



BEDFORD AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL

Steering Committee

September 14, 2022

1:00 PM – Virtual Meeting

Minutes

1. Welcome/Introduction.

The attendees are: Andy Crawford, Claudia Fletcher, Mary Zirkle, JD Fedor, Mac Duis, Betty Easter

2. Update from Betty

- a. Betty has been attending each of the Action Group meetings, taking minutes for several of them, in addition to the BARC meeting and Steering Committee meeting. The regular updates to the website, as well as experimenting with a calendar for events and announcements. The consensus is that the calendar is worth pursuing, so Betty will further research calendars, to see what could be imbedded into the BARC website.
- b. Betty continues to update the BARC website with Action Group minutes, Steering Committee minutes, events, and announcements.
- c. Announcement – Earlier, by email, Betty had been in touch with Andy and Claudia, presenting her resignation to be effective October 31. Today, she informed the Steering Committee.
- d. Betty's To Do: keep researching calendars for the website, to check the google calendar which could be embedded on the Weebly website. Check further to see if the TeamUp calendar can be opened just via link, with no password needed.

3. Action Group Report Outs (Chairs or Designee)

- a. Aging/Elder Care – Christy Lucy – no report
- b. Child Care- Holly Woods Layne – no report
- c. Healthy Foods - Mary Zirkle – Mary reported that the Healthy Food Action Group will have an event at Elba, Fall Festival at Elba, on October 8, 2022, from 10am – 12pm. We are bringing in different agencies that can help with health, food, resources.
- d. Housing - Angela Hill – Angela was not able to attend, but sent her report by email:
 - BHC continues to network with area landlords in establishing a landlord contact list for tenant placement. BHC also supports the creation of a local landlord professional group per the interest (and under the leadership) of a landlord who attended the Legal Update seminar with David Beidler of Legal Aid of Roanoke Valley in August.
 - A warming shelter for Bedford County remains in the works with possible collaboration between St. John's Episcopal and Main Street United Methodist Church. We're waiting to hear back from an upcoming interfaith meeting to see which church may do what tasks.
 - BHC is working with the Central Va. Continuum of Care in how to best capture and submit Bedford County's homelessness data so that every one of our area's homeless individuals is accurately reported as part of the Central Va. CoC data.

--BHC decided we don't yet have the capacity to apply for a portion of a recent HUD grant to serve homelessness in rural areas, but we did gain an understanding of what we need to do to prepare for future grant applications. The applicant in the most recent grant would have been Bedford County Dept. of Social Services.

- e. Employment and Training – Lead to be Determined
 - f. Minds Together- Jennifer Smith Ramey – Mac Duis reported on this Action Group meeting, which was a special session for explaining trauma, identifying trauma, and explained that the trainer explained that, even with this information, no one can be fully “trauma informed.”
--Jennifer was not present, but sent her report by email:
--We continue to meet virtually the first Thursday of each month from 10-11 am. This month, Roanoke's Trauma-Informed Community Network (TICN), Decca Knight gave us a presentation of the basics of trauma. We would like to take next steps to have our community become a TICN. Horizon has hired a prevention specialist to focus on trauma and resiliency and she will be working with us to co-lead these efforts.
 - g. Transportation - Denny Huff – unable to attend, no report.
4. Key Partners
- a. Bedford Area Reentry Council- Tecora Johnson. JD Fedor said that Reentry is going strong, and will have a meeting tomorrow. JD said that he was part of the Executive Meeting on Monday. BARC is a rarity in the Commonwealth, and is a good example of how DSS, Probation and Parole, the Reentry Council, and the Action Groups work well together.
 - b. Bedford Community Action Team (BCAT)- Alicia Tuck
 - c. Bedford Get Together
 - d. Community Health Need Assessment (CHNA)- Christy Lucy
 - e. Crime Prevention Council- Todd Foreman
 - f. Domestic Violence Coalition – Mary Buchanan
5. The Agenda for the September 23 BARC meeting was discussed. The discussion of whether to make the BARC meeting hybrid – in-person, as well as virtual. Different viewpoints were presented. While Bedrock has the capabilities to have a virtual meeting, Claudia shared her experiences and view was that if the meeting becomes virtual, attendance will likely go down by half. And, it was brought out, that the beauty of BARC is the personal connections that take place with pre-meeting and post-meeting conversations. Andy also mentioned that recording can be detrimental, as sometimes things are said that just shouldn't be recorded. Timing was also brought up, needing to keep things brief.

Based on the August BARC meeting, some discussion covered the aspects of the Employment and Training section, and the connection to the question of the month. The discussion covered two sides of employment: (1) Training people and equipping them to get a job; and (2) helping the employed, when faced with challenges that they can't manage alone, with appropriate intervention to help them keep their jobs.

The consensus is that Andy will begin the September BARC with a brief description of the four causes of poverty, where one of the causes is the lack of Human and Social Capital. He will define it, and then say, “As we go around the room today, based on these examples, describe if your agency is building Human Capital, or if you have any ideas.”

The question of the month is the same as August's, as there had been no time to get to the discussion during August's meeting

The discussion turned toward the necessity to have more brevity in the agency roundtable and announcements. Consider asking agencies to make announcements pertinent to the entire community,

and if they have flyers, they can be passed around. If they have an announcement, send it to Betty, and tell listeners to look for the details on the BARC announcements website.

Claudia recommended, based on what she has seen with another group, is creating a spreadsheet of attendees that goes out to the group, so that connections can be made later. Based on her experience, the introductions are more important than the announcements, as it lets new members hear “who does what.”

Betty's To Do: Develop the agenda, and send to Andy for review. Create a spreadsheet of attendees.

6. Other/Next Meeting

The next BARC Steering Committee meeting will be held on October 12, 2022 at 1:00 pm virtually.