

## **MINUTES**

### **Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio**

#### **Continuum of Care Meeting**

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

2:30pm – 5:00pm

Hybrid meeting | Zoom | United Way 215 Front St., Conference Room J

#### ALL CoC MEMBERS:

Donna Mayer, Sue Villilo, Malcolm Turner, Michael Wilcos, Marcus Johnson, Dr. Lee Ann Harris, Terri Power, Alison Marker, Sonya Higginbotham, Kelsey Strausbaugh, Walter Dillard, Jeff Pattison, Tina Rutherford, Beth Fetzer-Rice, Roxann Payne, Kier Scott, Beth Lonn, Lianna Barbu, Sarah Douglas, Shannon Isom, MarQuan McCarrel, Harvey Hackman, Robert Bramlish, Chanda Wingo

#### Community Shelter Board (CSB) Staff: Steve Skovensky, Sherrice Sledge-

Thomas, Liz Price, Erika Gable, Christina Blair, Asli Buldum, Twila Wellmaker, Thaddeus Billman, Audrey King

Continuum of Care (CoC) Members (not in attendance): Dr. Maria Houston, Mary O'Doherty, Jim Rose, Christopher Maitland, Emerald Hernandez-Parra, Tiarra Ross, Emily Savor, Nathan Wymer, Nancy Hashman, Scott Scharlach, Felisha Lyons, Vivian Turner, Juliet C. Dorris-Williams, Le-Ann Harris, Dr. Desiree Polk-Blank, Jon Welty, Carlie Boos, Lt. Kyle Kincade, Makaylah Downour, Courtney Elrod, Shiela Prillerman, Rei Scott, Meghann Cicola

#### Welcome and come to order:

Meeting was officially called to order by Sue Villilo.

#### Administration

Michael Wilkos called for quorum.

Michael asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2024 meeting. Beth Fetzer Rice motioned, Sonya Higginbotham seconded, and the CoC membership approved.

#### Strategic Areas of Focus

Asli Buldum shared the CSB Annual SPIR

- < Asli reviewed the system indicators
- < She noted improvement in housing retention and rehousing efforts. However, we still face challenges in reducing the length of time people experience homelessness.
- < Need to focus on improving the intake process and continued work on case management capacity and additional training for frontline staff.
- Increase in those affected by top housing practices
- < Continued challenges because affordable housing is lacking.

#### FY25 CoC HUD Application and Project Priority Listing

Lianna shared critical components of the HUD application including the CoC Collaborative Application, Project Priority Listings and key priorities from HUD.

Michael asked for a motion to approve the submission of the HUD CoC Application including the Project Priority Listings. Terry Power motioned, Marcus Johnson seconded, Kelsey Straumbaugh, Beth Long, Beth Fetzer Rice abstained. The CoC membership approved and the application will be submitted to HUD prior to the deadline.

### Equity Framework

Sherrice shared updates on the Equity Action Committee.

#### < Equity framework

- Will guide our work over the next year, ensuring that our policies and practices promote inclusivity and address disparities. Goals:
  - Diversify COC Membership
  - Ensure 100% CoC participation on self-reported Equity Survey
  - Develop equity framework including policy and procedures
  - Ensure meaningful citizens advisory council and youth action board membership inclusion
- DEI committee
  - Need more members/representatives
- Concerns about current strategies
  - We have to talk about the over-representation of black households in the system to fix it
  - Lack of affordable housing
  - Shelter can feel like incarceration (traumatizing, adds to mental health issues, creates mental health issues); can be very restrictive and affect chances of getting out of homelessness. Have to talk to those who have experienced our process about how do we make it better.

#### < Next steps

- Having periodic meetings
- Adjourn committee by April of 2025

### Closing Remarks and Adjournment by Michael Wilkos

- < CoC Retreat Announcement: Upcoming CoC Retreat on November 14, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- < Feedback Request (QR Code Exit Ticket): Please take a moment to scan the QR code on the screen to access a quick exit survey. Your input helps us improve future meetings.

Michael asked for a motion to approve adjournment of the CoC meeting. Marcus Johnson motioned, Sarah Douglas seconded, and the CoC membership approved.

Meeting adjourned.