



**Homeless Services Consortium Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2018 11am-1pm  
30 W. Mifflin St. Room 1000B**

Call to Order and Welcome: Called to order at 11:10am.

Members Present: Maggie Carden, David Dexheimer, Heidi Weglietner, Takisha Jordan, Robin Serreno, Matt Julian, Conner Wild, Jani Koester

Others Present: Torrie Kopp Mueller, Aaron Romens, John Brown, Mike O'Neill, Hasan Mohr, Brenda Konkel, Sarah Lim

Absent: Kathy Kamp, Ann Catlett, Melissa Mennig (excused)

**1. Introductions**

**2. Approval of Minutes from February 23, 2018**

Heidi moves for approval, Second by Takisha

No discussion

Minutes approved.

**3. Election of Board Secretary**

Matt Julian self-nominated.

Second by Dex.

No discussion

Matt approved as new Board Secretary.

**4. Discussion on Board Member Representation on CoC Committees**

Board members assigned themselves to committees of interest

**5. EHH Funding; Vote on Priorities, Scoring Spreadsheet, Ranking Process, Funding Allocation Plan, Supplemental Application Questions**

Board moved to move this down the agenda to accommodate Sarah Lim's schedule. Moved to Agenda Item #6.

Sarah Lim came to present on EHH funding process.

Distribution of Performance Scoring Spreadsheet for EHH funding process.

Takisha motion to approve the EHH scoring spreadsheet, second by Matt.

EHH Scoring Spreadsheet was approved.

Distribution of activities to take place during the EHH process; reviewed document

Would like programs to talk more about innovation and ability to meet changing need of participants

Heidi feels uncomfortable to have this conversation as a funded agency

Should the make up of the review team change? Would be great to have 2 board members. Matt, Conner, Jani and Dex are all interested

## **6. Review of Written Standards Prevention Evaluation; Vote on future of Prevention Standards**

Torrie presented on the Prevention Section of the Written Standards. TRC and Porchlight DIGS provided data for the past year of prevention financial service.

Aaron from TRC: (see attached data), had very few participants under the old system, hard to do a comparison, some households were never assessed because brief conversation indicated ineligibility so gave other services. Priority score doesn't provide enough of a spread to really prioritize. Suggestion for tie breaker could be the closer you are to eviction the higher the score. Progressive engagement principal are very important for this work. Continuing to work with participants on budgeting for future months is very important. Heidi asked if there are figures on what percentage of people's income is going to rent. Aaron doesn't have the figure today, but could possibly get it. Brenda from TRC passed out a draft a prevention screening tool

Hasan from Porchlight DIGS: (see attached data), historically took one slot from each shelter per month, in the last 6 months have done 2 per shelter, but must be required to meet the Written Standards eligibility, in general the new Written Standards excludes 2/3's of prior eligible people, feels the Standards are drastic and draconian, solution is to have 2 pots of money, use most for those who are newly eligible and reserve some funds for those who were previously eligible, went to HUD Milwaukee to see if HUD would approve a 2 pot system, HUD official could not find any regulations. CAC, JFF are both against the Written Standards, Porchlight is against them. The number of people sleeping in their car/unconnected have gone up 500%. He thinks people are saying this in order to get the help they need. Believes that people are gaming the system in order to get their needs met. Homeless ever would be an incentive to fraud.....everyone would say they have been and there is no way to prove if they were or not. I'm comfortable with the 5 years now, even though I wasn't before.

Brenda from TRC: there is a huge need in our community, eviction prevention vs. homeless prevention is key to remember, how to predict those who might become homeless is those who have experienced homelessness in the past, there is a very small amount of money in our community to meet the huge need, thinks we shouldn't limit this to homelessness in the past 5 years, prefer it to be homeless ever, get a lot of hostility about these standards, possibly being coached about what to say, people are being mis-referred, don't want to require documentation of homelessness, but wonders what to do if the story doesn't

add up, priority for people in subsidized housing, what is the tie breaker due to the lack of point spread, are there guidelines on how to decide if help people get large amounts of funds if others won't get funding, there is a push and pull between prioritization tool and progressive engagement, there is a mention of common tools in the Standards, either create these or take it out, wondering why the other things are on the tool,

Board had discussion on the data, presentations and Written Standards. Robin says there are other research of predictors of homelessness and will send this out. There could be a difference of predictions of homelessness vs. prediction of homelessness due to eviction. Heidi certain neighborhoods have higher rates of eviction, do we prioritize people in certain neighborhoods, Takisha: maybe we need to have more discussion, Heidi agrees, but maybe have the committee have the discussion, we could get rid of stuff that people don't need to do, scoring tool, important to keep prioritization, Dex: refer tool back to committee to create a larger spread or a tie breaker, Conner: can we get more information from the providers who feel this system isn't working, would like to see proposals on how to make this better

Takisha makes a motion to send this back to the Core committee to look at prioritization tool and possible removal of homeless in the past 5 years eligibility criteria and bring back recommendations to the May Board meeting, Second by Heidi. Motion approved. Torrie will let the Board know when the conversation is happening so Board can attend.

Did not get to the following agenda items. Will move to the April Board meeting.

- 7. Continue conversation on Wisconsin Coalition Against Homelessness**
- 8. Continue conversation on Built for Zero and priority for Vets: Vote to follow Written Standards or continue with current practice**
- 9. CoC Coordinator Update**

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.  
Minutes recorded by Torrie Kopp Mueller.