



P.O. Box 6283, Boise, ID 83707

www.homelesscoalitionboise.com

Boise/Ada County Homeless Coalition

Minutes, June 12, 2024

The Meeting was conducted by Denise Caruzzi. Also In attendance were: Neysa Jensen, Secretary/Treasurer; Karen Folk; Lila Fetherolf; Jessica Abbott, Corpus Christi House; Stacy Lawrence, Salvation Army; Nate Wheeler; Casey McGee, BSU Service Learning Program; Pam Romer; Kelsey Cooper; Mel Leviton, SILC; Megan Dayton, Friends and Family of Headstart; Jim Blackman; Peg Richards, IFHC; Kelsey Idaho Foodbank; Emilia Dimitriu; Eric Kingston, IHFA; Saidee Jones, Our Path Home; Guest Speaker: Jim Sonnenberg, True Hope, Connections Pastor.

Consent Agenda: The April 2024 Minutes and April/May Treasurer's Report were presented and unanimously accepted by members present. (The May meeting was not held due to the in-person Celebration and Recognition Event.)

Committee Updates:

Membership, Neysa: A couple of new members, recently, others regularly renew. Current count of members = 70.

Education and Advocacy, Denise:

- Waiting for Supreme Court's decision in Grants Pass case. Will probably need to strategize how to deal with the aftermath. Check the *Current Alerts and Opportunities* <https://www.homelesscoalitionboise.com/current-advocacy-opportunities/> page on the website.
- Voter Registration Drives: The Coalition will support any organizations that wishes to have a drive with materials and suggestions.
- Book discussion: Recently: Journey's Out of Homelessness with individual stories and comments. Participants learned about Social Capitol and other concepts. Report by Pam Romer

Presentation by Jim Sonnenberg, TrueHope:

True Hope created a Care Team, to response to the increasing numbers of requests for assistance in the past couple of years. Using their Helping Hands Funds (from a bequest), the Team considers the 20 or more requests that come in each month, granting assistance to 5-6.

The Care Team works at coordination of the other entities that might also provide help. Each applicant for assistance is asked to fill out an application, and asked what other organizations they have tried. Thus, the Team can coordinate with those other orgs to apply multiple resources if needed. This process helps individuals feel respected—that they are not just waiting for help, but are actively involved. Applicants and also asked to think about next month.

Contact information: Jim Sonnenberg, TrueHope Church, 607 N 13th St, Boise, ID 83702. 208/344-7809 <http://truehopedowntown.com/>

Roundtable:

Salvation Army, Stacy: very busy managing numerous cases, with lots of wins for clients. She is seeing a lot of people who need legal assistance and was happy to hear about Legal Clinics, sponsored by Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program at Interfaith Sanctuary and monthly at the Public Library.

Intermountain Fair Housing Council, Peg: busy with fair housing basics. Also shifting things due to changes in funding as of July 1st.

State Independent Living Council, Mel: Working on Legislation for next year to make ABLE Accounts easier for folks.

Idaho Finance and Housing Association, Eric: busy with Housing Hotline and working with Communities on Affordable and Accessible Housing. Will be retiring in November.

Friends of Children and Families of Headstart, Megan: free preschool and Headstart for low income. Also provides support for whole family. <http://www.focaf.org/> 208/433-9078

BSU Service Learning Program, Casey Mcgee, in process of preparing projects for next semester which will be a resource for organizations that assist people and organizations. Contact: caseymcgee@boisestate.edu

Extreme Weather Centers: City of Boise, Saidee Jones (skjones@cityofboise.org). New plan for Cooling Centers in Boise for summer: The Day Shelter (Corpus Christi) will be open seven days a week, 8AM to 8PM, The YMCA is offering free membership at the four Y's in Ada County from June 17th to October 1st. The River of Life is also opening Summer Cooling Centers, at their 2 shelters (City Lights-women & children only), if the temperature is over 95°. Overflow Centers will be the Boise Senior Center (which will allow sleeping) and the Boise Public Library.

Transportation for people is a big challenge, especially on Sundays, when the buses don't run. The city will be doing a donation drive, for gift cards, water bottles, hats, etc.

Registration is open for the City of Boise Training for Mobile Crisis Units. To register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-path-home-accessing-mainstream-resources-quarterly-training-tickets-901914960927?aff=oddtcreator>

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 by Denise Caruzzi. There will be no Meeting in July and the next general meeting will be August 14th, at 1:30 pm.

Notes taken by Carol Craighill

Secretary/Treasurer: Neysa Jensen