



**Strategic Funding and Partnership Workgroup**  
OCHN  
10:00-11:00  
February 28, 2019  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Leah McCall, Jessie Polito, Rachel Densmore, Liz McLachlan, Steve O'Donnell, Venita King

**Members Absent:** Elizabeth Kelly, Kathy Williams, Ryan Hertz, Kirsten Elliott

**JVS.**

- Leah recently had a meeting with JVS to discuss Bridging the Gap
  - Create and develop a tracking system with JVS
  - Discussion of Employment
  - Referrals will come from the shelter and housing providers
  - Need to find a funding source for this in OC

**Funding for the CoC**

- Work collaboratively with other agencies to apply for grants
  - Discussion of Funding gaps
    - Create a formal process of how this can happen – getting the ideas for funding
    - The alliance will be the fiduciary of these funds
    - Identify gaps
    - Hire a grant writer for funding purposes

**Venita Partnership with MRS**

The state agency to provide VR services to individuals with disabilities

- Eligibility
  - must have a disability to be served by MRS
  - must need services and have barriers to employment
- Goals- collaborating with individuals and services who need employment
  - Transportation is a critical factor
    - MRS looks at local options for individuals such as utilizing the smart bus or jobs closer to them



- MRS will provide public transportation training to youth and adults
- MRS will provide a FREE 30-day pass

Challenges in Pontiac is buses don't stop in certain areas

- What could we do?
  - Provide information to people about MRS
  - Help with bus fare and bus cards 30-day to help facilitate them getting on the bus
    - **Connect with employers for jobs for individuals**
      - **Employment retention services**
      - **Employer engagement and offers training to employers**
        - **Venita will email Leah about the information**

Proposal

- Assign staff to organizations to come out and train people (Haven, SOS, HOPE)
  - Work with learn term housing (PSH), 2-year transitional program, and RRH
  - Send people out monthly and engage people with the platform
    - Model
      - Reassess after 6-months
        - What can we improve if necessary?
- Understand both MRS and organization mission
  - Employment and housing and bridging the gap where we are helping the individual
    - **Leah and Venita will connect about signing staff to agencies**
      - **Information on business engagement**
      - **Send dates about training**
      - **Connect with what shelters to start to with**
      - **Upcoming training about poverty**

**Next meeting will be held Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00am-11:00am at OCHN**