

Alliance for Housing

Annual Retreat; Monday, May 15, 2015 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Meeting Minutes - Respectfully submitted by Daniel Kelly



Introductions

Marc Craig opened, introduced agenda; all present introduced.

Marc noted he would like to add one item to the agenda. He discussed Matt Gibb from Oakland County Government as a potential new Board member. He called for a vote among membership to elect Matt Gibb, Deputy County Executive to the Board of Alliance. Dawn Pischel made motion to elect Matt Gibb to the Board, it was seconded by Gloria Lutey. All County employees abstained from voting.

2014 Annual State of Homelessness

Angela Gougherty and Sarah Sporny presented on the 2014 statistics of homelessness in Oakland County. Angela thanked Jill Shoemaker for serving in the HMIS administrator role for the County previously.

Angela noted the importance of HMIS in terms of a tool to help with data management, informed decision making, and identifying community needs among other uses.

Sarah noted that there are 11 organizations and 118 users entering into HMIS in the Alliance. Angela noted that there were 1,400 families and 2,300 individuals served in HMIS in 2014 (3,700 persons total). Sarah noted there was a 5% increase in the total homeless persons served from the year before, however this number may not mean an overall increase in the number of homeless people rather than a change in programming to homeless persons. Sarah and Angela noted the average demographics with homeless persons. Angela reviewed that there were 481 people served in January 2015's point in time count. Of those, 96 were unsheltered. Sarah and Angela reviewed the HIC; they noted that 78% of beds in the County are Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Sarah and Angela reviewed the rapid re-housing programs in the County. Angela noted that the future of HMIS was to do the following: promote data quality, outcomes, looking at where people are going after they leave the program, and comparative studies.

Please review the HMIS snapshot powerpoint for more information.

Overview of Committees

Leah Mccall reviewed the current COC Committees and sub-committees and recommended that people participate on these committees. **Please see the committees information sheet for more information.**

Oakland County Consolidated Plan

Carla Spradlin with Oakland County Community and Home Improvement presented. She noted that the Home Improvement Department has been in operation since 1975. She noted that the programs administered by the department come from Housing and Urban Development (HUD). She noted their program year is July 1 – June 30th. She noted that there are entitlement grants, competitive grants, and American Recovery Act Grants. She noted the funding for these grants changes from year to year. She noted that the department has recently taken over grants for the city of Pontiac. She reviewed the various grants the County administers.

She noted that the County is currently working on updating their consolidated plan. The goal of the plan is to establish a strategy and goals for the County in working with low-income residents. She noted that in order to create this plan there are several steps. **Please see the Consolidated Plan presentation for more information.**

A survey was passed along with a notice that gave dates for upcoming focus groups.

PSH Housing Registry and ID Taskforce

Debra Hendren presented on the PSH registry. She noted the process the Alliance went through to form the registry. She noted that the registry group recently completed draft policies and procedures. Debra noted some outcomes thus far with regards to the registry.

Debra also presented on the work of the ID taskforce. She noted that the taskforce is working with the Oakland County Clerk's office to access vital documents for free or at a reduced cost. She also noted that the group is working with the Michigan Secretary of State in order to determine a way to more efficiently obtain identification for those that are homeless and don't have identification. She noted that the taskforce is working on a pilot program locally to obtain IDs more efficiently with the Michigan Secretary of State Identification exceptions unit.

Please see the PSH registry and ID taskforce presentation for more information.

HOPE Recuperative Center and Homeless Medical Issues

Kim Watkins presented. She went over the function of the HOPE recuperative center including providing case management and a goal of discharging those served into permanent housing. She noted that the center's goal is to provide emergency shelter to those that are homeless and in need of some ongoing medical care. She noted that the maximum length of stay in the program is 90 days. She noted they currently work with McLaren Oakland, St. Joseph's Oakland, and Henry Ford West Bloomfield. She noted there are funds from the Jewish Fund to complete evaluations and outcomes for the program. She noted that Dr. Jason Watersmit from Oakland University will complete the evaluation. She noted that the Oakland Integrated Health Network (OIHN) is the medical partner for the organization.

Oakland Integrated Health Care Network (OIHN)

Leah Mccall reported. She noted that OIHN is working with individuals in need of medical services. She noted that OIHN was designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Marc Craig noted that the goal of OIHN is to serve low-income persons in need of health care services. He noted that OIHN recently received a large grant to meet the medical needs of low-income and homeless households. Leah also noted that OIHN is considering creating mobile health care unit.

Homeless Healthcare Collaboration

Gloria Lutey presented. She noted the collaboration is working to identify and meet the health care needs of those experiencing homelessness. She noted that her colleague Bev Weir is working to reduce emergency room visits for those experiencing homelessness by referring them to health care resources prior to having to visit the emergency room.

Gloria also noted that they are working on addressing transportation needs in the community through a new transportation taskforce.

Community Outcomes Report

Jenny Poma presented on the community outcomes report. She reviewed the draft community outcomes report document. **Please see the draft community outcomes report document for more information.**

Veterans Update

Pat Wolschon presented. She noted the services the Veterans Affairs department is able to provide including assistance with various health needs. She noted that the Department is also able to assist with housing and homeless services in various programs. She went over the homeless residential rehabilitation treatment program, grant and per diem program, and contract residential programs. She noted that 343 grant and per Diem beds in Metro Detroit. Pat noted that the VA has hired Employment Coordinators as well. She also went over the HUD – Veterans Assistance Supportive Housing (VASH) program. She noted there are 692 Vouchers utilized through the HUD-VASH program. She noted there will be 174 more Vouchers coming in the next few months as well. She noted that if anyone believes someone is eligible for VA services, too have them contact Garth Wooten at the Oakland County Veterans Office. She also noted that there is a Veterans Community Resource and Referral Center that any Veteran can call for assistance. Pat noted that the VA is working with the Zero 2016 campaign. She noted that Oakland County is a member of the 2016 campaign. Pat noted that in Oakland County VA housed 9 people in January and February 2015. **Please see the Veterans Update presentation for more information.**

Homeless Preference Vouchers

Jamie Leclaire presented. Jamie noted the number of Vouchers that have been received by those in Oakland County during the past year. **Please see the Homeless Preference Vouchers Presentation for more information.**

Break Out Sessions

There were two breakout sessions. There was one that was a discussion on fundraising/community grant applications as a COC. The other one was a round table discussion for front line case managers.

Closure

Evaluation forms were distributed, see attached evaluation summary for results.

Meeting was adjourned by 3:30