Alliance for Housing, Oakland County Continuum of Care
Board Meeting Minutes

Date:	12.20.2023	Start Time:	1:30pm	Stop Time:	3:00pm	Location:	Zoom Conference Call

Members Present: Rachel Densmore, Stephen O'Donnell, Beth Baker, Jeff Cook, Marc Craig, Brian Wright, Kelly Phillips, Christy Moceri
Also Present: Leah McCall, Ashley Cuniberti
Members Absent: Sam James, Sylvia Clark, Jill Anderson, Anne Harpe, Jenny Poma

Scribe: Julia Steinberg
Quorum: 8/13 – Quorum met

STANDING ITEMS

Public Comment

- No public comment

Introductions & Agency Announcements

- Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) is launching a pilot program regarding housing assistance. The Housing Assistance Fund is to provide individuals who are currently receiving outpatient services within the OCHN substance use disorder (SUD) network with funding to overcome barriers when obtaining housing.

  The types of allowable expenses under this pilot program include application fees, deposits, rental assistance, utility deposits, and utility assistance.

  Criteria for inclusion to this program include:
  o Individual has an identified substance use disorder
  o Individual has an identified need for assistance in one or more of the following areas: housing application fees, deposits, rental assistance, utility deposits, utility assistance.
  o Individual is currently enrolled, and active, in OCHN-funded outpatient treatment

  This pilot is expected to end at the end of Fiscal Year 2024 but may be extended depending on availability of grant funding. To apply for assistance, talk to your OCHN SUD provider to begin the application process.

  For more information on the Housing Assistance Fund Program, click here.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: October

- Marc Craig motion to approve; Jeff Cook second. Unanimous approval.

Review Financials: September, October

- Marc Craig provided summary review of October financials.
- Marc Craig motion to approve financials; Jeff Cook second. Unanimous approval.

Summary Reports

- Group Reviewed

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Term Renewals:
   1. Jill Anderson, Secretary
   2. Anne Harpe, Treasurer
   3. Marc Craig motion to reappoint both for a second term; Jeff Cook second. Unanimous approval.
2. Gap Analysis Survey
   1. Group reviewed the survey results:
      o Summary Outcome:
        - 33% Housing: rental rates and landlord relationships
        - 17% Employee: staff turnover, employment wage
        - 50% Program: service program inconsistency, current resources & outcome alignment, shelter bed availability, intake & access process
      o What should be done?
        - Identify a feasible topic (more specific)
        - Set boundaries
        - Identify a perspective to investigate
   2. The February 12 Outcomes Committee meeting will be a working meeting to dive deeper into creation of next steps.
   3. Gap Analysis survey will be sent out with meeting minutes.
3. Wellsky App/Reciprocity Update
   1. We have contracted with Reciprocity over the past several months to work with us to use technology for: improved centralized intake, real-time funding availability and client eligibility for homeless services and prevention services, and real-time shelter bed openings/availability. Reciprocity has been meeting with shelter guests, individuals with lived experience, and our partner agencies to understand the processes and procedures of the homeless response system to then develop an app.
   2. Wellsky has just announced it has developed an app that works with HMIS and we have had introductory meetings with them regarding the roll out of the app. There are many new options and features to explore in the app. Oakland County is a test pilot for the app.
   3. We are looking into how we can integrate Reciprocity's findings or work with them through consultation and may need to return or repurpose funds already received for the project.
4. HMIS User Requests
   1. Due to an increase in HMIS user requests, The Alliance will cover 2 HMIS user licenses per agency. Agencies may buy additional licenses for themselves if desired.
   2. Group discussed vetting process for agencies, volunteers vs. employees, etc.
5. MVL Pilot Update
   1. Medical Vulnerability Level pilot through MDHHS that flags Medicaid/Medicare users experiencing homelessness in HMIS with a red/yellow/green color to indicate medical vulnerability to be used for prioritization.
   2. We received contract and will begin training in January.

6. RHP/Blueprint
    1. We have MSHDA funds for workgroups including housing stock, communications, preventing and ending homelessness.
    2. We have been working with Khadija to progress the work in Oakland County's Blueprint to End Homelessness and hold meetings quarterly with the group.
    3. The work crosses over and we are looking at leveraging funding to move the work forward and merge workgroups.
7. PIT Count
    1. Point in Time count will be January 31, 2024 from 7pm-11pm.
    2. This is a HUD mandated annual event that counts unsheltered individuals in the community. Volunteers canvass Oakland County to count individuals, bring care kits, and transport individuals to shelter if they would like. Knowing the number and nature of people facing homelessness in our community can help us advocate for federal and state funds and helps spread awareness.
    3. Volunteer registration and info is on our website: https://www.oaklandhomeless.org/point-in-time.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

Next Meeting (exact date TBD): February 2024; 1:30pm-3:00pm
Location: Virtual