

**South Central Georgia Homeless Task Force**

Meeting Minutes

Department of Labor

221 S. Ashley Street – Valdosta, GA 31601

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

1:00 p.m.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Representatives Present | Name of Organization |
| Kelley Saxon | GA Dept. of Community Supervision |
| Myia Miller | Parental Accountability Court Program for the Southern Judicial Circuit |
| Teresa Concannon | Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs |
| Tan Jones | Lowndes Co. Schools |
| Kiwana Kiser | Valdosta City Schools |
| Sis. Nuala Mulleady | St. John Catholic Church & St. Francis Center |
| Bobbie Dixon | Social Services Database |
| Alonzo Atkins | Social Services Database |
| James Gilbert | Social Services Database |
| Cristolynn T. | Social Services Database |
| Jessica Widner | Family Endeavors |

Mrs. Saxon welcomed all of the members and guests in attendance. Everyone was given the opportunity to review the minutes from February 2018.

Correction to the minutes from February 2018:

Correct website for the pilot app is [www.valorgis.com/locatinghomelessness](http://www.valorgis.com/locatinghomelessness)

Update from last month’s plan of action:

* Utilize the pilot app and report feedback at the March meeting. (ongoing)

Program Updates:

* Valorgis Homeless Tracking- task force needs clarity on how to use this app due to the mapping feature being unavailable during the time of the meeting.
* Information was shared about the Coordinated Entry efforts by Kelley Saxon and Teresa Concannon. Kelley has been in touch with Rebecca and there are plans for a follow up meeting in late April. Kelley will keep the group informed as she obtains more information. Teresa shared that

Coordinated Entry is a streamlined system that provides quick access to individuals and families seeking assistance through a coordinated referral and housing placement process. There is a statewide call center number 844-249-8367 for citizens seeking housing assistance to contact. See Attachments to refer to specific definitions of homeless and details about the program.

* Dr. Ronnie Mathis who works with the South Georgia Partnership to End Homelessness (SGCEH) will be presenting at the upcoming Benchmark Collaborative Event set for Friday, April 20, 2018 from 11 AM to 2 PM. The meeting will focus on Housing the Homeless with Mental Health and Substance Abuse. The event is free. To register for the event you may visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/housing-the-homeless-with-mental-health-and-substance-abuse-issues-tickets-44434387449>
* Social Services Database has been expanding as an organization and their involvement in the community. The most recent event held fed about 200 local citizens. Next month they are working on beginning collecting school supplies for the community.

Upcoming Community Events:

* There will be a Collaborative Planning Meeting for all of community partners interested in hosting a back to school drive. The meeting will be held on April 6, 2018 at 1 PM at the City Hall Annex. The contact person for this meeting is Sara Lowe (229-671-3617).
* The Goodwill Career Center in Valdosta, Georgia has many employment opportunities coming up. There will be a Job Fair on April 17, 2018 from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Goodwill Career Center. The Goodwill Career Center is hosting a hiring event on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from 9 AM to 11 AM at the City Hall Annex. More details to follow
* South Georgia Coalition for Employment will be hosting the 2018 Creative Paths to Employment Job Fair on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at the James H Rainwater Conference Center from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. See Flyer.
* April is Child Abuse Prevention Month! To increase awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention activities across the state, we encourage all staff to wear blue on Friday, April 6th, 2018. For more resources this month, please refer to the Prevent Child Abuse Georgia (PCA GA) website <http://abuse.publichealth.gsu.edu/cap-month/>.
* April- National Child Abuse Prevention Month & Sexual Assault Awareness Month
* National Crime Victims’ Rights Week- April 8-14, 2018 “Expand the Circle, Reach all Victims”
* National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Program- April 13th 11:30 am City Hall Annex
* The Haven’s BUNCO Night- April 19, 2018 7:00-10:00 pm at the Cotton Corner
* The Haven’s Jeans for Justice Day- April 27, 2018

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting for the month of April will be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 1:00 PM at the Department of Labor.

Meeting Notes Prepared by: Myia Miller