback to Jeremy at KVC\_VISTA@outlook.com. Jeremy is currently working on grants to fund supplies for the warming centers.

Warming Centers- Meetings taking place to prepare for warming stations when temps fall to 15 degrees (including wind chill). Mayor Goodwin and the city support the warming stations with Fire and Police taking part. Two trainings for volunteers will be held on November 21 from 2-4 and again from 6-8. A December date will be announced later. A back up location is needed in the event the temperatures fall before December 13 as the Salvation Army is full of Christmas items.

**Around the Table:**

Synergy Health – New Payee program

Covenant House- WV Health Right now has a full clinic at CH

Julie Haden – Question re landlord ordinance and its impact in other cities. Meetings are taking place to iron out potential issues.

Kanawha County Schools – Met with President Jenkins at WVSU regarding a program this summer to house 25 students experiencing homelessness. KCS are experiencing an increase in unaccompanied youth. There is a critical need for housing for those in the 17-18-year-old range. Please contact Melissa Harper or Terenia Combs at 304-348-1384 if you have or know of any resources.

RSLC- Love thy Neighbor Walk on November 20th. Walk will begin at RSLC to Manna Meal to Haddad Riverfront Park. May be lunch afterwards and area restaurants will be donating percentages of their sales to the cause.

CAMC Ryan White Program- Seeing an increase in HIV+ cases through the ER. Even though testing is available and encouraged there are people not being tested. Hep C cases are extremely common. Developing relationships with patients while in hospital to aid in follow up visits.

United Way – United Way collected over 2,000 pairs of socks for Socktober. (adults and children). Continuing to collect, hats gloves and scarves. Looking for peer recovery coaches to volunteer at the warming stations.

Jeremy Brannon (KVC) working on grants for supplies for warming stations.

Sojourners- Foodie Fest November 17 at Beni Kedem

Supportive Services for Veteran families now serving Kanawha County – for more information contact Brandi Radford 304-207-4143

Jennie Hill- (Charleston Area Alliance) Charleston Lifesavers, Dr. Lindsey Acree doing Narcan training.

Danielle Justice- Step by Step afterschool Kinship Closet Program accepting donations looking for storage? Friendsgiving at Café Appalachia on Friday November 22. Fundraisers coming up possibly dodgeball.

Traci – Traci challenged the City of Charleston to compete in the Gingerbread House competition!!

UPCOMING Events:

* Kanawha Valley Collective and United Way of Central WV are giving you the opportunity to show off your baking and building skills as we create a Gingerbread village as unique and diverse as our community. Register today as an individual or as a team. Teams can be your family, friends, schools, church groups or business associates. Registration is FREE but due no later than November 22, 2019! All proceeds, through donations and People’s Choice ticket sales will go to support the 2019-2020 Warming Centers in Charleston.
* Walk for a good cause! Join Roark-Sullivan and Kanawha Valley Collective partner agencies for the 'Love Thy Neighbor Walk' on Wednesday, November 20th to bring attention to the plight of the homeless. The walk begins at 10:30am at Roark-Sullivan on 1015 Smith Street in Charleston. Participants will walk through town to Manna Meal. People are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items for the soup kitchen. Participants will receive a free t-shirt. The Love Thy Neighbor Walk coincides with Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, taking place November 16-24.

It's free to walk! The public is strongly encouraged to participate.

Sign-up for a free t-shirt here:
[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/love-thy-neighbor-walk-to-end-…](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/love-thy-neighbor-walk-to-end-%E2%80%A6)

You must RSVP to Jim Strawn at jameswstrawn@gmail.com or (304) 541-4756.

* Winter's a month and four weeks away. With winter comes freezing cold weather. This winter our warming station in Charleston will open once the weather is predicated to drop to 15 degrees Fahrenheit with wind chill. We are currently compiling a list of volunteers.

We need 12 volunteers a night, from 9pm-7am. Three shifts are available.

Warming station volunteers will receive training. Volunteers will assist with cleaning, passing out blankets, pillows, snacks, toboggans and gloves, and signing people in. Two cops and two paramedics will be on-site the entire time.

If you would like to volunteer at our warming station, please contact Margaret O'Neal at (304) 340-3503 or moneal@unitedwaycwv.org

Meeting adjourned at 10:10am.

Minutes submitted 11/6/2019