



BEDFORD AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL

February 23, 2024

1. Andy welcomed everyone.
2. Andy stated the Strategic Plan update and review was completed by the Steering Committee December 1, 2023. The revised plan is in draft and needs more work. The Steering Committee will focus on this again in March 2024.
3. Grant Funding Announcements
 - a. Supreme Court of VA Grant awarded \$60,000 to the Bedford Family Treatment Document (Drug Court). Interviews have been conducted.
 - b. AmeriCorps Service VA Grant – Horizon is applying for a planning grant for our community.
 - c. United Way Grant – Karen Wesley applying - childcare focus
 - d. AARP Grant – deadline March 6, 2024.
4. Action Group Report Outs (Chairs or designee)
 - a. Aging/Elder Care - this group will need a chairperson.
 - b. Childcare – Group meets every other month, next meeting on 1/31, 1 pm, Infant care is being provided at Next Generation at Moneta Baptist Church.
 - c. Healthy Foods – Cannery/VA Hunters Who Care, Inc. partnership – training February 28th.
 - d. Housing – last month’s meeting focused on the ongoing issue of housing for probation/parole.
 - e. Employment and Training –meeting this month will focus on continued work with the Chamber on the employee resource network. Job Fair Readiness meeting will be held on March 6 10am-2pm; Job Fair is March 15th at Timberlake Christian Church.
 - f. Minds Together – Virtual meeting 1st Thursday of the month, working on strategic plan Goals and Objectives, also working on grants.

- g. Transportation – Otter Bus continuing doing well, we will be working on a future fee structure, and adding a bike rack to the front of the bus.

5. Key Partners

- a. Bedford Area Reentry Council – Housing is an issue for them.
- b. Bedford Community Action Team (BCAT) – No update.
- c. Bedford Get Together – Travis Thomas is new to their Board. They are still gathering stories.
- d. CHNA – Mary Kirby spoke about the CHNA and asked everyone to begin to push the survey. Centra number of responses are down, and they need as many as possible for good data.
- e. PACE Team – Police have seen an increase in fraud cases in the elderly population.
- f. Domestic Violence Coalition – No update

6. Agency Announcements

- a. *Agape Center* – announced their Getting Ahead Class Monday begins March 17, they are 3-hour classes, SML gives is March 13th, May 18th is their Golf Tournament, and they have experienced quite a bit of vandalism at the center.
- b. *Horizon* – beginning to provide services to the homeless, working on GBHI Grant which is a youth homeless grant, 55th Celebration is April 10th.
- c. *Celebrate Recovery* meets every Thursday @ 6:30pm at the Outpost. It is Free.
- d. *Bedford Police Dept.* – Chief Lewis has teamed up with VA Career Works to provide opportunities for high school kids to work with the Town.
- e. *CVACL* – story project continues.
- f. *Bedford Ride* – In need of drivers.
- g. *Bedford Co, Sheriff's Office* – Shred Event & Drug Take Back is March 23rd at Bedford Elementary School, April 20 at JF, May 18 at SRHS, Citizens Police Academy, Car Show June 15th at LHS, July 24th is Golf Tournament, security assessments and active shooter training.
- h. *Care Portal* – if interested in learning more contact Patrick Henry Family Services.
- i. *Patrick Henry Family Services* Homes of Hope is closing April 30
- j. *Warming Shelter* – John Blair in need of volunteers, do allow pets open until March, 112 Center Street.
- k. *Red Cross* – March is Red Cross Month, Fire Alarm replacement Program.
- l. *Christmas Station* is beginning work on its Easter Eggravaganza Program, Fundraising Sale is ongoing.
- m. Individuals 18 and older every other Tuesday starting 2/13 from 6:30 -8pm at Bedrock Church there is a social for individuals with disabilities.

- n. *Lake Christian Ministries* – New Tomorrows facility open M, W, F Thrift Shop
 - o. *BUG* – mentoring program for families call Megan Bond if interested 540-874-2080, they do have a bed available for a family to grow their own food.
 - p. *VDH Sophie Smith* – Had CHNA flyers to pass out to the group and stated she would be in the Central Public Library if anyone needs assistance with filling out the CHNA survey.
 - q. *AARP* – Community Challenge Grant deadline is March 6, they meet 4th Tuesday of each month in Lynchburg; it is a lunch meeting.
 - r. *St. John's Warming Shelter* needs volunteers, March 17th White Marker Project also week of 3/17 – 3/23 National Drug and Alcohol Fact Week, monthly drive thru meal 5 -7
 - s. *Bedrock Church* – Divorce Care meets Sunday 4:30 at Outpost, Church offering mental health services, Grief Share begins February 4.
 - t. *Harmony Day Support* – Teena Anderson introduced herself and her organization to the group.
 - u. *Carriage Hill* – Tracy Anstey, Sales and Marketing Specialist introduced herself to the group.
7. No formal presentation.
8. The meeting adjourned at 9:40am. Next BARC Meeting will be held on March 22, 2024, at 8:30am.