



Milwaukee Continuum of Care Full Body Meeting
Thursday, June 27th, 2019, 9:30AM to 11:00 AM
Sojourner Family Peace Center, 609 W. Walnut St., Milwaukee, WI

Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Introductions (2 minutes)
- 3) Review and Approve April Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
- 4) Review and Approve June Consent Agenda (5 minutes)
- 5) Lead Agency Updates (Claire Shanahan) (5 minutes)
- 6) Coordinated Entry Update (Emily Kenney) (10 minutes)
- 7) 2020 Census (Sharon Robinson, City of Milwaukee Department of Administration) (15 minutes)
- 8) Introducing Mike Basford, Director of the Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness (10 minutes)
- 9) City of Milwaukee Health Department Home Visiting Services (Ricky Traner) (20 minutes)
- 10) Community Impact Stories (5 minutes)
- 11) Open Discussion/Announcements (5 minutes)



Continuum of Care Full Body 4.25.2019 Meeting Minutes:

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

1st: Karl 2nd: Steve **Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

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

1st: Nancy 2nd: Steve **Motion carried by unanimous vote**

Agenda Items in List

CoC Project Scoring Tools: The NOFA workgroup has been working on developing scoring tools for CoC-funded renewal projects, preparing them for approval by the board. Claire wanted to make sure the draft tools were shared with the Full body for their knowledge of desired scoring and program evaluation criteria permanent supportive housing, Safe Haven, rapid re-housing, and Coordinated Entry supportive services only projects. To create the draft, the tool from last year was revised in consultation with the NOFA workgroup members in order to adjust to changes within the CoC. Last year there was a set of criteria referred to as “risk adjustment”, awarding points to projects that serve those identified as having the most severe needs in our community. This had uniformly assessed in the percentage of clients in any program who had multiple disabilities, entered programs from the street or places not meant for human habitation, or had no income at program entry, regardless of the population served. During review of the data the NOFA workgroup’s scoring subgroup found that this portion of the tool had an adverse impact on the scoring for the CoC’s family and youth serving projects. Since families generally do not experience street homelessness, rarely have a head of household that reports having multiple disabilities during an assessment, and are more likely to have some income due to W-2 or other benefits being available, all 3 CoC-funded projects solely serving families scored the poorest in this criteria. The CoC has one youth serving project, Walker’s Point Youth & Family Center’s Rapid Re-Housing program. Past performance demonstrated that youth will not likely report multiple disabilities at program entry. The CoC has introduced Coordinated Entry policies not entirely overlapping the period of time assessed by the CoC for project performance that specialize prioritization by each population (families, youth, single adults). HUD continues to require that CoCs serve the most vulnerable in their communities, ranking and rating projects based on their capacity to serve the most vulnerable. Due to this requirement, a vulnerability test is still needed for assessing projects, but the full implementation of Coordinated Entry both identifies the most vulnerable in communities and is the sole source of referral for all CoC funded project but for Community Advocates Safe Haven project. The CoC is in a transition stage as the clientele seen by each project changes with the approval of policies like the



family initiative policy and procedure. The risk adjustment portion of the tool was changed to reflect the unique demonstration of vulnerability by population served, and decreased in weight of the total score. The difference of total points was made up for in increased emphasis on financial performance (HUD's requirement of quarterly draws at minimum in the LOCCS system and spending of the total amount awarded) and projects' ability to fill most of their units observed through the project's most recent Annual Performance report submitted to HUD.

Claire reviewed the new Coordinated Entry Supportive Services Only renewal project scoring tool with the Full Body. Claire stated that the origin of this tool came from the increasing importance of the performance of the Coordinated Entry system for the performance of individual projects. For example, housing programs must accept all referrals from Coordinated Entry because they receive CoC funds. The scoring criteria for CoC participation and financial performance were included having the same weight of the total as the housing program scoring tool. It was observed that Coordinated Entry holds some responsibility for programs performing well in unit utilization, therefore this project type is evaluated for the average unit utilization of all CoC-funded permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing programs. Coordinated Entry is expected to match those identified with having the highest needs with the housing options that are available to them, selected by the client, and that will improve client's housing stability long term. With that in mind, Coordinated Entry is evaluated for returns to homelessness at 3 month and 6 month intervals after housing placement. Additionally, the responsibility of identifying and placing those with the highest vulnerability into housing programs has in large part shifted from the housing provider to Coordinated Entry. An assessment of Coordinated Entry's fulfillment of a CoC expectation to refer those with the highest severity of needs into all CoC-funded housing programs has been included in the scoring tool. The NOFA workgroup was acknowledged for their work in updating and creating the tool. The Full Body did not have questions or comments about either of the renewal project scoring tools

CoC Governance Charter: Claire introduced a working draft of the CoC's governance charter to the Full Body for review, questions and comments. A lot of work in revising and updating the CoC's governance charter has been going on behind the scenes. We go above and beyond what HUD calls for in governance charter content in response to CoC needs, and what is written reflects how the system currently operates. At present the governance charter is a working draft intended to go through a series of committees. Ultimately, CoC governance and approval of the governance charter is charged to the CoC board of directors. The governance charter is intended to document the structure, roles and responsibilities of different entities within the CoC. It is intended to be ready reference material for anyone looking to understand the CoC and its work. The charter must also include processes called for by HUD: CoC board of directors appointment process, a process for addressing board member conflicts of interest, board member recusal process and board member code of conduct. The charter also must



include established HMIS policies and procedures, which are created with oversight by a statewide HMIS Advisory Board. HUD directs governance charters for CoCs to be created with input from the Collaborative Applicant (the City), the HMIS Lead Agency (the Institute for Community Alliances), and the CoC. The charter delineates the responsibilities of four major leadership roles: the City, ICA, IMPACT, and the board of directors. As Lead Agency, the City takes the lead on CoC system coordination and project evaluation, partnering with ICA and IMPACT for data sources that the City can analyze to speak to the health of the system and its capacity to address homelessness. The City also serves as the Collaborative Applicant, and prepares to apply for or completes the application for CoC funding from HUD each year. ICA as HMIS Lead Agency manages HMIS administration needs, including training users, furthering data quality improvement efforts, leading planning for the Point in Time count, and preparing HUD-mandated reports. The CoC has also structured governance for designation of a Coordinated Entry Administering Agency – IMPACT, Inc. holds this role and serves as the entity that manages the Coordinated Entry system, including its marketing, training for the referral process, and engaging new providers to participate. The governance charter details information about a number of CoC committees. Recently, committee structure in the CoC has been streamlined so all committees meeting specific system needs can formally make recommendations to the Provider Advisory committee. This is a change since Coordinated Entry leadership was formerly reporting recommendations and providing policies directly to the board of directors for review. This change will be helpful for streamlining communication up to the board of directors. A flowchart showing the CoC’s step-by-step policy review is included in the appendix of the governance charter. There is also a Peer-led committee in the works which will be invaluable for the CoC, because recommendations from this group will be made by people who have lived experience being homeless. The charter also includes information about membership. CoC membership is free and open to anyone, and must be diverse so as to include a variety of perspectives in the CoC’s work. Members that are not funded are able to vote in Full Body. The CoC values the contributions of CoC members to the work the CoC does to direct homelessness, so an expectation that members be active in at least one CoC meeting body is included in the charter. The governance charter content will continue to change over the next few months, to include additional information about the peer-led committee as it becomes available, updated HMIS policies and procedures, and respond to any input received from the Full Body or through other correspondence with the City. A couple minor changes pertaining to name changes of CoC representatives or removing a retired Provider Advisory representative were requested. The Full Body was notified that the same draft presented today had previously been shared in the CoC e-newsletter. Claire will continue to share updates to the charter.

Racial Disparities Data Analysis: Claire welcomed Jesse Dirkman, Data Analyst for ICA to present racial disparities analysis obtained through HMIS data for the State of Wisconsin and Milwaukee County. Claire informed the Full Body that HUD was directing CoCs to focus on identifying and addressing racial



disparities in the homeless populations in their communities and Jesse’s analysis was used to support the CoC’s consolidated application this year. Jesse provided the Full Body with data from the National Alliance to End Homelessness. Most minority groups make up a larger share of the homeless population than they do the general population. African Americans are 40% of the homeless population, but 13% of the general population. A great deal of research has also been generated through SPARC (Supporting Partnerships for Anti-Racist Communities), and Jesse recommended the Full Body refer to a study that was released last year that centered on racial disparities. A quote from SPARC report was highlighted: “This is no accident; it is the result of centuries of structural racism that have excluded historically oppressed people”. Jesse showed the group a video released from SPARC regarding the effect of restrictive covenants in creating segregated communities, enabled by housing policy and land use regulations. SPARC found that rates of homelessness for Native Americans and black people were disproportionately high, poverty alone does not explain inequity, the homeless services workforce is not representative of folks experiencing homelessness, and there are domains of inequality (economic mobility, housing, criminal justice, behavioral health, and family stabilization).

There are better rates and closing deals in areas of cities that are predominantly white. Black people have only had access to mortgages since 1970. Racially restrictive covenants for homeowner’s loans have been in place from 1917 to 1948. Metropolitan Integration Research Center completed a study looking for racially restrictive covenants in leases and mortgages. By the 1940s, 16/18 Milwaukee suburbs had used racially restrictive covenants to exclude black families. 50 different developments had racially restrictive covenants in Wauwatosa. There are fair housing laws to deter housing discrimination at the federal, state and local level. Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council completes testing to investigate claims of discrimination against protected classes made by community members. Current policies that contribute to continued housing segregation include zoning regulations. Single family zoning prevents people with lower income from finding housing they can afford in desirable neighborhoods. Home Owners’ Loan Corporation created residential security maps also known as redlining maps between 1935 and 1940 to evaluate the risk level of mortgages. Areas mapped as “hazardous” often neighborhoods with highest concentration of non-white residents. Housing discrimination is also seen in the administration of Section 8: rent structures direct people into already impoverished neighborhoods. The Low Income Housing Tax Credit program’s scoring system leads to funds being used to build in poorer neighborhoods in Milwaukee.

A statewide racial disparities analysis report was completed by ICA, and this data was made available on the ICA website. Some data points include that 1 out of 46 black or African American Wisconsinites experienced homelessness in 2017. 1 out of 454 white, non-hispanic or latino/a Wisconsinites experienced homelessness in 2017. Black or African American Wisconsinites are 10.3 times more likely to experience homelessness.



Jesse made note of a number of strategies CoCs can implement to address racial disparities: make sure the board and decision-making bodies are representative of the population served, make communication inclusive of under-represented groups, train staff to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness, create professional development opportunities for emerging leaders of different races, review coordinated entry processes to understand impact on people of different races and ethnicities, collect data to better understand patterns of program use for people of different races and ethnicities, sustain economic investment in communities of color, expand affordable housing availability, make sure units go to folks most at risk of homelessness, implement and enforce fair housing legislation, and conduct additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness. Racial equity is achieved when race is not a predictive factor for outcomes. The presentation will be shared with the CoC listserv, anyone with questions can direct them to Jesse at jesse.dirkman@icalliances.org.

Open Discussion/Announcements: Br. Robert Wotypka of Capuchin Community Services encouraged the Full Body to watch “Seattle is Dying”, a documentary about addiction and homelessness. Nancy Esteves of the Institute for Community Alliances announced that in the last month the youth initiative housed 5 families through CVI’s programs, and that the families were referred very quickly through Salvation Army, Pathfinders, and Hope House. Rafael recognized the two newest members of the CoC, Street Angels and MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary.

Claire called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

1s: Karl 2nd: Nancy. Meeting adjourned.



June Consent Agenda

❖ ICA-Consent agenda 6/6/2019

❖ System Performance Measures

- Thank you to all providers who took the time to correct their 640's and 700 series in preparation for the System Performance Measures. The SPM's have been successfully submitted for FY2018.

❖ HMIS Data Quality – Coordinated Entry

- Reminder that all staff creating an Entry for the Milwaukee CoC Coordinated Entry Program are required to fill out the Coordinated Entry Assessment in its entirety. We are finding an increase in data gaps because of this.
- We ask that users not add anyone to the Coordinated Entry list if they have not spoken to the client regarding housing which would result in incomplete data.
 - If you are unsure of what to do with client records, please reach out to Nancy.

❖ 2020 Data Standards

- Did you hear? HUD has released the 2020 Data Standards which are set to be implemented on 10/1/2019.
- ICA is working on creating a training schedule to ensure all users are trained in anticipation of the new data changes.
- Check out the new standards here: [2020 HMIS Data Standards](#)

❖ Veterans Initiative

- The Veterans Initiative is asking all providers serving Category 1 clients (Emergency Shelters and Street Outreach providers) to submit referrals for all of their Veteran clients. There has been an increase in housing stock but a decrease in referrals. There are current openings in PSH programs, SRO and SSVF.
- All referral forms can be found here: [Veteran Initiative Referral Forms](#) (contact Nancy for link)
- Please email completed forms with required documents to [Nancy](#)
- Please make sure to include the following documents with each referral
 - ID
 - DD214 or Veteran ID
 - Birth certificates for all children in the household (if applicable)
 - Disability Statement (I have included a form in the link above)
 - Income verification from last 30 days (if applicable)
 - Homeless History Tracking Form

Income Work Group: The Income Work Group in their recent May meeting, updated and approved the work group charter and committee description, as well as re-elected co-chairs LaDeidra Johnson and Donna Rongholt-Migan for the 2019 term. The work group reviewed and discussed results of the late winter survey of COC member agencies regarding existing employment related services and data



collection activities. Work Group members will contact survey participants who agreed to be contacted, to get additional information and assess for best practices and successes. The 2019 work plan discussion focused on updates from 2018 that will be carried into the 2019 work plan. Cathedral Center will continue to support the Project Homeless Connect job fair via LaDeidra Johnson. This year's efforts will focus on recommendations to increase employer-employee connections and better prepare both for a successful job fair.

Advocacy Workgroup: The advocacy workgroup is a small group that reports to the larger outreach group (organized by Eric Collins-Dyke). Kali Daugherty and Zach Bruns co-lead the advocacy workgroup, which meets every other month at Outreach Community Health Centers office or the Milwaukee County Housing Division office. Our group's primary goal is educating ourselves about various issues surrounding homelessness in order to better serve individuals we work with on a day-to-day basis. Past meetings have included guest speakers from the Department on Aging, the Department of Corrections, and the former employees of the child welfare system. We would also like to provide more educational opportunities, such as writing letters to elected officials. Any CoC members interested in joining the advocacy subcommittee can email Kali at Kaleena.Daugherty@milwaukeecountywi.gov or Zach at ZacharyB@orchc-milw.org.

Shelter and Transitional Housing Task Force: The Shelter and Transitional Housing Task Force met on May 9, 2019. STTF members discussed the City's proposal Low Barrier Shelter Policy for ESG funded shelters. Housing Advocacy Day on May 1st was successful with support from all four Wisconsin CoCs. The amended Code Blue resolution was passed at Health and Human Needs Committee and the entire County Board. The next step is for the Warming Room team to determine how this will be implemented and create policies. The Democratic National Convention remains on our radar as we hope to partner with the City on addressing issues related to homelessness. The CE MoU is no longer necessary as much of it is covered in the CoC MoU. There will be an end user MoU to ensure new agencies and new staff are on board with the purpose and protocol of CE. The City is updating the CoC Governance Charter hoping to approve at its June meeting.

NOFA Workgroup Committee Meeting- The NOFA workgroup met on June 10th and June 24th. The group continues to examine strategies to enhance system performance measures and examine data. The decision was made to change the meeting dates from the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month to the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month from 11-1 to assure that HMIS staff could be present at the meeting to help with questions to data and HMIS reports.