



## Strategic Funding and Partnership Workgroup

OCHN

10:00-11:00

January 17, 2019

### Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Leah McCall, Jessie Polito, Kirsten Elliott, Rachel Densmore,

**Members Absent:** Elizabeth Kelly, Madonna Van Fossen, Kathy Williams, Ryan Hertz

#### JVS

A lot of the feedback we get from data and projects is that we have gaps in workforce development. Leah reached out to JVS in regards to their project 'Bridging the Gap' in Detroit for individuals who are homeless, to see if we could get those types of services here. They were super interested in partnering with us to get something like that here.

- If we are interested in this we had talked about putting out an RFP in we decide to go after funding to have a provide apply for those funds with us and bid for who would be providing us those services.
  - We don't have to put out an RFP, we could just agree to go with this, and present it to the board.
- The barrier of transporting individuals to Detroit was a large barrier, that is why we are looking to bring those services to Oakland County. Bring what they do in Detroit to an Oakland County location.

Is this something we want to try collectively together to try and bring money in for our projects so that they can fill in our gap of employment?

- **It was agreed to take the next steps and meet with JVS to further discuss this partnership.**
- **Invite them to Strategic Funding and Partnership meeting; see what their ideas are around funding and what their relationship is with United Way.**
- **Leah will reach back out to JVS.**

#### **Project Hope in Detroit**

They are doing training in skilled trades, if there was a place locally we might be able tailor some new training around the facility.

#### **Really aiming to get employment out in the community, integrated and sustainable.**

People that are struggling because they just got housed are not housed yet, they're learning soft skills. Many are not prepared for a skill trade program with demands, many are failing out.

- How do we have that continuum of different variety of services for people that have been homeless so that they can shift back?

#### **How do we help the Alliance become more sustainable and independent on its own, what is the piece the Alliance provides within this?**

- Coordination/fiduciary aspect
  - Be able to take admin dollars from the grant that we put together for the community.
  - The Alliance would be writing the grants on behalf of a coalition of people.



### **MI Works**

Community ventures program

- They are pulling that back in house, more information to come.
  - Looking for employers to be a part of that project with them, so that when individuals come in they are hired into those places and the employers get a stipend and if that person stays they get a stipend.

**Leah has worked out a stream lined referral process with MI Works and to each of the locations so that it can be easier for our partner agencies to get in.**

**Look into Green Industries, Cass Community Services, Central Cities to partner with to bring in different trainings.**

### **Interagency cash transfer agreement**

**Leah will follow back up with Vaneeta**

3 to 1 match that can be used to pay for your program, so if you leverage those funds.

Every dollar put in they match with 3 federal dollars

- Rachel mentioned that Oakland Schools does it with Project Search
  - That's how they fund a lot of that project
  - **Rachel will connect Leah to Kathy from Oakland Schools-she is the transition coordinator for people leaving school and going out finding employment. She also oversees Project Search.**
- Still have to double check that non-profits can do something like this

### **Access to Benefits**

Leah will reach out to UCP (United Cerebral Palsy)

- They have Social Security Benefit counselors that can help people through that process
  - **Paul Landre he is a benefit counselor for social security administration – Kirsten will get Leah the contact**
- Helping people who are on social security, SSI, SSD, getting to work.
  - He knows all of the rules and how it works with the Medicaid spend down
  - Would like to get a one-page or something like that for case managers to refer too when talking with clients.
- **Invite him to General Membership**
- The Able trust
  - If you're working you can put money into the Able trust or a first party trust and put your money there and use that money.
  - In essence you can take the income and it doesn't count against you as long as you put it in this trust and use it in a certain manner. Things that benefit the individual such as:
    - To buy a car
    - Cable bill
    - Phone bill
  - To keep your Medicaid Benefits, which are needs based, you can only earn so much or have so much assets. Never goes directly to the person it goes to the trust, but it can be flexible.



### **Michigan Nonprofit Association**

Just put out a call for Americore people. Must serve under these program goals:

- College access for k-12 youth and college success for economically disadvantaged college students
- Workforce development to improve employability and lead to employment for low income populations

Possibly put in together with JVS to host an Americore position that could work for all of put providers in helping people that are homeless so we would have a dedicated person.

- There is a match on it
  - Maybe, collectively our organizations could put up a match and we could host it at JVS and they would be able to provide the supervision?
- Leah will review and brainstorm with Kirsten about it

Jessie remind Ryan to get contact from Russ for GoodWill for the MI Works contract for Pontiac.

Ashley will send out doodle poll after Leah meets with JVS for next meeting dates.

### **Racial Disparity and Data**

Is there opportunity for the Alliance to look at grants for that?

Looking at our whole region and the racial disparity and the outcomes, important to address and at how we can promote more equitably within our programs.

- Find funding organizations/ foundations that would be interested in helping, collectively as a whole how the system works, to help the Alliance build capacity to be able to manage that data and gather that data to analyze.
- How can we help the Alliance become more data driven so the Alliance can help its organizations become more data driven so we all have better outcomes?
  - Do research into finding funding source

Alliance could bring in training about racial basis for the people who are working directly with clients so that we can training all of the people that are in our system providing services so that they are aware.

- Alliance has met with PNC about some different things we could do and how they could support within the things they already offer, or sponsoring some of the trainings that we would like to have and if it falls into the things they would like to support.
  - Leah reach out to Marc Craig who attended training at the Opportunity Resource Fund
    - Said they had a really good group come out and do that training.
- What are the lines of service that the Alliance can offer it's members to strengthen its members so that they are better at delivering services?
  - Opportunity for the Alliance to get more sustainable funding for itself.

Jessie is doing research at SOS to help bring in best practices to make sure that all case managers are trained in the same way so that they are providing the best service.

- Perhaps to this on a bigger level to all providers, share what she has been looking at so that we could offer it on a larger scale.
- Would help with costs