



The Advisory Board held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 1811 King Street, at 4:00pm in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Members Present

Paul Bell, Chair
Dr. Marie Shepherd, Vice-Chair
Dorescia Paige, Secretary
Dr. Denise Key
Beverly Franklin
Katrina Drew
Antoinette Franklin

Absent Members

Amelia Horton
Beverly Thomas

Staff Present

M. Elaine Breathwaite, Director
Ronald Murrell, HIV/AIDS Services Coordinator
Latrilla Boyd, Case Manager for the PATH Program
Barbara Boland, Opportunity House Program Administrator
Cherie Lassiter, Administrative Coordinator

Called to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:09pm.

Review Minutes

The board reviewed the December 7, 2016 minutes. Dr. Shepherd motioned for the minutes to be approved with one correction noted. Ms. Paige motioned for the second and the board majority voted in agreement.

Director Updates

- BHS is preparing for audits from the state.
- The grant that was under review was approved.
- Legislation meeting on January 17 and 18 with VACSB advocates in Richmond, Virginia

- BHS continues to hire for several vacant positions. We will continue to interview throughout the month.

Program PowerPoint Presentation to Board Members

Ron Murrell – HIV/AIDS Services Coordinator

- Virginia is ranked 13th in the annual report of new HIV disease diagnoses in the United States.
- Highest rate of diagnosed occurred among the 25 – 34 age group but has declined within the last 10 years.
- The number of annual HIV infection for adults in Virginia remained relatively stable with new infections ranging from 839 to 1,037 each year.
- Funding for the HIV/AIDS Programs in the City of Portsmouth continues due to this area being high risk.
- There are informational groups that can be arranged to provide awareness to the Portsmouth Community about HIV/AIDS.
- Excellent presentation presented City, State, and National statistics discussed

Latrilla Boyd – Case Manager for the PATH Program

- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, known as PATH, is a federal, state and local partnership that provides outreach and assistance to adults with serious mental illness who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless. PATH services include community-based outreach, mental health, substance use, case management and other supportive services, and a limited set of housing services. This program in the City of Portsmouth contacts an average of 25 people on a monthly base. Not all interactions facilitate into providing services, several meetings and building a good relationship with people in the community is needed before permanent assistance can be provided.
 - ✓ Building relationships by contacting and engaging people who are disconnected from mainstream benefits and services is extremely important in helping them receive a wide variety of outreach services.
 - ✓ Funds through the program are used to assist clients in accessing primary health care services, job training, education services, and navigating the housing application process.

- The nation takes part in the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count whereby communities, volunteers, and organizations come together to count individuals who are experiencing homelessness. The purpose of the count is to gather information regarding the homeless population in an effort to develop and strengthen programs and services to alleviate homelessness. The City of Portsmouth and its partnerships with providers of homeless services will take part in the count beginning the evening of January 25, 2017 into the early evening of January 26, 2017.

Barbara Boland – Opportunity House Program Administrator

- Shelter Plus Care - Provides permanent supportive housing assistance for homeless people with disabilities, primarily those with serious mental illness, chronic problems with alcohol and/or drugs, and HIV/AIDS, and related diseases.

New business/Old Business

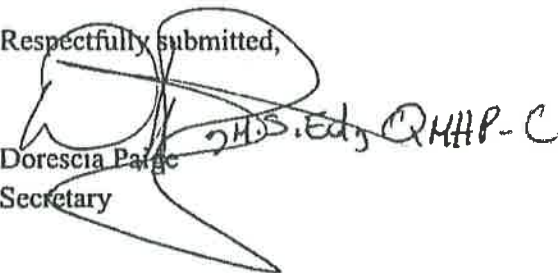
- Chairman Bell motioned to change the board meeting time from 4:00pm to 4:30pm. Ms. Paige motioned for the Advisory Board meeting time be change from 4:00pm to 4:30pm and Dr. Key motioned for the second and the board majority voted in agreement.
- The board members were pleased with the two detailed BHS presentations given by Ron Murrel, HIV/AIDS Coordinator and Latrilla Boyd, Case Manager for the PATH Program.
- Chairman Bell discussed that the Advisory Board was selected to present at the next City Council meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2017.
- Interviews for vacant positions are ongoing throughout January.

Next Meeting/Adjournment

Our next schedule meeting will be on February 1, 2017. The Chair motioned for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 5:45pm. Refreshments were made available before and following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorescia Paige
Secretary



Handwritten signature: Dorecia Paige, QMHP-C