January 2016 Steering Committee Meeting

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AGENDA

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

II. Approval of Minutes – Daphne Lemelle
    a) November 2015 CoC Steering Committee Meeting

III. System Progress Dashboard – Eva Thibaudeau

IV. Lead Agency /HMIS Report -- Introduced to Consent Agenda

V. Provider Representative – Gerald Eckert voted by Provider members

VI. Vote to approve Consumer Representative – Da’Quam Taylor Consumer Input Forum nominee

VII. Vacant seats – Daphne Lemelle

VIII. Old Business
    a) The Way Home Workgroup and Activities Updates -- Introduced to Consent Agenda

IX. New Business
    a) CoC Communication Guidelines for Discussion – Marilyn Brown
    b) State ESG Competition and Preview – Eva Thibaudeau
    c) Point in Time Methodology – Eva Thibaudeau

X. Announcements
    a) Domestic Violence Community Summit hosted by United Way and local funders

XI. Public Comments

XII. Adjournment
The meeting of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Steering Committee was held on November 12, 2015 at 601 Sawyer St., 1st Floor Conference Room # 102, pursuant to proper notification of all Steering Committee members.

Welcome and Introductions
Daphne Lemelle called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm. Barbara Dawson conducted roll call and Lemelle noted that there was a quorum.

Approval of Minutes
The minutes from the September CoC Steering Committee meeting were presented. Lemelle called for a motion to approve the September minutes as presented. Gunsolley motioned, King-Jackson seconded. The minutes were approved.

Lead Agency/HMIS Report
- Eva Thibaudeau presented the Lead Agency and HMIS Report
  - The 4th Quarter CoC Provider Forum will be held Nov 17, at 601 Sawyer Street.
  - Consumer Input Forum will consist of three focus groups to be held at local Domestic Violence partner organizations. Dr. Cathy Troisi will lead the groups in an effort to identify how the homeless response system can better serve DV survivors.
  - A Housing Houston's Heroes workgroup meeting will be held Friday, November 20, at 9:00 am, at the Houston Housing Authority.
The Report Out from the Youth Community Conversation is finished and included for CoC Steering Committee members. Irene Peregallo (HUD TA) will be in town in the coming days to begin next steps. The finalized report will be sent to the community at large in the next CoC Connection newsletter.

- Coordinated Access update – an expanded call-in option is in the works. Looking at possible partnership with COH HCDD.
- Income Now – agencies are hiring new staff, build outs of Workforce Solutions satellite hubs are underway.

Old Business

- Performance Monitoring
  - Transitional Housing Monitoring
    - Intense Technical Assistance began for Transitional Housing (TH) about a year and a half ago, and for the past 9 months, programs have had the opportunity to implement recommendations from TA. The Lead Agency will begin working with HUD TA to finalize a monitoring and compliance tool, as well as contract with an agency to implement monitoring of these programs.

- FY2015 CoC NOFA Updates
  - Thibaudeau provided an overview of new projects
  - Ranking Final Copy for submission to HUD
    - Everyone received the final ranking. No grievances submitted.
    - Plan to submit Monday, but may submit Friday, Nov 13. (Due Nov. 20).
  - Draft of Consolidated Application
    - Will be placing in a Dropbox folder. Steering Committee will get a link to this folder that will include all Steering Committee meeting documents including the charter.

Announcements

- Houston represented for NAEH Award Ceremony on November 4, 2015, where the community was honored for its effective end of Veteran homelessness.
- CoC Steering Committee planning retreat will be held on December 10, from 9:00 – 11:00 am, location to be determined.
- Lemelle announced that with the NOFA submitted, there is no pressing need to hold a December CoC Steering Committee meeting.
- Dawson announced that MHMRA of Harris County is now known as The Harris Center (new name), and it has a new administration building at 9401 Southwest Freeway. The Harris Center has also begun piloting new Mental Health crisis line program with Houston Police Department.

Public Comments
 Adjournment

Upon approval, the meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, 

________________________    ___________________________
Barbara Dawson, Secretary    Daphne Lemelle, Chairman

_____________________
Date
RRH Funders Collaborative Dashboard - December 2015
Data from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Households Enrolled: 403
Households Moved-In: 197

Clients Enrolled: 1142
Clients Moved-In: 572
Clients Exited: 214
Clients Exited to PH: 145

Average days from Assessment to Enrollment: 31 (Up by 2)
Average days from Enrollment to Move-In: 71 (Up by 2)
Average days from Enrollment to Exit: 112 (Up by 6)
Financial Assistance Total: $ 501,386

Note: Summary data is unduplicated. Detailed data may be duplicated across categories.
A. Work/Affinity Group Activities
   a. Networks, Initiatives and Affinity Groups
      i. CoC Provider Input Forum
         1. The First Quarter Provider Input Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2016 from 9am to 10:30am at 601 Sawyer Street, Houston, Texas. During the month of December, the CoC Provider Input Forum Membership selected Gerald Eckert as the 2016-2017 Steering Committee Representative for permanent housing.
      ii. CoC Consumer Input Forum
         1. The CoC Consumer Forums focus groups and needs assessment were conducted the first week of December with 32 consumers participating. Three focus groups were led by researcher Dr. Cathy Troisi from UT School of Public Health on December 1st and 3rd at Houston Area Women’s Center, the Bridge, and Bay Area Turning Point focusing on domestic violence. A Needs Assessment Report has been compiled by the researcher.
      iii. Housing Houston’s Heroes
         1. Housing Houston’s Heroes workgroup met November 20th at HHA, 2640 Fountainview Board Room.
         2. The SSVF workgroup generally meets the second Thursday Monthly at US Vets from 11am-12:30pm. However, the January meeting will be on the Third Thursday, January 21, 2016 at US Vets.
      iv. Youth/Young Adult Affinity Group
         1. The Youth Homelessness Community Conversation was conducted on September 22 from 9am to 5pm with a report out on September 23 from 10 to noon. Eva may have the report for the meeting
         2. They Homeless Youth Network Provider Resource Fair was conducted on November 5th with representation by the Coalition and NEST.
         3. The NEST Steering Committee met on October 12th to continue implementation of the NEST Collaborative to Prevent LGBTQ Youth Homelessness.
         4. A Collaboration for Young Adult RRH project to be secured by the Houston Housing Authority includes Covenant House, Salvation Army Social Services, and Montrose Center.
      v. RRH Workgroup
         1. The RRH Expansion Workgroup is meeting weekly on Wednesday mornings.
         2. The ESG Funders Collaborative workgroup is meeting monthly and is comprised of Cities of Houston and Pasadena, Counties of Fort Bend and Harris and the CoC Lead Agency representing the CoC.
         3. The RRH system hosted a Landlord Leasing Event on October 1st at St. Johns Baptist Church and another one is scheduled for November 19th.
      vi. Coordinated Access Workgroup
         1. 1115 team meetings conducted weekly from 3-4 on Wednesdays.
         2. 1185 team meetings conducted weekly on Mondays from 3-4 pm.
         3. The Coordinated Access workgroup did not meet in the last quarter of 2015 however the plan to implement 4 additional CA Hubs moved forward. Two have been
implemented. Staff have been trained and are currently observing assessments for the 3rd location. There was a slight delay in implementation of the 4th location due to the agency having to hire staff.

4. The Coordinated Access Team meets the first and third Tuesdays monthly from 12:00 noon to 1:30pm at the BEACON.

5. The Permanent Supportive Housing Workgroup did not meet the last quarter of 2015. This group now meets as needed.

6. The Case Management Resource Exchange conducted on December 15th covered the new Point-In-Time methodology as well as provided training for all team captains. The 2016 PIT methodology will be utilizing a coordinated access method of surveying clients.

evii. Income Now Workgroup

1. The Income Now Implementation Workgroup is meeting on Tuesdays weekly from 2:30pm to 4:00pm at SEARCH.

2. The Income Now Leadership Workgroup is meeting bi-weekly from 9am to 10am Fridays at SEARCH. Hubs are currently operating at Star of Hope Women’s and Family Shelter, Men’s’ Development Center, WFS Westheimer Office, and Salvation Army Harbor Lights.

viii. Point-In-Time

1. The CoC received a waiver from HUD to change this year’s homeless count methodology. Instead of an observational count, a Coordinated Access approach will be used. All unsheltered homeless will be surveyed. In addition, the count will occur between the hours of 6 am – 4 pm over a three day period from January 26 – 28, 2016.

2. The Case Management Resource Exchange conducted on December 15th covered the new Point-In-Time methodology as well as provided training for all team captains.

3. Additional trainings for team captains and community volunteers will occur on January 19th at 3 pm & 6 pm. Training for staging area captains will occur on January 25th.

B. Other CoC Items

a. The Downtown Transition meetings are occurring bi-weekly/as needed at the BEACON.

b. The CoC provided a collaborative presentation at the National Drop Out prevention Conference on October 27th including presenters from HYN, NEST, The Coalition, The Texas Homeless Education Office, and Cy-Fair ISD Homeless Liaison.

c. A second Landlord Marketing event is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20. This event will focus on appreciation/recognition for properties currently participating in Rapid Re-housing as well as the recruitment of new properties.
**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

b. Continued to work on Community Solutions Veteran and Chronic Placement monthly report

c. Completed the Annual Housing Assessment Report for Houston and Harris County

**C. Other CoC Activities**

a. Continue to develop new and update current HMIS Policies and Procedures

b. HMIS staff met with the Texas Homeless Network HMIS team. The focus of the conversation was system administration, user trainings, technical support, data quality, and reporting.

c. The HMIS staff hosted the Fourth Quarter HMIS Forum. Topics covered the 2016:

   i. Housing Inventory Chart & Point-in-Time Count
   
   ii. Overview of ClientTrack15
   
   iii. Review of HUD’s Final Rule on Defining “Chronically Homeless”
   
   iv. Presentation by Harmony House on “The Benefits of HMIS”

**D. Support**

a. Site Visits

   i. Visits were not conducted during December 2015

b. IssueTrak

   
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c. Training

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d. Participating Agencies

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f. Clients

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This Memorandum is to inform The Way Home Continuum of Care Steering Committee about the current status of specific system activities.

**Background**

**Income Now Updates**
- Employment Counselors have been hired by subrecipients
- Workforce hubs operating at two of four emergency shelters
- Income Now Workgroup meets weekly

**Youth/Young Adults**
- 90 Day Goals in progress
- Point in Time Youth Survey planned

**Victim Services Providers**
- Coordinated Access Workgroup convened and agreed to focus on the following areas
  - Common intake and assessment forms
  - Request federal waiver to act as one coordinated DV entity to share information between shelters
  - Electronic bed availability
  - Electronic eligibility
  - Standard paper referrals with consent
  - Patching to other providers via phone or single crisis call in line
  - Standard Operating Procedures
  - Program Models
  - System Trainings
  - Triage Tool
  - Prioritization
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 Veteran Homelessness by 2015
- End Youth Homelessness by 2020
- Set a Path to End All Homelessness

Homeless Veteran Progress: January 2012 - December 2015

4,286 Veterans Housed
94 Veterans housed in December 2015

2,953 Chronically Homeless Individuals Housed
27 Chronically Homeless individuals housed in December 2015

572 Individuals Housed
145 Individuals Graduated from the Program

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

Rapid Re-housing Progress: January - December 2015

2016 Point-In-Time:

The 2016 Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count & Survey will feature an expanded methodology, approved by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with the aim of not only having a visual count of unsheltered homeless individuals, but also having expanded demographic information and details that will allow us to reach our goal of ending chronic homelessness, and continue to right-size our system response for all homeless individuals.

PIT volunteers will use tablets to conduct brief conversational surveys with homeless individuals. The official “night of record” for the Count will be January 25. Surveys will be conducted on January 26, 27 & 29, only with those individuals who were unsheltered on the night of the 25th.