

Fond du Lac Area Continuum of Care

Regular Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, January 14th, 2015

3:00 - 4:00pm

Fond du Lac City/County Building ---Rooms F/G

- 1) *Call the meeting to order*
- 2) *Introductions*
- 3) *Minutes from last meeting*
- 4) *Program Presentation:*
- 5) *Agency Sharing and Announcements*
- 6) *Adjourn*

Next Housing Coalition meeting date: February 11, 2015

Mission: *To advocate, coordinate and optimize services for homeless persons or those at imminent risk.*

Purpose: *Through education, advocacy, mutual support and a sharing of resources, the Continuum strives to prevent homelessness as well as create the ability of the communities to respond to individual needs.*

Vision: *To increase the quality of life for those who strive to become self sufficient.*

06/06/11

**FOND DU LAC AREA HOUSING COALITION/ CONTINUUM OF CARE
MINUTES**

**January 14, 2015
3:00 P.M.
City County Government Center**

1. Call to Order

Julie Faust, ADVOCAP, called the meeting to order

Attendance:

Tammy Westphal – ADVOCAP
Sue Ellen Miller – Fond du Lac Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)
Rick Patton – Fond du Lac County Veteran Services
Louise Gudex – Fond du Lac Housing Authority
Mary Mueller – Fond du Lac School District
Vanessa Kuettel – Legal Action of Wisconsin
Maggie McCullough – Solutions Center
Sara PrusWinland – Solutions Center
Michelle Tidemann – UW Extension
Kori Schneider-Peragine- Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council
Nicole Lemke – Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin
Tara Tarpey – Solutions Center
Julie Hilbert – Fond du Lac County Senior Services
Amber Arntz – Salvation Army
Arlene Ramstack – St. Vincent de Paul
Laura Berndt- Health Department

2. Introductions

Members of the Housing Coalition introduced themselves.

Julie and Tammy passed around a contact sheet. Members were asked to make sure the information was accurate as name cards have been created from that list and to add phone numbers to make it easier to contact one another.

Julie described the format of the meetings, and reminded members that we do not typically meet in December or July. She passed around a sheet of the remaining months and asked that agencies sign up for a month to present to the group.

3. Approval of Minutes- November 12, 2014

M. McCullough offered a correction to the 11/12/14 minutes. She clarified that Solutions Center does not allow children in the building/on the premise at anytime, even as volunteers.

Motion made by S. Miller to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2014 meeting with the suggested changes; seconded by A. Ramstack. Motion carried.

4. Agency Sharing & Announcements

J. Faust & T. Westphal, ADVOCAP, reported that they have been busy and have been having coordinated meetings with Solutions Center for referrals. They talked about the Point in Time Street count taking place on January 28/29 6PM-6AM (the last Wednesday in January, statewide). They reminded the group that any agency receiving COC funds must participate in the overnight street count (ADVOCAP, Solutions Center, Legal Action of Wisconsin and Salvation Army). They said the police department assists them in the process as well.

H4H (Help for Homeless drive) - Marian College interns assist with a Help for the Homeless drive in March. Items donated will be distributed to: ADVOCAP, Solutions Center, Salvation Army, New Beginnings and BEACON/Harbor House. S. Tidemann suggested that larger businesses/employers have donation boxes and that the organizers contact the young professionals group through Tasha.

S. PrusWinland, Solutions Center, stated that the women's shelter is at capacity. There were 4 serious DV situations over the holidays.

M. McCullough, Solutions Center, stated that the warming shelter's numbers are down. There is a new sheriff in town, and many of the homeless residents have been over-nighting at the dispatch center. The capacity at the warming shelter is 16. Severe mental illness continues to be an issue for those at the warming shelter. Volunteer groups come in and prepare meals.

V. Kuettel, Legal Action of Wisconsin stated members should continue to make referrals. She stated as of April 2015 there would be a change to FoodShare/FSET benefits and able-bodied adults without dependents will be limited to 3 months of FoodShare/FSET in a 36 month period. She will email information about the exemptions and the definition of able-bodied adults (ages 18-49) to Tammy to share with the group. Clients will receive a letter about this. Legal Action can review the letter to see if the negative action is accurate and assist if a person meets the criteria for exemption.

S. Miller, Fond du Lac Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), reminded the group that if clients should be calling Moraine Lakes Consortium line directly that they do so and not go through the ADRC. She stated that she is not transferring calls that come into the ADRC.

M. Tidemann, UW Extension, shared brochures for the *Rent Smart* and *Where does the Money Go?* programs. She added more evening programs at the library per request. If you have a need for other financial programming, let her know. Money Smart Conference will be April 18-25. Women's Conference will be on the 18th at MPTC. She is continuing the Boot Camp with Forward Services, but she noted that Forward Services moved to the old Attitude Sports building on Seymour. Further, they are experiencing phone issues. Energy Assistance will be doing a sign-up Feb 9th at the Job Center. Shelley mentioned Deb Warga at the Job Center was collecting career clothes for donation. Arlene added that St. Vincent de Paul, will give people clothes if they need them for a job interview. The only verification need is an ID.

M. Mueller, FDL School District, stated that 73 children were identified as experiencing homelessness. They are seeing more at the high school level. 17 in high school, 54 K-12, 2 - 4K children. They are also starting a Parent Café at Solutions Center.

T. Tarp, Solutions Center, stated this was her first meeting and that the men's shelter's numbers are low. The capacity at is 15, and they have 13 people there now.

R. Patton, Fond du Lac County Veteran Services, said that vets may be receiving via mail a choice card. The only way this would be of use to a Fond du Lac County veteran is if they were unable to an appointment within 30 days, though. He also stated that the VA is issuing new healthcare cards that will safeguard personal information/SSN's. They will be re-issued with the old photograph. He said he was approached by an investor with a company called General Capital that purchased what used to be Lakeside Gardens looking for an MOU that his office would refer vets to their units. They intend to have 17 fully accessible units. Fond du Lac County Veteran Services is currently reviewing their request.

A. Arntz, Salvation Army, stated that they met their kettle goal! 674 families were assisted. Serving 800 families/month at the food pantry.

K. Schneider-Peragine, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, introduced herself and explained that as part of Fair Housing's contract with the City of Fond du Lac she will be reviewing the City of Fond du Lac's *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice* (AI) and making comments to Dyann and her staff. Kori explained that the AI is a requirement for HUD funding for the City. She plans on sharing information about the AI at the April meeting.

N. Lemke, Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin, stated if members have clients that feel they were turned down or treated differently in housing because of their: race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability, family status, marital status, lawful source of income, age, sexual orientation or being a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking, please refer them to the Fair Housing Center (877-647-3247). She also said that she is available to present to clients or staff about fair housing, and please contact her to set up a presentation (920-560-4620).

L. Gudex, FDL Housing Authority, indicated that they still had 20 vouchers left from December and that they would be 100% government funded for the year (though admin costs were only being covered 73-74%). She said they are exploring going smoke free in one of their complexes.

L. Berndt, Health Department, no report.

J. Hilbert, Fond du Lac County Senior Services, stated she will be conducting Free Homestead Tax Clinics for people in Fond du Lac County who are 60 years of age or older or by appointment. If someone under 60 years of age comes to a clinic, she will serve them, but those under 60 cannot get an appointment. To qualify for Homestead credit one must have a household income less than \$24,680.

A. Ramstack, St. Vincent de Paul, said that people who bring in personal care items will get 20% off their purchase.

5. Adjourn

Motion made by N. Lemke to adjourn the Housing Coalition meeting; seconded by J. Hilbert. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on February 11, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Nicole Lemke
Fair Housing Center of Northeast Wisconsin