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Minutes of Child Poverty Council Subcommittee on Housing and Homelessness 10/16/15

Meeting Date: 10/16/2015, 9:00 – 9:45

Subcommittee Members in Attendance

Rep. Jill Krowinski, Chair Jean Murray, Vermont Legal Aid Mathew Barewicz for Annie Noonan, Vermont Department of Labor Heather Bouchey for Amy Fowler, Vermont Agency of Education Hal Cohen for Paul Dragon, Vermont Agency of Human Services

Others Present

Erhard Mahnke, Coordinator, Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition

Topics Discussed

The subcommittee discussed the following topics:

- The draft recommendations of the Governor's Council on Pathways from Poverty concerning housing and homelessness including:
 - Transitioning funding from the GA Temporary Housing motel voucher program to community based solutions such as rapid rehousing, transitional and supportive housing, and targeted prevention.
 - Creating an incentive program to encourage landlords to bring substandard or vacant rental housing up to code and back on the market.
 - o Fully funding the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board.
 - o Instituting a \$2 occupancy fee on hotel and motel stays that could be used to address affordable housing and homelessness.

Action Items

At the next meeting the subcommittee will:

- hear from providers of care to children living in shelters;
- discuss issues related to locating shelters in Vermont communities; and
- discuss H.211, which relates to establishing a homeless bill of rights and prohibiting discrimination against people without homes.

Motions

No motions were made during the meeting.

Minutes prepared by Damien Leonard, Legislative Counsel