

Continuum of Care Committee Meeting
August 25, 2016 1:00pm-2:00pm
United Way Community Room

Attendance: Missy Gosnell (Community Volunteer), Nancy Newton (Wellspan), Kelly Blechertas (York County Planning Commission), Jessica Mockabee (York County Human Services), Lindsay Zeglen (United Way of York County), Vicki Klinedinst (United Way of York County), Bob Woods (United Way of York County), Brye Coles (York Housing Authority), Jessica Campbell (CONTACT Helpline), Valerie Krug (YWCA York), Tina Strausbaugh (YWCA York), Robin Rohrbaugh (Community Progress Council), Leslie Dietz (YWCA Hanover Safe Home), Colleen Clay (York County Human Services), Wanda Miller (Client/Advocate), Casey Darling-Horan (Family First Health), Shelley Peterson (Community Progress Council), Marcella Kinard (Bell Socialization Services), Debbie Loucks (York Area Housing Group), Barbara Leonard (Veterans Affairs), Laura Ruhling (YWCA Harrisburg SSVF), Eve Gardner (Wellspan), Ellen Carter-Nicholas (York County Children Youth and Families), Cindy Richard (Penn-Mar Human Services SCS), Lateisha Garrison (Valley Youth House), Nora Carreras (Community Progress Council)

Welcome/Introductions: Chair, Jessica Mockabee welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Last month's meeting minutes were approved.

EFSP Update

Lindsay Zeglen reported no new update from the National Board on compliance issues. Agencies should see the first half of their Phase 33 funding shortly.

Subcommittee Reports

CoC Application

Housing First Policy – Kelly Blechertas reported that a vote is needed on the revised Housing First Policy which covers the housing first approach, coordinated entry, client centered service delivery, CoC competition process, project review and ranking process, and a few CoC-wide general policies.

Motion: Moved by Nancy Newton, seconded by Vicki Klinedinst, to approve the Housing First Policy. Motion carried.

CoC Governance Charter – Ms. Blechertas reported that a vote is needed to renew the CoC Governance Charter. The only revision is that final review and ranking proposals no longer go through YHAC and now come directly to the CoC committee. Robin Rohrbaugh noted a change to remove Community Progress Council as the centralized agency for coordinated entry.

Motion: Moved by Vicki Klinedinst, seconded by Deb Loucks, to renew the CoC Governance Charter with the removal of Community Progress Council from the coordinated entry location. Motion carried.

HMIS Governance Charter – Ms. Blechertas reported that a vote is needed to renew the HMIS Governance Charter which simply states that the York County Planning Commission is the HMIS lead agency. No changes to the charter have been made this year.

Motion: Moved by Deb Loucks, seconded by Nancy Newton, to renew the HMIS Governance Charter. Motion carried.

Ms. Blechertas reported the CoC application is coming along well and is very similar to last years. She is working on rewriting answers to the performance measures section and how York County intends to end chronic homelessness by 2017. Once completed, she will present it to the CoC for review. The deadline for submission is September 14.

Review and Ranking

Nancy Newton reported that the Review and Ranking subcommittee met on August 24 to review applications. Seven renewed applications were submitted. This year, there was more money available in Tier 1, which is guaranteed money. Although cuts were made, the subcommittee reviewed each individual program's budget to make sure the decrease would not affect services provided.

In Tier 2, the applications are more competitive with a risk of not receiving this funding. Five new project applications were submitted and the top three were put into Tier 2.

All applications were very strong this year. Points were mostly lost because of missing HMIS data and from not spending down grants. Below is a summary of Tier 1 and Tier 2 suggested amounts:

Tier 1

1. County of York – HMIS – \$147,482
2. Turning Point Interfaith Mission – Permanent Housing for Persons with Disabilities – \$285,465
3. County of York – Continuum of Care RRH Rental Assistance Program – \$66,987
4. County of York – Medium Term RRH – \$261,366
5. Bell Socialization Services – York Apartments – \$27,000
6. York Housing Authority – Shelter Plus Care – \$135,000
7. YWCA York – Still Water – \$132,563

Tier 2

1. Valley Youth House Committee – Unnamed, RRH Units for Youth – \$88,169 (Permanent Housing Bonus)
2. County of York – Coordinated Entry – \$40,000
3. Bell Socialization Services – Unnamed, RRH Units for Families – \$39,474

A planning grant in the amount of \$52,901 will also be applied for through this process. The planning grant funds are not part of the "Tier" process and are not ranked.

Motion: Moved by Deb Loucks, seconded by Bob Woods, to approve the Review and Ranking funding recommendations. Motion carried.

HMIS

Ms. Blechertas reported that the AHAR is approaching and as soon as the application process ends she will be in touch with agencies. The AHAR incorporates stats from October 1-September 30. She urged agencies to begin to clean up data as soon as possible. These are usually due around mid-December.

10 Year Plan

Bob Woods reported that the 10-Year Plan will begin to be updated starting in October. Instead of having separate groups work on each of the five themes, the entire committee will look at one theme per month and update it with everyone's input. There will still be individual contacts associated with a particular theme.

Theme 1: Increase Leadership, Collaboration, and Civic Engagement – George Barnock, Kelly Blechertas

Theme 2: Increase Access to Stable and Affordable Housing – Tammi Morris

Theme 3: Increase Economic Stability – Bob Woods

Theme 4: Improve Health and Stability – Eve Gardner

Theme 5: Transform the Homelessness Crisis Response System – Missy Gosnell

Coordinated Assessment

Ms. Blechertas passed out a flow chart that explains the client referral process for coordinated entry. This is the plan to start in October with just the core group of ESG and CoC funded programs. If they find something is not working we can change it. Emergency shelters and transitional housing programs will not be utilizing the process at this time. The VI-SPDT takes 7 minutes to complete but is very extensive as far as questioning. As of right now, 2-1-1 will not give a VI-SPDT, but will be administered by case workers at individual agencies.

Medical Respite

Ms. Newton reported they are looking at all data to determine a project location. She projected needing five beds (three for men, two for women), 24-hour supervision, accessible rooms, meals, and medication safe storage. Wellspan is putting an RFP together with these criteria to send to organizations by November with the hopes of starting the project in January. This will be short term, no longer than a 45 day stay. Bridges to Health is going to provide the medical component so now we just need the actual physical space.

Veterans

Ms. Blechertas reported that bi-weekly By-Name List meetings are underway between herself, SSVF and VA to discuss that the veterans being served in York are being referred to an outreach worker. A few months ago, a very brief release form was distributed to agencies to be used for any veteran being served, however no one has been using it. She urged everyone to please refer your veterans to the outreach workers from SSVF or the VA.

Improved Response Committee

Jessica Mockabee reported the subcommittee will perform a targeted surveying effort on August 26 in the city- library, food bank, places that serve hot meals- simply to get data on barriers of the homeless. The overall intent is to hit multiple places in the county. She will report out to the committee once all data is collected.

Agency Announcements

Shelley Peterson reported that the College Avenue bridge occupants were visited and several referrals were made to shelters, rehabs, etc. There were a total of 14 homeless individuals occupying this space who were made to vacate the area by noon on August 25.

The Next Meeting will be held Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 1:00pm at United Way. Please note that the meeting date has changed due to the deadline of the CoC Application. The meeting originally scheduled for Sept. 22 will not take place.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lindsay Zeglen