



Montgomery County Homelessness Taskforce

9-29-23



- Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr., Chair
- Jamila H. Winder, Vice Chair
- Joseph C. Gale, Commissioner

Agenda

1. Housekeeping and meeting rules
2. Introductions & Chairperson Statements
3. Summary of Task Force Operations Workgroup Meeting
 - a) Implementation Plan updates
4. Vision Statement and Guiding Principles
5. Task Force Next Steps
6. Adjourn

Introductions



Please take a moment to introduce yourself in the Chat

Please add your name and organization

New Member Introduction: Jason Bobst



A Word from Our Chairs...

Commissioner Ken Lawrence

Kim Krauter

Dr. Tamra Williams

Housekeeping



Please remain on mute to minimize noise distraction through these meetings



Please utilize the "raise hand" feature if you want to talk and we will call on you to speak



You can type questions and comments into the "chat" and we will check periodically

Operations Workgroup Summary

- Strategically place shelters and mobile services for the unhoused
 - Engaging faith-based partners to increase the number of faith-based organizations that can provide things like shelters throughout Montgomery County
 - Address zoning, especially to ease shelter establishment for faith-based organizations
- Four municipalities
 - Upper Moreland
 - Lower Merion
 - West Norriton
 - Lansdale

Upper Moreland

- Service: Code Blue
- # to serve: 5-7
- Desired Open Date: Winter 2023-2024
- Resources Needed:
 - Working with Dave Eckert and Kayleigh Silver to schedule a meeting with local faith communities to identify a site and staff/volunteers. This meeting to be scheduled in September
 - Looking at other location options
 - Need a partner to take the lead on this project. Can likely provide council support but need technical assistance in next stepping process

West Norriton

- Service: 24/7 Year-round with supportive services; anticipated length of stay is 6 mo-1 year
- # to Serve: 30-35
- Desired Open Date: 4th quarter, 2024
- Updates:
 - Township has empowered their leadership to develop plans and take lead.
 - In talks with a potential non-profit organization to operate the program
 - Open to paid arrangement with other municipalities for a portion of beds
 - Resources needed: In talks for a location but still in need of a site. Discussing funding sources

Lower Merion

- Service: Code Blue
- Persons Served: Single Adults
- # to Serve: 5-10
- Desired Open Date: Winter 2023-2024
- Status: Have identified faith organizations for a shelter rotation and an agency to support staffing/shelter operations. Seeking legal consultation on a few professional liability issues and how to clarify scope of work for volunteers with professional clinical backgrounds.

Lansdale

- Service: Code Blue and 24/7 year-round
- # to Serve: TBD
- Persons Served: Single adults
- Desired Open Date: Winter 2023/2024 for Code Blue
- Updates:
 - In talks with a behavioral health service provider to operate the code blue program and discussing location options
 - Resources Needed: location for 24/7 year-round program

Operations Workgroup Next Steps

Montgomery County Health and Human Services, Office of Housing & Community Development to hold regular check-ins with each municipality starting in October until go-live.

Timeline for go-live operations to be developed by 11/1/23

County developed a Code Blue Shelter Implementation Guide that is being shared with the operations group for feedback by 10/1/23. Will be updated to include ways to address zoning.

Mission & Vision Statement



Montgomery
County
Homelessness
Taskforce

Vision Statement

- Everyone who lives, works, learns, and invests in Montgomery County has equal opportunity to live in an affordable home and a thriving community. When that opportunity is out of reach for some and they become unhoused, we want to ensure our citizens are treated with the dignity and respect every person should enjoy as we work together as a community to remove barriers and increase access to a continuum of safe and decent housing and supportive services for the homeless or those at risk of homelessness.



Next Steps for the Task Force



Task Force Next Steps



The Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force was designed to be a catalyst for action



October 27th meeting will outline how the projects will continue after the Task Force formally ends.



Last meeting will be November 17th .

This will be an in person gathering to show appreciation for Task Force members for their consistent support.

Adjourn

Closing Comments

Next Task Force Meeting:
10/27/23 @12:00-1:30pm

THANK YOU