

## Continuum of Care Executive Board Meeting Minutes 6.18.15:

Attending: MaryNell Regan, Kent Lovern, John Stibal, Jim Eigenberger, Jim Mathy, Luke Radomski, Gwat-Yong Lie, Steven Mahan, Ahong Xiong, Jenny von Helms, Amy Lorenz, Jennifer Frey, Claire Johnson

Steve began with introductions and called for a review and motion to approve the May meeting minutes.

1<sup>st</sup>: Jim Mathy 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jennifer Frey

WI Coalition Against Homelessness –  
not present

Lead Agency –

*Open Board Seats*—There are currently three empty seats, sheriff, county supervisor on the Milwaukee CoC board excluding Wauwatosa's seat which is now vacant. In addition to these empty seats, the Common Council position has been offered to Aldermen Jose Perez and we are currently awaiting a confirmation response. In regards to the other vacant spots, the question was raised as to, how do we fill those positions? It was suggested to change the title of the seats to "law enforcement," perhaps having the Department of Corrections or a State seat. There was also a suggestion to open and offer the seat to West Milwaukee, since they have the second largest public school system school, which would assist with families and youth. The suggestion of having "Public Safety" as a title was brought up although it is a broad of a term, the Executive Board can define it in ways that the seat can be utilized to better serve the needs of the CoC. In relations to that title, there was a suggestion of having someone from Amour, a private agency working with the correctional system that processes discharge information, be offered a seat. Kent Lovern stated that he could reach out to those individuals at Amour. Amy Lorenz stated that perhaps those from the Department of Corrections should be offered a seat since they presented their concerns on the subpopulations of sex offenders. There was conversation that potentially asking someone from the Department of Children and Families as well since potentially it would be a connection to children aging out of foster care. Both Steve and John agreed that the positions, whoever it is offered to, must give time commitment to the committee and the work at hand. There was agreement that each person who made suggests call the different proposed agencies and see if they are able to commit to the committee.

*Point In Time*—The Point In Time(PIT) this July will be starting at 7pm Wednesday, on July 29<sup>th</sup> and ending at 7am on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. However, because HUD is allowing the post-7 days after, the county will be able to continue count individuals who were homeless on the night of July 29<sup>th</sup>. This will end on August 5<sup>th</sup>. This PIT is a mandate of the State whereas January's PIT is a mandate from HUD. The PIT committee is asking the EB to have a blanket or sleeping bag drive or a donation for the two items. Sleeping bags are the hardest to find and more expensive to purchase. Marynell stated that the DA can assist in getting the sleeping bags; these can be lightly used as well. MaryNell and John of West Allies will both co-lead this effort. There should be no CH unsheltered by next year. That is the goal that Jim Mathy would like to see; a dramatically reduced number. Steve stated that the anomaly is that it directly correlates with FoodShare. Jim wants to coordinate with the PIT committee on how to offer, to those found street homeless that night, housing first that during the Point In Time. There was discussion on if there were efforts or ways to change or adjust the definition of homelessness as well as how to find the

doubled-up housing situations. Claire Johnson stated that she could possibly find a way to map out the general areas where there is concentration of the doubled-up occupancies. In the long run, the goal is to be able to figure out how to track the families who are in the HEP-MPS. Jen stated that Jan is currently working on a document on trends and gaps and how to funnel that into the wider system. She stated that at the last HMIS board meeting in Madison it was very data driven. However the CoC is having a hard time with data being accessed. Steve stated that the data that matters is the data that is going into the ServicePoint. There was a discussion in the room around ICA and the need to have ICA present to the EB. The idea is that anyone from the EB office should be able to connect to HMIS. The EB should have the clearance on what is needed. Luke will talk to the HMIS board and ask when the Data Dashboard will be ready and when it should be ready to be rolled out. ICA has limited availability to assist in compiling and do a lot of trainings, etc. However, the EB feels strongly that there should be someone to consult and analyze. This is very vital to both the PIT and HMIS data being put into the system; the data needs to be able to read. The CoC had asked for a dashboard early-on for ESG funds. However, there has been a gap. The request has been sitting in some cue. There are current efforts in working with HMIS and ICA to figure out how to get agency's reimbursement request. The level of data required and the information needed; what slows down the process is checking if the information is correct and what was most alarming; case workers clearing schedules and not being able to take care of the clients. Some staff are spending over 20 hours on HMIS. The data needs to be there as audits will begin. The key to this is the dashboard as it would have information that would feed into other funding resources. HMIS will be coming before the EB before the PIT. Luke stated that the HMIS Board is trying to treat all the state counties the same, so Ashland vs Milwaukee. Perhaps that is something that Luke will need to look at when looking at the way the HMIS board addresses the information.

*NOFA*—YWCA has a TH project that is funded through the CoC. The YWCA is transitioning out and refocusing their services. They were able to have 3 individuals come to own their own homes and when the YWCA asked them how the clients were able to they stated that it was financial literacy. YWCA wants the \$110,000 to be reallocated in the CoC. HUD is allowing the reallocation of the funds to HMIS, CE, RRH or PSH both for only CH single, families, unaccompanied youth. Sometime in July there will be a special meeting for this. There is also a CoC analysis that will be put together for the CoC. The data for this analysis is coming from all HMIS data. Candice Hacker who works for Bowman puts HMIS data together for the CoC. Jan and Candice are both looking at the performance of the Milwaukee CoC and trying to figure how and where to transition the money; a needs gap analysis. Where is the best place to move the funding for? How to move funds? Will look at this in the next few weeks. Jennifer was on a CoC Roundtable conference call yesterday and New Orleans, Salt Lake City and another has claimed to end homelessness in sub-populations. Many of the change happened by a big systems change and through very client-centered programming. Steve stated that there will be a lot of push back on the system change. Why do we have so many shelters and if they are not working and not feeding into PSH, how do we address that? Moving forward will need emergency housing and special populations housing but should have more PSH. Jim stated that he has 5 shelter providers signed on to housing first model to start July 1<sup>st</sup>. The CoC will need to make hard calls. Their business will need to be remodeled or be closed based upon the need and the desire of changes. There was a statement saying that there is a need to mobilize the programs and the legislations to allow people to move quicker. Currently the single sourcing is a problem. TBRA is using HOME funds and only two years on it. Jim would like to know where the permanent housing providers are getting their referrals from because there are many CH sitting in

Shelters. Luke can do the data dump of the waiting list, fully automated, of where the providers are. Housing providers in the CoC are getting it from their own agencies.

Announcements— Senior housing for West Allis will be opening their application online only on July 14<sup>th</sup>. The housing is for elderly disabled. Luke will send it out via email. This one does have a Veterans preference. West Allis has 125 total, HACM has 250 total, and Milwaukee will be opening up their waiting list as well. Jim, Jim and Luke should have some coordination. Paul Williams, PR at HACM wanted to have a list of providers. Lottery information and will affect HEP-MPS population. All applications are online.

Jennifer—would like to debrief on the BID symposium. This item will be on the next meeting's agenda.

John—Asked that the Sign-In Sheet be adjusted to having names on there already, just being able to check it off.