

Minutes for Meeting
Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC)
Coordinated Entry System Committee
January 28, 2020

In Attendance

Need to add names

I. Welcome & Introductions

Natalie called the meeting to order at 8:35am and welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes from November Meeting

Natalie indicated that copies of the November 26, 2019 minutes had been distributed electronically on Friday and paper copies were distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Natalie requested a motion to approve.

Jennifer Keaton moved to approve the minutes.

Joy Brubach seconded the motion.

All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried and minutes were approved as distributed.

III. HCCSC Board Updates

Marcie Bragg reminded the committee of the HCCSC's Strategic Plan two-day event with the Corporation for Supportive Housing and highlighted some of the main areas of focus for each sub-population and cross-cutting strategies.

Some of the points highlighted were:

- Families – analyzing recidivism data
- Prevention Workgroup – several board members will be assisting this workgroup in establishing goals that are in alignment with the Strategic Plan
- Fair Housing – attempting to get more tenants to attend Fair Housing trainings
- Employment – continued efforts around increasing services to help participants gain employment
- Veterans – weekly by-name phone calls and monthly in-person meetings. Melissa Terrell shared that the list is currently down to about 11 and was previously up to 56 last year. There are new contract beds (Transitional Housing) through the Veterans Administration (VA) coming online shortly. It sounds as though these TH beds will be included in the HCCSC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). It was discussed that it would be great to have VASH beds in HMIS also. Marcie inquired about who we would need to have around the table to meet for such a discussion. It was agreed that the VA supervisor, grantee and HCCSC would need to be at a meeting to discuss this further. It was further shared that data migration and data sharing is still needed between HMIS and the VA and that it would be great to have a parallel system for veterans that we have for civilians...one which utilizes the Coordinated Entry system for prioritizing veterans for all veteran and non-veteran programs.
- Diversion – is being discussed currently by Tiffany Williams (CommQuest) and Lynne Dragomier (HCCSC Board) with the faith-based community as initial discussions.

The goals set by the HCCSC Board for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) were reviewed by several groups: the HCCSC Board, Executive Committee and System Performance Committee. The realistic goal that has been set is 54 PSH and 107 RRH units by 2024.

IV. QA Updates

Jennifer Keaton shared that the two items discussed at QA are listed on the agenda so the committee moved forward to the next agenda item.

V. RRH Familial Status Changes

Jennifer shared that the concern is not just for RRH but also for PSH. Some participants come in as a couple and the higher scoring individual's SPDAT score is used to determine prioritization on the list. If, after being housed, a couple decides to separate, there is currently no policy in place regarding how to handle the lower scoring individual who is leaving the household. There was a robust discussion around this topic. Some concerns that were raised were that the lower scoring partner would be prioritized above others on the list who scored higher if they are allowed to continue to be served by the program. There were concerns about misuse of the system if we do provide assistance to an individual who was initially accepted into the program based upon their partner's higher score. Some issues also identified were whether our responsibility changes if the separation invokes VAWA, how to avoid losing landlords over the issue and if we are legally bound to continue assistance if both parties are on the lease. Joy Brubach indicated that in ICAN programs only the qualifying individual is considered the head of household and signs the lease even if others are listed on the lease...therefore only the qualifying person would continue to receive assistance in cases where a couple separates. The committee was in agreement that their position is that financial assistance should only continue to be provided to the person who qualified the household initially. However, they wanted this position to be taken back to the QA workgroup for further discussion around implications of this position as not all providers were in attendance at the CE meeting to discuss their agency's practices and lease agreements.

VI. 10 Day Rule Discussion

Jennifer shared that the topic arising in regards to the 10 day rule was related to those being exited from shelter for either behavior issues or timing out and providers wanting clarification if exits from shelter such as these require that participants are out of **all** shelters for 10 days or only for the shelter that they are leaving. Other issues raised included what to do when households have resources, what to do with system-cyclers, those who do not make any efforts towards gaining housing during their time in shelter and those who owe money to all agencies. Discussion included whether or not to impose time restrictions on total length of time and/or number of times participants can come back to shelter. Concerns were raised about these types of restrictions increasing barriers though local HCCSC's can develop such rules/policies. The Committee agreed that looking at recidivism rates from shelter is important. The Shelter Workgroup is also working on developing a

Shelter Housing Plan which can be utilized across all shelters. It is hoped that as shelters utilize this Housing Plan consistently across all shelters some of these issues can be resolved such as timing out without making any efforts towards addressing their need for housing.

VII. Chronic Homeless Strategic Plan Objective

Marcie shared that there were a few cross cutting strategies that also impacted the work of the CE committee. The first related to Employability and questions about whether there should be a further assessment at initial intake to determine employment capacity. The second related to recidivism data from RRH. Finally the prioritization of PSH for certain individuals who have not yet reached Chronic Homeless status is another topic that came up during the CoC's Strategic Planning sessions. This idea was spearheaded by Scott and as he was unable to attend the meeting today, the committee agreed to postpone this discussion until the February meeting.

VIII. Other Business

There was a brief discussion on whether we wanted to explore other screening tools to possibly replace the SPDAT. Part of this discussion developed out of some concerns that have been raised regarding whether we are referring appropriate people for RRH. While RRH providers have been encouraged to redo a SPDAT with clients who present at their initial meeting as being unsuitable for RRH, providers shared the difficulty they have in doing this knowing they will be turning someone away from housing who believes they are about to receive housing through RRH. Providers also expressed concerns over knowing that, if rescored, the client(s) would likely end up with a low PSH score placing them at the bottom of the PSH list and therefore likely to never get assistance through a CoC program.

A question was raised about whether we are still discussing the Dynamic Prioritization concept. Marcie informed the group that she still plans to connect further with Franklin County regarding this and expects that there will be further conversations about this moving forward. The committee discussed Rapid Rehousing (RRH) eligible participants and level of need of participants that may be eligible for permanent supportive housing. RRH recidivism data for the HCCSC's System Performance Targets will be brought to the CE Committee for discussing 30day SPDAT reviews.

IX. Adjournment

Natalie adjourned the meeting at 10:15am.

**Coordinated Entry System Committee
2020 Meeting Schedule**

January 28th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
February 25th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
March 24th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
April 27th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
May 26th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
June 23rd	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
July 28th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
August 25th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
September 22nd	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
October 27th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
November 24th	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus
December 22nd	8:30 AM	Goodwill Campus