Racine City & County Continuum of Care (WI-502)
c/o HALO
2000 DeKoven Avenue, Unit #1
Racine, WI 53403

Homelessness and Housing Alliance of Racine County—Membership Meeting
Location: Zoom meeting link –
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84223902873?pwd=dmhYeVhTUy9Kdmh6ekxTbHpFSnVadz09#success
September 20, 2024

Present: **Officers**: President: Teresa Reinders (CoC), Secretary: MaryBeth Kallio (UWRC)

Membership:

Center for Veterans Issues Kasdorf, Justin	**Legal Action of Wisconsin – Racine** Edwards, Hillary von Helms, Jenny	**Region 2 DCC** Bauer, Laurie
Aurora Health Care Leslie, Kim	**LGBT SWI Center** Farrar, Barb	**SAFE Haven of Racine** Cornell, Ben
City of Racine Brown, Brittany Knoff, Katheryn Seymour, Veronica	**Racine County** Krystal Ellis	**United Health Care** Kloster, Deanna
Clement J Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center Majinski, Nicole	**Racine CoC** Lorenzen, Gai Reinders, Teresa	**United Way of Racine County** Kallio, Mary Beth
HALO Joan Roehre Love, Irma Taggart, Melissa	**Racine Community Foundation** Handrow, Pam Powell, Liz	**Wayman A.M.E. Church** Pastor Arnold Ni
Hospitality Center Frt Bauterbaugh, Matthew	**Racine and Kenosha Community Action** Nicole Hunt	**WI Interagency Council on Homelessness** Basford, Michael
Housing Authority of Racine County, HARC Hackett, Claire	**Racine Salvation Army** Riekoff, Sandy	**Women's Resource Center** Brostowitz, Adam Staufenbeil, Denise
Institute for Community Alliances Pritzl, Becca, Vazquez, Iraida	**Racine Vocational Ministry** Life, Lori	

The meeting was called to order by Teresa Reinders at 9:07 a.m. with welcome and introductions.

Reminders: *CoC website https://racinecoc.org and the Homeless & Housing Alliance of Racine County email address is homelesshousingalliance@gmail.com*

- **Consent Agenda**
  a. Approval of agenda
  b. Director's report

MaryBeth Kallio motioned and Kim Leslie second for approval of the minute and director's report.

Presentation: Adam Brostowitz, Women's Resource Center.

Recently there was a merger between Women's Resource Center and Bethany Apartments.

- Women's Resource Center (WRC) mission and Bethany Apartments mission statement are similar with both geared toward survivors of domestic shelter. The main difference was how long each organization was able to serve the client.
    a. WRC crisis situation serves needed in the moment and then clients need to go into shelter
    b. After 45 days at WRC the clients could apply to Bethany Apartments for transitional housing up 2 years to obtain emotional and financial support.

WRC services provided

- 27/7 crisis call and text lines
- Shelter and advocacy
- Case management
- Domestic violence education
- Legal advocacy
- Holistic healing
- Hand to Hand
- Safe Start
- Support Groups

Bethany Apartments services provided

- Transitional Housing
- Life Skills Education
- Case Management
- Empowerment Groups
- Advocacy
- Empowerment group, book club
- Advocacy and support, court needs
- About 75% to 80% of clients referred by WRC shelter
- Location, one mile from WRC and one block from the Racine County House

Shared Goals

- Empowering Survivors
- Holistic Support
- Emergency shelter, direct services, transitional housing
- Streamlining operations; pooling resources, improved collaboration and communication efforts, efficiency in services delivered
- Combat domestic abuse and homelessness
- Utilized case management with outside residents (non-WRC)

Impact on the Community

- Strong collaborative partnership
- Shared Expertise
- Collaboration in Community education training; same training, same approachable and same expectations
- Money saved to in a utilize impactful way
- United client-centered approaches

Next steps for the merger are to complete administrative merger, communicating changes to stakeholders and clients, develop long term vision, develop sustainable practices of services and determine future growth plans. The merger sets up both organizations to better serve the community, more federal dollars as a full-service organization along

with state funding, Violence on Women, VOCA, Racine Community Foundations, WHETA grants and other larger grants can be obtained.

Contact information

- Women's Resource Center: Jori Chambers, Executive Directors, jchambers@racinewrc.org
- Bethany Apartments: Adam Brostowitz, Direct of Bethany Apartments, abrostowitz@bethanyapartments.org

Crisis Line
262-633-3233
Text line 262-221-0058

- **New business: structure of the committee**

All of us at the meeting are members of continuum of care, Alliance of Homelessness of Racine County. Alliance Leadership is the similar to volunteers that serve on a board of directors for an organization. Leadership members include: Barb Farrar, president, Gai Lorenzen, vice president, Iraida Vazquez, Institute for Community Alliance, sectary with Teresa Reinders as director at the meeting. Moving forward the board will run future meetings. Leadership council will need a nomination committee for the 2025 term with electing a new president and vice president. If you are interested in serving on the nomination committee send your name to Teresa.

- The nomination committee will recruit new leadership, send out information on the individuals and introduce ballot at the next meeting. Commitment time should be no more than three hours during the next few months.

In previous years, HALO was the collaborator of the CoC and point of contact to submit applications. HALO has declined this position for future applications. There were two organizations that were interested in taking on the role, however; one declined. The goal is to obtain another organization to take on the responsibilities prior to February 2025. The board is working with Melissa Michaels from HUD with a formal request.

Discussion of adding Friday, December 20 as a meeting date to the CoC calendar. Having a December 20 will help us recruitment leadership nominations and finalize 2024 activities.
Iraida Vazquez motioned and MaryBeth Kallio seconded to add Friday, December 20 to the CoC meeting calendar.

Agency updates

Women's Resource Center
Walk to Break the Silence on September 26, 2024 5:00-7:00 p.m.

HALO
Joan R. interim director, announced there is a new finance director that started August 5. HALO is currently under construction with reduced capacity. The resources and staff are spread thin. There were 120 clients as of Monday, September 16, 2024. There are volunteers who are from the senior community running the front desk. HALO is working on building relationship within community, staff and guests to improve the culture. HALO is getting ready to launch a speaking tour. HALO board is fully engaged with twenty board members. HALO is looking for organizations to prepare meals. Meals have adjusted at HALO to cut costs; cold breakfast and lunch. There is a need to have a kitchen manager to organize meals, prepare meals and oversee the kitchen and meals. HALO will be celebrating twenty years of serving Racine County in 2025.

Racine Kenosha Community Action
Nicole Hunt, holiday basket application is available on October 1, 2024. Applicants must be 200% below poverty limit. Basket will be delivered prior to Christmas.

WI Interagency Council on Homelessness
Michael Basford shared the COVID report questionnaire, https://forms.gle/75hueXLLy3LGcs5P6
Purpose of report- reporting out to the future. Future members will have a starting point in event this happens again. The survey will take about 10-15 minutes.

Next meeting: Friday, November 15, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. and December 20.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. MSC
Respectfully submitted,
MB Kallio