

**Mercer County Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) and
The Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care (CoC) Youth Homelessness Subcommittee**

Monday, May 9, 2016, 9:30am

**Trenton Health Building, Second Floor Conference Room,
218 North Broad Street, Trenton, NJ**

AGENDA

- 1. Meeting Called to Order**
 - 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 11, 2016**
 - 3. COUNT on YOUTH: Status of 2015 Report**
 - 4. Status of Meeting with the Homeless Liaisons**
 - 5. Other Business**
 - 6. Meeting Adjournment**
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PLEASE NOTE: To send information to or receive emails from the **Mercer County Department of Human Services general distribution list**, please email mchumanservices@mercercounty.org

Also, any **additions, deletions or changes** to the Youth Homelessness Subcommittee **email list** or **requests to resend subcommittee information**, please contact Stacie McGeehan at smcgeehan@mercercounty.org

NEXT MEETING: June 13, 2016; Trenton Health Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 218 North Broad Street, Trenton, NJ

Youth Homelessness Subcommittee
May 9, 2016
Meeting Minutes

I. Meeting Called to Order

This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lori Morris at 9:38am.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from April 11th as presented. Billek/Dorocki
The motion passed unanimously.

III. COUNT on YOUTH Report

2015 COUNT on YOUTH

At this meeting our subcommittee reviewed the COUNT on YOUTH data which was distributed:

- COUNT on YOUTH 2015: Housing Unstable Subsample Only (DRAFT)
- Student Generated Tables
- Housing Instability Regressed on Risk Factors, Count on Youth Housing Survey 2015

Comments on the COUNT on YOUTH (2015) Draft Information

- What direct do we want to take concerning our findings?
- We would like to have the final COUNT on YOUTH report by our June meeting (Marygrace Billek will follow-up on this matter).
- This subcommittee would like the methodology added (a description of).
- Diana Bates, Faculty, TCNJ Center for Community Engaged Learning & Research and her TCNJ students did an amazing job on this draft report.

2016 COUNT on YOUTH

- The Interim County Superintendent may allow us to attend a County School Districts Superintendents Roundtable Meeting (get on a future agenda) in order to present the COUNT on YOUTH information to all the County Homeless Liaisons. A list of all the County Homeless Liaisons was distributed at this meeting. Marygrace Billek will also contact Dr. Morana related to this matter.
- Another option would be that Dr. Laura Morana, Interim County Superintendent assist us in putting a homeless liaison meeting together.
- The TCNJ Students are going to make suggestions for next year's survey.
- The subcommittee would like ethnicity (may have to change our description of race/ethnicity) taken out of the future COUNT on YOUTH survey.
- In the future survey, when we add other school districts, this COUNT on YOUTH report will look different and not so diluted.

IV. Other Business

Changes in the Decision Making Process

It was stated that recently there were changes in the decision making process related to General Assistance (GA) and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Many people applying for these programs are not eligible because they caused or did not plan for their own homelessness. As a result, there may be more homeless children. The

homeless hotline in Mercer County has already experienced an increase in the need for hotel placement dollars.

Next Meeting

Our next subcommittee meetings will be on June 13th at the Trenton Health Building at 9:30am.

McKinney Vento Dollars

At this meeting, the subcommittee members requested more information about the McKinney Vento Dollars. These dollars are given to primary grant partners for supplemental academic and support services for school-age children who are experiencing homelessness. Services can be provided during or after school hours. Staff will gather additional information related to this subject and share it with the members.

Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care (CoC)-Unaccompanied Youth in Emergency Shelter

- Per this information, 173 Youth were identified in shelters (Rescue Mission, Anchor House BCM (AH) and HomeFront Gateway (HF).
- There had been a 17 year old at the Rescue Mission of Trenton for one night based on this data.
- 16% had a disabling condition
- CoC for youth, we include all of Mercer County.

Census Information

The 2014 U.S. Census Bureau Information for the City of Trenton was discussed at this meeting. The three highest percentages were discussed under Race & Hispanic Origin: African American: 52%; Hispanic: 33.7%; White: 26.6%.

Camden County Education Services Commission

Daniel Del Vecchio, Superintendent, Camden County Education Services Commission will be invited to the next subcommittee meeting. This Commission manages the McKinney Vento Dollars for the services provided to homeless school-age children in Mercer and Burlington Counties.

Co-Chair

This subcommittee would like to ask Ben Thornton, Anchor House to be the Co-Chair of the Youth Homelessness Subcommittee.

Additional Representation

Staff will invite the following organizations to our next meeting: Life ties, HomeFront and the Department of Children and Families.

V. Meeting Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at 10:44am by Chairperson Lori Morris.

Attendance

Name	Affiliation
Robert Taylor	MCDHS
Beth Risoldi	MCDHS
Ann Dorocki	MCDHS
Vernett Sherrill	City of Trenton
Shannon Presha	City of Trenton
Lori Morris	Chairperson
Marygrace Billek	MCDHS
Andrea Jardine	DCP&P