

Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County

Board of Directors Meeting

July 14, 2015

9:30 am at the Sisters of Charity Foundation

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vicki Conley
Lynne Dragomier
Amanda Fletcher
Maria Heege
Cathy Jennings
Dave Kaminski
Natalie McCleskey

Beth Pearson
Jeff Shultz
Jean Van Ness

EXCUSED

John Aller
Mike Cody
Beverly Jordan

Lisa Miller
Kelly Perry
Nedra Petro
Shirene Starn-Tapyrik

SOCF STAFF

Shannon McMahon Williams

I. Welcome/Conflict of Interest Reminder/Approval of June Minutes

At 9:36 a.m., Jean called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and reminded everyone of the Conflict of Interest policy.

Motion: Jean requested a motion to approve the June Board meeting minutes, which had been distributed to the Board via email prior to the meeting. Dave made the motion to approve the minutes with a small correction noted to page two and Vicki seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Discussion and Vote to Approve 2015 CoC Applications

Cathy and Amanda left the room at this point, due to conflicts or potential conflicts of interest, and Lynne arrived at the meeting.

The Board received a document entitled “2015 CoC Applications for Board Consideration and Approval,” which contains summaries of the proposals discussed below, via email prior to the meeting (see Appendix A).

Since its May meeting, the Board has approved reallocation of CoC funding from YWCA’s and Alliance for Children and Families’ (ACF) two transitional housing (TH) projects (the two remaining CoC-funded TH projects in the county) and invited both agencies to propose new permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects to receive the reallocated funds. Both agencies submitted proposals to the Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee, which reviewed them and recommended to the Board that they be approved.

The Board also received a summary of proposed revisions to the request from Community Services of Stark County (CSSC) to apply for renewed CoC funding in 2015 to pay for supportive services provided by CSSC at three projects: ACF’s AFIRST and YWCA’s Gateways I and II. CSSC’s application had been approved by the Board

at its May meeting, but the proposed changes, which reflect CSSC's and ACF's decision to discontinue CSSC's services at the AFIRST PSH project, require an additional approval from the Board. The Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee recommended to the Board that CSSC be allowed to change its application to reflect the fact that the CoC funding it is requesting in 2015 will be used to provide supportive services at Gateways I and II only. CSSC will also be asked to resubmit an application regarding matching and leveraged funding as well as the number of clients the revised supportive services project will serve.

Motion: Jean requested a motion to approve the new application from YWCA for a new PSH project for inclusion in the 2015 CoC collaborative application. Vicki made the motion, Lynne seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Motion: Jean requested a motion to approve the new application from ACF for a new PSH project for inclusion in the 2015 CoC collaborative application. Lynne made the motion, Jeff seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Maria arrived at the meeting at this point.

Motion: Jean requested a motion to approve the revision of CSSC's previously approved application for 2015 CoC funding to provide support services at Gateways I and II, provided that all necessary leveraged and matching funds can be accounted for. Lynne made the motion, Vicki seconded, and it passed unanimously.

III. Latest e-SNAPS Update

HUD released an update on the upcoming Notice of Funding Available (NOFA) for the 2015 CoC grant competition on the morning of the meeting. Beth outlined the highlights of the update, including the following points:

- The 2015 NOFA is expected to come out this month. HUD stated that its goal is to release future NOFAs in late spring.
- The 2015 CoC grant competition is expected to be more competitive than previous years.
- HUD believes that enough funding will be available for all renewal projects, but it will still implement a tiered funding process.
- HUD is expanding funding reallocation opportunities for the 2015 competition to include PSH, rapid re-housing (RRH), dedicated HMIS, and supportive services for coordinated entry.
- As with the 2014 grant competition, a permanent housing bonus application will be opened. Last year's competition for this bonus funding was highly competitive, and Beth is unsure if HCCSC will pursue it again in 2015.

IV. Votes on New Board and Committee Members

Prior to the meeting, the Board received (1) a letter from Crystal Sandor outlining her interest in filling the Board position recently vacated by Tim Corbi and her qualifications, (2) an HCCSC Committee Member Questionnaire from Nellie Rogers and Sylvia Thomas outlining their interest in serving on the Central Intake and Assessment

Committee and their qualifications, and (3) an HCCSC Committee Member Questionnaire from Jack French outlining his interest in serving on the Central Intake and Assessment and HMIS committees and his qualifications. The Board discussed these individuals and their applications and considered the recommendations from the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee recommended that the Board approve Crystal Sandor to replace Tim Corbi on the Board. Crystal was recommended by Tim as a well-qualified representative of the Stark County Veterans Service Commission.

Motion: Jean moved to approve Crystal Sandor to replace Tim Corbi on the Board. Amanda seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Executive Committee recommended that the Board agree to allow either Nellie Rogers or Sylvia Thomas to serve as a member of the Central Intake and Assessment Committee (the choice being theirs) with the understanding that, if the one who elects to be the committee member cannot attend a particular meeting, the other can attend in her place at the discretion of the committee chair. Both Nellie and Sylvia are representatives of the Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center. Jean noted that, while HCCSC's policies prohibit individuals from sharing a seat on a committee, committee chairs can allow committee members to send substitutes from time to time when they cannot attending a meeting.

Motion: Jean moved to approve one of either Nellie Rogers or Sylvia Thomas to serve on the Central Intake and Assessment Committee with the understanding that the committee chair, at her discretion, can allow the other to attend meetings as a substitute from time to time. Lynne seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee recommended that the Board approve Jack French to serve on the Central Intake and Assessment Committee, but not on the HMIS Committee since the work of that committee requires either experience as a user of the Homeless Management Information System or some expertise in data management or analysis. After some discussion, the Board reached consensus in favor of these recommendations.

Motion: Jean moved to approve Jack French to serve on the Central Intake and Assessment Committee. Vicki seconded the motion and it passed.

Motion: Jean moved to deny the application of Jack French to serve on the HMIS Committee. Amanda seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Discussion about July 20th HCCSC Members Meeting

Jean noted that the agenda for the upcoming HCCSC Members Meeting will include the following items:

- Reports from the individuals attending the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference in Washington, DC, from July 15-17. They will discuss lessons learned at the conference and potential new strategies to implement in Stark County.

- A discussion about the final Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.
- An overview of the components of the forthcoming HCCSC annual report.
- An update about plans for the upcoming 2015 CoC application, including a discussion of the reallocations of CoC funding from TH to PSH.
- A discussion about the September 10 community summit and future plans for HCCSC.

VI. Discussion about Future of HCCSC and Community Event

The community summit on homelessness is scheduled for Thursday, September 10. Jean reminded the Board that, during its May meeting, it agreed to reach a decision about future management of HCCSC at its August meeting and to present that decision at the summit. The Board received a summary of the recent conference call between Barbara Poppe (from Barbara Poppe and Associates LLC, formerly United States Interagency Council on Homelessness) and a group of Board members on the management of HCCSC, entitled “Notes on July 9 Conference Call with Barbara Poppe,” via email prior to the meeting.

The conversation with Barbara and the previous conversation with Katie Kitchin (from Corporation for Supportive Housing) both indicated that HCCSC should establish a new 501(c)(3) to manage its activities in the future. Jean stated that the Board should build its argument in favor of this strategy.

The Board discussed completing the following tasks in order to prepare for both the August Board meeting and the community summit:

- Pursue conversations with the communities identified by Barbara that formed a 501(c)(3) to manage their CoCs in order to learn about their organizational structure, Boards’ responsibilities, and staffing.
- Determine a likely budget for the potential future 501(c)(3) and formulate a proposal for how it could be financed, which should be discussed with business leaders and representatives from political subdivisions before the summit. Barbara stated that communities that are working successfully to end homelessness have support from local governments; HCCSC currently has no recurring funding from city or county government sources. The Board received a document entitled “Summary of City and County CoC Support” via email prior to the meeting, which summarizes the support that other Ohio CoCs receive.
- Collaborate with constituents regarding strategies for engaging local business leaders in our effort.

Jean invited the Board to contact her with suggestions for strategies or other assistance with this research and preparation.

VII. Questions/Comments on Board Updates

Natalie noted one necessary correction to the Board Updates. The section on the “National Housing Trust Fund” should instead read “Ohio Housing Trust Fund.”

VIII. Old Business

The Board had no old business to discuss.

IX. New Business

A. Recent Supreme Court Ruling and HUD Final Regulations on Fair Housing

The recent Supreme Court ruling in *Texas Department of Housing v. Inclusive Communities Project* serves as an official recognition that policies and practices are subject to challenge under the Fair Housing Act if they have a disparate impact on protected classes by making affordable housing less available to them than to others. According to this ruling, it is not necessary to prove that the policies or practices have discriminatory intent. In addition, HUD released its substantial final regulations on Fair Housing recently. The Board agreed with Jean that representatives from both Canton City and Stark County government should be made aware of the ruling and the regulations and their relevance to affordable housing, especially in light of the possibility that the new comprehensive plan being developed for the Canton may exacerbate, at least temporarily, existing housing disparities.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

2015 CoC Applications for Board Consideration and Approval

- 1. Alliance for Children and Families (ACF):** ACF submitted an application to use CoC funds that the Board agreed to reallocate from its current TH program for 10 scattered site permanent supportive housing (PSH) units to serve chronically homeless individuals. The application was approved by the Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee.
- 2. YWCA:** YWCA submitted an application to use CoC funds that the Board agreed to reallocate from its current TH units at its New Beginnings site to subsidize permanent supportive housing (PSH) in the same units for 8 single adults. The application was approved by the Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee.
- 3. Community Services of Stark County (CSSC):** CSSC submitted a request that was approved by the Board in May to apply for renewed CoC funding in 2015 to pay for supportive services provided by CSSC at three PSH projects: ACF's A-FIRST and YWCA's Gateway I and Gateway II. Those services have also been funded, in part, by Mental Health and Recovery Services Board funds that have been used as a match for the CoC funds.

Since the May meeting, A-FIRST and CSSC have agreed to discontinue CSSC's services at A-FIRST. Because of the complications involved in separating out a portion of the CoC funds going to CSSC and making them available to fund services by another provider at A-FIRST, we are recommending that CSSC be allowed to change its application to reflect the fact that the CoC funding it is requesting in 2015 will be used to provide supportive services at Gateway 1 and Gateway II only. With the agreement of MHRSB, its funding for supportive services at each project will be adjusted to ensure that, overall funding for supportive services at the three project remains roughly the same.