



BEDFORD AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL

Steering Committee Minutes

January 21, 2026

1. Andy welcomed everyone. Those in attendance were Denny Huff, Mary Kirby, Officer David Bishop, Heather Dooley, Nicolette, Pat Young, Stephanie Coughlin, and Andy Crawford
2. Grant Updates: Denny and Andy stated Jennifer will be going to the required Centra meeting in February to learn about their grants and to apply. The grant will be a county grant. Jennifer will also be applying for the Virginia Healthcare Foundation Grant. The request will be for a peer recovery specialist with an opioid focus.
3. Organizational Updates:
 - a. Action Groups – Denny has everyone's annual report except one. Once received he will put together our BARC Annual Report. This will be in printed and electronic format to share with agencies and the public.
4. The committee discussed the upcoming BARC Agendas and future presentations. Kim will connect with Pat concerning the Share Greater Lynchburg presentation in September.
5. Action Group Report Outs.
 - a. Ageing/Elder Care – Bishop reported the senior social for February will be held on the 11th from 4pm-7pm at the Blue Ridge Community Church in Bedford. The February event will not have an educational component but will be more of a social event. After the February event they will transition back to educational/informational sessions at the socials.
 - b. Child Care – No report.
 - c. Healthy Foods – Working on canning days, February 23rd they are holding a volunteer appreciation luncheon at the VCE office in Bedford at noon. An email invite will be going out to all volunteers. Planning market day for the kids with more kid involvement and YMCA involvement.
 - d. Housing – No update.
 - e. Employment and Training – Andy emailed Bulletin about putting updates in paper. This may be more helpful for BARC and all sub-committees, not just Employment and Training.
 - f. Minds Together – No update.
 - g. Transportation – No update.
 - h. Bedford Area Reentry Council – continuing to pull together employment areas and community services.
6. Key Partner Report Outs

- a. Bedford Get Together – Decoration cleanup today and tomorrow, need volunteers. Elk's Home Lights planning meeting is to be held in early March, more details to come, BGT in planning phase for the year, they are considering a survey, may also come back to BARC for assistance.
 - b. None
 - c. None
 - d. None
7. Other/Next Meeting – Andy reported looking to put a Volunteer Bedford section on the BARC website also looking at the development of a Human Service Support Exchange on the website, more to come on both. The next Steering Committee meeting is February 18, 2026, at 11:00 am. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 pm.