

CONTINUUM OF CARE MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

April 16, 2025 9:00am

By: Cathy Golden

Our mission: Teaming up to make homelessness rare, non-recurring, and short lived.

Roll Call – **Please sign in the chat for attendance.**

Motion to accept minutes: PJ Brooks, Deb Cozzetti

Old Business

- 1,233 Total **Households**; 3,549 **Individuals** (Literally Homeless, At Risk, DV, Vet)
- 520 **Households** Literally Homeless; 1,309 **Individuals**
- 713 **Households** At Risk; 2,240 **Individuals**
- **Veterans: 20 Households**
- Referrals sent to providers in March: 176 (including ELC, Griffin Lofts and Jersey Commons)
- 169 Total CE Assessments taken last month. (March)
- 85 Total CE Assessments taken to date so far for this month (April)

New Business

- 2024 CE recap
 - #Households accessing CE 1,716
 - #Homeless Persons accessing CE – 4,553
 - #Referrals sent for Housing 763 total – 473 accepted
 - #Household exited CE into Permanent Housing 723
- Point in Time Recap
 - Last year our PIT we counted 196 Unsheltered. In 2025 it was 226 unsheltered. Our PIT count was successful and continues to grow with volunteers.
 - We had 149 volunteers sign up, 90 showed up. Thank you for volunteering!
 - The numbers were submitted to HUD.
 - We will be starting committees for next year in May 2025.
 - **Katrina shared PIT 2024 22, 2025 19 for Veterans**
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- 2024 State Audit (It's a Wrap!)
- State/House Session – TPZ17
 - Looks like it is fully funding for state and house. Challenge grant, no provisions, Homeless Challenge grant will revert back.
 - TPZ 17 effective July 1, 2025. Contracts should be out soon. Challenge Grant and Challenge Plus you will most likely be renewed. You won't need to renew, it will be issued with a new contract.
 - ☐ Deb asked about the same amount. We are not expecting any decreases.
 - ☐ Shawna is requesting a TA. She will get with Cathy.
 - ☐ We will be requesting more funding in Housing than services.
 - ☐ We will be calling everyone in to discuss each contract. If you have a HUD contract from NOFO we are going to talk to you about the guidelines.
- HUD Awards (received letter from Jacksonville office)
 - Everyone should have gotten their letters. If anyone has not received a letter, please contact Bridget and we will look into it.
- SAGE and System Performance Measures reports were submitted and accepted

- Income Limits
 - Effective April 1, 2025. If you are receiving funding through Polk County or the City please get with them. We will be sending out today or tomorrow.
 - There has
- <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hotma/hotma-income-and-assets/#training-series>
 - I will have more info after the meeting on Friday.
- **Case Conferencing** What + Why + Who
 - This will help fill the gaps.
 - Strategize around the needs of everyone to get everyone connecting to housing.
 - Come together collaboratively.
 - All about getting the clients housed quickly.
 - Anyone on the call is invited.
- Open Floor - Next meeting: 5/21/25 (Zoom)

Updates from the CoC:

- Deb Cozzetti update on Winter Haven we are close to opening up. Travis Doodle will be doing the artwork at the building. We are looking at the first part of June. We will schedule the ribbon cutting.
 - Women and Children shelter, single women, pregnant women, and single women and children. Classes, computers, playground. Even though it is a shelter, they are there.
 - We can occupy up to 81 people. We are figuring 21 moms and the rest children. Single women will be separated from the family unit.
 - Age limit – Deb will follow up on this question. We do have all our DCF licensing.
 - Rory Tornga received a text from Andrea if you are having problems finding a client, Andrea will help out.
- Jose Chavarria update on Griffin Lofts. We have 16 units occupied. We have 60 total units. We are hopefully totally leased up in 45 days. We are looking to do murals as well.
- If you know of an organization that needs MRE's please let Bridget know.
- **Jose** would it be possible for individuals requesting furniture they are having problems with the providers not helping with getting furniture.
 - Deb said when you go there you have to take it that day. Someone needs to arrange everything (truck, etc). Lighthouse will not hold.
 - Joe Vazquez from Lighthouse with the multiple locations we have, the Lakeland store has furniture. You have to arrange and submit an application prior, documentation is needed (budget sheet, lease, and there is a 2 furniture item limit). They can ask for assistance for other household items. Application can be done online or contact the HOPE center for information.
 - Mulberry Community Center is another place for furniture.
- If you are having trouble locating unhoused individuals, Polk for Recovery may be able to help you. Here is the contact information for Andrea Anderson: Andrea Anderson, CRPS Director of Outreach. Polk for Recovery. 863-330-2770

Motion from the Floor Adjournment: John Quirk, PJ Brooks

Attendance: Taylor Thomas CASL; Jessica HCPC; Annie G; Jennifer Cooper – HND Polk County; Rachel Rose, Gospel; Bee Gallison, Heart for Winter Haven; Tabitha Keith, H4WH; Mike Smith - City of Lakeland; Kera Beard VOAF; Martha Murphy Catholic Charities; Donna Evanecky-PCSO; Marybeth Moore/ BoCC; Officer Bailey, Lakeland Police Department; Julyries K. Perez, Positively U, Inc.; Rory Tornga Polk for Recovery; Andrea Anderson Polk for Recovery; Nicole Redmond, Lake Wales Care Center; Brad Beatty, Heart for Winter Haven; Johnna Martinez, GiveWell Community Foundation; Lana Nolan CC- Lakeland; Priscilla Copeland Heartland for Children; Deborah Cozzetti - Talbot House; Jose Chavarria - Carrfour Supportive Housing; Giffe Gill, ACTS; Joe Vazquez, Lighthouse Ministries; Daphene Roberts, One More Child; P.J. Brooks, CASL; Katrina-HCPC; Sarah Burton Women and Youth (WAY) Center, Haines City; Officer Mendies, Winter Haven Police Department; Terri Cram, Acts; Rebecca Green, The Salvation Army Lakeland; John Quirk III -St. Vincent de Paul CARES; Shawna Butler, Heartland for Children; Bobby and Lesly Y from MCSC; Captain Jonathan Bowman, PCSO; Nancy Hurley, Polk County Housing & Neighborhood Development; Luke – HCPC; Nessie Braun-HCPC