



## **Alliance for Housing**

### **General Membership 9.4.19 Meeting Minutes**

**Scribe: Ashley Burton**

**Attendance:** Angela Gougherty (CHN) Rosa Thomas (Common Ground) Sean Tate (Street Democracy) Marlo Sheppard (Easterseals) Carole Welsh (OCHD) Gina Misuraca (CHN) Michelle Wittaken (HAVEN) Ernestine McRae (HAVEN) Shannon Smith (Lighthouse) Ann Dilorio-Fitzpatrick (Common Ground) Kevin Sanders (Common Ground) Suzanne Kimmerly (Neighborhood House) Kathy Williams (Oakland County CHI) Tara Wieabush (JFS) Theresa Krell (St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital) Debra Hendren (CHN)

**Approval of Pervious Meeting minutes** - Motion: Kathy Williams. Second: Kevin Sanders– Unanimous approval

### **New Business**

- **Agency/Service Presentation**

- Rosa Thomas – Common Ground, VP of Programs & Services, [rthomas@commongroundhelps.org](mailto:rthomas@commongroundhelps.org)
- Presented on the Mobile Crisis Intervention & Recovery Teams
- Their mobile teams provide recovery oriented crisis intervention to people throughout Oakland and Genesee Counties. The service is available regardless of income, insurance or permanent residents. The mobile services are 24/7 for hospitalization, evaluations, screenings, and then next steps. Emergency crisis number is 1-800-231-1127. To learn more, please call the Resource and Crisis Center at 1-248-451-2600.

- **November Homeless Awareness Month**

- The Alliance will be promoting community events during November in lieu of Community Resource Day. The Advocacy and Public Awareness committee is working on coordinating events.
- If your agency has any events in November that you would like to be added to our calendar, please email Ashley at [aburton-alliance@oaklandhomeless.org](mailto:aburton-alliance@oaklandhomeless.org)

- **Functional Sentencing**

- Attorney Sean Tate, Street Democracy, presented on the program Functional Sentencing.
- Functional Sentencing turns sentencing into an opportunity to help an individual permanently exit the criminal justice system by replacing fines and costs with targeted interventions (e.g. job placement and medical services) that address the root causes of an individual's offense. Directly incorporating these sentencing options into the court's regular sentencing practice allows courts to achieve specialty court-level public safety gains at a fraction of the cost.
- **Website:** <https://www.streetdemocracy.org/>
- **Telephone:** (313) 355-4460

- Fax: (313) 347-9763
- **Changes in funding**
  - **HUD FY2017 that will end in September** – allowed for dedicated plus, change in eligibility where any family member can be head of household, useful for families for if they have a child or some other family member such as a brother or sister with a disability, we were able to serve them with certain slots in housing in PSH.
  - **FY2018 which starts this October** - they have removed the eligibility requirement. On the registry we will no longer be able to put people that are referred that are not the head of household. We do have a bit of leeway, for the family can define who the HH is, so they can still get in, but the person with the disability needs to be at least 18. People that are already on are able to stay on the registry.
  - **STIRR** – Supportive Transition in Rapid Rehousing. Program with OCHN through the state that had embedded services within the jail system, CHN provided additional supportive services for people that were discharging from OCJ and were eligible and enrolled in mental health services at CMH that were being discharged into homelessness. This funding also reserved specific beds at HOPE for the individual. The State initiatives at the governor level have changed and the program is not being funded starting October. Will still be working with individuals within the parameters of RRH. CHN has also hired a landlord liaison to help further assist with finding connections for housing.

#### **Committee and Workgroup Reports**

- **Alliance Committee Summary Reports**
  - The Alliance has received an AmeriCorps VISTA individual, Joseph. He has started this month.
  - **Outcomes committee** – An issue that has been coming up is discharge destination, specifically a definition had changed about 2 years ago that has been throwing off some of our numbers. **Decrease in positive destination across our programs recently.**
    - **The Outcomes Committee has put together a workgroup that focuses on positive destination discharges to really focus on what is happening with these individuals and whether there is opportunities for best practices/ interventions.**
    - Meeting on a GoTo call every couple weeks to come up with a plan and maybe some additional training. If you or someone at your agency is interested please contact Angela at [AGougherty@chninc.net](mailto:AGougherty@chninc.net)
  - Please see attached for full report
- **June Financials** - Balance Sheet attached.
  - A snap shot/for transparency reasons of where the Alliance is budget wise.
- **Veteran Updates**
  - Two SSVF providers currently in our community – DNOM & OLSHA

- DNOM is out of funding until October, OLSHA does have funds. Transitions going on without our third SSVF provider in our community.
- **Community Rapid Rehousing/ Prevention Updates (CHN, LH and SOS)**
  - CHN - has some HUD and MSHDA funds left for RRH and a small amount for prevention. Still accepting folks.
  - SOS - no RRH and Prevention funds.
  - LH – Still has funding specifically for woman with children or expected mothers who are homeless
    - All working together to put people on the registry and make the appropriate referrals – no wrong door approach so an individual can call any number and get linked to the services they may need.
- **HARA Updates: HCV (Homeless Preference) and Supportive Housing Units**
  - **Housing Assessment Resource Agency** – HVC Housing Choice Voucher with a preference specifically for people that are homeless. MSHDA has a waitlist that list people in the order they receive, then they do pulls for the voucher. They recertify homelessness every 120 days.
  - **Moving up Vouchers** - Specific amount of vouchers in some communities for people that are in PSH that graduate out of the needs of those services. For individuals that are stable and don't need those supports anymore, however because of their disability their income is still limited and fixed so they can't afford to leave the PSH program because they need ongoing subsidy. As a community MSHDA agents tell how many slots are available and then an assessment is done determining if an individual will be successful with a moving up voucher (looking at things such as having the utilities in their own name, have been in program over year).
    - MSHDA is applying for some main stream vouchers from HUD and if awarded they will expand the Moving up program to include a prioritization somehow for people both in PSH and RRH. This is important because as a community we try to help people with the most need and this will help with a smoother and consistent transition for long term subsidy for those who need it.
  - **Supportive Housing Units** - look at registry first and try to match the top person on the registry that needs that vacancy. If unit is being opened up a representative will come to registry meeting and present if there are any units available that are physically accessible.
- **Chronic Numbers & Veteran Numbers** – Please see attachment for **July** specific numbers and details. Hand out is also provide on the Alliance Website

- **PATH Team – September Calendar** – Please see attached for the September Calendar for locations that the PATH teams will be. They meet with individuals to create a rapport to engage them with services within the community.

For PATH maps - <https://www.oaklandhomeless.org/path-street-outreach-calendar>

- Encouraged to look at to become familiar with where the team will be
- Please provide input if you know of an area that would be beneficial for the PATH team to visit Please contact Gina at [gmisuraca@chninc.net](mailto:gmisuraca@chninc.net) for questions.