

# Southern Local Planning Group | MINUTES

**Meeting Date; Time:** 9:00-10:00am

**Meeting Location:** Lucy Simms; Harrisonburg

<b>Type of Meeting</b>	Regular Meeting	
<b>Note taker</b>	Amber Joiner-Hill (NSVRC)	
<b>Attendees</b>		
Dawn Sonifrank ( <i>First Step</i> )	Lyn Wright ( <i>Harrisonburg Rockingham Social Services</i> )	
Candy Phillips ( <i>First Step</i> )	Laura Black ( <i>HRHA</i> )	
Michael Wong ( <i>HRHA</i> )	Annie Pangle ( <i>Our Community Place</i> )	
Kim Whetzel ( <i>Sentara RMH Medical Center</i> )	Seli Perry ( <i>Mercy House</i> )	
Shannon Porter ( <i>Mercy House</i> )	Dathan Young ( <i>Blue Ridge Legal Services</i> )	
Sue Eng Ly ( <i>Blue Ridge Legal Services</i> )	Rachel Howdyshell ( <i>Open Doors</i> )	

*5/11/17 minutes approved with edits made to the Blue Ridge Legal Services section*

**Agenda Topic:** *Strategic Plan*

**Presenter:** *Candy Phillips*

## Discussion

- Goal 1 of the Plan has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and was shared during this meeting; Goal 2 will be reviewed by the Executive Committee at the end of June and will be shared during the July Quarterly Meeting
- For Objective 1, there is interest in adding an action step to identify one or two lead agencies to lead/coordinate street outreach efforts
- For Objective 2, there is interest in adding an action step (or separate objective altogether) to increase affordable housing options in the region, and that they use a prioritization system for tenants;
- How did we decide the Oct. 14 – Oct. 16 timeframe for data collection? Because that’s the timeframe that HUD uses to capture data; there are some concerns that that data will be outdated
- RMH created a community resource guide available online and Kim Whetzel will share that with the group; guide will be updated quarterly
- Discussion about the various supportive services that homeless individuals, particularly those chronically homeless, need in order to maintain housing once they get it
- Street Outreach: information on Arlington Street People’s Assistance Network (A-SPAN) was shared and there is interest in having them present to the CoC in August; this event would replace that month’s Southern LPG meeting

## Action Items

## Person Responsible

## Deadline

Contact Arlington and	Michael Wong	ASAP
-----------------------	--------------	------

Roanoke to see if they're willing and able to come to our region and present info on street outreach		
Reserve meeting space for outreach meeting	Amber Joiner-Hill	When meeting date is selected

---

**Agenda Topic: *Announcements***

**Discussion**

- Annie Pangle: Friday Restaurant is doing well, lunch from 11:30-1:30; fundraiser Pasta Night Out on June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Kim Whetzel: RMH care management team is sharing information about area shelters to emergency staff members so that that staff is more informed on how to discharge patients; working on identifying gaps in the discharge process
- Shannon Porter: Mercy House is close to opening two new shelter units to accommodate more clients and larger families; agency is at the end of its fiscal year with VHSP rapid rehousing and prevention funds and are out of those funds; Housing Trust Fund rapid rehousing funds are being used quickly and will likely have to slow down (not end) services, not sure when DHCD will make a decision on VHSP renewal funds
- Rachel Howdyshell: Open Doors board is working on a Strategic Plan over the summer; office will be closed until August 1st
- Dawn Sonifrank: First Step will host an event on fair housing and domestic violence on October 17<sup>th</sup>
- Lyn Wright: cooling program will operate June 15<sup>th</sup> – August 15<sup>th</sup>; TANF grants will increase 1.5%