



Milwaukee Continuum of Care Full Body Meeting
Thursday, February 28th, 2019, 9:30AM to 11:00 AM
Pathfinders, 4200 N. Holton St., Milwaukee, WI

Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Introductions (2 minutes)
- 3) Review and Approve December Meeting Minutes (2 minutes)
- 4) Review and Approve February Consent Agenda (2 minutes)
- 5) Lead Agency Announcements (Claire Shanahan) (2 minutes)
- 6) HMIS Updates (Zach Ehmann) (2 minutes)
- 7) Coordinated Entry Update – Policy Review: Youth Initiative, Family Initiative, and Shelter Referral & Assessment (Emily Kenney) (15 minutes)
- 8) Racial Disparities Data Analysis and Point in Time Data Dashboard (Jesse Dirkman, Institute for Community Alliances) (20 minutes)
- 9) City of Milwaukee Sex Offender Ordinance (Adam Stephens, City of Milwaukee, Office of the City Attorney) (10 minutes)
- 10) Department on Aging Overview (Liz Oettiker and Kathryn Sprague) (15 minutes)
- 11) Inner Beauty Center Presentation (Deanne Lawson) (10 minutes)
- 12) Community Impact Stories (5 minutes or as time allows)
- 13) Open Discussion/Announcements (5 minutes or as time allows)



Continuum of Care Full Body 12.11.2018 Meeting Minutes:

Claire Shanahan, Lead Agency – City of Milwaukee – CDGA began with introductions and called for a review and motion to approve the November meeting minutes.

1st: Julie Bock, Pathfinders 2nd: Jenny von Helms, Salvation Army **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

Claire called for a review and motion to approve the December Consent Agenda

1st: Clarissa Cameron, Mercy Housing 2nd: Wendy Weckler, Hope House **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

Agenda Items in List

Lead Agency Updates: Claire reminded the Full Body of a Point in Time planning committee meeting taking place at 1:00 PM at Hope House tomorrow. Claire stated that community warming rooms were seeing an uptick in number seen – Divine Intervention (Tippecanoe Church) saw 7 adults total on night of 12/1, and saw 20 on 12/9. St. Ben’s was open last week and saw at most 44 in a night. Claire reminded the Full Body that St. Ben’s and Repairers of the Breach took in folks on a walk-in basis, and assistance in sharing information about them with their networks is appreciated. Claire notified the Full Body that the Institute of Community Alliances and the City have released a data request/custom report form for information requests from the Homeless Management Information System, currently available on the CoC website on the HMIS page. This form would be required for data/custom report requests so ICA could have proper notice/knowledge of specific data needs alongside the City. Claire stated that data requests were a benefit of CoC membership, and she could provide more in depth information regarding CoC membership to attendees one-on-one after the meeting.

Coordinated Entry Update: Claire provided the CoC with a brief update on Coordinated Entry in Emily Kenney’s place. Coordinated Entry Leadership committee has been working on updating the governance of Coordinated Entry leadership, and discussing the scope of their work. Part of this included updating the roles and responsibilities of Coordinated Entry leadership committee chairs and members, as seen in chair “job descriptions”. This work also addresses Coordinated Entry leadership committee’s relationship with other CoC committees and making distinctions in their committee work with the work of other committees.

Wisconsin SHARES childcare subsidy program: Claire had invited representatives from the State of Wisconsin’s SHARES subsidized childcare program to the Full Body so members could receive information about their resources for families.



Rose Prochazka, Section Chief of the Wisconsin Shares Policy Unit at the Department of Children and Families spoke first. SHARES administrators want to ensure that children experiencing homelessness have access to Wisconsin Shares Child Care subsidy. The program uses Subtitle (7 B) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act. This allows SHARES to include those who are living doubled-up with a friend or relative due to a housing crisis to meet the this program’s homeless definition. This is important because without including this group in the definition of homeless, they experience address and residency verification barriers, and could be ineligible for Wisconsin Shares.

When CCDBG was reauthorized in 2014, the final rule of the Child Care Development Block grant made the goals of the child care subsidy program two-fold: 1) to assist with the cost of child care 2) promote healthy child development through quality child care. Quality child care can help to alleviate some of the stressors for children experiencing homeless and that is why SHARES wants to help the CoC reach families who are experiencing housing insecurity.

Outreach efforts were prompted by CCDBG Reauthorization – this is the primary federal legislation that guides the Child Care subsidy program. It had not been updated in about 20 years and over the past 3 years or so we have been busy making changes to comply with the new requirements. The purpose of the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program is to assist families with a portion of the cost of quality child care while they are working or participating in activities that will lead to work. Approved activities include employment, W-2 or Tribal TANF, and some components of the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) Program, and an eligible educational activity, such as high school, basic education, GED, ESL, or post-secondary education.

In Milwaukee, Milwaukee Enrollment Services Center (MiLES) determines eligibility and Milwaukee Early Care Administration (MECA) creates the authorization. Getting Wisconsin Shares is always a two-step process. Families must first be determined eligible and then get an authorization. CCDBG was reauthorized in 2014 and it required states to fully implement the changes by October of 2018. There have been many policy changes to the Wisconsin Shares Child Care program in response to the reauthorization. These new policies are more family-friendly and promote continuity of care for children.

One of the biggest improvement to Wisconsin Shares is extending the financial eligibility threshold to 85% of the Wisconsin State Median Income (SMI) from 200% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a family size. Previously, when a family’s income reached 200% FPL, they would no longer be eligible for Wisconsin Shares. Extending the income limit to 85% SMI allows families to continue receiving child care subsidies as their income increases. This helps families by creating a gradual phase-out of the Wisconsin Shares subsidy rather than abruptly ending their child care. The phase-out process gradually reduces the



subsidy amount as household income increases. The parent’s share of the child care cost gradually increases until the parent assumes the full cost of care or their income exceeds 85% SMI.

A couple years ago, SHARES created a 12-month eligibility period by eliminating the Six Month Report Form (SMRF). A family’s eligibility could be established for up to 12 months if there was no change in circumstances. New policies were developed to encourage workers to write child care authorizations for up to 12 months if there is no expected change in the parent’s approved activity schedule or the child care need schedule. If there is an expected change, the authorization may be written up to that point in time. Child Care workers are encouraged to write consecutive authorizations so that there are no gaps in child care during the 12 months eligibility period. This past fall, new policies were added so that during the authorization period, if the parent’s approved activity hours are reduced for any reason, parents may choose to maintain child care at the same number of hours until the next scheduled authorization assessment. That means that if an authorization was written for 6 months at 40 hours a week because the parent was working 40 hours a week but then a month later, the parent’s work hours were reduced to 30 hours a week, the authorization may remain at 40 hours a week until the end of the 6 month authorization period when a new authorization assessment is due.

SHARES also created new policy to stabilize the monthly subsidy amount so that within their 12-month eligibility period, there is less fluctuation in the monthly subsidy amount. There are three ways parents can apply for Wisconsin Shares: online on access.wisconsin.gov (takes about an hour to apply on ACCESS, and parents can view eligibility statuses and report changes related to eligibility, such as a new job), by calling their local Wisconsin Shares agency, or by visiting their local Wisconsin Shares agency.

To be eligible for Wisconsin Shares, parents must have a total household income of less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level, be a resident of Wisconsin, be in an “Approved Activity” such as employment or the Wisconsin Works W-2 program, be in cooperation with the Child Support Agency, and submit all verification documents that Wisconsin Shares requires (families experiencing homelessness do not need to verify their address or their Wisconsin residency). Once a family is determined eligible, their income must remain below 85% of the State Median Income. Wisconsin Shares subsidizes a portion of the cost of child care. The child care provider can require payment for the portion of the child care bill that is not covered by Wisconsin Shares.

Rose and her team demonstrated how to use the SHARES authorization portal and childcare finder site. Brochures pertaining to Rights and Responsibilities, Program Eligibility, etcetera were distributed. Claire will send out presentations to Listserv.

Community Impact Stories: None reported during this meeting.



Open Discussion/Announcements: Today was Julie Bock's last Full Body meeting, as Julie will be leaving Pathfinders by January. Claire and other Full Body members acknowledged and thanked Julie for her service to the CoC and dedication to serving youth experiencing homelessness.

Meeting adjourned.

February Consent Agenda

❖ *ICA-Consent agenda 2/11/2019*

❖ CAPER Submission

- The City ESG CAPER was due on Monday February 11, 2019. If you have not submitted, via the link provided by SAGE, please contact Nancy for assistance.

❖ Point in Time

- Point in Time was held on January 23, 2019.
- Due to the extreme weather conditions, Post 7-day sites were cancelled 3 of the 7 days. We are, however, confident that individuals/families experiencing homelessness were counted during this short window because of the additional warming rooms that were open that evening and into the weekend.
- Data Jam is currently underway with the hopes of having all surveys entered by Friday February 15th.
- Please make sure all data for January 2019 is entered and corrected as the HDX submission must be completed by 3/1/19 for providers to review and approve submission.

❖ Housing Inventory Chart

- All capacity updates for all housing providers were due on Friday February 1, 2019. Providers that did not confirm capacity will need to report any changes as soon as possible so as not to hold up the HDX submission.

❖ HMIS Training – Coordinated Entry

- On February 1, 2019, the new Coordinated Entry process rolled out with very few hiccups. I'd like to thank all staff that have participated in this training, provided feedback and requests for enhancements to the assessment. The purpose of this change was to make the process a lot more transparent, not to mention less data entry burden for staff and will allow Milwaukee provides the ability to better track clients and their housing needs.
- Staff that have not attended the new CE process can contact Nancy or visit the ICA website for a recording of the training.

❖ Veterans Initiative

- The Veterans Initiative currently has 9 housing openings with a few more coming online soon.
- There are currently 0 chronically homeless Veterans but 75 on the list still in need of housing.
- Meetings are held at 10am bi-weekly on Wednesday at Hope House



Unmet Needs Workgroup

Attending January Meeting: Milwaukee County -Luke Rosynek, Carly Mikkila, Kali Daugherty, Jess Shaw; Guest House/Pathways: Iesha Sprewell; Salvation Army: Corissa Griffith, Stephanie Kallas; Benedict Center: Meagan Winn

In January, the Unmet Needs Workgroup identified multiple issues and chose three to submit. They stand out because they meet the following criteria:

Achievability of solutions; High frequency of unmet need; Lack of availability of resources for connected and qualified consumers.

The following three issues were highlighted for the attention of the CoC Board and Provider Advisory Committee:

1 - Funding needed for application fees (and security deposits) - \$20 is often needed up front to apply to an apartment and is a barrier to exiting homelessness for voucher holders with case management. Many housing programs do not pay security deposits and application fees.

Hand Up Campaign? Private Donations? Coordination of Flexible Funding?

2 - Furniture for Milwaukeeans exiting homelessness - When funding exists, only few essentials are provided. Furniture banks, storage, donations, delivery, etc. are needed.

3 - Go Pass Financial burden increase / transportation access for people with disabilities - price per ride increased 100% for 2019. Was \$1, now \$2. Also, funds for bus tickets are lacking community wide.

Many Unmet Needs have been expressed and recorded by the group and a complete list is available to anyone upon request.

NOFA WORKGROUP COMMITTEE MEETING- The work group met February 4, 2019. Two subcommittees have been established which met during the first hour. The Scoring Subcommittee finalized the scoring instrument which will be used to rank and score projects. Future discussions will be focus on the reallocation process. The System Performance Subcommittee reviewed a draft document looking at housing capacity and strategies to enhance capacity and the unit costs associated with different housing intervention strategies.

Shelter and Transitional Housing Taskforce : The Shelter and Transitional Housing Task Force met on Thursday, January 10, 2019. Based on concerns raised during the media coverage of the warming room issue, we thought it would be helpful to examine perceptions about the effectiveness of 2-1-1. We discussed collecting and analyzing data about 2-1-1 usage from HMIS. We agreed that the COC and/or



STTF should be leading the discussion rather than reacting to misconceptions being shared or repeated in the media and social media. We shared ideas about how to work in partnership to create a cohesive community message about homelessness in Milwaukee. STTF agreed that the Warming Room committee should be part of CoC structure as a standing committee with chair. The CE MoU has been updated and CE leadership will review and approve on Monday, January 14. The Agency Mediation and Non-Compliance, Governance Procedures, and Shelter Referral Process were presented as a first draft. Emily shared that an advocacy day is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1. A white paper has been created and advocacy will focus on the Interagency Council's plan that was released in the fall. Liz announced that Sojourners will schedule a training with Fair Housing Council and Legal Action Wisconsin and encourages agencies to send staff. Date TBA. The next STTF meeting is Thursday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. at GMF.

Homeless Advocacy Subcommittee Meeting: Jacquelyn Cram presented at the February meeting about Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division (BHD) services, including Community Access to Recovery Services (CARS) long term case management programs. Fun fact—BHD serves over 10,000 individuals in Milwaukee County! If you missed the meeting, BHD handouts can be accessed online (see links below). If you have additional questions, please email Jacquelyn at Jacquelyn.Cram@milwaukeecountywi.gov.

Behavioral Health Division description of services:

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/cntyHHS/BHD/CARS/CARSInfoPacket1.pdf>

Community Access to Recovery Services (CARS) case management referral form:

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/cntyHHS/BHD/CARS/CARSReferralPacket1.pdf>

Also, our group discussed sharing information about upcoming meetings and trainings related to both housing, case management, and mental health services. Below is a short list of upcoming trainings as well as the point contact person for each training.

1. MC3 Change Agent meetings

<http://www.mc3milwaukee.org>

Who: Anyone who is interested. Current participants include individuals receiving services, peer specialists, mental health and substance abuse providers, frontline clinicians, administrative staff, executive directors, and more

When: 3rd Wednesday of the month 1:00-3:30pm

Where: Italian Community Center, 631 E Chicago St, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Next meeting: 2/27/19

Contact person: Amy Moebius, Amy.Moebius@milwaukeecountywi.gov

2. Housing Case Manager Meeting

Who: Case managers from housing programs



When: 3rd Monday of the month 1:30-3:00pm
Where: 6737 W Washington Street, Room 2216
Next meeting: 2/18/19
Contact person: Emily Kenney, ekenney@impactinc.org

Please send Kali and I your thoughts on our next advocacy committee meeting. No date is set yet; however, it will tentatively be held in April at the county housing division office