

Meeting Minutes

Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative Meeting

May 17, 2012

11:30 am – 2:00 pm

Community Shelter Board

Attendees:

Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative Members: Michelle Heritage, Susan Lewis Kaylor, Bryan Brown, Emily Savors, Debbie Armstrong, Jeff Pattison, Kim Stands, Rollin Seward, Rachel Fuller

Community Shelter Board Staff: Lianna Barbu, Amy Price, Erin Maus

Guests: Amanda Owen, Susan Weaver, Don Strasser, Suzanne Seifert, Bob Snow, Robin Smith, Colleen Bain, Rita Price, Jim Rose

Welcome and Introductions

Michelle Heritage welcomed the group and all gave name and affiliation introductions.

Administrative Issues

Quorum was not met. Action items including approval of meeting notes from 2.23.12 and approval of CSB Awards for Supportive Housing & Adopt Funding Strategy could not be completed.

FY12 Program Evaluation Summary

Lianna Barbu reviewed the FY12 Program Evaluation Summary that was included in the meeting packet. The entire Program Evaluation will be posted on CSB's website after the Board reviews it. The Program Evaluation will also show how much funding each program receives from CSB and how much funding is leveraged from other sources.

Susan Weaver noted that CHN has found the employment and income measures very challenging in the current environment. CHN has recently started Project Gain (funded by The Columbus Foundation) to address employment. Lianna explained that meeting these goals as a system effects our community's HUD rating.

Michelle Heritage noted other employment programs in the community. Donatos/Goodwill/Friends of the Homeless is working on a supported employment program. COWIC and Faith Mission are implementing an employment pilot program while providing case management using a modified CTI best practice model.

Semi-Annual Financial Report

Lianna Barbu reviewed the Financial Status Report for Supportive Housing that was included in the meeting packet. No questions or concerns were noted.

Approve CSB Awards for Supportive Housing & Adopt Funding Strategy

Quorum was not met. Action items including approval of CSB Awards for Supportive Housing & Adopt Funding Strategy could not be completed.

Lianna Barbu reviewed the projects currently operating or funded in fiscal years 2012-2013. No questions or concerns were noted.

Lianna Barbu reviewed the unit cost matrix that was included in the meeting packet. She pointed out that the per unit cost for “moderate staff availability” is actually higher than “intensive staff availability”. CSB continues working with supportive housing providers to better define these classifications.

Strategic Issues

Ad Hoc Committee

This joint RLFC/CoC Steering Committee looked at how to integrate the Continuum of Care and the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative into one single group. CSB’s Board of Trustees will approve the new structure that will begin July 1, 2012.

RLFC/Continuum of Care Structure

Lianna Barbu reviewed the Columbus & Franklin County Continuum of Care Governance and Policy Statements that was included in the meeting packet.

Lianna Barbu noted the following:

- Membership structure follows HEARTH legislation
- Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative will have 35 members
- Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative Steering Committee will have 10 members
- New roles for CSB in the new structure are as follows:
 - Act as the Collaborative Applicant for the Columbus and Franklin County RLFC, per HUD’s HEARTH legislation
 - Act as the Unified Funding Agency for the Columbus and Franklin County RLFC, per HUD’s HEARTH legislation
 - Act as the sub-recipient of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for the Columbus and Franklin County RLFC
 - Implement the requirements of the HEARTH legislation as mandated by HUD

Questions and concerns on the structure

- How will CSB determine when and how much of programs’ funding allocations to change?
 - Lianna explained that one option for CSB is to look at agencies that are overfunded in one program and reallocate to an underfunded program that is part of the same agency.
 - Programs that are not performing could also have funds reallocated to programs that are performing well.
- How will CSB cover the cost for HEARTH administration?
 - Lianna Barbu stated that at this point we are unsure, except we know that money will not be taken away from providers to cover expenses.
- Columbus Coalition for the Homeless requested another seat on the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative (an advocacy group). No specific group was suggested.
- It was mentioned there is now less provider representation than in the previous CoC. It was suggested by LSS to add 1-2 more seats for providers.

QAP (Qualified Allocation Plan) Concerns

CSB has submitted comments to OHFA regarding the new scoring process that has been put into place. With the new process, communities that have had a project funded in the past 4 years are

at a great disadvantage. OHFA moved \$1 million out of the permanent supportive housing pool to other more competitive pools this year. We are not sure if this will continue in the future.

Comments made by CSB to OHFA:

- It was suggested that CoC are consulted in how to rate a new project, as well as the level of permanent supportive housing need in the community
- Concerned that communities lose points if a project has been funded in the past 4 years
- OHFA should pay attention to targeting. OHFA should look at some of the outcome measures that HUD is currently using to determine how successful programs or communities have been in the past.
- Add points for experienced developers
- Maintain the current level of funding in the permanent supportive housing pool

Updates on Strategy Progress to Date

Rebuilding Lives Plan Strategy Progress Reports for all strategies were included in the meeting packet.

Several highlights were noted in the presentations:

- Strategy 2: Increase Access to Benefits and Income: Amy Price noted since the update was written there has been a change. Full funding was not awarded by COHHIO for FY13. This will not cover the cost of one full time staff. The group will continue to brainstorm on program funding.
- Strategy 4: Single Point of Contact for Adult Shelter: The project is moving along as planned. HandsOn Central Ohio is the new provider. In the past two months, an increase in the diversion rate has been noted.
- Strategy 6: Unified Supportive Housing System: Lianna Barbu noted the move up aspect of the project is contingent on the availability of Section 8 vouchers. There are currently 590 units under USHS vacancy management with continued expansion plans.
- Strategy 10: Affordable Housing Campaign: CSB will be taking over the strategy with the City's help. Michelle is starting the conversations and moving this strategy forward by meeting with key stakeholders.
- Strategy 11A: Re-entry Housing Advocacy – Incarcerated Populations: It was noted this strategy has caught the attention of the national Corporation for Supportive Housing. CSH will be meeting with state representatives moving forward. VA will be assisting with VASH vouchers for veterans that will help provide veterans with mental health issues and wrap around case management services. ADAMH requested that they continue to be involved in the discussions regarding high system users. Funding continues to be sought for the strategy.
- Strategy 11B1: Re-entry Housing Advocacy – Mental Health Populations: This is the final report. The project has achieved the intended results and used all the funds for the intended purposes. ADAMH supplemented allocated funds with ADAMH dollars to complete the program.
- Strategy 11B2: Re-entry Housing Advocacy – Domestic Violence Populations: It was noted that Catholic Social Services is planning to continue this program with money from their endowment. CSB will no longer fund this program due to lack of available funds.

Project Development

VOAGO Concept Paper Proposal

Quorum was not met. Action items including approval of VOAGO Concept Paper could not be completed.

Suzanne Seifert presented the concept for VOAGO's proposal. The project would be 100 units. Of the 100 units, 60 would be Rebuilding Lives units. 12 units out of the 60 RL units are chronic

homeless units and 20 units dedicated for ADAMH clients. The remaining units are for the general low income, disabled population. They are looking at the possibility of units for couples. They have been looking to site the project on the west side.

Lianna Barbu explained VOAGO would be submitting for tax credits this fall, so a decision must be made as soon as possible on the concept paper to allow VOAGO to develop their project plan and move the project forward. Rachel Fuller explained that when a vote is taken, CSH would need to abstain as VOAGO is participating in their PSH Institute. No other concerns were noted.

NCR Commons at Third

Colleen Bain gave the quarterly update for Commons at Third which was included in the meeting packet. She noted that they are now accepting referrals. They are working with the Ohio Home Choice Program to move clients out of nursing homes and into permanent supportive housing for 20 of their units.

CHN Inglewood Court

Susan Weaver gave the quarterly update for Inglewood Court which was included in the meeting packet. She noted that June 18th at 10:00 am will be the groundbreaking ceremony. Completion is scheduled for next spring.

YMCA Franklin Station

Amanda Owen gave the quarterly update for YMCA Franklin Station which was included in the meeting packet. She noted they have begun working on the Sunshine Terrace Good Neighbor Agreement so they can utilize it for Franklin Station. A small delay is expected in the completion of the project (2 months).

NCR Commons at Livingston II

Colleen Bain gave the quarterly update for Commons at Livingston II which was included in the meeting packet. She noted NCR has received tax credits for 50 additional units. It is expected that the project will be finalized by August 2012. At lease-up, if there are no eligible veterans indentified for the project, NCR will open up units to non-veterans in order to meet the community need.

Adjourn