FINAL

Continuum of Care Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

February 29th - 3:00-4:30 pm

Virtual Meeting on Microsoft Teams

Voting Members: Nico Sanders, Dan McCarthy, Amy Collier, Chuck Callahan, Jeff Garrett, Doug Schmidt, Da'Mel Ross, Cierra Dunlap, Tara Taylor

Other attendees: Lakeysha Williams, Director Simmons, Mary Rode, Janice Miller

AGENDA

I. CoC Board Election Resolution
   A. The outstanding issue from the Board meeting was the selection of the CoC Chairperson. The final vote was 7 votes for Jeff Garrett, 5 votes for Edward Blackstone, and 3 votes abstaining. Based on a review of the by-laws and outside legal sources, the Executive Committee recommended to the Governance Committee that the candidate with the most votes be elected CoC Chair.
   B. There is a recommendation that in the future that information about the candidates be provided prior to voting so that members can make more informed decisions in the future. The current By-Laws allow for this type of vote, but they are currently being reviewed.
   C. An Orientation for new members will be scheduled within the next month.

II. CoC Committees and Chairs
   A. There are vacancies in CoC Committees Chairs.
      1. YHAC – This will be taken back to the YAB and YHAC for discussion.
      2. Income and Workforce
      3. Race Equity – it was decided that this would not be a break-out committee but would be integrated into all the CoC Committees.

III. Review and Updating of CoC Charter and By-Laws (Heart Act Requirements)
   A. The Charter and By-Laws have been distributed. HUD requires annual review of these documents.
   B. Dan has reviewed and highlighted areas that need to be addressed.
   C. March 14, 2024, is the General Membership meeting. The agenda needs to be published 14 days prior to the meeting.

IV. Shelter SOC Policy Review – Next Steps
   A. The Shelter Standards need to be finalized. The capacity workgroup is seeking legal help to review the standards. They need to be edited and reviewed by an attorney who has specialized skills in HUD regulations.

B. Director Simmons acknowledged the great job that the committee did in coming to consensus on the standards. Director Simmons will review the standards and provide feedback and edits.

V. MOHS updates
A. Flex Fund/Landlord Engagement (not discussed)
B. Personnel Updates – Lakeysha Williams, Director of Programs introduced herself
C. Springboard – 1 million for dorms for youth, ages 18 – 24 who are matched with programs and waiting to be housed.
D. Point Source Youth - $500,000 for direct cash assistance to youth ages 18 – 24
E. HABC - $666,000 for units for people referred through Coordinated Access

VI. Fiscal Sponsorship Update – Uplift Alliance is being considered as the fiscal sponsor. They have the same fee as the Baltimore Civic Fund (6%). The agreement was sent out to the Executive Committee for review. The document has reporting timelines included.

VII. Encampment Protocols
A. MOHS starts Outreach 30 days prior to the Encampment Resolution.
B. The individuals and families in the encampment are offered a place in the hotel and are connected to services. There is no timeframe for the length of time in the hotel.
C. People in encampments are not being navigated in the system to housing. This is the vehicle to help people who are living on the streets to access resources that are available.
D. DPW's role is to clean the space after people are gone.
E. MOHS is learning how to improve their services with every Encampment that is closed.
F. Director Simmons shared the Encampment Protocol with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee asked Director Simmons to present the Encampment Protocol at the General Membership meeting on March 14, 2024. It was also recommended that everyone be included in the MOHS list serve so that they receive this information when it is released.

VIII. TAC is providing technical assistance to address issues identified in the HUD audit. One of the audit results was that Baltimore City needs to have a comprehensive standard that meet HUD's guidelines. Janice Miller and Alison Korte are the lead in helping to develop these standards. A plan has been drafted, to be completed by June. A timeline was shared with the Executive Committee. The first focus will be on Finding #2 and #4, Rapid Rehousing and PSH standards. The intention is to have a baseline document that meets HUD standards and to write more detailed standards over time. Janice will present this information at the CoC General Membership meeting on March 14, 2024.