

Allegheny County Homeless Advisory Board

January 28, 2014--10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
 Human Services Building, Liberty Room
 One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh
 Quarterly Meeting Notes

Mission: The Homeless Advisory Board is a public/private partnership formed to assist and recommend Allegheny County, the City of Pittsburgh, the City of McKeesport and the Municipality of Penn Hills on public policy, programs, activities, data and all other efforts that will eliminate homelessness and improve the wellbeing of homeless persons and families

Homeless Advisory Board Members & Designees Present	
Alicia Allen, re:solve	Castor Binion, City of PGH Housing Authority
Jerry Cafardi, City of PGH City Planning	Charles Christen, PATH;
Tom Cummings, URA	Julie DeSeyn, United Way
Jane Downing, Pittsburgh Foundation	Jerry Drozynski, Hearth
Nancy Dunkis, AC DED	Frank Hammond, BNY Mellon
Wayne Jones, Heinz Endowments	Linda Kilderry, St. Vincent de Paul
Jack McGraw, AC Housing Authority	Peggy O'Malley, AC Health Dept
Mary Parks, Sister's Place	Laurel Randi, McCune Foundation
Donald Rindfuss, Veteran's Place	Reggie Young, AC OCS
Adrienne Walnoha, CHS	MaryJo Dickson, on behalf of Don Clark, AC OBH
Joe Savino, on behalf of Mary Frances Pilarski, VA	
Guests	
Chuck Keenan, AC-DHS	Rob Eamigh, AC-DHS
Jane Miller, HUD	Jackie Abel-Stravropoulos, Goodwill SWPA
Carol Janesko, AC HD WIC	Nicole Rench, Adagio Health
Roseanne Majcher, DHS/AAA	Laura Vincenti, Family Promise SWPA
Seth Abrams, AC-DHS	Shirl Regan, Women's Center
Joe Elliot, AC-DHS	Abigail Horn, AC-DHS
Paul Freydor, Salvation Army	Michael Yonas, AC- DHS
Pat Fenton, Action-Housing	Heather Uphold, Veteran's Place
Betty Cruz, PGH Office of the Mayor	Mac McMahan, CHS
Liz Hersh, Housing Alliance of PA	Joyce Sacco, Housing Alliance of PA
Gale Schwartz, Housing Alliance of PA	Diane Smith, Housing Alliance of PA

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Jerry Drozynski called meeting to order.
- b. Attendees went around the room introducing themselves.
- c. Jerry discussed the items on agenda that would require a vote and reviewed who was eligible to vote specifying the need for guests to abstain
- d. Last meetings minutes were approved by unanimous vote

2. Updates on CoC Application—Rob Eamigh

- a. CoC application due Monday 77 renewal grants worth \$15.2 million
 - i. With no news of being rescinded, sequestration cuts are 5%

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- b. Tier 1 is all but 5% of projects which are ranked and have been notified by letter and are listed on the DHS website (<http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/homelessadvisory.aspx>)
 - i. SSOs , planning grant and new project have applied but may get cut with sequestration applied under Tier 2
- c. Have one new project through reallocation of funds. That project is under Mercy Behavioral Health it will fund 17 additional units.
 - i. Funds from 3 projects that were reallocated and those projects are notified
- d. Tier 1 should get award notice by 3/20/14 and Tier 2 will hear in later in the spring.
- e. Liz Hersh asked what is HUD looking for and how is it different? Rob discussed rankings on performance utilize of capacity and HUD priorities (Examples are permanent housing for chronic homeless and families) Once rankings finalized they were brought to the board. Liz discussed the HEARTH training and talks about attendees to answer questions taken from the HUD application.
- f. Laurel Randi asked where rapid rehousing and transitional housing fall in the rankings. Chuck Keenan discussed reclassifying the transitional housing programs to rapid rehousing. He discussed Opening Doors (http://usich.gov/opening_doors/) as the federal strategy behind changing models and reserving beds for the chronically housing. The goal of this strategic plan is to end chronic and veteran homelessness by 2015.
- g. Reggie Young spoke on DHS effort to have a balance in the system because the reality is not enough permanent housing for everyone.
- h. Chuck discussed the need to looking to partnerships as service programs are cut to find resources. DHS has a lot under its umbrella but still has to coordinate other entities such as housing authorities.

3. Final Vote on 2013 CoC Application

- a. Linda Rae Kilderry led discussion on Conflict of Interest. Since the votes was approval all funding and would no benefit one provider over another providers were included in the vote.
- b. Jerry Drozynski moved the motion to vote, Nancy Dunkis Seconded
- c. The motion passed with unanimous approval

4. Vote to designate CoC Lead and HMIS Lead Agency—Chuck Keenan

- a. HUD is formalizing relationship between HAB and DHS (see attached form letter of agreement) Jerry explained the HAB is formally hiring DHS
 - i. this action will now be done annually
- b. Reggie Young explained that for the past 5 to 7 years HUD is making distinction that there is active advisory body. Jerry reported there is small amount of funding allocated by HUD to administer the Continuum.
- c. Jane Downing asked will county continue to staff committees? Jerry and Chuck reported though not stipulated the practice will continue.
- d. Mary Parks moved the motion to vote, Chuck Christen second

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- e. Motion passed with unanimous vote
- 5. Election of Executive Officers—Chuck Keenan
 - a. Board Members received bios on nominees for the position of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary the week before. Each position has one nominee, unopposed
 - i. Frank Hammond nominee for Chair discussed his experience with BNY Mellon, PCRG, and the foundation community (see attached bio for more detail)
 - ii. Julie DeSeyn, nominee for Vice-Chair, discussed her experience with United Way and working with the community as a funder (see attached bio for more detail)
 - iii. Jane Downing, nominee for Secretary, discussed her experience with the Pittsburgh foundation as well as her start in the Peace Corp in Panama working in blighted areas leading to interest in Urban Planning (see attached bio)
 - b. Reggie Young moved to have a single vote on slate of nominees, Laurel Randi second
 - c. The Slate of officers is elected with unanimous approval
 - d. Jerry Drozynski discusses his time as chair and thanks HAB and DHS for opportunity to serve

6. Committee Reports

- a. Advocacy Committee –Adrienne Walnoha (charter attached)
 - i. discussed how policy effects and drives what we do and how do we as providers start to be the ones driving policy announced meeting time need for broader, deeper conversation and can always suggest via email
 - ii. Heather Uphold discussed Round Table event the previous night with Matt Adams and how policy changes have happened and what makes sense and what doesn't. Participants ranged from consumers to providers as well as Congressman Rothfus staff. She discussed to ongoing round table series.
 - iii. Jerry Drozynski discussed the need added need for advocacy to maintain or service rich continuum
- b. Homeless Outreach Coordinating Committee—Mac McMahon
 - i. Announced meeting and location CHS offices at 1945 5th Ave. at 9:30 on 4th Thursday of the month. There are two updates:
 - 1. Getting structure with a charter for approval by HAB
 - 2. The first meeting of new sub-committee invited public works and law enforcement to collaborate and work better together to make contact with street homeless. Non-providers can see groups that providers can't reach. Good conversation about what non-providers see as working and not working. This meeting is a quarterly.
- c. Approval both committee charters
 - i. Linda Rae Kilderry move the motion to vote, Jerry seconds
 - ii. Both charters approved unanimously
 - iii. Peggy O'Malley discussed changing status to standing committee; that action will be tabled until annual by-law review in the summer

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- d. Coordinated Assessment— Linda Rae Kilderry
 - i. Workgroup is finished and is an advisory group at this point.
 - ii. Chuck Keenan discussed coordinated intake and assessment system for the Continuum as a better service provision. Through one centralized location Joe Elliott of Allegheny Link to aging and disability resources. Staff will increase from 4 to 7. Will have a 20-30 minute intake, do a warm referral and then have regular follow-up. People can call or drop in. Staff will do eligibility determination to match people with the right program. Coordinated Assessment is linked to HMIS there will be running record of previous referrals.
 - iii. Laurel Randi asked how is it connected with 211 and how do people know to call? Chuck Keenan answered DHS has not defined relationship with 211 yet but conversations are taking place.
 - 1. most likely 211 will refer to DHS
 - 2. will do soft launch without announce number and then will advertise for the formal launch in the fall.
 - iv. There will be lots of education for providers for use of system and for rejection protocol. Will have separate database to track all History of calls but data won't go into HMIS until enrollment in a program.
 - v. Abby Horn asked if DHS has worked through real time tracking of available beds. Chuck Keenan discussed the 10 days between action and documentation in HMIS. Currently, there is an email sent out Mondays on vacancies that is sent from county to provider.
 - vi. Adrienne Walnoha discussed mobile technologies to use when in the field data burden experienced by her staff.
 - vii. Linda Rae Kilderry outlined three big benefits 1. Consumer one place to enter system 2. Will see more appropriate referrals 3. Track of call what part needs to grow and what part doesn't.
 - viii. Laurel Randi announced and discussed "Code Fest" hosted by Forbes Funds February 21
 - ix. Chuck Keenan discussed with information coming in there will be a feedback loop to better address trends in the field.
 - x. Joe Elliott discussed IT system is still being built but we are asking to see data on trends and as well as outcomes and connections.
 - xi. Laurel Randi asked when does the HAB need to see that information so it can address it in the next CoC application. Reggie Young discussed all of DHS is looking at unifying assessment for all service needs.
 - xii. Julie DeSeyn discussed apps that have been used for field intakes. Chuck noted DHS wants to help and avoid double work. Want mobile technologies to work with new system.

7. Announcements/Public Comment

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- a. Nancy Dunkis County and City says notice of ESG will be in paper and being mailed out tomorrow. They are applying for money from state for building rehab purposes. There was discussion on the intent for HMIS to track multiple funding streams beyond HUD such HOPWA, PATH, Vet data to get a comprehensive view of all data
- b. Chuck Keenan passed out statistics of Homelessness of Allegheny County from the DARE Homeless System Review.
 - i. Laurel Randi asked when will the review be finished. Abby Horn discussed no end date but will have an update in March and DARE plans on reporting to the HAB. Right now been they are doing focus groups with providers and consumers looking at best practices and looking at experience to drive best practices.
 - ii. Chuck discussed stats the county wants to go beyond data to trace triggers of destabilization. Reggie Young discussed changes in HUD tracking
- c. Chuck Keenan Spoke on Jerry's contribution to the HAB and thanked him for his service to the HAB, homeless service system and the community at large.
- d. Liz Hersh discussed the Housing Alliance Board Development Project
 - i. She announced survey (which be re-sent by Gale Schwartz) and the results will be shared with new executive committee to create board development plan.

2014 Meeting Schedule-(last Tuesday of the Month at 10:00 AM)

- April 29, 2014
- July 29, 2014
- October 28, 2014