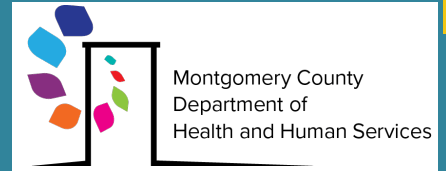


Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes



DATE: 7/28/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM

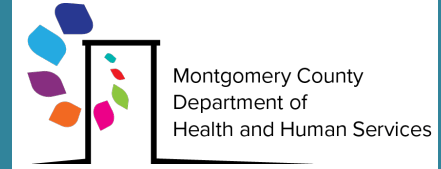
Goal of Meeting: Review top three initiatives endorsed and draft implementation plan. Provide recommendations related to implementing the three initiatives in four municipalities.

Chairs: Commissioner Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr.
Kimberly Krauter, Director of Development – PA Walters Group
Tamra Williams, Ph.D. Director- Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

Attendees:

- Montgomery County Commissioner, Ken Lawrence
 - Dr. Tamra Williams, Montgomery County DHHS Director
 - Andrea Galambos, Montgomery County DHHS Office of Performance and Planning
 - Kayleigh Silver, Montgomery County, DHHS Office of Housing and Community Development
 - Lora Gonzalez, Montgomery County, DHHS
 - Laura York, Montgomery County, DHHS Deputy Director
 - Neil McDevitt, Mayor, North Wales Borough
 - Mark Boorse, Access Services
 - Savannah Winston, representing State Rep Greg Scott
 - Owen Camuso, RHD
 - Beth Sturman, Laurel House
 - Matt Candland, Township Manager, Upper Moreland Township
 - Patricia (Pat) Patterson, CPW Rotary
 - Kim Krauter, Director of Development – PA Walters Group
 - Jordan Laslett, Representative Bradford’s Office
 - Anna-Marie Slivinski, Norristown Resident, Formerly Homeless
 - Joel Johnson, Montgomery County Housing Authority
 - Noah Marlier, Montgomery County Prothonotary
 - Kristin Frederick Leonard, CAARSEA, Candidate for Plymouth Township Councilperson
 - Lori Schreiber, Clerk of Courts and Abington Township Commissioner
 - Marleen Wood, Wings of Victory Outreach
 - Jason Bobst, Township Manager, West Norriton Township
 - Diana Marques, Office of Senator Amanda Cappelletti
 - Lisa Walter, COS for Sen. Tracey Pennycuick
 - Deb Spence
- Date/Time of next meeting:** 8/25/23, 12:00pm – 1:30pm (last Friday of every month at 12:00pm through November 2023)

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Key Discussion Points

NEW MEMBER

- Jason Bobst, Township Manager in West Norriton

REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PER MUNICIPALITY

- Upper Moreland (Matt Candland) – goal is for code blue shelter operational by winter, estimates 5 individuals experiencing homelessness in jurisdiction. Support needed with location, funding site or staff, more information.
- Code Blue Shelter – only operational when code is called. Winter shelter is a bit easier to staff
- Plymouth Township has a code blue shelter, will be fully operational this upcoming season. In partnership with Church on the Mall and CAARSEA; Nights only (7pm-8am)
- Lower Merion – goal is for code blue shelter supporting 5-10 individuals. Working with Eldernet to apply for grant money for start up costs. Potential partner with Trinity Lutheran Church. Support needed with funding for staff and additional information.
- Person hired by Bucks County as a consultant; mobile Code Blue Shelter accompanied by strong plan to lean on faith-based organizations
- Lansdale (John Ernst) – 12-bed men only code blue shelter with Trinity. Funding needed for building improvements to expand. Support needed with funding for improvements to Trinity and staffing. Having conversations regarding former Merakey building that is currently vacant.
- West Norriton (Jason Bobst) – Housing initiative committee to aid in short and long term planning. Old St. Theresa’s school is vacant, conversations about using this location as well as others including land where pre-fab can be placed. Looking at zoning needs re: shelter. Long-term zoning models being discussed.

DECISION POINTS – RESOURCES NEEDED

- County Contribution: HHS data, HHS Provider network, Individualized support, non-profit connections
- *Review of existing funding: total awards made: \$33,038,990 (not necessarily expended)*
- Municipality Contribution: Site/location control, local community partnerships/volunteers, non-profit connections
- Provision of accessibility services – to include physical accessibility of sites, quiet space for neurodiverse needs, funding for interpretive services etc.

Next Steps	Deadlines & Responsible Party
Individual meetings with the four selected municipalities and faith-based organizations	By 8/25 (date of next Task Force Meeting)- Kayleigh S. /Jim W.
Task Force Operations group will continue to meet	
Homelessness Taskforce meetings to continue	
Work with DHHS Office of performance and planning to develop meaningful metrics	Andrea G.

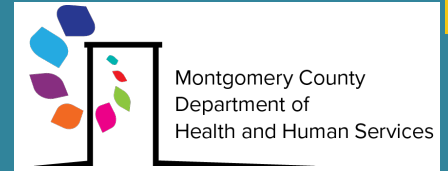
Additional information (link to shared folder with additional info, where to locate meeting minutes, additional links discussed)

Survey created seven themes/initiatives, three of which have been identified as priorities:

These meeting notes provide a clear picture of what was discussed throughout the meeting as well as what next steps are expected.

Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes

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1. Localization of shelter resources
2. Collaboration with faith-based organizations
3. Zoning support for shelters

Support was given to explore potentially viable plans in Upper Moreland, Lower Merion, Lansdale, and West Norriton. Focus on these four municipalities supports localization of homeless resources, acknowledging that while there are higher concentrations of homelessness and services in Pottstown and Norristown, homelessness also exists in areas where there are very few resources and it is critical to provide those resources in the communities where people live.

Kristin Frederick offered input on getting things up and running – Kristin.L.Frederick@gmail.com