

Meeting Minutes

Continuum of Care Meeting

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

3pm – 5pm

Community Shelter Board

Attendees

Continuum of Care (CoC) Members: Becky Westerfelt, Callie Query, Chip Spinning, Dennis Jeffrey, Dion Robinson, James Brooks, Donna Mayer, Emily Savors, Val Harmon, Jeff Pattison, Jerome Johnson, Sally Shaffer, Mark Paxson, Kim Stands, Michael Wilkos, Lisa Defendiefer, Michael Outrich, Michelle Heritage, Nancy Case, Robin Harris, Jennifer Sharma, Shannan Anderson, Veronica Lofton

Continuum of Care (CoC) Members not in attendance: Buck Bramlish, Carl Landry, Ron Lebsock, Kythryn Carr Hurd, Debbie Donahey, Emerald Hernandez, Geoff Stobart, John Edgar, Jon Welty, Keena Smith, Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Paula Haines, Priscilla Tyson, Sheila Prillerman, Steve Gladman, Susan Carroll-Boser, Terri Power

Community Shelter Board (CSB) staff: Tom Albanese, Lianna Barbu, Adam Rice, Aubre Jones, Heather Notter

Guests: Alyssa Pettey, Measurement Resources

Welcome

Kim Stands welcomed members and guests.

Administrative Issues

Kim asked for any corrections to or comments on minutes from the September 14, 2018 CoC meeting. No corrections were requested. Michelle Heritage moved to approve the minutes, Robin Harris seconded, and the CoC agreed.

Further discussion on draft mission for CoC

Kim reviewed the draft language for the CoC mission statement and asked for feedback from the group. Kim explained that he wants the CoC to see itself as a mission-orientated organization. Robin noted that the draft mission statement is consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) resource on CoC governance. Kim will call for a vote on the mission statement at the next CoC meeting.

Initial discussion on Governance Section III. 1.

Starting in 2019, Kim wants the CoC to move from focusing on compliance to focusing more on strategic planning. He asked the CoC to think about what tasks could be delegated to the CoC Board so that the CoC has more time for strategic discussion. The CoC will discuss again at the next meeting.

Youth System YHDP Plan Review

Becky Westerfelt, chair of the Youth Core Team, introduced the work that has been done so far on developing a better system for serving youth experiencing homelessness. She described the hard work by partners and stakeholders and, most importantly, young people with lived experience of homelessness.

Tom Albanese thanked Becky for chairing the core team and thanked Michael Outrich for leading the Youth Action Board (YAB), a critical part of the planning and implementation efforts. Tom gave an overview on the history for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) application process and the connection to A Place to Call Home framework. The funding from HUD is \$3 million per year and is renewable. CSB is working with the Youth Core Team and youth stakeholders to develop a Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) that will determine the programs to be developed as part of the youth system. The draft plan is due to HUD November 13, 2018. HUD expects youth to be involved in the planning process and be at the center of the plan. The goal is to achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness among unaccompanied youth and parenting youth.

Michael O. discussed the role of the YAB in developing the plan. Having authentic youth engagement in the planning process has made the plan stronger. The lived experiences of the youth helped to identify system gaps and to make recommendations for improvement. Michael explained the system approach for addressing youth homelessness using the “Bridge” graphic, emphasizing the need for collaborative partnerships to make the system work effectively. This approach focuses on a coordination of funding, trained staffing, services and programs/policies, which will be applied to the different types of housing models. Michael O. explained the importance of balancing supports with respect for youth autonomy.

Alyssa described the needs assessment conducted by Measurement Resources. The assessment identified trends and statistics by using twelve focus groups with 75 youth participating, HMIS data, and Star House research. The information gathered included causes of homelessness for youth and barriers they face in obtaining stable housing. The estimated annual number of youth experiencing literal homelessness in Franklin County is 3,033 and the estimated annual number of youth at imminent risk of homelessness is 4,479. This is a starting point; a fully built out system would better estimate the number of youth needing services and projected usage of services.

Aubre described the workgroups on health, justice, child welfare, education, employment, housing, LGBTQ, human trafficking, coordinated entry, data, and advocacy/communications. The workgroups provided input for each element of the plan and identified needs and opportunities in each category. They were guided by best practices from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to identify, prevent, reduce preconditions for shelter, connect to housing, and provide support for youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

Tom discussed the five goals of the CCP to prevent and end homelessness among youth. The goals are: 1) Identify all youth experiencing homelessness and at imminent risk of homelessness. 2) Prevent homelessness for youth whenever possible. 3) Provide immediate access to low-barrier shelter and services for all homeless youth who want it. 4) Efficiently and effectively connect all

youth who are homeless to housing solutions and supportive services that are developmentally appropriate, aligned with evidence-based practices, and of high-quality. 5) There are sufficient resources and capacity to continue to prevent and quickly end future experiences of homelessness among youth.

Lianna discussed the annual cost estimates to build a comprehensive response system. The project costs are \$25-30 million per year for program operations. YHDP will cover \$3.7 million, including matching funds. The core team will work to bring together multiple systems of care and build collaborative initiatives that will reduce the total cost. CSB will release a request for proposals in January 2019 for the YHDP funds. The goal is to contract with partner agencies starting in July 2019. HUD allows YHDP funding to be used for the following costs: Supportive Services; Permanent Housing (both rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing); Transitional Housing; Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing; and HMIS costs. Lianna explained the proposed YHDP allocation of funding. This allocation includes 100 units of short term rapid re-housing, 20 units of transitional housing, 20 units of permanent supportive housing, and 100 units of medium term rapid re-housing collectively serving a total of 510 youths. The budget also includes adding a team for coordinated Entry/Diversion and a full time HMIS staff member. The CoC resolution is to approve this preliminary allocation.

Tom reviewed next steps. HUD will review the CCP and provide feedback. The core team will bring the resulting revision to the CoC for review and discussion at the next CoC meeting. He thanked all the CoC members who have participated in the process so far.

Mark Paxson asked Michael O. about the YAB's view of the current youth system. Michael explained that youth would prefer to have their own space in shelters because they often feel uncomfortable mixed with adults. They like the option of having a Joint Transitional Housing / Rapid Re-Housing program because of the increased flexibility. Youth are recommending broader access to services and communication via mobile phones, texting, and apps.

Sally noted that the YHDP presentation referred to the use of hotels and asked if CSB is still using hotels. Tom explained that the slide referred to potential or allowable use of hotels only and confirmed that CSB is not using hotels to shelter or house people experiencing homelessness at this time.

Emily Savors moved to approve the resolution recommending the CoC approve the YHDP preliminary allocation, James Brooks seconded, and the CoC agreed.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Project Development PSH Concept Paper

Lianna explained the Community Housing Network (CHN) PSH Concept Paper is an update of the paper that the CoC approved on June 5, 2018. The number of units increased from 56 to 66, the property location is now known and the project has a name. CHN will present a project plan at the next CoC meeting. Prior to the CoC presentation, CHN will also solicit input from the Citizens Advisory Council and PSH providers. Michael Wilkos asked how CHN was able to add units. Jennifer Sharma replied that the increase was based on the site and financial modelling, which allows for more units than originally planned.

Review FY2018 Annual System and Program Indicator Report

Lianna reviewed the FY18 Annual System and Program Indicator Report.

- < National Church Residences (N^^) was recognized as the first agency ever to achieve 100% data accuracy during their annual Program Review and Certification. N^^ and Volunteers of America achieved compliance with CSB's rigorous program certification standards on the first try. Gladden Community House met every goal for numbers served, length of participation, and successful housing outcomes.
- < The number of households served in the family system decreased by 7%. The average length of stay increased. The number of successful housing outcomes has increased. Families are having problems finding affordable housing so they can exit shelter.
- < The number of people served in the men's system decreased by 7%. The average length of stay in shelter increased. The men's system has a fixed capacity so this means the shelters served fewer clients and didn't meet the demand for shelter. Successful housing outcomes for men decreased.
- < The number of people served in the women's system decreased and the average length of stay increased. The successful housing outcomes decreased.
- < Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) had a 53% successful housing outcomes a good result for the retooled program in its first year of operations. RRH was the housing destination for 25% of the clients exiting shelter. We expect to see an increase in the number of people served as YMCA ramps up their program.
- < PSH outcomes are good, as usual. The stability rate increase and the unit turnover rate decreased. This led to a decrease in the number of households served.

Becky asked how long single men and women wait on the shelter waitlists. Lianna explained that we don't know for certain, but CSB estimates single adults usually wait 2-4 days on the waitlist, and possibly up to 7 days.

System Updates

Point-in-Time Count

Tom reported that the 2019 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count will be held on January 23, 2019. The approach and methodology will be the same as last year, except that CSB will include enhanced efforts to identify youth experiencing homelessness. CSB System Manager Erin Maus will send out a call for volunteers.

Family System

Michelle reported that CSB will formally begin winter overflow operations on November 15, 2018; although some overflow operations have already started to an extent because of the cold weather. The system has housed enough families that there is room at Van Buren to shelter everyone. CSB and system partners are working to keep the family census down and have contingency plans in case it increases again. CSB will hire a landlord liaison to help the system identify, recruit, and collaborate with landlords to house people experiencing homelessness quickly. She asked that CoC

members let CSB know if they know of potential candidates for this position. CSB will post the job description on the website soon.

Veterans System

Tom said for the system to hit the 90-day federal benchmark for quick access to permanent housing it requires holding the average for three months. This average has held steady below 90 days for a month, and CSB continues to work with system partners triage and connect veterans to housing quickly. Tom thanked the Veterans Administration for their efforts.

Lisa Defendiefer announced that Capital Crossroads Special Improvement District will hold its annual meeting on November 14, 2018. Daniel Malone from Seattle is the guest speaker and the topic will be homelessness and medical respite. Lisa invited anyone interested to attend.

Meeting Adjourned