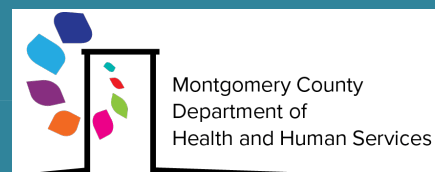


# Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes

1

DATE: 6/30/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM



**Goal of Meeting:** Review the top 3 initiatives and endorse them; discuss updates of recent events.

**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

Dave Zellers, Director of Commerce, Montgomery County

Neil McDevitt, Mayor, North Wales Borough

ASL Interpreter Joshua Steckel

Melissa Retano, District Office Director, State

Shawn Kraemer, Commissioner Lower Merion

Owen Camuso, RHD

Beth Sturman, Laurel House

Matt Candland, Township Manager, Upper Moreland Township

Kim Krauter, Director of Development – PA Walters Group

Anna-Marie Slivinski, Norristown Resident, Formerly Homeless

Joel Johnson, Montgomery County Housing Authority

Anthony Stevenson, Lower Merion Commissioner

Diane Doherty, Exec Director of VNA Foundati

Emma Hertz, President/CEO HealthSpark Foun

Kristin Frederick Leonard, CAARSEA, Candidate for Plymouth Township Councilperson

Jason Bobst, Township Manager, West Norriton Township

Deb Spence, Owner of Fierce Realty

Giana DePaul, Office of Senator Pennycuick

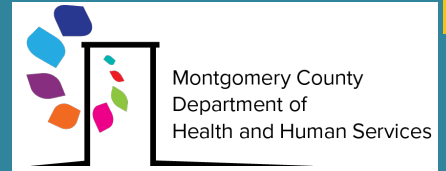
Justin Keller, Borough Manager, Pottstown

Jacque Rocco, CPW Rotary Club Rep

**Date/Time of next meeting:** 7/28/23, 12:00pm – 1:30pm (last Friday of every month at 12:00pm through November 2023)

# Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes

DATE: 6/30/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM



## Key Discussion Points

### Update on recent events related to Homelessness across Montgomery County

- Organized responses and good dialogue around Best Practices for addressing encampments
  - PECO is assessing options to serve the homeless population appropriately
- Transition from CHOC to Jenny's Place:
  - Continued providing services after the closing of CHOC in July 2020
  - Continue to work on projects to provide emergency services for homeless people throughout Montgomery County
  - Focus on exploring additional short-term housing - possibly switch to the model 1-2 persons in each room
  - Discuss locality for the appropriate area to house the homeless
  - Engage the community, township & other providers to address concerns task force members hear from those in the community
  - What is the ideal area to house the people/homeless

**Your Way Home Advisory Committee** - formed in 2010 which includes housing developers, hospitals, public health, housing authority, schools, etc.

- Launched public partnerships to address issues of people at risk for homelessness in Montgomery County
- EPIC pilot launched
- Housing best practices implemented
- Identify Your Way Home Programs
- Transitioned from advising to Advocacy Council – Council will be disbanded but working to transform into something more long term with assistance from the workgroup

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

**DECISION POINTS – RESOURCES NEEDED**

- Funding needed to include mobile services for the homeless in shared community spaces in other municipalities
- Address encampments throughout Montgomery County

<b>Next Steps</b>	
Municipalities to connect and work with faith-based organizations for staffing/volunteer support and provide additional locations for housing the homeless	
Task Force Operations group will continue to meet	
Homelessness Taskforce meetings to continue	
Provide communication in different languages to the homeless Population in collaboration with representation from shelters and libraries	
Coordinate with the planning department to address zoning barriers	

**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:

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

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