August 2015 Steering Committee Meeting

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AGENDA

I. Call to Order – Daphne Lemelle
   a) Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes – Daphne Lemelle
   a) July 13, 2015 CoC Steering Committee Meeting

III. Lead Agency Report/HMIS Administrator Report – Eva Thibaudeau

IV. Old Business
   a) TDHCA ESG RRH update – Eva Thibaudeau
   b) System Updates – Eva Thibaudeau
      • Income Now Workgroup
      • Managed Care and Housing
      • CoC Workgroups
      • Downtown transition
      • Chronic surge
   c) FY2015 CoC NOFA Updates – Eva Thibaudeau
      • Coordinated Access Bonus Points

V. Announcements
   a) Sept 22-23, 2015 Community Conversation on Youth/Young Adult Homelessness

VI. Public Comments

VII. Adjournment
The Way Home is the collaborative model to prevent and end homelessness in Houston, Harris County, and Fort Bend County.

Goals:

- End Chronic Homelessness by 2015
- End Family Homelessness by 2020
- End Youth Homelessness by 2020
- Set a Path to End All Homelessness

2015 Point-In-Time:

- Total homeless: 4,609
  - Unsheltered: 1,950
  - Sheltered: 2,659

Since 2011 we have seen:

- A 46% decrease in overall homelessness
- A 56% drop in unsheltered homelessness
- A 58% reduction in chronic homelessness

Homeless Veteran Progress:

- Veteran Housing Placements: 3,761 as of July 2015

Chronically Homeless Progress:

- Housing Placements: 2,584 as of July 2015

Chronic Homelessness Milestone!

2,500 people housed... AND COUNTING! In July, our community reached a milestone: housing more than 2,500 chronically homeless individuals since January 2012 - 2,584 to be exact. Pictured to the left is our community’s housing “thermometer” and The Way Home pledge signed one year ago by partners and community stakeholders.
Steering Committee Meeting

July 9, 2015

Minutes

Present: Thao Costis (SEARCH Homeless Services-Homeless Services Rep), Heather Garza (City of Pasadena ESG), Tory Gunsolley (Houston Housing Authority), Marilyn Kinell (Fort Bend County ESG), Kelli King-Jackson (Simmons Foundation), Tom McCasland (Harris County Housing Authority), Eva Thibaudeau (Lead Agency Staff), Charly Weldon (The BEACON-Homeless Services Rep)

Absent: Barbara Dawson (MHMRA rep), Clay Kibler (Consumer Rep), Daphne Lemelle (Harris County Community Services Dept.), Dr. Laura Marsh (VA), Neal Rackleff (COH), Mike Temple (H-GAC/Workforce Solutions), Carl Wiley (Consumer Rep)

The meeting of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Steering Committee was held on July 9, 2015 at the Coalition for the Homeless, 600 Jefferson Street, Ground Floor Conference Room, pursuant to proper notification of all Steering Committee members.

Welcome and Introductions
Tom McCasland called the meeting to order at 3:38 pm. Kelli King-Jackson conducted roll call and McCasland noted that there was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes from the May CoC Steering Committee meeting were presented. McCasland called for a motion to approve the May minutes as presented. Gunsolley motioned, Weldon seconded. The minutes were approved.

Lead Agency Report—Presented by Eva Thibaudeau
- HHH was honored at the special announcement on June 1st at Union Station declaring that Houston has effectively ended veterans' homelessness.
- The Youth Conversation planning committee met on June 29th to select three issue areas for the Youth Conversation Planning Event scheduled for September 22-23 at a location to be determined. The three issue areas are: Housing Options, Connections with other systems of care and employment and education.
• The 2015 Houston Homeless Count results were released on June 10th and presented at the Coalition Lunch and Learn on the same day. Results indicate a 46% decrease in homelessness since 2011.
• Over twenty CoC Stakeholders, including Coalition Staff will attend the National Conference on Ending Homelessness July 15-17 in Washington DC.
• The Summer Conference Debrief will be held on August 14th from 10am to 12 pm at 600 Jefferson, 1st Floor Conference Room.
• The Second Quarter HMIS Forum was conducted Thursday June 18th at the Harris County Department of Education Conference Center located at 6300 Irvington Blvd. Topics covered included CoC NOFA updates, privacy and system security, and system updates.

New Business

  o LGBTQ Non-discrimination Policy - The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) passed an “Equal Access Rule” in order to clarify the duty of recipients of HUD funding to allow equal access to housing and other opportunities regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. This policy takes effect upon passage by The Way Home CoC Steering Committee. Discussion ensued regarding new fair housing language release the day prior and NEST committee will consider this guidance and re-introduce the policy.

  o System Performance - The HEARTH Act mandates that Continuum's of Care (CoC's) perform monitoring functions in order to determine the health of the system. This monitoring is to ensure that funding decisions are made with the fullest possible knowledge of project outcome performance, system performance, data quality, client input and fiscal responsibility and efficiency. Client satisfaction surveys will be conducted by the CoC Lead Agency at partner agencies as part of this performance measurement.

Old Business

TDCHA ESG

  o $553,765 to Fulton Village non-profit, an affiliate of the Houston Housing Authority for rapid re-housing financial assistance. The award will be posted today as going directly to the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County while this concern continues to be addressed. Final recommendation will be presented at next meeting.

CoC Workgroup Additions

  o The following workgroups are recommended as necessary to continue the work of ensuring that homelessness is rare, brief and non-repeating:
- **Income Now Workgroup**: Key players who will assist with planning, visioning and execution necessary to create an Income Now culture connected to Coordinated Access. The Workgroup will also assist with Ticket to Work, Specialized Employment, Mainstream Employment, SOAR and Veteran Employment opportunities.

- **Youth and Young Adult Workgroup**: This workgroup will serve to inform best practices in unaccompanied youth and young adult homeless activities related to housing, employment and services.

- **Domestic Violence Workgroup**: To build and operate a comparable HMIS system in order to provide coordinated assessment and entry and to provide best practice guidance around safety and violence to the Continuum of Care.

**Public Comments**

- No Public Comments at this time.

**Adjournment**

Upon approval, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  

Barbara Dawson, Secretary

Approved,  

Daphne Lemelle, Chairman

____________________

Date
A. Work/Affinity Group Activities
   a. Networks, Initiatives and Affinity Groups
      i. CoC Provider Input Forum
         1. The Third Quarter Provider Input Forum is scheduled for August 25, 2015 from 9am to 10:30am at 8410 Lantern Point.
      ii. CoC Consumer Input Forum
          1. The CoC will be conducting an outreach surge August 17-31. Data collected will help guide focus group and consumer input forum logistics.
      iii. HMIS Forum
          1. The Third Quarter HMIS Forum is scheduled for Thursday September 17th at the Harris County Department of Education Conference Center located at 6300 Irvington Blvd. The primary focus will be the 2015 system upgrade.
      iv. Housing Houston’s Heroes
          1. HHH will meet on August 28, from 9am-10:30am at Career and Recovery Resources 2525 San Jacinto Street. The workgroup will be hosting a visit from TDHCA staff who are conducting a state commissioned study on ending veteran homelessness.
          2. The SSVF workgroup will meet on August 20th at US Vets from 11-12:30pm.
      v. Youth/Young Adult Affinity Group
          1. NEST Steering Committee is scheduled on August 20th from 1pm to 2:30pm at Montrose Center.
          2. The Youth Conversation Planning Event IS scheduled for September 22-23. The committee is currently identifying experts in three broad youth issue areas including:
             a. Housing options
             b. Connections with other systems of care
             c. Employment and Education
      vi. RRH Workgroup
          1. The RRH Expansion Workgroup is meeting weekly on Wednesday mornings.
          2. The RRH Funders Collaborative workgroup is meeting monthly on the third Thursday from 3-4pm at City of Houston HCD, 601 Sawyer Street.
      vii. Coordinated Access Workgroup
          1. 1115 team meetings conducted weekly from 2-3 on Wednesdays.
          2. 1185 team meetings conducted weekly on Wednesdays from 3-4pm.
          3. The Coordinated Access workgroup met multiple times during July to plan and implement the next phase of further Coordinated Access expansion with a possible addition of four HUB locations. The Coordinated Access Team meets the third Tuesday monthly from 12:00noon to 1:30pm at the BEACON.
      viii. Income Now Workgroup
           1. The Income Now Workgroup held its initial meeting on July 30th at SEARCH and will be meeting weekly from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. Income Now will provide an overview presentation at the August 25 Provider Input Forum and will provide a detailed workshop at the September Case Management Resource Exchange.

B. Other CoC Items
a. The Downtown Transition meetings are occurring on Fridays from 10-11am at the BEACON.

b. Twenty CoC stakeholders attended the National Conference on Ending Homelessness which included recognition of Houston ending veteran homelessness during the keynote speech. Further, Houston was featured in multiple presentations including SSVF, RRH, funding collaboration, working with housing Authorities and best practices in serving chronically homeless veterans.

c. Advocates from Houston participated in the annual Capitol Hill Day event at the NAEH conference on Friday, July 17. The group met with the offices of four congressional representatives including Ted Poe, Al Green, Gene Green, and John Culberson.

d. The Coalition will be hosting the Summer Conference Debrief at 600 Jefferson 1st floor conference room on Friday, August 14th from 10am to noon. Registration is available on the Coalition website.

e. Representatives from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will be conducting a site visit to Houston on best practices to end veteran’s homelessness in the state pursuant to a study commissioned by SB 1580 from the Texas Legislature.
HMIS Lead Agency Report

A. Work Group Activities

B. Reporting
   a. Continued data analysis and support of the U.S. Veteran Affairs Supportive Services of Veteran Families program
      i. Continued to work with agencies to streamline the monthly SSVF upload process
      ii. Provided training to SSVF providers regarding data cleanup and reporting
   b. Continued to work on Community Solutions Veteran and Chronic Placement monthly report

C. Other CoC Activities
   a. Participated in RRH planning and HMIS implementation
   b. Continue to develop new and update current HMIS Policies and Procedures

D. Support
   a. Site Visits – site visits were not conducted during the month of July
   b. IssueTrak
      
      | Opened Before July 1, 2015 | 21 |
      | Opened in Period          | 92 |
      | Closed in Period          | 97 |
      | Left Open On July 31, 2015| 16 |

c. Training
   | New User | 21 |
   | Refresher| 9  |
   | Reports  | 6  |
   | Data Explorer | 0 |

d. Participating Agencies
   | Active | 63 |
   | New    | 0  |

e. Users
   | Active | 562|
   | New    | 19 |

f. Clients
   | Enroll at any point | 27,744 |
   | New Enrollments     | 1,814  |
This Memorandum is to inform The Way Home Continuum of Care Steering Committee about the current status of the TDHCA ESG funds allocated to our geographic jurisdiction.

Background

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has not responded affirmatively to a request from The Way Home CoC to award $553,765 to Fulton Village non-profit, an affiliate of the Houston Housing Authority for rapid re-housing financial assistance under the state ESG competition. The award is currently posted as going directly to the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County as a placeholder while each entity engaged HUD for a resolution. To date the issue remains unresolved and TDHCA is pushing forward with contract preparation. As such, the RRH CMI (Case Management Intermediary) and FAI (Financial Assistance Intermediary) have met and agreed to the following plan for the funds:

- The CMI (Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston) will accept the award on behalf of the system and will increase the number of case managers dedicated to system-wide rapid re-housing. This will result in additional support during the implementation of the new RRH model.
- The FAI (Houston Housing Authority) will allow use of 150 vouchers for piloting of RRH – The Next Step to move non-disabled but multiple barrier households onto permanent subsidized housing. The net gain for the system is 150 RRH households served.
This Memorandum is to inform The Way Home Continuum of Care Steering Committee about the current status of certain system activities.

Background

**Income Now Updates**

- Planning retreat for income partners August 2015
- RFP for TWC employment specialists in September 2015

**Leveraging Managed Care**

- Pursuing pilot with UHC
- Resulted in 3000 plus matches
- Connecting PSH providers with UHC care coordinators

**CoC Workgroups**

- See attached slide for listing of current workgroups engaging in system work

**Downtown Transitions**

- Beacon suspending services temporarily for renovations beginning end of September 2015
- Palmer Way Station closing at end of August
- Conversations underway with local emergency shelters to offer day services for overnight guests and to allow expanded coordinated access hubs embedded in shelter

**Chronically Homeless Surge**

- Executing Phase 1 of identifying and locating all existing chronically homeless individuals within our CoC
- Eleven City of Houston Council districts will be canvassed in eleven days utilizing community volunteers, assessors, agency staff and outreach teams
- Next steps include greater Harris County and Fort Bend County
The Continuum of Care/The Way Home Steering Committee
(Primary Decision Making Body)

Planning and Implementation Bodies

**System**
- **Standing Committees/Forums**
  - HMIS Support, CoC Grant, Coordinated Access, Provider Input, Consumer Input, Funders, Income Now, Downtown Transition

**Chronics**
- **Oversight:** Mayor’s Leadership Team
- **Work Groups:** Pipeline, Integrated Care, PSH, CABHI

**Veterans**
- **Oversight:** Housing Houston’s Heroes
- **Work Groups:** Outreach, Data, SSVF

**Families**
- **Oversight:** RRH, Funders Collaborative
- **Work Groups:** RRH Implementation Group, SSVF, DV, Landlord Marketing

**Youth**
- **Oversight:** Homeless Youth Network
- **Work Groups:** YYA Work groups, NEST (LGBTQ Prevention), YA RRH

Supported by:
- HMIS
- PM Team
- CoC Lead Agency
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<th>Weight</th>
<th>Criteria Category</th>
<th>Renewal Evaluation Criteria</th>
<th>Source of Criteria</th>
<th>Calculation</th>
<th>10/Full Points</th>
<th>5 Points/10 Points on 15 Scale</th>
<th>0 Points</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>Financials</td>
<td>8. Audit Review</td>
<td>Audit Submitted by Agency</td>
<td>Audit shows agency as a low risk auditee &amp; no findings</td>
<td>Audit shows agency as low risk auditee or agency has no findings</td>
<td>Audit shows agency high risk auditee AND findings</td>
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<td>HMIS &amp; Data Quality</td>
<td>10. HMIS Data Quality Standards</td>
<td>Site Visit Scoresheet</td>
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<td>&gt;9</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>&lt;6</td>
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<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td>11. HMIS Site Visit</td>
<td>Site Visit Scoresheet</td>
<td>Site Visit Scoresheet</td>
<td>&gt;30</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>&lt;6</td>
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<td>40% APR</td>
<td>1. Occupancy / Average Daily Unit Utilization*</td>
<td>Q9</td>
<td>Unit Utilization Rate</td>
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<td>2a. PSH Programs: Percentage of participants who gained or increased earned income from entry to exit</td>
<td>Q45b2 1st Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15-20%</td>
<td>&lt;15%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2b. TH Programs: Percentage of participants who gained or increased earned income from entry to exit</td>
<td>Q45b2 1st Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24-39%</td>
<td>&lt;24%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3a. PSH Programs: Percentage of participants who gained or increased other (non-employment) income from entry to exit</td>
<td>Q45b2 3rd Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>24-29%</td>
<td>&lt;23%</td>
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<td>3b. TH Programs: Percentage of participants who gained or increased other (non-employment) income from entry to exit</td>
<td>Q45b2 3rd Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5-10%</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
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<td>4a. PSH Percentage of all participants with earned income</td>
<td>Q45b3 1st Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15-20%</td>
<td>&lt;15%</td>
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<td>4b. TH Percentage of all participants with earned income</td>
<td>Q45b3 1st Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24-39%</td>
<td>&lt;24%</td>
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<td>5a. PSH Percentage of all participants with cash income other than employment</td>
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<td>5b. TH Percentage of all participants with cash income other than employment</td>
<td>Q45b3 3rd Row</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>24-29%</td>
<td>&lt;24%</td>
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<td>6a. PSH Programs: Exits to Permanent Housing</td>
<td>Q29</td>
<td>Permanent Destinations/ (Total (Subtotal of Temporary Destinations)/(Total Leavers - Deceased)</td>
<td>&lt;10%</td>
<td>11-15%</td>
<td>&gt;15%</td>
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<td>6b. TH Programs: Exits to Permanent Housing</td>
<td>Q29</td>
<td>Permanent Destinations/ (Total (Subtotal of Temporary Destinations)/(Total Leavers - Deceased)</td>
<td>&lt;10%</td>
<td>11-15%</td>
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<td>9. LOCCS</td>
<td>LOCCS Payment Voucher</td>
<td>Start Date of NOFA/ Start Date of Contract/365 and Total Disbursed/Total Authorized</td>
<td>within (+ or -) 5%</td>
<td>within (+ or -) 10%</td>
<td>&gt;10%</td>
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<td>2015 NOFA Scoring Tool</td>
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* If agencies are not funded based on Units, the default will be Bed Utilization Rate.