

COC SYSTEM PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the May 19, 2015 Meeting

Chairperson Maria Heege called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. In addition to Maria, the following members were present: Stephanie Ascani, Vicki Conley, Jennifer Keaton, Amy Krebs, Jean Van Ness, Shannon Williams, Carla Wright, Duane Wykoff and Natalie McCleskey.

Maria welcomed the following guests and thanked them for attending the meeting: Julia Baker, Angeline Daniels, Celestine Barnes, Michele Boone, Cheli Curran, Amy Dornack, Tammy Geiger, Cathy Jennings, Scott Schnyders, Megan Smith, Kathleen Tubbs, and Tiffany Williams.

Natalie McCleskey explained that representatives from the above agencies were invited to provide input on how the various homeless providers may be affected by any re-allocations. She stated that the challenge is that the needs are so great and that we can't meet all of them plus we must meet HUD requirements and align with HUD's priorities for CoC and ESG funding. Decisions need to be made regarding the reallocation of CoC funds and the remaining ESG funds. The Committee would like to hear the comments from our guests before making final decisions.

- Last week the HCCSC Board decided to approve of all renewals for the 2015 CoC Application except the Transitional Housing programs from the YWCA and the Alliance for Children and Families. Both of these projects were determined to be considered for possible re-allocation. The attached report---Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee---provides the factors considered for the recommended re-allocations for the 2015 CoC application.
- The Emergency Solutions Grant from the City of Canton has approximately \$89,000 remaining in funds that were not applied for. The HCCSC Board needs to give recommendations for the type of projects that should be requested. the HCCSc Board has requested that a recommendation come from the System Performance Committee for priorities for this funding.

The System Performance Committee also provided the attached sheet on Gaps and Priorities Background & Discussion Points.

Stark County's current data shows that there is a very high wait list for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid ReHousing (RRH). Transitional Housing (TH) has the lowest wait list. If TH funds are no longer available, are there other possibilities for 2-year housing?

Jennifer Keaton stated that in September 2014 we started central intake and assessment for Emergency Shelter. In 2015's Point-in-time Count there are not as many literally homeless families as we thought but we are seeing a rise in literally homeless singles.

After discussing various issues, data, and factors the group was asked the following question: Is there consensus that the CoC funds should be used to target the chronically homeless to align with HUD's goal to end homelessness by 2017? The following questions/issues were discussed:

- Yes, but what if the chronically homeless are not willing to enter certain programs?

- Most sex offenders are on waiting lists but there is no place to put them.
- We need to explore ways to regain Criminal Justice funds for sex offenders and get better data re: Chronically Homeless ex-offenders.
- There may be more chronically homeless in Rapid ReHousing (RRH).
- We need to research more ways to get DOJ funding. What are ODSA targets for 2014& 2015?
- More manufacturing companies are willing to work with sex offenders and other hard to place people. We need to work with employers and housing to get them hired and housed.

The group was asked the following question---Would you support using the reallocated funds for chronically homeless who need permanent supportive housing? The consensus was yes.

There were some questions and comments about the above issue:

- What is the impact if someone doesn't need PSH but needs TH?
- Families in need of TH are still out there and stuck in unsafe or insecure housing.
- We need to make sure that both current TH providers can complete their current services.
- Could RRH serve them in the future?
- How can we get other funds into prevention programs?
- TH is also used for women and families who have been in DVP.
- Keep some TH and/or look at RRH.
- Use CoC funds for chronically homeless PSH.
- Look for other sources of funding for other types of housing (RRH & HP (Homeless Prevention)?).
- Many people who qualify for RRH need a lot more help than what can be provided.
- Putting individuals in PSH units beside family PSH units does not work. The YWCA said they are currently doing this and it is working alright.

With respect to the YWCA's New Beginnings facility:

- The YWCA is willing to meet the needs that are out there and is willing to go either way.
- New Beginnings would need renovations to go from TH to PSH.
- The Y is working on employment services.

Additional Comments and Questions:

- Funding is going to PSH but RRH needs additional funding also.
- Can we request and increase funding to help families who need TH or RRH?
- Prevention can go up to 24 months and can serve those at imminent risk of homelessness who could have been eligible under TH.

Scott commented that the system is jammed right now---he's not convinced the numbers will change a year from now. Putting funds into RRH will not necessarily decrease the wait-list. We need to stop the in-flow and deal with the wait-list.

Natalie stated that we are working with CSH to find and secure additional sources of funding.

Jennifer Keaton made the following motion: **“I move that we recommend to the City of Canton that un-awarded ESG funds be offered to RRH to be used for those who are chronically homeless with the longest length of time homeless. Stephanie Ascani seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.** Carla Wright and Duane Wykoff abstained.

Stephanie Ascani made the following motion: **“I move that we recommend the reallocation of funding from 2 Transitional Housing projects to Permanent Supportive Housing for the chronically homeless with the longest length of time homeless.. Jennifer Keaton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Natalie McCleskey and Shannon Williams will prepare an annual report and gaps analysis for the June meeting. It will be sent out to the Quality Assurance Committee and the System Performance Committee for review. Jean Van Ness stated that this report will be a foundational piece for the Community meeting in September.

Jennifer reported that HUD has issued new guidance on Performance Measure calculation.

Carla Wright moved to approve the minutes of the March and April System Performance Committee meetings. Dwayne Wykoff seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Conley