



## South Shore Community Partners in Prevention

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### **South Shore Community Partners in Prevention (CHNA 23) Wednesday, February 8, 2023 9:00AM – 10:15AM on Zoom Minutes**

In attendance: Mike Jackman, SSCPP Chair/Congressman Keating's Office; Sofia Verras, Home Visitor, South Shore Healthy Families; Karen Peterson, BID Plymouth; Cheryl Kramer, Student Wellness Case Manager, Cape Cod Community College; Kelsey Casey, Plymouth Public Library; John Yazwinski, Father Bill's & MainSpring; Cristina Wilson, Old Colony YMCA Plymouth; Trudy Avery, Development Officer at Pavillon Treatment Centers; Malissa Kenney Healthy Plymouth and Cape Cod Collaborative Arts Network; Jen Cantwell, Plymouth County District Attorney's Office; Karen Kintz - DV Specialist, Department of Transitional Assistance; Kelly Macomber, Plymouth Public Schools; Charlette Tarsi, Plymouth County Hub Program Manager; Norma Marotta, Sr Community Relations Marketing Specialist, Harbor Health PACE ESP; Jacqueline Millar, Terra Cura Plymouth; Pat Ronan, Director of Community Relations, Father Bill's & MainSpring; Deedee Winterson, Algonquin Heights, Director of Residential Services; Brittainy Lindsey, LMHC - Quality Improvement Specialist for Healthcentric Advisors & Partnerships for Community Health in Massachusetts; Jessica Parson Supportive Housing Specialist, Old Colony Elder Services; Allyson Holland, Plymouth WIC Community Coordinator; Tom Carter, Director of Clinical & Emergency Services, Health Imperatives; Jenn Hoadley, Regional Manager for Southeastern MA with the Alzheimer's Association; Susan West, BID Plymouth Family Education; Sean Halpin, Director of Student Support Services, Plymouth Public Schools; Kristin DelSesto, RN, Quality Improvement Specialist -Healthcentric Advisors; Amy Sylvia, South Shore Resource and Advocacy Center; Dora Teague, Case Management Coordinator, South Shore Community Action Council; Kerry Conlon, Harbor Health PACE Program; Meaghan Groves, Practice Manager Harbor Community Health Center Plymouth; Akari Hayashi, Director of Day Services New England Village Inc.; Debbie Raymond, Project Associate, MA Enrollment Assister Training Disability and Community-based Services (DCS), UMass Chan Medical School; Elizabeth Weiner, Housing Programs Manager, OCES; Maureen Fitzgerald, Director of External Policy and Advocacy, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions; Sam Correia, Community Engagement Librarian at the Duxbury Free Library; Michelle Cardoso, WellSense (formerly BMC HealthNet Plan) Consumer Engagement Representative; Jessica Gonsalves, Plymouth County Family Support; Kim Scotland SSCPP/United Way of Greater Plymouth County

Mike Jackman, SSCPP Chair kicked off at 8:58 am. All provided self-introductions in the chat.

All voted to approve the January general meeting minutes.

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## **Mini Grant Outcomes Report: Terra Cura and Healthy Plymouth Mobile Farmer's Market at Algonquin Heights**

Presented by: Malissa Kenney, Jackie Miller, Deedee Winterson, and Akari Hayashi

- The partnership began in 2018 and has been a very collaborative and inclusive initiative. Served 60 families in 2021 through two markets and delivered food to those who could not access the farmers market. Provided up to \$20 worth of fresh produce to each household.
- The produce was provided by New England Village's work program located at Colchester Farm in Plympton, Massachusetts. BID Plymouth provided cooking demonstrations.
- Outcomes: Students worked within their community to work at the mobile farmers market. Students were exposed to their local food system, provided fresh local produce to their community, and became more aware of the community garden where they live. Residents of Algonquin Heights were able to receive fresh local produce at their community without the transportation barrier to go to a farmers market. Students were willing to try new fruits and vegetables and felt more confident in being able to grow their own food.

### **Major Topic: Housing & Homelessness Panel (Part 2 / 2)**

Meeting recording may be viewed [here](#).

Presented by: Maureen Fitzgerald, Director of External Policy and Advocacy, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions and John Yazwinski, President & CEO, Father Bill's & MainSpring

#### *Father Bill's & MainSpring*

- Father Bill's & MainSpring provides shelter each night as well as permanent supportive housing- safe, secure permanent housing with services to remain stabled and housed.
- About 60% of folks served only need FBMS short term as they transition. Also serve a lot of folks that are chronically homeless and need a pathway to supportive housing. Use housing first model- harm reduction. Guests move into a home of their own, then focus on issues that caused homelessness. Reduces length of stay in stressful/costly shelter.
- Look at the 20-30% of population that are high need so that the shelter is a triage, brief experience. Housing is eligible to 0-30% median income folks and target those that have been homeless the longest. Most of the units are for veterans.
- A goal of FBMS is to make sure people do not become homeless again. Most folks stay housed in permanent supportive housing when placed. In Plymouth currently the housing stock is all scattered sites and so they are going out to individual landlords and community partnerships. Have not yet done a housing development in Plymouth and are open to leads.
- Showed some recent projects- roadway apartments in Brockton (69 units), Walton house (6 units) in Wareham with community preservation funds, and Envision Bank Home for Veterans (10 units for veterans) in Randolph.

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- Two brand new housing resource centers coming to Quincy and Brockton in 2023 and 2024 respectively are currently underway. Centers will have shelter, housing resource center, and permanent housing. Want to focus on prevention and diversion. In Brockton, this new center will replace the downtown shelter.
- For follow-up questions or to connect with FBMS Programs staff about a particular individual/family in need, reach out to Patrick Ronan via pronan@helpfbms.org or at 508-649-4589.

## Permanent Supportive Housing

- ❑ Currently operate more than 700 units of permanent supportive housing (PSH) across Southern MA
    - ❑ 620+ units for formerly homeless individuals & Veterans
    - ❑ 80 units for formerly homeless families
- ❑ Currently operate 104 PSH units in our Southern region (Plymouth/Wareham area), with 8 more in process.
- ❑ We currently operate approx. 80 PSH units in Plymouth and 20 in Wareham.
- ❑ 97% of residents stayed housed 1+ years.
- ❑ 93% of residents stayed housed 3+ years.



## Housing Resource Centers



**Yawkey Housing Resource Center, Quincy:**  
Day center, emergency shelter,  
30 units of PSH  
Coming in 2023



**Housing Resource Center, Brockton:**  
Day center, emergency shelter,  
32 units of PSH  
Coming in 2024



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## NeighborWorks Housing Solutions

- Maureen provided an overview of services (below). NeighborWorks currently has ~900 units in Plymouth and Bristol Counties.
- Administer several rental assistance programs and offer housing resources, RAFT, first time homebuyer resources, and much more.
- Part of Maureen's role is talking to legislature. There are not enough units, but there has been an infusion of resources particularly with ARPA funds. A lot of momentum in state legislature.
- Talked about publicly supported affordable housing resources and federal funds. We are fortunate as there are many resources but navigating them is very complicated.
- For SSCPP service area, contact Brockton & Taunton Department of Transitional Assistance offices.
- Maureen's best advice to folks in need of housing is to get on as many lists as possible with an address that will stay updated like a P.O. box.
- NWS has a housing consumer education center that can be a good resource for staff also. It is best to call or email and set up an appointment.
- RAFT is one of the few immediate resources available.
- For more information, contact Information & Referral; Housing Consumer Education Center via 781-422-4208 or [hcec@nhsmass.org](mailto:hcec@nhsmass.org). For RAFT information, contact 781-422-4204 or [raftinfo@nhsmass.org](mailto:raftinfo@nhsmass.org). Also suggested [www.housingnavigatorma.org](http://www.housingnavigatorma.org) as a good resource.
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*Serving the South Shore, South Coast, Plymouth, Bristol and Norfolk counties for more than 40 years*

*Offices in Brockton, Kingston, New Bedford, Taunton, Quincy*

- ❖ **Real Estate Development**, mixed-income, mixed use, special needs and homeless housing & shelter
- ❖ **Property Management & Resident Services**
- ❖ **Family Domestic Violence Shelter and HomeBASE Provider**
- ❖ **Project Construction Management & Owners Rep Services** for non-profit partners



- ❖ **Leased Housing** including Section 8, MRVP & Project-Based Subsidies
- ❖ **Housing Resources** including information and referral, RAFT, and HAF
- ❖ **CDFI Lending & Tech Assistance** for homebuyers, homeowners, and small business owners
- ❖ **HUD Certified Counseling-Housing Consumer Education Center**, Homeownership Education, Financial Coaching, Foreclosure Prevention, HECM

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## NeighborWorks Housing Solutions Publicly Supported Affordable Housing Resources- Federal Funds



### Rental Assistance:

- ❖ Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) aka Section 8  
Providers:

- Local Housing Authorities (LHAs sometimes referred to as PHAs Public Housing Authorities)
- MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD); *Access through Regional Housing Agencies* (also referred to as Regional Administering Agencies or RAAs)

Note: Agencies may have subset of specialized vouchers for homeless Veterans (VASH), Youth Aging out of Foster Care, Families involved with the child protection system (FUP). These referrals are through the service agencies: Veterans Affairs, Dept. of Children and Families.

- ❖ Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA)  
Providers:

Through larger municipalities and state Continuum of Care

### ❖ COVID-related Short-Term Assistance:

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program  
Providers: Regional Housing Agencies
- Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF)  
Provider: Massachusetts Housing Partnership (centralized)

### ❖ Federal Public Housing (with assistance attached to specific building):

- Family Housing
- Housing for the Elderly- Section 202  
Providers: Local Housing Authorities
- Section 811 Housing- for people with disabilities  
Generally access through local service providers



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## NeighborWorks Housing Solutions Publicly Supported Affordable Housing Resources- State Funds



### ➤ Operational or short-term spending including:

#### ❖ Rental Assistance:

- Mass Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)
- Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP)  
Providers: Local Housing Authorities and Regional Housing Agencies

#### ❖ Short-Term Assistance:

- HomeBASE (accessed through DHCD Homeless Coordinators)
- Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT)  
Providers: Regional Housing Agencies

#### ❖ Public Housing (with assistance attached to specific building):

- Family Housing and Housing for Elderly or Disabled  
Providers: Local Housing Authorities

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**Upcoming SSCPP Health Literacy Awards in June:** SSCPP will present its annual Health Literacy awards at the June annual meeting. Please keep an eye out for nomination forms via e-mail at the end of the month. They will be due back at the end of April.

At the March SSCPP meeting there will be a presentation on mental health.

Discussed the Duxbury tragedy briefly. The Duxbury Library is putting together some resources for the community of Duxbury. SSCPP will share any upcoming events or programs all can benefit from and please share with us to pass along also via [chna23@gmail.com](mailto:chna23@gmail.com).

The floor was opened for any announcements from attendees.

Adjourned at 10:13am. Next Meeting: March 8<sup>th</sup>

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