



Minutes

Blueprint Council

📅 Mon August 17th, 2020

🕒 3:30pm - 5:00pm EDT

📍 Zoom (Details Below)

👤 In Attendance

Jeff Bennett, William Bumphus, Angela Carr Klitzsch, David Greene, Breanca Merritt, Chris Ray, Rodney Stockment, Sara VanSlambrook, Kay Wiles, Amanda Wilkerson, Tamara Winfrey-Harris

I. Welcome

Jeff Bennett, Blueprint Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:41 PM.

a. Name, Organization

Jeff Bennett, William Bumphus, Angie Carr Kitzsch, Pastor David Greene, Breanca Merit, Chris Ray, Sara VanSlambrook, Kay Wiles, Amanda Wilkerson and Tamara Winfrey-Harris were in attendance.

Dr Virginia Caine, John Hall, Ray Lay and Emily Mack were absent from the meeting.

b. Housekeeping

Blueprint Council members received a board packet via email and materials were shared on screen and electronically.

- 1. Zoom Procedures: Zoom meetings and the chat box are recorded and downloaded. Council members should have videos on and names displayed.**
- 2. Blueprint Council meetings are open meetings. The public may listen in but there is not a public comment period, unless expressly scheduled by the Executive Committee**
Chelsea Haring-Cozzi, Rodney Stockment, Danielle Bagg-Wireman all attended as non-voting members.

II. Consent Agenda

a. **Approve meeting minutes- June 15, 2020**

Copy of the minutes was available via Boardable.

1. **Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from the June 15th, 2020 Blueprint Council Meeting**

Decision: Pastor Greene made a motion to approve the minutes and Angie Carr Klizsch seconded it. There was no discussion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

b. **Endorsement of ESG-CV2 Investment Plan**

Chelsea and Jeff Bennett reviewed the planning process that was undertaken to prepare the investment plan and administration of rental assistance through a single fiscal agent. The ESG-CV2 funding amount is of \$7,122,695. The goal from this effort will be to rehouse 500 households impacted by COVID-19.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) CV2 funding will be focused on funding Rapid Rehousing (RRH), and Merchants Affordable Housing has expressed interest in serving as the fiscal agent. Housing to Recovery (HTR) funding and resources from CHIP will be leveraged to support the surge of demand we anticipate to see due to COVID-19. We believe leveraging these additional resources will support more effective housing placement and outcomes. Finally, if approved, Merchants is intending to release an RFQ to partner with providers to execute the rehousing and housing stabilization strategies.

Specific rehousing goals and funding allocations are listed in the board packet.

1. **Motion: To endorse the ESG-CV2 Investment Plan for Rapid Rehousing and the administration of rental assistance through a single fiscal agent.**

Decision: Pastor Greene moved to approve the investment strategy and Amanda Wilkerson seconded the motion to approve. The Council voted and approval was unanimous.

III. Reports

a. **2020 Point-in-Time Count**

Chelsea Haring-Cozzi brought forward the 2020 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. Full details of the PIT Count were made available to the Council in their Board Packet. Highlights of the presentation included key data points:

- 1,588 people were experiencing homelessness on the night of January 22, 2020.
- Emergency shelters experienced a slight decrease (4%)
- Unsheltered locations experienced an increase (77%)*
- Family (12%) and veteran (18%) homelessness decreased.

- Racial disparities continue to persist (54%)

**2019-2020 percent increase in unsheltered homelessness is misleading. 2019 experienced an undercount of unsheltered homelessness due to the extreme weather conditions.*

The PIT Count is a single night count and should be used in context with other data about our system.

In regards to our increase in unsheltered individuals, we have 2 new investments that we believe will address this. First, the new Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team at Adult & Child will connect with unsheltered individuals and can follow those with highest needs into permanent housing to help them stay housed. Secondly, coordinated street outreach has shown promise to focus street outreach across the community on permanent housing through engaging individuals and working to complete coordinated entry assessments and obtain support documents for housing.

We are reorienting our system at the “front door” to build capacity to connect more individuals on the street to housing by coordinating outreach to help individuals be assessed and matched to housing. We also have approved an investment strategy now to increase the amount of permanent housing available while we are also increasing services capacity through ACT Teams and Housing to Recovery (HTR) funding.

b. Veterans

Chris Ray presented an update from the Veteran Homelessness Leadership Work Group. Detailed information was provided to the Blueprint Council in their Board Packet.

We continue to work on achieve an end to veteran homelessness through the USICH Federal Criteria and Benchmarks. We have seen a large increase in resources because of COVID-19.

Data is available on the CoC website and leadership group will continue to report and be accountable for progress on the USICH benchmarks. We are working to harness and coordinate efforts across providers to create our biggest impact. The Veteran Leadership Work Group is also working to ensure clarity for the direction we are working toward, including a greater focus on diversion to prevent individuals from becoming homeless and using data to drive decisions.

c. Youth

Please contact Chelsea if you have questions about the youth homelessness update that was provided in the board packet.

d. Housing to Recovery Fund

Rodney Stockment presented on the launch of the Housing to Recovery Fund (HTR). The focus of this funding was determined through an assessment of community needs, and it was identified that we have a gap in resources to support the transition of individuals into housing, and tenancy supports to help those in housing maintain stability. \$670,000 was invested into Horizon House’s existing housing program to

continue and expand it and \$750,000 into Adult & Child Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team to address these two areas. Funding uses a model that will pay bonuses for outcomes (Pay for Performance) and not just pay for activities. Individuals will be housed in scatter-site permanent housing around the community.

IV. Discussion

a. Winter contingency planning for 2020-2021

Additional discussion will occur in the COVID-19 meetings, and a written update is in the Board Packet.

b. Racial Equity- Data and Strategy

Full details of the racial equity data is available in the Board Packet including links to data dashboards on racial disparities generally and in our COVID-19 response.

Discussion:

Latinx population is the largest number of individuals with COVID-19 in the MCPHD data. We have an opportunity to improve data sharing across homelessness and MCPHD data systems.

The Racial Equity Work Group from the Blueprint Council is going to be convened. They will be looking at data and establishing metrics. Use Boardable for further suggestions for who the group can connect with and any other thoughts on the group.

We have limitations in our ability to make decisions and understand the issue because of our data quality and missing data from shelters.

Question proposed: how can we use cross-system data in the community? Suggested that Breanca may be able to provide her expertise in this area.

V. New (Other) Business

a. Coming Soon: Prevention and Diversion Strategy

VI. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

The MCPHD will be pushing a large flu vaccination effort across the community, and will be looking for support from CoC partners.

a. CoC Community Convening, August 27th 9:00-11:00AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81120121321?pwd=Tk9nOXI1ZnJwYmg3OUtBMkRqZHF1QT09>
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81120121321?pwd=Tk9nOXI1ZnJwYmg3OUtBMkRqZHF1QT09>)

Meeting ID: 811 2012 1321

Passcode: 189298

b. Roots of Racism- Housing, August 19th 5:00-6:15PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/understanding-the-roots-of-racism-a-four-part-series-tickets-113770612966> (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/understanding-the-roots-of-racism-a-four-part-series-tickets-113770612966>)

Breanca will serve on this panel. A registration link is available in the packet.

VII. **Next Meeting Date**

a. **Business Meeting- October 19, 2020**

1. **Zoom**

CHIP is inviting you to a Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93932123505?pwd=TC9wMzIXZUttQUVYNUpMTTZKdXVldz09>
(<https://zoom.us/j/93932123505?pwd=TC9wMzIXZUttQUVYNUpMTTZKdXVldz09>)

Meeting ID: 939 3212 3505

Passcode: 195225

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 939 3212 3505

Passcode: 195225

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aLdGuMRBU> (<https://zoom.us/u/aLdGuMRBU>)

b. **COVID-19 Sessions- Every 3 weeks, Thursdays, 3:00-4:00PM August 6th- November 19th**

VIII. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.