



## Housing Work Group

April 19, 2017

9am-11am

1000 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, TX

4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Co-Chairs: Sandra Chavez (ASA) & Jim Ward (Caritas of Austin)

### Minutes

**Present:** Catherine Williams (VA), Dylan Shubitz (HACA), Megan Moore (Goodwill), Allison Rottenberg (Goodwill), Whitney Bright (Goodwill), Tasha Ponzcek (COA), Erin Goodison (SAFE), Jessica McKay (Settlement Home), Greg McCormack (Front Steps), Haggai Eshed (Front Steps), Marilyn Hartman (NAMI), Eric Kunish (NAMI), Maria Kiehn (St. Louise House), Chris Laguna (Integral Care), Sandra Chavez (ASA), Lauren Katz (ASA), Lourdes Flores (TRLA), Andrew Bucknall (FFH), Preston Petty, Abby Tatkow, Katie Rose, Niki Paul, Casey Cork (ECHO Staff)

#### 9:00-9:10 Welcome and Introductions

#### 9:10-9:55 Task Group Updates

#### Co-Chairs

- **Austin Homeless Veterans Initiative**
  - Scheduling a planning session in May to revisit our current system, successes and challenges, and address sustainability.
  - New leadership at Caritas SSVF.
  - Preston prepared monthly report. There has been some slowdown in placements due to limited vouchers and staffing turnover. Overall, outcomes are still consistent for days to housing (90).
- **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program**
  - New stakeholders at the table to bring fresh perspective- over 100 people working on initiative.
  - Recent visit from CSH TA (Sarah Hunter)
  - Management structure includes the Membership Council (as decision making body), a leadership advisory group of about 40 reps from various agencies, a Youth Advisory Council, 6 sub-committees to address evidence based practices, prevention institutions, data, CA, etc., as well as a weekly task force to put together all the pieces and draft the community plan for review.
  - Membership Council now includes two youth voting seats on the council.
- **Weekly Staffing (PSH/RRH)- See below**

#### 9:55-10:15 Healthy Communities Collaborative Update C. Laguna, Integral Care

- Groundbreaking date for Oak Springs set for May, but no announcements yet.
- Looking at contractual partnerships for ECHO and Goodwill for renewal and slight language revisions.
- Identified need for more supportive employment opportunities.
- A little movement in SOAR area- a few new specialists at various agencies. How to best refer to TX Rio Grande Legal Aid in the event of a denied application and appeals. How to best utilize Legal Aid to help with continuing education for SOAR specialists.

#### 10:15-10:20 Coordinated Assessment Updates

#### P. Petty, ECHO

- Navigation pilot is going well. Provides consistent answers for both case managers and clients. Review of Navigation documentation below.

- How to replicate for RRH and clients that are able to self-resolve.

**10:20-10:45 Navigation Documentation Pilot-Documentation P. Petty, ECHO**

- 90% of housing CM's are trying to figure out the housing plan and have expressed being the first one to have that convo with the client.
- Common conversation should have common resources in terms of criminal bx, eviction hx, etc.
- List of housing options is used a reference sheet. Next step is for CM's to have the practical conversation with the client about what their reasonable housing options are and what their desires are for their housing plan.
- *Lourdes and Abby to connect regarding training around reasonable accommodations for LOS.*
- Next Step is to have income conversation with client- but all at once is overwhelming. Determine which pieces can move to various navigation and outreach areas.
- Ideal plan is to create navigation/outreach steps for the community to follow and have programs identify training needs to be able to follow these steps and inform a housing plan.
- Ideal Coordinated Entry system would address a uniform process for the three types of people- people with a housing CM, people with a community contact (with or without CA), people with no connection (who may or may not need CA).
  - Programs, outreach, navigation staff would need to identify training needs to make this ideal plan happen to ensure everyone is having a housing stability plan conversation.
  - Additionally, programs would need to evaluate their current case load to assess their current needs and gaps.
  - *Next meeting to provide a visual of the ideal plan/system map and potential pilot details.*

**10:45-11:00 Other Community Updates Open**

Tasha, City of Austin

- Public Toilets- stakeholder meeting to discuss plans to build 1-2 public toilets downtown. One seater building, with attendant. Pilot in various locations.
- Seeking input via text. *Tasha to share feedback number.*

Angie, City of Austin

- CBG, HOPWA, ESG, HOME/TBRA cycle- Seeking feedback for how money is being spent.
  - 4/20- Public hearing in front of council.
  - 4/28- Departmental submission deadline.
  - 5/2- End of the community needs assessment period.
  - 5/23- Start of the public comment period.
  - 6/13 and 6/22- Public hearings for draft action plan.
  - Email [angela.sommers@austintexas.org](mailto:angela.sommers@austintexas.org) with questions/community needs assessment feedback.

Lourdes, TRLA

- Resident council at Lucero Apartments. Working on Primrose Apartments next.
- What can be done to support tenants to help clean units or improve living conditions and prevent eviction? *To be included as line item for next meeting. Group to bring resources they would normally refer to.*

Niki Paul, ECHO

- PIT Count Press Release tomorrow at City Hall at 12:30pm.

Next Meeting Schedule: May 17, 9AM-11AM, NHCD, 1000 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Austin, TX-4<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Room