

Coordinated Entry System Committee

March 23, 2021

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

ZOOM VIDEO CALL

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86105977717?pwd=WWFQTXRoT3h5bkEreXITT01ZbEd6dz09>

Members Present:

Scott Schnyders
Natalie McCleskey
Kim Stanley
Jackie McDougle
Lisa Waikem
Amy Dornack
Marcie Bragg
Shirene Starn-Tapyrik
Melissa Terrell
Lisa Snyder
Joy Brubach

Others Present:

Barbara Poppe
Matthew White
Amanda Burdette

I. Welcome & Introductions

At 8:33a.m., Scott Schnyders, Coordinated Entry Committee (CEC) co-chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

II. Approval of Minutes from February Meeting

Motion: Scott requested a motion to approve the February Coordinated Entry Committee meeting minutes as presented. Marcie Bragg motioned to approve. Melissa Terrell seconded the motion and the motion carried.

III. Barbara Poppe and Associates Presentation on System Evaluation of Homeless Prevention (See Attachment 1)

Marcie introduced Barbara Poppe and Matthew White and gave a brief explanation of the work that they have been hired by the COC to complete as it relates to the Homeless Prevention (HP). There has been a significant increase in funding for HP and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has not provided significant guidance for HP projects. The HP Evaluation would provide the HCCSC with an opportunity to learn how to improve operations and build capacity. Typically, the City of Canton awards around \$110,000 in HP ESG (annual) awards. With additional efforts to keep households in stable housing during the pandemic, funding for HP has been provided by other resources through the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA), Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) and Emergency Solution Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV). The HP funding awards increased to \$1.8 million dollars that will be

administered by agencies in Stark County. The SHNI has entered into a contract with Barbara Poppe and Associates for the Stark County Homelessness Prevention Evaluation Project. Barbara Poppe has over 35 years of experience and has previously served as the chair of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). She also has a history working with the Community Shelter Board and now has her own agency, Poppe and Associates. Matt White, whom works with Poppe and Associates, will assist in facilitating the evaluation. Matt White has 25 years of experience and previously worked for Abt Associates (HUD technical assistance partner) and Community Shelter Board. Matt White's expertise focuses on research, policies, data and coordinated entry. The evaluation began in December and will continue into 2023 (with six months of time to close out the evaluation). The HCCSC will receive a formative evaluation that studies outcomes as time goes, assistance in refining HP processes, and building capacity for the HMIS and HP providers.

At the time of 8:36 am, Lisa Snyder entered the meeting.

Barbara and Matthew provided a thorough review of our current Homeless Prevention and areas where they believe we could increase our effectiveness. They encouraged the group to envision a system that is more proactive. They mentioned targeting certain zip codes or neighborhoods, outreaching to clients who were previously in our homeless system. These ideas spoke to the larger idea that our Homeless Prevention response has been more passive (people calling the hotline for screening) and they were encouraging us to be more active (seeking out those who we know use our system and finding them before they enter the system as well as seeking out those who are not aware of the system).

At the time of 8:43am, Kim Stanley entered the meeting.

There were lots of questions from members centered on how to operationalize the suggestions the presenters were making while still making sure we followed and abided by fair housing regulations. Matthew encouraged the group to try something new and if it didn't work, we could always change it to something different.

Marcie thanked Barbara and Matthew for their presentation and work.

At the time of 9:49am, Barbara and Matt exited the meeting.

IV. ESG CV Rapid Rehousing Policy Review

Melissa presented the ESG CV Rapid Rehousing Policy for the group to review. Melissa mentioned that a smaller group of providers had met with her to draft the policy and thanked them for their time. The group had concerns with the presented draft because it proposed starting the housing list for this project with a SPDAT of 40. Natalie suggested that if we are trying to assist those with the highest acuity of need we should begin at the top of the PSH list and give every client the offer of the ESG CV project. This would then would mimic more of the dynamic prioritization model we had discussed in the past. Several members had concerns around the amount of case management that these clients would need to remain in their own housing. After a very lengthy discussion around this issue, it was determined that the policy should be re-written to serve the clients with the highest acuity of need. With the dynamic

prioritization process, it was discussed that participants would have a choice whether or not to accept RRH or remain on the list for a PSH opportunity. There was also discussion that there should be a transfer policy for participants that may need longer-term assistance. We would conduct an email vote for approval of the policy. This was requested so that the proposal could be approved by the COC at their Board Meeting in April.

** The policy was revised and sent out via email by Melissa Terrell on 3/31/2021. Natalie requested a motion for approval on 4/7/2021. Marcie made a motion to approve. Lisa Waikem seconded the motion. Motion carried. Natalie McCleskey, Joy Brubach, Jennifer Keaton, Shirene Starn-Tapyrik and Scott Schnyders abstained.

V. COC Update

Marcie made the group aware that she and Jackie McDougle have been meeting and they are in the process of creating a pilot project to work with clients near the top of our housing list to get them document ready.

VI. QA Updates

Jennifer explained that there was a request to amend a policy in D2. Coordinated Entry Guide - Section VI. Procedure for Transferring Participants from one PSH Project to Another under A3. Circumstances Justifying Transfers. The request from the Quality Assurance Committee was to add the following language. "with documentation or a statement by a licensed Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder Treatment Provider."

After a few clarifying questions Natalie McCleskey made a motion to approve the changes requested. Joy Brubach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VII. Adjournment

With no further business to be discussed, Natalie adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.

Coordinated Entry System Committee 2021 Meeting Schedule

April 27 th	- 8:30am
May 25 th	- 8:30am
June 22 nd	- 8:30am
July 27 th	- 8:30am
August 24 th	- 8:30am
September 28 th	- 8:30am
October 26 th	- 8:30am
November 23 rd	- 8:30am
December 28 th	- 8:30am