



MAYOR'S COMMISSION
ON HOMELESSNESS

**October 17, 2012
3:00 pm – 5:00m pm
3rd floor, Phoenix Building
Proposed Agenda**

- I. Review Agenda
- II. Approve September 26, 2012 minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Proposed Calendar Changes
- V. Work groups
 - a. Assignments
 - b. Charge including report format
 - c. Schedule
 - d. Break into work groups – select chair and meeting date
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Next Steps

Packet includes:

Proposed Agenda
Minutes from 9/26/12
Proposed Calendar
Proposed Work Groups
Proposed Charges to Work Groups

Next Meeting:

November 7, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Phoenix Bldg, 101 E. Vine Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room

**Mayor's Commission on Homelessness Meeting
Commerce Lexington Conference Room
Wednesday, September 26, 2012
3:00 to 5:00 pm**

DRAFT Minutes

Commission Members Present:

Steve Kay (Chair), Debra Hensley (Co-chair), Melody Flowers, Lisa Adkins, Claudia Blaylock, Linda Carroll, Rocky Burke, Ginny Vicini, Jessica Gies, Kate Savage, Randy Moler (Janice Durham), Joe Shuman, Laura Babbage, Harry Richart, Bill Embry, Brian Varble, Janice James, Tanya Torp, Kyle Whalen, Doug Pape, Mike Scanlon, and Don Ralph.

LFUCG Staff member(s) present:

Shaye Rabold, Office of the Mayor
Leah Boggs, Legislative Aide to Steve Kay.

Guests:

Billie Mallory, Ike Lawrence, Peggy Harris, Sandra Zupan, Marjorie Holzfiend and Josh Nadzam.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by Steve Kay, Chair of the Commission.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Steve Kay asked for guests who were not present at the last meeting to introduce themselves. Randy Moler introduced Janice Durham from the VA who will be replacing him on the Commission as he will be moving out of town. Sandra Zupan from the UK Department of Geography introduced herself. The agenda was sounded and there were no changes.

II. Public Comment

Steve Kay asked if any of the guests would like to speak, but no one asked to do so.

III. Discussion of Subcategories of Homelessness

Mr. Kay restated from the previous meeting that it would be helpful to find a useful set of categories which would assist the Commission in constructing a way to think about the full range of the problem.

Shaye Rabold discussed the grid that included possible categories to consider when determining how Lexington currently serves the diverse needs of those who are homeless. She explained that the categories were not meant to be limited to causes, but also special populations that may receive specialized care or have dedicated programming/funding such as veterans and victims of domestic violence. The categories discussed included single adults, unaccompanied youth and families with and without children. Sub-categories of each included those typically included in homeless related documents: Severe Mental Illness, Substance Abuse, Dual Diagnosis, Domestic Violence Victim, Veteran and HIV/AIDS. The following additional categories were included: Ex-offender, sex-offender, lack of resources/support system and elderly.

Concerns were raised about the meaning of some of the categories, such as what is considered an unaccompanied youth, which could include runaways younger than 18 or HUD's definition of 18-25. It was decided that we need to be specific for some of the categories that could be interpreted in multiple ways. It was suggested that footnotes be included where necessary.

It was suggested that we add a category for people who have a medical or physical condition other than or in addition to mental illness. People who fall into this category are difficult to serve because most agencies are not equipped to handle their special needs.

It was acknowledged that we already have much of the information relating to who is homeless in Fayette County and which agencies serve various subpopulations. It was stated that the purpose of the exercise was to have a better understanding of what the problem is so that gaps can be identified. It was suggested that we think about the process with the end in mind of making recommendations to fill any gaps. The idea expressed was that the more we know, the better chance we have at accurately identifying the gaps.

It was suggested that we send a survey to service providers to ask questions about who is being served and where the gaps, if any, exist. A few suggested questions were proposed: How many people don't you serve and why? In your opinion, what are the gaps? Who is not being served well? Are you seeing any trends or changes in the people who are homeless? How much do you spend?

It was stated that in the past when the VA had conducted similar surveys, they found that the providers would respond one way to the question of unmet needs and people who are homeless would respond differently. It was recommended that we also survey people who are experiencing homelessness. It was also suggested that we look into what training homeless people are currently receiving and compare that with what the actual needs of employers are to make sure they are still compatible. Shaye asked everyone to email her any suggestions they may have of questions to be included in either survey.

IV. Discussion about work groups

There was a discussion about what work groups are needed moving forward. Suggested topics included funding sources (including non-traditional sources like hospitals), organizing church outreach efforts, evaluating the cost of homelessness to a community, targeting the most difficult cases, exploring housing first, a central intake system, increasing collaboration and coordination, transportation, and discharge procedures from jails and hospitals.

It was stated during this part of the discussion that government funding for emergency shelter and transitional housing may be drying up soon because more effort is being put on permanent housing. While permanent housing is needed, it was stressed that emergency shelter will always be needed and resources should not be taken away from emergency shelters to pay for programs like Housing First.

It was decided that Shaye and Leah would circulate proposed work groups and Commission members could then say which groups they would like to join. Shaye asked for people to email her ideas of work group topics if there were any not mentioned at the meeting.

At this point, there was a question about the status and impact of the Council's proposed Adult Day Care Center Ordinance, which would require day centers for homeless people to seek Board of Adjustment approval to open in most areas of town, according to zone. There was some opposition expressed about the proposed ordinance, but it was also noted that requiring Board of Adjustment approval would ensure due process for neighborhoods and would require notification of property owners in the surrounding area.

It was proposed that the Commission should request the Council to reserve final decision on the topic until the Commission completes its work. The Commission did not say it would necessarily take a position on the issue, but that the group's work may be informative to the Council in making their decision. There was concern expressed that asking the Council to delay action on an issue not directly part of the Commission's charge might not be fair to neighborhoods if a new day care center wanted to open. Ultimately, it was decided that a letter would be sent to the Council on behalf of the Commission requesting that the issue not be decided until after the Commission's report is submitted.

It was proposed and decided, without objection, that the same action should be taken for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund currently under consideration by the Council's Budget and Finance Committee.

VIII. Public Comment

Billie Mallory reminded the group about the October 18 Stand Down event at Central Christian Church.

Susan Zupan expressed concern that she had not heard any mention of the working poor and those at great risk of becoming homeless.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Proposed Schedule

Date	Activity	Notes
10/12/2012	Commission meeting packet sent	
10/17/2012	Commission meeting	Discuss work group assignments
10/19/2012	Steering committee packet sent with staff research	
10/24/2012	Steering Committee meeting	discuss staff research
10/31/2012	work group updates due	
11/2/2012	Commission meeting packet sent with updates	
11/7/2012	Commission meeting	work groups provide updates
11/9/2012	Steering Committee packet sent	
11/14/2012	Steering Committee meeting	
11/21/2012	work group final reports due	
11/26/2012	Commission meeting packet sent with final reports	
11/28/2012	Commission meeting	work groups give final reports
11/30/2012	Steering Committee packet sent with final reports and preliminary recommendations	
12/5/2012	Steering Committee meeting	discuss final reports and preliminary recommendations
12/7/2012	Commission meeting packet sent with final reports and draft recommendations	
12/12/2012	Commission meeting	review final recommendations; ADDED
12/13/2012	Public Forum	public meeting and also posted online for comment; ADDED
12/19/2012	Commission meeting	CANCELLED
1/9/2013	Commission meeting	review final report; ADDED
1/15/2013	Final Report due	

Proposed Work Groups

Survey

Ike Adams
Randy Moler/Janice Durham
Janice James
Don Ralph
Joe Shuman
Brian Varble

Day Time Services

Bill Embry
Doug Pape
Harry Richart
Lisa Adkins
Mark Davis
Michelle Beverly
Rocky Burke

Shelter/Housing

Albert Carrillo
Darlene Thomas
Ginny Vicini
Kyle Whalen
Laura Babbage
Laverne Laine
Steve Kay

Resources

Linda Carroll
Melody Flowers
Mike Scanlon
Sherry Maddock
Kevin Fleming
Jessica Gies

Prevention/At-Risk

Catherine DeFlorio
Claudia Blaylock
Debra Hensley
Kate Savage
Mary Hunter
Tanya Torp
Kathy Witt

Proposed Work Groups and Charges

SURVEY

Charge:

Draft a comprehensive survey for the homeless client, plan the implementation to obtain maximum involvement of the community, give the survey, and compile the results.

Members:

Don Ralph, Janice James, Joe Shuman, Randy Molar/Janice Durham, Brian Varble, and Ike Adams.

A Few Things to Consider:

What are the causes of homelessness?

What are the needs of the person who is homeless?

Have respondents utilized available services?

If so, how many times? What are the reasons for still being homeless?

What is needed to come out of homelessness, and stay out of homelessness?

What are the causes of chronic homelessness and what are the ways to combat it?

Schedule:

October 17th – receive assignments and notebooks, select chair, set initial meeting date

November 7th – work groups give update

November 21st – draft report and recommendations due for packet

November 28th – work groups present draft report and recommendations

Findings and Recommendation Format:

- 1) Charge
- 2) Members
- 3) Meetings
- 4) Survey
- 5) Findings

DAY SERVICES

Charge:

Determine the adequacy and capacity of day services (gaps, possible solutions, and possible approaches) including day centers, logistics (transportation, storage, food, payee program), and programming.

Members:

Bill Embry, Douglas Pape, Harry Richart, Lisa Adkins, Mark Davis, Michelle Beverly and Rocky Burke

A Few Things to Consider:

How many homeless are working?

What are their transportation needs for work, medical, children, or other needs?

What are their computer and telephone access needs, storage needs, food needs, or other needs?

If they are not working, are they in programming?

If they are not working or in programming, why not?

Where do they go during the day?

Is the payee program helpful?

Are there non-profit, including faith-based resources that could be used that are not?

Would coordination of services be beneficial?

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Findings and Recommendation Format:

6) Charge

7) Members

8) Meetings

9) Current state of situation

10) Current gaps

11) Future predictions

12) Research reviewed/ Resources consulted

13) Recommendations

SHELTER/HOUSING

Charge:

Determine the adequacy and capacity of shelter/housing (gaps, possible solutions, and possible approaches) including emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing with supportive services, and permanent housing without supportive services.

Members:

Ginny Vicini, Alberto Carillo, Darlene Thomas, Kyle Whalen, Laura Babbage, Laverne Laine, Steve Kay

A Few Things to Consider:

Are there currently enough emergency shelter beds for all populations that need them and if not, what is needed?

Is there currently enough transitional housing for all populations that need it and if not, what is needed?

Is there currently enough permanent housing with supportive services for all populations that need it and if not, what is needed?

Is there currently enough permanent housing for all populations that need it and if not, what is needed?

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Findings and Recommendation Format:

14) Charge

15) Members

16) Meetings

17) Current state of situation

18) Current gaps

19) Future predictions

20) Research reviewed/ Resources consulted

21) Recommendations

PREVENTION

Charge:

Evaluate and consider possible risk factors that may lead to homelessness in Fayette County (gaps, possible solutions, and possible approaches) including discharge from hospitals and jails, youth aging out of foster care, mental health, substance abuse, and lack of resources or support system.

Members:

Kathy Witt, Catherine DeFlorio, Claudia Blaylock, Kate Savage, Mary Hunter, Tanya Torp, and Debra Hensley.

A Few Things to Consider:

From where are persons entering homelessness?

What can help them from entering homelessness?

What are the causes of chronic homelessness and what can prevent it?

Is the payee program helpful?

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Findings and Recommendation Format:

22) Charge

23) Members

24) Meetings

25) Current state of situation

26) Current gaps

27) Future predictions

28) Research reviewed/ Resources consulted

29) Recommendations

RESOURCES (money and in-kind)

Charge:

Determine current funding streams, possible sources of funds that are available but are not being used, future funding streams or financing mechanisms, and opportunities to leverage both current and future funding streams.

Members:

Kevin Fleming, Jessica Geis, Linda Carroll, Melody Flowers, Mike Scanlon, and Sherry Maddock.

A Few Things to Consider:

What is the current government funding at the federal, state, and local level?

Is this funding expected to remain in place in the future?

How is LFUCG currently using its money?

Are there federal, state, or local dollars available to service providers other than those that flow through LFUCG or the Continuum of Care?

Are their currently grant dollars available?

Are they being used?

Are their private dollars available?

Are they being used?

What is the best way to leverage the available money?

Are there non-profit, including faith-based resources that could be used that are not?

Would coordination of services be beneficial?

Schedule:

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Findings and Recommendation Format:

30) Charge

31) Members

32) Meetings

33) Current state of situation

34) Current gaps

35) Future predictions

36) Research reviewed/ Resources consulted

37) Recommendations