



ALLIANCE FOR HOUSING

Strategic Planning, Funding and Advocacy Committee (SPFAC) Meeting Minutes 6.5.2023

Present: Leah McCall, Ashley Burton, Julia Steinberg (Alliance), Marc Craig, Eric Burton (CHN), Jenny Poma, Erinn Johnson, Max Glick (Lighthouse), Natalie Broda (Pontiac Housing Commission)

Strategic Plan

- Medical Debt Update
 - Stakeholders and County Commissioners in Oakland, Macomb, and Wayne are discussing funding for medical debt, as well as almost every state senator & state rep in SE Michigan championing this as a potential state budget line.
 - There are still ARPA funds that need to be spent, and opioid funds are coming and may be a possible source of funding for medical debt or housing.
 - Alliance would be willing to be the fiduciary for philanthropic funds.
 - We may want to coordinate efforts with other organizations that may be working in this space such as OCHN & Alliance for Sustainable Communities.
- Strategic Plan Dashboard/Blueprint
 - Discussions with the county are needed to update & move the Blueprint forward.
 - Bringing in diversion training to the community.
 - Group will plan to review and update the status of Strategic Plan/Blueprint Dashboard during SPFAC meetings and take to the board bi-annually.
- Lived Experience Leadership Program Policy
 - Group reviewed draft policy and discussed suggestions for improvement and what other organizations have for policies.
 - Group discussed what clear expectations are needed from participants and agencies.
 - We are asking for participants to attend meetings and actively participate and share as much as they are comfortable sharing so we can learn from their perspective and improve.
 - We may need to provide transportation and/or technology to facilitate participation, and consider the environment in which we are asking them to share.
 - We may want to choose wording to ask participants to provide input about barriers/challenges and successes, not necessarily their own experiences.
 - Consider creating a committee exclusively led by those with lived experience.
 - Refer to payment as "stipend" and may want to include the total amount that could be earned annually.



- Refer to program as “initiative” or “cohort”.
- Give options such as the ability to call in, or participate in specific topics of interest, or participate in surveys or different aspects of the CoC.
- Consider other organizations’ policies on payment and time commitment expectations.
 - Including a meal with meetings may improve attendance.
- Youth Homeless Demonstration Project
 - Did not meet certain thresholds so not applying this year, but focusing on preparation to meet thresholds for next year and having the CoC apply to be the grantee with collaborators.
 - May want to hire a coordinator.
- Youth Advisory Board
 - Formal committee of CoC is needed as a threshold for Youth Homeless Demonstration Project.
 - We will ask if it is necessary to be in the CoC bylaws to be “formal” or if a board resolution is necessary.
 - Lighthouse is planning to begin the initiative of an advisory board and fold it into the CoC to meet the requirements.
 - Having a lived experience advisory board, and youth advisory category may help with other grants.

Advocacy and Public Awareness

- Landlord Lunch & Learn event will be Wednesday, September 6 at OC Executive Building.
 - Steve from Fair Housing and a champion landlord will be presenting.

PR Portion

- Engage with PR Consultant
 - Would like to discuss with an executive committee meeting about messaging strategy.
 - Would like to work on our messaging to elevate Alliance to be the main voice of housing & homelessness in Oakland County.

Next Meeting Date: Cancelling the July meeting and will plan to reconvene on August 7, 2023, 10:00 AM-11:00 AM