



Membership Council – Minutes
 Wednesday, October 12, 2016
 10:00-11:30AM

LifeWorks-East Multi-Purpose Room

Chair: Stephanie Hayden, City of Austin HHS Co-Chair: Mandy De Mayo, HousingWorks

Present: Ann Howard, Niki Paul, Casey Cork (ECHO Staff), Monica Keller (VA), Mitchell Gibbs (Front Steps), Hosie Washington (SAFE Alliance), Ann Denton (ECHO Board), Jo Kathryn Quinn (Caritas), Darylann Cardona-Beiler (ATCIC), Sandra Chavez (ASA), Stephanie Hayden (City of Austin), Mandy De Mayo (HousingWorks), Susan McDowell (LifeWorks), Vella Karman (City of Austin), Lori Frasco (Caritas), Lauren Avioli (NHCD)

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| 10:00-10:05 | Welcome and Introductions | Stephanie Hayden, Chair |
| 10:05-10:10 | Approval of August and September Minutes | Stephanie Hayden, Chair |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve minutes by Ann Denton. Second by Jo Kathryn. Motion to approve by all. 15-0. | |
| 10:10-11:00 | Continuum of Care Business | ECHO Staff and WG Chair |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 Fall CoC Meeting-Save the Date: Tuesday, November 15th; To accept or reject the slate. • 2017 Membership Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2017 Renewal Interest Forms- Those who have not served their three- year term, can use the distributed form to indicate whether they would like to continue their position on the council. ○ 2017 Slate Preparations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy Clarification on MC Composition re: appointed members ▪ Ad-hoc committee to provide slate to MC on Nov. 9th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to create slate for above initiative. • Motion to approve Stephanie as chair with Sandra, Mitchell, and Jo Kathryn as team. Second by Mandy and Darilynn. Approved 16-0. • Niki to provide list of current interests. ○ Advisory Committees (YHDP and Other Initiatives) ○ Question: Are we struggling to find representatives for all areas of interest, i.e., employment? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Response: Current participation has met the need in those specific areas. The bigger struggle is to determine whether (for terms that are up) whether agencies rotate their representative staff, or if we amend current policies to ensure key members are able to extend their term. ▪ Suggestion to look at the slate through a diversity lens. | |

- Current members in the last year of their term should consider who they would like to nominate to fill their position.
 - Ending Youth Homelessness
 - Voices of Youth Count-Preliminary Data Debrief-Niki Paul
 - HUD Youth Demonstration NOFA Update-due November 30th-Niki Paul
 - Info Session Held 9/30/16
 - Letters of Agreement
 - Provider Survey
 - Goal is to submit the application by Nov. 18th in order to complete it before the holidays.
 - Grant includes planning dollars and service dollars for specific projects. Minimum \$1 Million per community, excess determined by poverty rates, needs, etc.
 - Included in our overall CoC funding.
 - 100 Day Challenge Update-Susan McDowell
 - Today marks Day 34.
 - Majority of time has been spent creating infrastructure for the initiative. Some youth have been housed and referrals have been accepted.
 - Question: How are our resources being prioritized between Veterans and Youth?
 - Response: We have not seen a decrease in monthly identified Veterans. The community is currently leaning on existing youth resources, as well as, other BSS+ providers. The most vulnerable are still being prioritized across the community. It just so happens that youth are scoring higher in general, and thus, has not required a preference for other limited resources.
 - Discussion:
 - Using the 100 Day Challenge to create the vision for achieving our 2020 goal to end youth homelessness.
 - Question: Jumping into this youth initiative, are we bypassing the chronically homeless population?
 - Response: We do not have specific dollars for the chronic population, however, because we prioritize the most vulnerable and the chronic population is inherently vulnerable, we are chipping away at the chronic numbers. We will continue to work to house chronic individuals and families by maintaining our fidelity of prioritizing the most vulnerable people.
 - Both Sandra and Jo Kathryn agree that, anecdotally, their agencies are serving more vulnerable and chronic individuals than in previous years. Suggestion to look at who was being served prior to CA and who is being served now.
 - Monica states that their numbers seem to be increasing on the VA hotline for folks that are at risk of homelessness.
 - Mitchell reports that they are also seeing an increase in BSS+ veteran prevention use.
- Workgroup Updates:
 - CoC Workgroup-Hosie Washington, Chair
 - NOFA Debrief
 - Reviewed CoC collaborative application. Numbers reviewed in detail as a group. Examples of outcomes include, but are not limited to:

- PIT Count numbers increased due to better PIT count methodology/more volunteers, as well as, an increase in overall Travis County population. There will be no change in PIT methodology this year.
- Veteran specific beds made it appear that there was a decrease in chronic PSH beds- that is not the case. Did not realize the beds could be counted as both. This correction will be made in the future and an explanation was included in the application. Going forward, Membership Council will review reports being sent to HUD.
- Majority feedback indicated NOFA process went a little smoother this year.
- Quarterly Scorecard update
 - New criteria released in terms of criminal background criteria. Programs can only use this information to determine housing *placement* and not screen out an otherwise eligible individual from a program. Only exception is sight based housing. Ex: RSO cannot live on site with children, but the program must work with the individual to find other housing.
- Housing Workgroup-Sandra Chavez and Lori Frasco-Co-Chairs
 - Outreach committee is focusing on training opportunities for LOS.
 - RRH and PSH meetings are merging to allow cross communication and work in real time together on supportive services, bridging and other needs. The hope is to model off the Veteran meeting, with recognizing their differences.
 - UT Interns have started at ATCIC and Travis County for SOAR pilot.
 - ATCIC forensic ACT team also being piloted.
- Updates:
 - PIT Team lead kickoff on the 18th. Training is moving to web-based this year. We can expect more coordination and outreach in this year's count. A few leads are still needed for rural areas.
 - HUD Equal access rule released. ECHO will work with programs on implementation.

11:00-11:30

Advocacy and Community Engagement

Ann Howard, Staff

- Courthouse Update (M. Gibbs)
 - Application submitted to repurpose the courthouse, under McKinney-Vento, for homeless services- specifically for about 56 Housing First PSH units. Fronts Steps and ECHO completed feasibility studies to determine what would be needed to accomplish this.
 - Application went through HHS and HHS will be the one approving/denying the application. FS is the only homeless service provider applying for the property (the county is also applying). However, the county has expressed that utilizing the courthouse is a temporary fix to their long terms needs.
 - Floor plans distributed that show various office space and housing units.
 - Question: What would be a reason for refusal?
 - Response: Outside of a poor application, there is hope that there will be a feedback/Q&A period to prevent any refusal. There does not appear to be anything missing from the application, however, this is a new process for everyone involved.
- Upstream Thinking-Phase Zero (A. Howard)

- Design firm contracted with the city for an innovation zone. City innovation office, with Kerry O'Connor and support of the Downtown Austin Alliance, is working with this design firm to gain a greater understanding of the homeless community and services provided. This comes out of the City manager's office, APD, and the HOST experience.
- Phase 0 is the information gathering stage. ECHO has been providing them information among others. Feedback should be coming soon around results and gaps. This will also be discussed at the Annual Fall Meeting, which is open to the public.
- Discussion: Jo Kathryn expressed some concern around a donor who, in so many words, stated that there may or may not be continued support for Caritas if they cannot "clean up the streets". Similar experiences are happening with LifeWorks and the University dialogue. Stephanie and Vella expressed having a concerning conversation with two men (Francisco Enriquez; Glasshouse Policy; BBE Consultants) that seemed to represent business and political interests.
- HOST Executive Leadership meeting is coming up. Suggestion to attend so ensure communication support across the table. Suggestion to also engage with the folks having backroom conversations and get some transparency around what the goal is with these third party researchers.
- Agreed that there is a fundamental lack of understanding among donors and various funding streams of what is really needed and how far funds go in terms of housing and services. Suggestion for ECHO to host a funders forum to provide this information or develop messaging around homelessness. Education and messaging needs to be considered as a priority and harness people's self-interests.
- *Pay for Success (A. Howard)*
- *State Funding (A. Howard)*

11:30 AM ADJOURN

Stephanie Hayden, Chair

Next Scheduled Membership Council Meeting: November 9, 2016 LifeWorks East Location, Multipurpose Room