

Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes



DATE: 9/29/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM

Goal of Meeting: In addition to a summary presentation of the Task Force Operations Workgroup meeting, we will get an overview of their implementation plan as well as a review of the Homeless Task Force's Mission/Vision Statement and Guiding Principles.

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:

Dr. Tamra Williams, Montgomery County DHHS Director

Kayleigh Silver, Montgomery County, DHHS Office of Housing and Community Development

Jim Walters, Montgomery County, DHHS Office of Program Development

Lora Gonzalez, Montgomery County, DHHS

Laura York, Montgomery County, DHHS Deputy Director

Neil McDevitt, Mayor, North Wales Borough

ASL Interpreter

Mark Boorse, Access Services

Owen Camuso, RHD

Beth Sturman, Laurel House

Patricia (Pat) Patterson, CPW Rotary

Kim Krauter, Director of Development – PA Walters Group

Anna-Marie Slivinski, Norristown Resident, Formerly Homeless

Dottie Miller, PA Democratic State Committee

Matt McCarry, PA House of Representative

Bill Myers, Provider MCES

Justin Keller, Municipality Pottstown

Crandall Jones, Municipality Norristown

Kristin Frederick Leonard, CAARSEA, Candidate for Plymouth Township Council

Lori Schreiber, Clerk of Courts and Abington Township Commissioner

Marleen Wood, Wings of Victory Outreach

Jason Bobst, Township Manager, West Norriton Township

Deb Spence, Owner of Fierce Realty

Next meeting: 10/27/23, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (last Friday of every month at 12:00pm through November)

Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes



DATE: 9/29/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM

Key Discussion Points

As part of the Task Force Operations Workgroup, Kayleigh gave an update on the status of each municipality.

A summary of the Operations Workgroup can also be viewed on the PowerPoint.

REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PER MUNICIPALITY

Upper Moreland – Partnering with Dave Eckert of Access Services and Local Faith Communities to create Code Blue Shelters. Still working to identify a site and lead organization to run a code blue shelter facility.

West Norriton – Jason Bobst – they are continuing to work with West Norriton partners for year-round services empowering township leadership to develop plans to identify locations for shelters. The township met with persons from the State to discuss potential sites and zoning.

Lower Merion – Working on identifying specific buildings and non-profit organizations for recruitment and shelter operations. Gathering resources to provide non-profit and faith organizations with information regarding liability and insurance.

Lansdale – They have partnered with Trinity Lutheran Church for shelter operations on Code Blue days and expansion efforts. Also in talks with Lansdale team members for year-round shelter services in the area. Partnering with owners of empty buildings as a possible space for shelter locations.

Mission and Vision Statement

Anyone who lives, works, learns and invests in Montgomery County will have an equal opportunity to reside in affordable housing within a thriving community. When such an opportunity is out of reach for some who may become unhoused, we want to ensure our citizens are treated with dignity and respect while working together as a community, removing barriers and increasing access to safe, decent housing and support for the homeless or those at risk of homelessness.

Dr. Williams requested feedback from the Task Force regarding the Mission/Vision Statement (shown above as well as on PowerPoint), and there was agreement among some members to accept it as it is. No one expressed any further opinions or suggestions otherwise.

Dr. Williams will send an email to Task Force members portraying the Mission/Vision Statement in the event members wish to present additional input/suggestions.

Dr. Williams would like to utilize the next meeting to get more updates on municipality projects as well as outline how the Task Force will continue after the meetings are discontinued.

Montgomery County Homelessness Task Force Meeting Notes



DATE: 9/29/2023 TIME: 12:00PM – 1:30PM VIA: ZOOM

Dr. Williams also invited the Task Force members to attend a Montgomery County Commissioners meeting to review the work that's being done with the Homeless Task Force.

Next Steps	Deadlines & Responsible Party
Continue to work with Workgroup until they go LIVE	October 17th
Homelessness Taskforce meetings to continue until November 2023 – Last Meeting November 17 th – in person	
Operations Group working on a timeline with the four municipalities before going LIVE	October

Additional information (link to shared folder with additional info, where to locate meeting minutes, additional links discussed) [Homelessness Task Force](#)