

Capital Area Coalition on Homelessness
General Membership Meeting
December 8, 2016
Minutes

Members Present: Bryan Davis and George Payne, Harrisburg Redevelopment Authority; Michael Weisberg, BIT; Darrel Reinford and Steve Schwartz, Christian Churches United; Rumulus Brown, City of Harrisburg; Denise Britton, Shalom House, Maria Chianos, Pinnacle Health Systems; Sara Matthews, Volunteers of America; Barbara Muller, Red Cross; Natasha Woods, Community Action Commission, Scott Dunwoody, Bethesda Mission; Kay Pickering, Harrisburg Center for Peace and Justice; Elaine Strokoff, Downtown Daily Bread; Frank Magel and Deb Clayton, Dauphin County MH/ID and Human Services; H. Keith Taylor and Bill Motsavage, Valley Youth House; Mike Macchioni. Gemma's Angels, Pastor Drew Stockstill, Christ Lutheran Church.

Welcome and Introductions: Bryan Davis convened the meeting, welcomed everyone and read the code of conduct. Kay Pickering promoted the purchase of the 2017 Syracuse Cultural Workers calendar.

MOTION by Kay Pickering to accept the August 2016 General Membership meeting minutes without changes.

Seconded by Deb Clayton. MOTION passed.

Blueprint Implementation Team (BIT): Michael Weisberg and Darrel Reinford distributed the recent version of the Home Run plan. It is also on the CACH website: www.cachpa.org Mike said that the feedback we got from the April and December community meetings is incorporated into this draft. They requested feedback on the draft and a form was distributed to provide this. Return the form to Deb Ritchey. The next steps are assigning committees action steps. The Coordinating Committee will monitor accomplishments and ensure that all action steps are assigned to someone. This requires an expansion of the number of people involved with Home Run. Darrel said the plan is data drive and will be measured. George Payne said that contact information and an evaluation would be on the CACH website. Mike offered to do an on-line survey. Please note the HUD language incorporated into our Home Run is that homelessness will be, "a rare, brief, and non-recurring." Bryan Davis told us a brief history of the plan, originally developed in 2005.

Treasurer's Report: - Bryan Davis said Dan Eisenhauer presented to the Coordinating committee a revised 2016 budget for CACH.

Committee Reports:

Community Conversations – Denise Britton said the committee continues to discuss what a community looks like without homelessness. Other activities include developing a coaching program and staff training. The faith community is very involved with committee work and wants to engage their congregations. In February 2017, the

committee is planning an orientation event with the goal of removing barriers and repurposing resources. The next meeting is January 18, 2017 at 9:00 am at the Heart of Harrisburg.

Homeless Prevention – Maria Chianos reported that the committee is working on reviewing Home Run to determine what goals it will work on and action steps for those goals. Deb Ritchey said that at the December meeting a community member requested a flyer explaining the eviction process. Maria reminded us that the committee developed a job description for a case manager to work with residents going through the eviction process. We continue to look for funding for this position. Kay Pickering recommended that the flyer about the eviction process be done synchronized with a funded case manager. George Payne recommended that MidPenn Legal Services be contacted. Mike Weisberg said that a landlord protocol was developed. Dauphin County Crisis Intervention will get involved when a person with disabilities is facing eviction. He'll provide this to the Homeless Prevention committee. Frank Magel said that the Housing Authority of Dauphin County revised the protocol and uses it with residents of the HUD 811 and Shelter + Care. He said people do not have to be a client of the Case Management Unit to benefit from the protocol.

Housing – This committee wants to get more involved with the Capital Region Property Owners Association. They will invite a representative from CRPOA to make a presentation. Mike Weisberg reported that the committee is trying to identify funding for housing development projects; low impact shelter and affordable single room occupancies. Other activities include expanding the representative payee opportunities and developing a landlord trust fund for security deposits. Bryan Davis talked about Harrisburg's high rents and the need to preserve existing affordable housing. There was a discussion about senior housing in Hershey going from subsidized to market rate. Cumberland Court and B'nai B'rith in Harrisburg also went through this change.

Public Information and Education – Bryan Davis told us that this committee revised the power point presentation originally developed by the BIT committee. We will promote CACH as well as our partners through our outreach efforts. Someone asked what our sponsorship opportunities and were they posted on our website: Bronze Partner \$250; Silver partner \$500; Gold Partner \$1000; and Platinum Partner \$3000. The sponsorships are posted on our website. CACH is participating in Amazon Smile, a fundraising tool.

Service Delivery/Data Collection – George Payne informed us that Heather Cotignola-Pickens is now the chair of this committee. The group is concentrating on preparing for the 2017 Point In Time (PIT) survey to be conducted January 25, 2017; snow date January 31, 2017. For the first time, CACH will use HMIS for the shelter, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing inventory for the PIT. Surveys will be conducted as usual in the soup kitchens and at Bethesda Mission. We will use the same tool as we have in the past. CACH submitted an Annual Homeless Analysis Report (AHAR) again this year, also based on HMIS. Unfortunately, Bethesda Mission

is not included within the AHAR. George is working on changing this as it impacts on the acceptance of our report. Deb Ritchey said that refresher trainings will be scheduled to ensure improved data quality. George then told us about the status of implementing our Coordinated Assessment. A Coordinated Evaluation and Assessment Referral (CEAR) team is assembled and meets once a month for the implementation. We have a no wrong door approach to placing the targeted populations into housing: chronically homeless, unsheltered people not chronically homeless, unaccompanied youth and Veterans. Homeless Veterans' needs are met through our By-Name List process, which is going very well. George then described how the CEAR works. A release of information form is signed and waiting lists for targeted homeless are developed. The Coordinated Assessment Tool and instructions for its use are on CACH's website: www.cachpa.org. Denise Britton reminded us that Occupational Therapist interns from Elizabethtown College that worked at Shalom House are available for support and about the Hershey Medical Center's offer of trainings in February 2017 are taking registrations.

Homeless Youth – Deb Ritchey reported that CACH will re-start work on this gap in services in 2017. The coalition has increased partners participating because of this effort. About 80 Dauphin County youth have been identified who are coach surfing through our work with the group called Educating Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness (ECYEH). ECYEH helped us increase school district participation. We have recruited staff from Dauphin County Children and Youth to help us with this goal. Bill Motsavage asked if our 2017 PIT will include outreach to homeless youth. We have not yet identified where to do such outreach and we need youth representation on the subcommittee. Bill described Berks County's efforts in meet the needs of homeless youth. Private funds were used for outreach.

Project Homeless Connect (PHC) – Deb Ritchey told us that there are 247 red (homeless) and blue (vulnerable to homelessness) clients who were served at 2016 PHC. Breakdown: - Immediate attention: reds = 86; blues = 15; less urgent: reds = 75; blues = 71 = 247. Case management is being done by Maria Chianos, amongst others. Maria took 49 guests files that she followed up on: 15 were referred to Hamilton Health Center for reconnecting with their PCP; 21 were contacted (when possible- many telephone numbers were not in service or disconnected) to establish a PCP with Kline Health Center who is taking new patients. Maria reports that she is still working on the remainder to connect to appropriate services. Since she goes to Downtown Daily Bread every week, she'll take the list with her to see if they are there. Kelly Gollick and Melinda Eash went through the "urgent" case files with Maria. Once Kelly and Melinda' interns are in place, specific case management will take place. Kacie Bodell and Deb went through the clients in the "can wait" bin and follow up began.

Service Gaps, New Opportunities, and Announcements: Mike Macchioni told us about his work through Gemma's Angels to serve nutritional food to area

shelters, food banks and at events such as at Housing Authority neighborhoods. Gemma's Angels purchased a new van through casino funds available through Dauphin County. People can shop at the van. He reported about another activity that Gemma' Angels want to do where the back of a truck is filled with dirt and a garden planted. This is an educational activity Other organizational activities include a social media campaign whereby pictures of supporters are posted on social media sites with a statement reading, "I am an angel for the hungry." Mike showed us a pilot program they are doing where at their events they have a "Dip Jar" that accepts credit card donations.

Next Meeting: The next General Membership meeting of CACH will be **February 9, 2017** beginning at 10 AM at Christ Lutheran Church, 124 South 13th Street, Harrisburg

Adjourned 11:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ritchey, CCIMS Project Manager