



City of Madison

Agenda - Approved

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Homeless Services Consortium Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, September 26, 2014

11:00 a.m.

United Way Dane County Board Room A
2059 Atwood Ave

If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor, materiales en formatos alternativos u otros arreglos para acceder a este servicio, actividad o programa, comuníquese al número de teléfono que figura a continuación tres días hábiles como mínimo antes de la reunión.

Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnuv ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

Sue Wallinger, 261-9148

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Members of the body should make any required disclosures or recusals under the City's Ethics Code.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of 8/22/2014 Meeting Minutes

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. City of Madison 2015 Capital Budget – Affordable Housing Program
Jim O'Keefe, Community Development Division Director
2. Continuum of Care 2014 Application Process
CoC Application Committee
3. July Point In Time Results
Sue Wallinger, City CDD
4. 2014 Homeless Services Consortium Annual Meeting 12/19
Martha Cranley, Chair
Nominating Committee Chair
By-laws
5. Report from Institute for Community Alliances – Lead HMIS Agency
Maggie Carden, ICA

ADJOURNMENT

Future Meetings:

- Friday, October 24, 2014
- Friday, November 21, 2014
- Friday, December 19, 2014

MINUTES FROM THE HOMELESS SERVICES CONSORTIUM BOARD MEETING
August 22, 2014

PRESENT: Maggie Carden, Martha Cranley, Kristina Dux, Mike Fleenor, Leigha Weber

ABSENT: Sina Davis, Rob Dicke, Hope Edgren, Barbara McKinney, Torrie Kopp-Mueller, Brenda Walton, Mona Wasow

GUESTS: Kristin Birki, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Inc. (DAIS)
Zeb Love, Housing Crisis Case Worker, Community Action Coalition (CAC)

City CDBG Staff: Anne Kenny

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Cranley called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dux noted a misspelling in the second paragraph under Update on Coordinated Entry—Housing Crisis Hotline on page 4. The first sentence in the second paragraph should read, “We’ve also been talking about the VI-SPDAT tool, etc.,” instead of SPIDAT. The minutes will be changed to reflect that change and the vote to approve the revised minutes will be deferred until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

The Board introduced themselves to Birki.

1. Services for Victims of Domestic Abuse

Birki said that DAIS moved a few weeks ago into their newly constructed building and have been bringing in new families to get up to capacity. The old shelter had 25 beds, while the new shelter has 56 beds. DAIS decided to lengthen the stay from 30 days at the old shelter to 45 days at the new shelter to allow extra time for people to get on their feet. The DAIS Shelter is an emergency domestic violence shelter. Eligibility is based on intimate partner domestic violence and immediate physical danger. Callers are assessed for intimate partner violence, which is different from roommate violence or elder abuse, and for imminent physical danger. They also determine priority for who comes into shelter based on Dr. Jacqueline Campbell’s danger assessment, which looks at the different characteristics of abusive relationships that have resulted in homicide, including a history of strangulation, forced sex, access to weapons, etc. So they’re bringing people in not based on how long they’ve been waiting but on how much danger they’re imminently in. Clients who are sheltered at DAIS go through a needs assessment and are assigned a family advocate, who’s their case manager and who works with them on their safety goals and housing and other goals. A big change between the old shelter and the new is that the location of the new one is not confidential, unlike the old one.

Discussion highlights:

- The waiting list wait time for shelter will be longer now that they’ve moved to a 45-day stay.

- Dux asked Birki to share DAIS's assessment tool. She explained that CAC is working with the VI-SPDAT tool in assessing and prioritizing needs.
- The 56 beds available at the new shelter are adult beds. DAIS does have the ability to go above that with toddler beds or cribs. The issue they'll be facing is that staffing is for no more than 56 adults with children. They typically have 50-60% children in shelter and 40-50% adults.
- They also have hotel vouchers that will allow them to shelter male victims offsite, as well as a little bit of overflow from their wait list.
- Fleenor asked for suggestions on how better to ask men if they are being abused because a lot of times they don't like to admit to being victims.
- DAIS doesn't consider themselves as a homeless services provider specifically, though they do serve similar populations to homeless services providers. Domestic violence victims typically have homes and are fleeing them due to an unsafe situation.
- Birki said there are definitely some gaps in services and that DAIS would be willing to partner with other providers to put together an informational conference next year.

2. Update on Coordinated Entry – Housing Crisis Hotline

Dux passed a handout detailing the Coordinated Intake hotline phone process. She said CAC wanted to start the hotline by September 1. The script for the phone tree is outlined on the handout she provided. The phone lines are set up but the scripts are not on the phone lines yet.

Dux went over the Housing Crisis Hotline flow chart, which shows what the next step is for the caller under each of the phone tree selections. They may get a message or a live person, depending on their choice. They will then be assessed for their situation and the best course of action recommended to them. Those eligible for additional services are given further assessment using VI-SPDAT and entered into HMIS.

Dux reviewed the HSC website home page under construction. She said the website for HSC is also combined with Coordinated Intake. They've hired Econoprint to design the website.

Discussion highlights:

- Weber and Carden suggested putting the caseworker option as the last option rather than the first. Dux explained that the rationale for putting the caseworker option first was to prevent a backlog of calls going to shelter providers that would then turn around and be referred back to CAC.
- Briarpatch serves youth up to age 25, including those with children.
- Right now, those eligible for case management are people who are homeless for less than six months. The Coordinated Intake Committee wants to expand services to all single individuals, which would require an extra case worker.
- The VI-SPDAT is shorter and takes less time to get through than the regular SPDAT.
- The HSC website will provide information and outreach to those experiencing homelessness and will also inform the community about what the Consortium and individual service providers are doing to address homelessness.

3. Unsheltered Point In Time July Results

Fleenor handed out a document with the point in time results for July 31, 2014. He said an email went out to a variety of service providers and volunteers in March inviting them to participate in the first planning session for the July point in time count. They met from April through mid-July

to plan the count. As planning progressed, they added a few more questions than HUD requires. They formed into five teams of four people each, which worked very well in terms of being able to talk to people and in terms of safety issues. Things have gotten a lot smoother for planning the count.

Briarpatch outreach people conducted a pre-count prior to the point in time count. Some people made it very clear that they would be angry and hostile if woken up and that they were going to hide the night of the count. Many acknowledged that they would be drinking and using at their campsites.

The count started between 10:00 and 10:30 p.m. The five teams included two eastside teams, along with north, west, and central teams. Many individuals felt the counters were asking too many questions. They had added questions about LGBT status, HIV status, past domestic abuse, and whether they had pets. The counters had to be aware of the surroundings when questioning people to guarantee their privacy. Volunteers were able to capture at least the basic demographics, such as sex and age.

Some people were anxious about the volunteers and thought they were cops. Some were angry, and others refused to answer.

Fleenor went over the numbers and percentages in the spreadsheet and described the demographics. The higher number of males to females wasn't surprising. There were more whites than African Americans. The number of physically disabled persons seemed low. Most respondents were over age 24. There were only six military people who responded, indicating that progress is being made with homeless persons who've served in the military.

Discussion highlights:

- People were much more resistant and hostile during this count than they have been in the past.
- One point at issue is the difference between homeless service provision and homeless enabling.
- In addition to the five teams throughout the city, there were reports from The Salvation Army and Safe Haven.
- The numbers this time were up from last July (2013). Fleenor didn't know if this was because they're getting better at locating people or because more people are unsheltered.

4. NAEH Annual Conference on Homelessness – Update

Dux and Carden said the energy at the conference inspired them and made them believe that ending homelessness is a possibility. Dux said there were 1,600 individuals in attendance, and they had turned away another 1,500. She said that everything the HSC Board is doing is being done correctly, but they really need to get started on written standards for Rapid Re-Housing, Housing First, and Permanent Supportive Housing.

Dux said HUD's goals are derived from research, and the goals are attainable. She went to a couple of different seminars about communities that had significantly decreased homelessness.

In one seminar, she heard about an owner or management company in one community that has put aside 1% of their units for affordability and for Housing First. She said a 5% vacancy rate is usually budgeted for. Madison's vacancy rate is around 2% or 3%.

The 100,000 Homes campaign was there. There has to be buy in from the top down, from mayors, county executives, etc., however, for this to work.

Housing First was really pushed, as was ending veterans' homelessness and chronic homelessness. There are certain pilot programs HUD is trying to end family homelessness.

Dux said there were great speakers there, including Michelle Obama, Julian Castro, and Cory Booker from New Jersey.

The focus was serving those most in need, the Housing First initiative, and Rapid Re-Housing. Centralized coordinated intake and assessments were also huge.

5. Wisconsin Inter-Agency Workgroup on Homelessness Update

Dux said that the Council met on Wednesday. The Council consists of representatives from the Department of Workforce Development, the VA, WHEDA, Corrections, and the Continuums of Care. The big emphasis in the past couple months has been getting feedback for the State of Wisconsin Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The deadline was Sunday for giving feedback. She and a couple of others met to answer the questions, and she'll send the final responses to everyone via email.

There are also going to be public input sessions for the Plan and an online webinar on September 10. It's important to respond to the questions.

It's also important for the CoC to continue going to the Inter-Agency Council meetings. They are going to put together some data from around the state and from HMIS as well.

There were some old projects that were backlogged. SOAR received \$75,000, which was changed to \$225,000. That's a huge increase in funding. Also, \$1.2 million can now be passed forward for tenant based rental assistance. Some of those dollars are CDBG dollars, which the State doesn't want to spend in Madison or Dane County because they're entitlement communities.

The State Consolidated Plan is due mid-February 2015 and will be implemented by April 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Fleenor moved to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. Weber seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Kenny, recorder