

**Steering Committee for Concord's Plan to End Homelessness  
December 20, 2022**

**Meeting held at Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce and on Zoom  
2:00-3:30 pm**

**Steering Committee Members Present:** Byron Champlin, Karen Emis-Williams, Gwen Whitney Gill, Greg Lessard, Tom Furtado, Claudia Walker, Roseanne Haggerty, Tim Sink, Ruth Perencevich, Deputy Chief Barrett Moulton,

**On Zoom:** Lisa Madden,

**Absent:** Mayor Jim Bouley, Ellen Fries, Linda Lorden, Lew Feldstein, Kara Wyman

**Additional:** Karen Jantzen, CCEH Executive Director; Jim Schlosser; Councilor Stacey Brown

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**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Byron Champlin, Chair, at 2:05 p.m.

**Approval September Minutes:** Moved by Tim Sink and seconded by Karen Emis-Williams. Unanimous

**Welcome to new Concord Coalition to End Homelessness:** Karen Jantzen, the new CCEH Executive Director was introduced to the Steering Committee. Welcome!

**Update from Concord Police Department:**

There has been an increase in calls/complaints due to the increased visibility of encampments now that the foliage is gone. The encampments have been on both private and public properties and the larger encampments range from 10 to 15 persons. The department has been working with CCEH and CAP-BM Outreach Workers as the encampments have been broken up and people asked to move-on.

A discussion regarding health issues amongst the homeless was discussed. Work is being done with Outreach Workers to assist in getting individuals to follow-up care to avoid issues rising to a critical care level. The Emergency Departments are extremely backed-up and are working to avoid that level of needed care.

**Update from City Welfare:**

Applications for rental assistance are up as well as the amount individuals are asking for. ERAP funding has been extended by the Governor and Executive Council until the end of April for individuals and end of June for families. But, there is a reduction in the number of Hotel rooms that are available. Hotels were never meant to be a long-term solution. All agencies need to be working now to find solutions for when ERAP ends.

The potential for Medicaid Expansion to be discontinued is of great concern. There are approximately 90,000 individuals in NH from whom this health coverage has been a life-saver ~~for~~. It is imperative that this continues and there is much advocacy work being conducted by the NH Hospital Association and the Community Behavioral Health Association in addition to individual health care providers and policy advocates across the state.

**Update on By Name List and Case Conferencing:**

Over 200 individuals in Merrimack County have been inputted into HMIS through Coordinated Entry that are believed to be long-term homeless.

Currently for Case Conferencing, CCEH holds a weekly meeting where a 'short list' of 30 individuals, all with vouchers, are discussed. Other groups are invited in to discuss mutual/potentially mutual clients to make sure that the best supportive housing plan is in place for these persons.

Bureau of Housing Supports (BHS) is organizing formal conferencing which will begin in 2023. BHS will hold a training in January and set a date to begin case conferencing at that time.

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**Review of Community Wide Shared Aim Meeting October 26, 2022:**

The group agreed that there was great turn-out at the meeting but left many questions unanswered such as:

- What is the working consensus/understanding of the scope of homelessness in Concord?
- What is the 'Shared Aim' that we are looking for?
- What is it that we want our community partners to do? What should they be working on in their area of expertise?

The Committee concluded that the small group that pulled together the Shared Aim Meeting should re-convene and begin to work on next steps.

**Information on Affordable Housing Incentive Program (AHIP):**

The program was piloted on the Seacoast and had great results where they were able to house 102 individuals with housing vouchers. In this program, landlords are asked to dedicate a unit vs just accepting the voucher. Additionally, the program provides some funding for supportive housing supports. It will be launched in Concord early 2023.

**Community Education:**

At the March Meeting, much time will be devoted to discussing how the Steering Committee can facilitate a robust community education program in order to communicate with one clear voice. This is one part of the City's 10 Year plan to End Homelessness that has not come to fruition.

**Other Business:**

Concerns regarding the impending winter weather and the need for places where individuals can go for warming were expressed. Discussion followed about possibilities such as current service providers, churches, city spaces, etc. Staffing concerns were also discussed.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Moved by Tom Furtado and Seconded by Claudia Walker. Unanimous.

**Meeting Adjourned 3:30 pm**

**Reminder:** Dates for upcoming quarterly meetings: (Third Tuesdays, 2:00-3:30 pm)

- March 14, 2023 (*NOTE: Second Tuesday*)
- June 20, 2023
- September 19, 2023
- December 19, 2023