



Membership Council – Minutes

Wednesday, March 6, 2017

1PM-3PM

LifeWorks-East Multi-Purpose Room

Chair: Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo, City of Austin

Co-Chair: Patrick Howard, Housing Authority for Travis County

Present: MPT Kathie Tovo (City of Austin), Patrick Howard, Greg McCormack (Front Steps), Ann Teich (AISD), Julia Spann (Safe Alliance), Erin Whelan (Lifeworks), Lauren Avioli (NHCD), Vella Karman (City of Austin), Cathy McClaugherty (Travis County Justice Planning), Kathleen Casey (ATCIC), Monica Keller (VA), *Advisors: Bill Brice (DAA), Sandra Chavez (ASA), Jim Ward (Caritas), ECHO Staff: Ann Howard, Niki Paul, Casey Cork, Bree Williams, Katy Manganello, Melissa Wheeler, Preston Petty, Mariana Salazar*

1:00-1:15PM Welcome and Introductions MPT K. Tovo and P. Howard

- Action: Approval of February 2017 Minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes as is by Lauren Avioli. Second by Patrick Howard. Minutes approved as is 11-0.

1:15-2:00 PM Review Updated Action Plan Ann Howard, Staff

- Revisions taken into consideration. Now five key elements- Outreach, Shelter, Housing, Enhance System, Address Disparities.
- Recognize that more shelter without housing resources will not end homelessness.
- Scale up current outreach, diversion, and navigation practices so that a system wide approach is taken- that ensures all programs have the resources and capacity to participate and meet client needs instead of acting as a silo. Ensure that services are equitable across the community.
- Ensure a comprehensive navigation system to fill gaps, build relationships, and serve folks in a streamlined way before a housing service is available.
- Utilize existing locations (ARCH, libraries, etc.) as navigation hubs.
- Recognize that not all individuals will need a housing service.
- PIT Count shows 832 unsheltered persons in 2017- shelter need not being met.
- Look to data to identify need and locations for navigation and shelter placement.
- Consider transportation to shelter and navigation locations and mobile services.
- Suggestion to develop common definitions of terminology used so that everyone can understand the vision for future developments.
- Suggestion to consider shelter in a smaller way, so that we do not recreate 7th street and provide more intimate services.
- Housing- utilize RRH, PSH and housing that exists with the buy down/LOS strategies that we know work.
- Vision outlined in action plan is an Austin that has enough resources to meet the needs of everyone.
- Review of Budget- numbers reflect the unmet need in terms of cost.
 - Breakdown of RRH, PSH, Minimal is based on the current need.
 - 1 shelter for every 50 beds.
 - Line items indicate 12, 6 month, or other service term period.

- Also, looks at basic prevention costs.
 - \$30 million current public service cost for 1,200 households- does not include the non-profit contribution.
- Introduction of calculator that takes into account, new persons entering your system, persons housed, persons returning to homelessness, and capacity. We can play with these numbers to project yearly outcomes in different scenarios, including, if we do not increase capacity.
 - Concern that City dollars must be spent inside city limits, which limits affordable opportunities outside of city limits.
 - Be mindful that funding needs to address all five elements. If funding terms limits spending to just one piece, we cannot end homelessness.
 - Consider the time it takes to receive funding that was allocated- what will happen in the interim?
 - Consider bringing someone to the table that understands City contracts to help get the money moving.
 - Consider corporate sponsors, faith based, etc. to support different pieces of the puzzle.
 - Consider where is the money housed, who is monitoring it, who is distributing it?
- Comments can be sent directly to Ann Howard.

2:PM-3:00PM Continuum of Care Business

Staff Facilitated

- CoC Workgroup Update
 - HUD trying to maintain May-Aug timeline.
 - Providing updates around YHDP- first leadership advisory meeting this week.
 - First draft of plan due July 13th to HUD.
 - Policies and procedures for youth demonstration will be sent to this group for approval.
 - Overview of performance for 2016 NOFA- no surprises in areas where points were lost.
- Housing Workgroup Update
 - Removed prioritization for Veterans so that priority is based on vulnerability- using subpopulations in the event of a tie-breaker.
 - Navigation policies and trainings reviewed- Two trainings already completed since workgroup.
- Point in Time Count
 - Data has been cleaned up, completed, de-duplicated, and analyzed.
 - Collected, where we could, identifying information to de-duplicate unsheltered count.
 - Overall count decrease of 4.8%- sheltered and unsheltered.
 - Decrease in sheltered count, but increase in unsheltered count.
 - 2016 count- shelters were over capacity, some beds converted from transitional to RRH.
 - 2017 Sections oriented to align to city council districts- slight increase in downtown numbers.
- CoC Programs Quarterly Performance Report Review
 - Overview of performance scorecards- required for monitoring.
 - January 1 – Dec 31 data.
 - Seeing improvement on just about every element for just about every program.
 - Strong in data quality, submission, housing success, bed utilization, CA participation, housing first criteria.

- Need to improve on increasing income for project stayers, income growth for project leavers (improving but still needs improvement), timely annual assessments, timely data entry, screening out for criminal records (of them, all but one are planning to change that criteria).
- HUD will continue to ask us to rank programs and put some projects in Tier 2 (competed for nationally).
- The higher our overall performance, the greater the likelihood that Tier 2 projects will get funded.

- *2016 HUD Debrief Summary*

2:45-3:00PM New Business

- No new business.

3:00PM Adjourn

Next Membership Council Meeting: Monday, April 3, 2017