

Capital Area Coalition on Homelessness  
General Membership Meeting  
August 10, 2017  
Minutes

Members Present: Bryan Davis and George Payne, Harrisburg Redevelopment Authority; Maria Chianos, Pinnacle Health Systems; Dave Seaman, Partnership for Hope; Anne Guenin and Linda Gzehoviah, Downtown Daily Bread; Kaamilah Williams and Airika Pollard, Veterans Administration; Krissy Marshall and Lissette Gonzalez, Family Promise; Natasha Woods, Community Action Commission of the Tri county; Aubrey Stephens, Salvation Army and Darrel Reinford, CCU.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Bryan Davis convened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

MOTION by Aubrey Stephens to accept the June 2017 General Membership meeting minutes without changes.

Seconded by Natasha Woods. MOTION passed.

Treasurer's Report: - Bryan Davis reported that CACH's Coordinating Committee adopted the 2017 budget and that income and expenses balanced.

2017 Continuum of Care (CoC) - Bryan Davis explained about funding availability through this year's CoC application. He explained that HUD-Assigned Preliminary Pro Rata Need for PA-501 = \$1,743,566. Of this, our Total Renewal Amount is \$1,632,664. HUD-Determined Permanent Housing Bonus = \$104,614. The Pro-Rata Need & Permanent Housing Bonus is subject to change by HUD. Further discussion included the priority populations to be served: chronically homeless people with disabilities, homeless veterans, unsheltered and unaccompanied, homeless youth. CACH reached out to the network of providers and the community. Another new opportunity is the ability to expand existing programs. Any organization interested in applying should apply. The time line for the application is that proposals from agencies are due to CACH August 28, 2017; CACH must post recommendations for the public on September 13, 2017. Our application to HUD is due September 28<sup>th</sup>.

CCIMS – Deb Ritchey told us that we continue to focus on data quality. She will work with the Service Delivery/Data Collection committee on developing a data quality plan. Bryan Davis requested an HMIS report be submitted to the General membership.

Downtown Daily Bread's Drop in Center - Anne Guenin reminded us about Downtown Daily Bread's (DDB) history of service and the progress in developing expanded services. Historically they fed 70 – 100 people daily; now they feed 130 a day. This month, the Drop in Center saw an average of 75 people. She discussed the Center's expanded hours and services. The expansion of services includes case management,

the provision of Social Security cards and picture ids, and medical screenings. A food bank and access to the SNAP program will be implemented. Bryan Davis reminded us that we want to transition Project Homeless Connect to DDB.

### **Committee Reports:**

Homeless Prevention – Maria Chianos reported that the committee focuses on the comprehensive plan, called Home Run. Our goals include 6/1 on the plan - outreach to faith-based and education about the Coordinated Evaluation Referral (CERT) Tool (CERT). She told us about the Coordinated Evaluation and Assessment Referral (CEAR) Team’s first report for November 2016 – September 2017 included information about the number of people in the targeted populations (chronically homeless, unsheltered, unaccompanied youth) are on a waiting list. 76 people were referred during that time. The predominant populations referred are transitional age youth, 18-24 years old. This report is available by asking Deb Ritchey to provide. The committee was asked to evaluate discharge policies by Dauphin County and the state prisons, hospitals and halfway houses. This request comes from needing to strengthen our future Continuum of Care applications specific to local discharge policies. Maris discussed other goals in the plan that the committee is charged with working on including enrollment specialists making referrals for insurance; developing a life skills program for Downtown Daily Bread. She made the point that prevention activities are throughout the Home Run.

Service Delivery/Data Collection – George Payne told us about the committee training the housing case manager and outreach workers about CEAR, targeting to take place in October. He said the process is robust and we plan to expand its use. George reminded us that the CERT is on the CACH website: [www.cachpa.org](http://www.cachpa.org). Bryan Davis summarized the CEAR process.

Homeless Youth – George Payne assisted Valley Youth House with a successfully funded application to U.S. Health and Humans Services for outreach under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Grant. He reported that in 2016, there were 90 homeless youth documented.

Community Conversations – Dave Seaman told us about the ongoing commitment of the committee to build relationships with faith-based groups, including City of Refugees. The committee continues its mentoring activities. They are returning to some of their original discussions re: building leadership. The training they developed will be made available to the community. The next meeting is September 7, 2017.

Housing – Bryan Davis said that this committee is following the next round for applications for tax credits. Included within this October round is another application to be submitted by Paxton Street Homes.

Public Information and Education – Deb Ritchey reported that this committee has been participating in community-wide events to educate the community about CACH's mission and actions. Bryan Davis told us that we were awarded our proposal to work with Leadership Harrisburg Area on the development of a marketing plan. This group will have a draft-marketing plan to the committee by February 2018 and will finish their work by May 2018.

**General discussion** - A question was asked about the number of beds available to men, women and families. A discussion followed about the transient homeless population that we see in Harrisburg. Agencies reported experiencing more aggression from clients. George Payne referred to the 2017 Point In Time, which documents an increase in homeless people in Dauphin County. One factor that contributes to a logjam in placing people into housing is the slow process for doing so. George told us that some community does not serve county non-residents and that maybe we should re-visit this approach. A discussion followed regarding the definition of county residency. George wondered what numbers of homeless people Pinnacle Health Systems served from outside the area. Maria Chianos responded that the number is decreased using the emergency room since the Medicaid expansion. Bryan Davis reported that Hamilton Health Center sees fewer people without insurance. Further discussion concerned the high rent properties throughout the region. It was acknowledged that the human services system is under increased pressure without an increase in resources.

**Next Meeting:** The next General Membership meeting of CACH will be **October 12, 2017** beginning at 10 AM at Christ Lutheran Church, 124 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Harrisburg

Adjourned 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ritchey, CCIMS Project Manager