

Allegheny Homeless Advisory Board Meeting
 Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 10/29/2013 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

Members in Attendance

Charles Christen	PATF	Amy Adams	CHS	Don Rindfuss	Veteran's Place
Mary Francis Pilarski	VA	Linda Rae Kilderry	SVDR	Frank Hammond	BNY Mellon
John Lovelace	UPMC	Mary Parks	Sister's Place	Nicole L. Anderson	AIU-ECYEH
Adrienne Walnoha	CHS	Jack McGraw	ACHA	Lenny Prewitt	Family Links
Meg Balsamico	Penn Hills Planning	Rod Williaman	Chartiers	Peggy O'Malley	ACHD
Tom Cummings	URA				

Guests in Attendance

Heather Uphold	Veterans Place	Steve Forrester	WPIC	Myrna Zelenitz	EECM
Darla Poole	Auberle	Robert Eamigh	DHS	Stephanie Chiappini	PMHS
Stephanie Walsh		Liz Daniels-Trotten	City of Pittsburgh	Terri Laver	ACDHS
Liz Hersh	Housing Alliance of PA	Dineta Benjamin	Bethlehem Haven	Bill Wolfe	HCEF
Lois Martin	Bethlehem Haven	Chuck Keenan	DHS	Mac McMahon	CHS
Gale Schwartz	Housing Alliance of PA	Emil Pyptyk	ACDHS	Tracy Finn	AIU-ECYEH
Michael A. Weisman	Light of Life	George Trauner	Bethesda	Dan Pellis	Chartiers Center
Tom Kneier	St. Joseph House	Jarred Rimel	Bethesda	Cynthia Haines	HUD
Andrea Rudek	Office of Child Development	Mary Jo Dickson	ACOBH	Lance Dew	GJR
Ray Firth	Office of Child Development	Nicole Molinaro Karaczon	Women's Center & Shelter	Jackie Abel- Stavropoulos	Goodwill SWPA

Welcome

Jerry Drozynski welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone went around and introduced themselves.

Review of last quarter's meeting minutes

Jerry Drozynski reviewed last quarter's minutes and they were unanimously approved.

2013 CoC Application Status

The 2012 application status applied for 10 new projects and did not receive approval for any. The CoC scored 99.3 out of a potential possible 135. In addition DHS had 300% leveraging with a score of 0 out of 6. DHS is appealing the score. The CoC did receive all its renewals. There will be no news on the applications for 10 new projects until after the appeal process has been completed which was delayed by the Government shutdown.

Liz Hersh asked is there anything we can to help the appeal process of the leveraging score. Terry Laver answered that each project had to demonstrate 100% leveraging and some have trouble doing this such as DV shelters.

DHS is registered for the 2013 application and once it opens the county will have 60 days to complete it. This year DHS will be applying as a unified funding agency. DHS had attempted to do that last year but was denied. The status is being sought because DHS already behaves this way and it can bring \$82,000 in

funding. There are 77 renewals in this application totaling \$8.15 million. There is an expectation of budget cuts up to 8% resulting in the loss of programs. Consequently programs are being ranked and placed into two tiers, with tier 1 falling above the funding line and tier 2 not. There was then discussion on what the criteria HUD will use in determining which tier a program falls into to, which is derived from quarterly outcomes. All 77 projects have received their scores but they have not been released. Programs with a housing component have the highest priority with HUD. Once this is done the HAB will be given final approval of the list, however service providers that are members will not be allowed to vote. Letters giving notice of project tier status will be given to providers prior to application submission.

Nominations of HAB members Officers/January 2014 vote

The deadline for nominations for the HAB elections is 12/1. Nominations must include a bio and a letter of interest. This information will be shared and voting will take place by the next meeting. Only official members of the HAB that have received a letter recognizing membership from the Director of DHS are eligible to be officers.

CoC Committee Work Group on Coordinated Intake Update

Linda Kilderry referred to Chuck Keenan and Terry Laver who expressed they wanted to start the centralized intake process soon. Centralized intake was mandated by HUD and specifically wanted a central location for a client to access the homeless system. The plan is to have a hybrid of no wrong door and a single point of contact approach. If a client walks into a service provider and there is either no space or that particular provider does not have the most appropriate services for the client, then the client will be referred to the call-in or drop-in center for a targeted referral to match the client with the right program. The client side of the process is completed now DHS has to work on the provider side. A meeting is scheduled for 11/4 for providers to bring their own intake applications in order to develop universal intake form. There is no operator go live date set yet. Terry reported there is a specific HUD requirement that no repeat information is to be gathered such as name, DOB, SS#, etc. the centralized intake will be part of the HMIS system and referrals should come with basic info. The HUD draft data standards are not set yet but these data elements will be incorporated into the centralized intake form. It was asked how it will be funded? Last year HUD gave opportunity for supportive services programs to be turned into the central operator of coordinated intake. If this does not happen, DHS will look internally for funding but nothing is certain until budgets are set. There are also other potential competitive sources of funding from HUD.

HMIS Update

Chuck Keenan reported HUD changes mean we have to change our questions so we are changing the platform of HMIS to be similar to KIDS in the child welfare system. Data will be very similarly and reports will be easy to get. A copy of dashboard printed was given to the attendees. Deloitte will be the IT support. Currently there are weekly meetings among DHS staff but in the near future there will need to be provider feedback. Right now, DHS is looking how to make system more user friendly. HMIS is going to be expanded to collect information and give it to providers. Providers will be given opportunity to test the system before it goes live. There was discussion on the history of HMIS and the process in which it

was phased in to use. A similar process will be used this time around as well. In addition, the system will be seeking more than just the minimum required information which was the case in the past. Liz Hersh asked if there was a plan of implementation with projected dates. Chuck answered that the plan is not to engage Deloitte until December and have a go live date be in June but currently they are still in the mapping phase. DHS will be seeking more input over the next 2-3 weeks. Lastly there was not answer found in regards to the legal question posed in the last meeting concerning recipients of DV services.

Advocacy Committee Reboot

Jerry asked the board for suggestions on rebooting the advocacy committee but also asked for volunteer to chair the committee. The question was posed what does advocacy mean and Jerry explained it as the address topics and policy affecting homelessness in the county. Adrienne Walnoha asked of how this applied to the HAB and the project the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania. Liz Hersh introduced herself as Executive Director and she and Chuck Keenan went on to explain the goal of this project is further develop the HAB. Liz went on to Discuss HEARTH, its history (briefly) and how it's changing regulations have impacted the role of the HAB using the centralized intake and increased accountability as examples. Liz introduced Gale Schwartz as the HAB consultant from Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania and explained her role will be to provide administrative support as well as help people become more informed and up to date on HEARTH. Liz then passed around a piece of paper on questions members would like to be asked as they are going to be survey on how each member experiences the board and also asking what trainings are wanted. The Pennsylvania Housing Alliance will engage in information sharing with other counties on good works accomplished.. Jerry then asked again for a volunteer to chair the advocacy committee and Liz nominated Adrienne to take lead and starting the work group and drafting a charter. Charter will be presented at the next committee meeting. Sign-up sheet was sent around.

At this time Liz asked the board membership to share the good works they have accomplished. And providers around the room shared recent accomplishments.

Announcements

Chuck reminded the board about the Homeless Education Network Summit on 11/15 presented by the Homeless Children's Education Fund. Chuck also announced the need for volunteers under the homeless system review. DHS is looking for providers and consumers to participate in the review. Those interested should contact Michael Yonas (michael.yonas@allegHENYcounty.us).

Public Comments

Ray Firth expressed a desire for greater emphasis to be placed on children and families. He reported that there are no standards for these families and has asked the HAB to insist on higher standards and on more training on how parent trauma affects children.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2013 10:00 AM