



BEDFORD AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL

June 24, 2022

8:30 AM

Minutes

June 24th meeting location was held at: Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) Community Room

The address of CVCC is 1633 Venture Blvd., Bedford, VA 24523.

1. Welcome/Introduction – Andy Crawford

Those present at the meeting introduced themselves & told what agency they represent, and any announcements.

John Thomas, Horizon BH, Case Management. They are fully staffed! They are doing face-to-face, walk-ins, and virtual appointments.

Ron Cordell, Agape Ctr, announced that Sue Lipscomb will now be the Executive Director of all four centers of Agape (Lynchburg, Vinton, New River Valley, Moneta) The new director for the Moneta Center is Susan English.

Jennifer Smith-Ramey, Horizon Behavioral Health, Outpatient Program. For their school-based services, they have received a grant to embed counselling and case management in Bedford County schools. They've also hired a family peer-recovery specialist. This position will help to bridge some of the challenges in engagement and treatment initiation.

Stuart Saunders – Parks & Recreation. They're in the middle of their summer program. They've finished out two camps last week, with about 30 kids.

Ula Kauppi, brought brochures for the Free Clinic of Virginia. They have medical, dental, & behavioral health care for the uninsured, and for the population caught in the middle—they have too much income to qualify for Medicaid, but too little income to purchase insurance on their own, or their employer doesn't provide it. Uli asked the group to take brochures, and refer their clients who are in need of these areas of health care. (Betty will scan her brochure and send it to the BARC distribution.)

Patty Graham, Bedford Community Christmas Station – current program is Shoes for Students. The flyer for this program has gone to the BARC distribution list. The screenings take place in July, and distribution will be in August.

Tomi Turner, DSS, the Family Treatment docket will have another employee starting July 13th. We will be back up to two case managers.

Tim Brook, St. John's Episcopal Church, and Bedford Police. From the PD, Cop Camp is still looking for a bus or a large van. The need is between July 4 and July 8, if anyone has a bus or large van, call 540-587-6011 and ask to speak to Tommy Tuck. Next, National Night Out, on August 2. Set up will be finalized at 5:00pm. The event runs from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. They've rented out the Otter Bus for making a continuous loop from 5:30pm to 11pm, starting at Walmart, going down East Main Street, Blue Ridge Ave, Salem Court Apartments, back to Liberty Lake Park. The next event is Centerfest, September 24. There was discussion about the times of day for Centerfest.

Andy Crawford, for Social Services, informed an announcement was sent, that they're doing Bridges out of Poverty. Next, to share with clients, the Affordable Connectivity Program, for people who need assistance with internet. Must meet poverty guidelines (200% of National Poverty Program.)

2. Action Group Report Outs (Chairs or Designee) – Those present gave a report on their areas.
 - a. Aging/Elder Care – Christy Lucy –
The group meets on the 4th Monday at 11:00am, virtually. Christy reported that they're working on a senior social event, to use as a means to provide info about various services available to seniors.
 - b. Child Care- Holly Woods Layne –
The monthly meetings take place virtually, on the last Wednesday of each month, at 1:00pm, via Zoom. The website has her Action Group's minutes for May's & June's meetings. They want to have a table at Centerfest, and if possible, have Gus the Bus, but needs money for gas & a driver with a CDL license.
 - c. Healthy Foods - Mary Zirkle – VCC (Virginia Community Capital) helped with a Community Self-Assessment toolkit. As the action group works through this, it will help them know exactly what's available, where the needs exist, and determine what kind of need. It's a very complex assessment tool, and will take time. Additionally, SNAP will possibly be cut back, and that will impact folks' access to resources for citizens using SNAP. A general conversation ensued about the topic of SNAP and the various factors involved. However, Andy Crawford advised all groups present to inform their clients to keep their addresses updated with DSS, so that when notices are sent out, or when it's time to recertify, then the citizens can be reached.
 - d. Housing - Angela Hill – The group discusses affordable housing. They have identified the need for getting a warming shelter available for winter, and are discussing the ways & means to do this. Lodging funds are still needed for those who need to be put up at a local hotel/motel. The group is also working with Reentry, about housing needs for those who will reenter the community in July.
 - e. Employment and Training – Lead to be Determined
 - f. Minds Together- Jennifer Smith Ramey. Jennifer reported that the group continues to meet monthly, on the first Thursday, at 10:00am. They are focusing on their Strategic Plan. To briefly recap, it's to make sure that they have participation and inclusivity from all sectors, public and private in Bedford. They are focusing on adding the faith-based community partners. They are also looking at collaborative grant opportunities. Lastly, they are working on the 211 registry, so that we have a common portal or place where there are not only stakeholders, but where community members can go to identify resources. Previously, BARC developed its own

resource guide, but, as is the general case, when a resource is developed, it's then out of date. So our focus is to get all partners to register with 211.

- g. Transportation - Denny Huff. Denny reporting that the Otter bus is running, and the folks who are using this, find it very helpful.
3. Key Partners – Those present gave reports.
 - a. Bedford Area Reentry Council- Tecora Davis. As of Monday, their organization will be 100% fully staffed, with 2 additional, making 13.
 - b. Bedford Community Action Team (BCAT)- Alicia Tuck
 - c. Bedford Get Together – Sara Braaten – no announcements at this time. They plan a reorganization meeting soon.
 - d. Community Health Need Assessment (CHNA)- Christy Lucy Andy, is this still Christy, or should someone else's name be here?
 - e. Crime Prevention Council- Tim Brooks. They had a meeting the night prior to this BARC meeting. They're working on National Night Out. Chief Lewis attended the meeting, and expressed his vision, one thing being a citizens' academy. All indicators for Crime Prevention are looking up.
 - f. Domestic Violence Coalition – Mary Buchanan
4. Agency Announcements – We ask that any Bedford Area announcements or events be sent to Betty Easter (barc.virginia@gmail.com) before the meeting to be added to the notes. THANKS SO MUCH!!
5. Grant Funding Announcements – no information presented.
6. Presentation: No presenter for this meeting.
7. Other/Next Meeting: The next BARC meeting will be held on July 22, 2022 at 8:30 am. The location for the July meeting is at Bedrock Community Church; 402 E Main St, Bedford, VA 24523