

Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County, Inc.

Continuum of Care (COC) Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

DATE OF MEETING: APRIL 24, 2025

LOCATION: HARVERSTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

TIME STARTED: 10:02AM

TIME ENDED: 11:57AM

ATTENDANCE			
JENNIFER WATTS	DAVID MILLER	RIC CIPRIUM	BENTLEY BRADFORD
ERIN O'CONNOR BRUNO	ELIZABETH RHODES	MELISSA GILES	MARCY ESBJERG
SAM PICARD	DAVID CONLEY	MELISSA TROUTMAN	AMANDA WANDER
KATHY HUNT	LEESA FRYER	JASON THOMAS	DAVID CONLEY
KASSIDY KAPETANIS	BARBARA KLEINSORGE	RACHAEL KEEGAN	VICKI WIGGINS
CHRISTA LONGO	ROSANNE SMITHWICK	DARRELL BARNES	DANIELLE HUSBAND
THOMAS O'CONNOR BRUNO	FRANK SEIDL	RAENELL SHIRLEY	FERNANDO SERRANO
JORDAN FRENCH	ETHAN WEILAUT	ASHLEY DORCE	BRANDIE GRIZZEL
MARYKATE NAGLITSH	PATRICIA STONE	MELISSA PARKS	JULIE SLAUTERBECK
TRACIE ENTLER	BILLY MAJOR	JES MCILVEEN	HILARY BRUNO
CHUCK LANE	CHRISTINE SANTANA	CHRISTINE COVELLA	LINDA GRAHAM
JESSICA KING	NICOLE CINEAS	MARY TREICHEL	JULIE HAYES
JUDY SCAVINOE	PASTOR JEN KEROUAC		

AGENDA	ACTIONS
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 10:02AM by Rosanne Smithwick.
MINUTES	Approval of March 2025 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by: Marcy Esbjerg Motion seconded by: Christa Longo No Opposition
COMMITTEE UPDATES	APPR: Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Looking for this committee to potentially begin helping with monitoring projects in the future. Rumors that there will be another NOFO competition in November. HMIS: Sam Picard: Getting ready to form committee meetings. Invites will go to each agency in HMIS. If you do not receive one within the next week, please contact Thomas O'Connor Bruno. Strategic Planning: Marcy Esbjerg: We meet second Thursday of every month. We are going through the strategic plan line by line and now working on holding all the groups accountable. Looking at a training program for frontline staff and leadership members. We plan to start over the summer with a poverty training to understand clients better. We will start monitoring all the programs that are being funded and talk about different options to use.

	Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Dr. Susan Pourciau coming in to complete the monitoring, she sent over contract and Coalition board approved last night. Will share a proposed timeline at next Strategic Planning meeting. She will start entry conferences in June with the only three agencies currently receiving funds. Outreach and Unsheltered Homeless: David Miller: Discussed the PIT count. Discussed logistics and ways to make it better. Thomas O'Connor Bruno: HUD has not yet opened PIT reporting for all communities. Currently, we have the unsheltered count. Surveyed numbers: 237 completed and 120 refused. Refusals were higher than in the past. We think that it is because of the camping ban. A large majority of the surveys showed the population as being in the county for 10 or more years. Statewide is seeing a dip in the count. Discussed outreach need for items or services. Cooling towels are some of the items needed at this time. Another idea for using an IPAD for PIT surveys in the field. Trying a mock count before the actual count at the end of January 2026 to see how this may work. Coordinated Entry: Melissa Giles: Met last week. Second Wednesday of the month at 1pm. Discussing client choice and changing some policy verbiage to assist agencies with clients that continue to deny options repeatedly.. Looking for recommendations on having limits on how many times we offer choices before placing them back on BNL so that agencies can continue to offer services to other clients in need. Master Leasing: Jennifer Watts: Work group and not a standing committee. Met for almost a year and now that the Coalition was award ESH RUSH funds for a pilot program we will take what was produced from this group. Group to potentially meet as needed moving forward.
BNL REPORT	Melissa Giles: Explanation of BNL report. Report provided to all council members. Review of data on the report. Update of families with minors. Reported as twenty-four with ten being on the family shelter waitlist. Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Explained missing and errors in the reports.
OLD BUSINESS	Grand Blvd Property-Pasco Hope Jennifer Watts: Now using BNL to refer seniors for sheltering services. Shared a success story of an older gentleman and his dog moving into Pasco Hope. Danielle Husband: So far there are 4 senior clients currently at Pasco Hope. We are still getting referrals for hurricane families but are mixing in the senior population from the BNL. Also wanted to share that Catholic Charities received a federal grant for mental health counseling. It is important to note that clients' names will go into a federal database. Master level counselors will be providing this service. PCCD 2025 Grant Overview Chuck Lane: Period of accepting applications is closed, now being reviewed. Amounts are based on last year, no certainty. ESG: \$266,000 up to 60% can be outreach and shelters. The total demand is \$490,000 but will see on May 15th how much money is awarded. CDBG funding update: \$630,000 available, applications total \$3.273 million. The review committee must be done looking at applications and submitted to HUD by August.

	CBDG Disaster Response: Marcy Esberg: Pasco County received money for Hurricanes in January, then due to current administration there was a pause until reissued in March. These funds can be used towards: Mitigation, Housing, Infrastructure, Economic Revitalization, Planning and Public Services. PowerPoint presented with explanation of how the funds can be used. The action plan is to be submitted to HUD by June 23rd. We have been doing community meetings asking for the community's involvement as to where and how the funds should be allocated and we are opening a community survey to be found on Website- Better Future Pasco County.
NEW BUSINESS	Guest Speaker, Unaccompanied Youth Housing: Barbara Kleinsorge and Judy Scavinoe: Attended conference for unsheltered youth. Barbara shared stories of past Pasco County youth and the need for programs like these. There are currently 134 unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness registered in Pasco schools. There will also be an Upcoming training opportunity to all CoC members- Poverty Simulation. We are still in need of a large venue. If anyone has any recommendations, please reach out to Jennifer Watts. Starting Right Now: Guest speakers shared a video explaining what the Starting Right Now program is about. The video was compiled with stories directly shared by youth that have been in program and their accomplishments. Explanation that unaccompanied youth usually leave home voluntarily to escape and cannot be picked up by the foster care system. Usually not included in the PIT because they hide. Hard to know exact numbers. Youth are typically referred through the school district and DCF. They provide wrap-around services to support transition into stable adulthood. The program is currently in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. Upcoming training opportunity to all CoC members- Poverty Simulation. We are still in need of a large venue. If anyone has any recommendations, please reach out to Jennifer Watts.
BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR	Sam Picard: BayCare Urgent Care for mental health in NPR is now open for walk in services Monday-Friday 9AM-7PM. This is on the same site as the crisis unit on King Helie.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	None
PUBLIC COMMENTS	None
ADJOURNED	The meeting was adjourned at 11:57am. Next meeting, June 26, 2025, Leadership Council, Virtual