

Capital Area Coalition on Homelessness
General Membership Meeting
April 13, 2017
Minutes

Members Present: George Payne, Harrisburg Redevelopment Authority; Adrian Buckner, United Way; Maria Chianos, Pinnacle Health Systems; Kay Pickering, Harrisburg Center for Peace and Justice; Elaine Strokoff, Jewish Family Service; Deb Clayton, Dauphin County MH/ID and Human Services; Tabitha Kramer, Educating Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness; Pastor Drew Stockstill, Christ Lutheran Church; Aubrey Stephens, Salvation Army; Anne Guenin, Downtown Daily Bread.

Welcome and Introductions: George Payne convened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

MOTION by Aubrey Stephens to accept the October 2016 General Membership meeting minutes without changes.

Seconded by Maria Chianos. MOTION passed.

Blueprint Implementation Team (BIT): George Payne told us that since the revised Home Run has been adopted (visit CACH website: www.cachpa.org to review document), this team will be discontinued. One of the objectives in Home Run is to develop a Planning and Resource Development committee (Objective 1, strategy 1.1a) that will replace the BIT. This committee and the Coordinating committee will oversee the implementation of Home Run. The next step is for committees to review Home Run, identify their respective objectives, and develop action steps.

Treasurer's Report: - Bryan Davis said Dan Eisenhauer presented to the Coordinating committee a draft 2017 budget for CACH. Deb Ritchey reported that CACH is participating in the 2017 Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community on May 20th, 2017 at the HACC main campus. Please support CACH as we target \$5000 as our financial goal and look to awareness growing through this community event. Come on out and walk for CACH!

Committee Reports:

Community Conversations – George Payne reminded us of this group's mission: to create a positive change by engaging and collaborating in the Central Pennsylvania region. This Community Conversation values independence, sustainability, and empowered success for all members of the community. Community Conversations is engaging faith-based groups in this mission. Recently, they are training church volunteers to participate in mentoring.

Homeless Prevention – Maria Chianos reported that the committee would review Home Run, Objective 6, To develop short and long-term strategies to significantly prevent the

occurrence of homelessness in our community. Our next meeting is May 11, 2017 at 1:30 in the Landes Building, 7th floor. All are welcome. We will develop action steps for this objective. She asked if all committees are going through this process. George Payne said yes and that the Planning and Resource and the Coordinating committees will oversee the implementation.

Housing – Kay Pickering said she was a guest speaker at this committee meeting. Michael Weisberg attended via Skype. George Payne said that on behalf of this committee, CACH submitted a proposal to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for shared housing funding. He is unsure when we'll hear if it was funded. Julia Hoskins has championed this housing type for many years; hence, the YWCA's will administer the grant if funded. The proposal recommends working with property owners to partner with two homeless people/families and the YWCA. It proposes to serve 30 people. The funds are available through the Pennsylvania Housing Trust fund. The committee also continues to work with the Harrisburg Housing Authority to prioritize the placement of homeless people when vacancies occur. George described the process for this prioritization through HMIS. Deb Ritchey asked how homeless people would access openings in Northern Dauphin County without any HMIS participating shelters. George says CCU is in HMIS and can serve the Housing Authority of Dauphin County when there are openings. There was a discussion about getting homeless people seen at the Salvation Army. A letter from Downtown no longer serves homeless people. A question was asked about residency rules. George responded that programs provide prioritization of placement to residents of Dauphin county. No one knew anything about required proof of residency. The recommendation is for new residents to the county start at the Assistance Office.

Public Information and Education – Crystal Brown reported that the committee updated the CACH brochure and flyers. The committee will provide translated brochure into Spanish and Arabic. We now work on a display and evaluating upcoming outreach opportunities to determine if they are a good fit for CACH. We will develop a marketing and communications plan also.

Service Delivery/Data Collection – George Payne told us that the committee continues its work on the Coordinated Evaluation Referral Tool (CERT) process of no-wrong door. The CERT is on the CACH website along with instructions. He described how the tool works and the targeted homeless population served: chronically homeless, people living on the street and unaccompanied youth. Homeless veterans are served by the Veterans By-name list. People experiencing domestic violence are referred to the YWCA. An issue for us is the actual coordination of the next agency for referral to service provision. The committee reviewed the Home Run action steps pertaining to its work. The 2017 Point In Time (PIT) [update: on the CACH website] is due to HUD May 1st. A PIT report will be issued to the community. Methods for counting homeless people improved and the numbers of homeless people increased to 460 homeless persons. We then discussed the people living in tents along Market Square Presbyterian Church. Representatives from CACH, CCU and the church meet regularly

in addition to James Cooper from Dauphin County Crisis Intervention and John Sponeybarger from Dauphin County Drug and Alcohol. The Coordinated Evaluation and Assessment Referral process is being used. The soft date in May is the target for placement into housing for these folks. Some of the folks are newly homeless and a couple of Veterans are within the encampment. Kay Pickering asked if anyone is using 2-1-1, the core service of information and referral for people who contact 2-1-1 by phone. She has not had good results and was encouraged to talk directly to Kelly Gollick. Aubrey Stevens told us about Safe Link, a program to distribute Smart phone with limited time. We discussed CACH engaging in tweeting and adding the developments of 2-1-1 and Safe Link to the CACH website.

Homeless Youth – CACH conducted an outreach presentation for homeless youth with Shane Burroughs from Synergy on March 16, 2017. Part of the presentation included a discussion about applying for Runaway and Homeless Youth funds available through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Valley Youth House may submit this proposal for outreach in Dauphin County.

Project Homeless Connect (PHC) – The Coordinating committee decided not to organize a 2017 Project Homeless Connect. Deb Ritchey is compiling outcomes for a report.

CCIMS – Deb Ritchey said that we will submit Systems Performance Measures in May and that report will give us feedback on data quality.

Service Gaps, New Opportunities, and Announcements: Elaine Strokoff volunteers for Jewish Family Services specific to improving its case management. The agency has some new services. She asked about the policy of talking with other agency's case managers about services and was told they were not allowed to discuss services because of liability issues. Were others experiencing this obstacle? We talked about the role of release of information forms and collaboration.

Next Meeting: The next General Membership meeting of CACH will be **June 8, 2017** beginning at 10 AM at Christ Lutheran Church, 124 South 13th Street, Harrisburg

Adjourned 11:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ritchey, CCIMS Project Manager