

Allegheny County Homeless Advisory Board

HAB Quarterly Meeting

January 27, 2015 10:00AM to 11:30AM
Human Services Building, Liberty Room
One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh.

Purpose: The Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) 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.

HAB Member Attendees

Frank Hammond, BNY Mellon
Nicole Anderson, AIU
Don Clark, OBH
Linda Kilderry, SVdP
Mary Francis Pilarski, VA
Barb Smith, HEARTH
Rod Willaman, Chartier's

Julie DeSeyn, United Way
Jerry Cafardi, City Pgh
Tom Cummings, URA
John Lovelace, UPMC
Lenny Prewitt, Family Links
Tracy Soska, PITT
Dr. James Withers, OSN

Jane Downing, Pgh Fdn
Charles Christen, PATF
Nancy Dunkis, ACED
Mary Parks, Sisters Place
Laurel Randi, McCune Fdn
Adrienne Walnoha, CHS
Reggie Young, DHS

Guest Attendees

Kay Moshier McDivitt, NAEH
Terri Laver, DHS
Josh Rolan, City Pgh- Mayor
Liz Daniels-Totten, City Pgh
Pat Fenton, Action Housing
Danielle Williams, Auberle
Sandra Nesbit, Beth Haven
Barrie Greek PDP
Joseph Koresant, PDP
Joyce Sacco, Housing Alliance

Chuck Keenan, DHS
Sheila Bell, DHS
Joe Elliott, DHS
Cindy Haines, HUD
Kyle Chintalapalli, City Pgh-Mayor
Ashley Mancine, SDHP
Bill Wolf, HCEF
Kelly Russell, City PGH
Tracey Finn, AUI
Gale Schwartz, Housing Alliance

Rob Eamigh, DHS
Abby Horn, DHS
Mac McMahon, CHS
Mary o Dickson OBH
Lisa Trunick, Beth Haven
Natalie Ryan, CHS
Sara Dittle, Beth Haven
Richard Morris, Urban League
Lois Mofuka Martin, Beth Haven

Notes:

- 1. Welcome & Introductions—Frank Hammond, Chair**
 - a. Vote to Approval of last quarter's minutes- jane and chuck C
- 2. Discussion: Goals and Priorities for 2015 —Frank Hammond, Chair**
 - a. Over the past year the HAB has presented a training curriculum to explore the priorities of HEARTH and how to negotiate those priorities with the needs and resources of the Allegheny County CoC to make homelessness brief, rare and non-recurring in our community.
 - i. This discussion is a continuation from the training on the HAB's role under HEARTH with Kay Mosher McDivitt from National Alliance to End Homelessness, - please refer to attached presentation starting at slide number 34 that outlines HUD priorities and reallocation.
 - b. Kay began the discussion with the reporting that Yesterday HUD announced the CoC with communities earning points through smart reallocation choices because it brought score up.

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- i. This process begins with data into HMIS and then pulling the data for more than HUD reports but to use in strategic decision making. How are you using your data
 - ii. Also look at interventions and compare it to the make-up with the people captured look like in the annual Point-In-Time
- c. Kay discussed reallocation planning and the uneasiness/discomfort that this can create in the community
 - i. know that reallocation is not limited to just ending or closing programs but programs can be repurposed as the needs of the community change
- d. Kay discussed ending chronic homelessness in 2016 and if communities should ask if the interventions they are using are ending chronic homelessness
 - i. She noted that having permanent supported housing (PSH) for families is unusual
 - ii. She suggested identifying the longest stayers in the system first
 - iii. Families don't typically take as much intervention to assist
- e. Laurel Randi asked about trends in training for staff and Kay discussed the need to have training go beyond frontline staff to explain priorities and the underlying the paradigm shift outlined in HEARTH and Open Doors to include decision makers, agency boards, leadership and staff.
 - i. Kay site an example as Pierce County Washington. That community created a business model approach to get trainings for different types of people operating in the system including funders, agency boards, and other decision makers
- f. Kay discussed the need for the reallocation plan to be an ongoing conversation all year long because the opportunity to Reallocate/repurpose can only take place during application
 - i. Terri Laver led discussion on some challenges with the reallocation process from Transitional Housing the PSH. In order for a program to retool from TH to PSH units do have to be empty and there can be an RFP/bidding for the funds, however Kay suggested for example that facilities can be retooled for a piece of their units at a time so that the entire facility is not sitting empty and over time can be completely retooled
- g. Some questions to think about during reallocation planning are
 - i. Are we funding programs the reduce homelessness to 30 days?
 - ii. Do the programs match the need?
- h. There was discussion lead by Mary Parks and Barb Smith in regards to rapid re-housing (RRH) vs transitional. Kay discussed RRH is an intervention not a program and people enrolled in Transitional programs are considered homeless according to HUD- Kay discussed an example in Virginia where the community decided to retool all transitional programs to either site based PSH or RRH after seeing how the first few RRH programs outcomes and costs compared to their own local transitional programs.

3. DHS Report- Chuck Keenan

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- a. **Point-in-Time:** Conducted annually last Wednesday in January
 - i. DHS stressed the need to enter program data to ensure accurate counts
 - ii. Teams will be going out tonight and tomorrow;
 - iii. There will be a special youth count event at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center Downtown.
 - b. **HUD Award-** DHS received \$15.6 million.
 - i. All projects were renewed.
 - ii. Shelter + Care (S+C) money slightly decreased due to reduced Fair Market Rates though this will not affect overall units. In addition the CHS S+C increased capacity from 25 to 47 and will have to renew annually
 - iii. The planning grant which was got last year was reinstated and DHS now has 2 grants to build and operate HMIS grants worth roughly \$220,000.
 - iv. There was a reallocation to 20 units to RRH.
 - c. **Coordinated Intake-** will be launched at the end of February and a press release will take place in March. People will be assigned to specific units by the LINK instead of general assignment to a program
 - d. **DHS Strategic Initiative Updates-** Chuck Keenan gave a quick review of the 3 main initiatives to be addressed in the next 3 years with a plan to share (tentatively) by the next meeting
 - i. Suzy Chase commented how many of the goals and priorities discussed in the presentation from Kay is very much in line with the objectives of the DHS strategic initiative
- 4. Committee Reports**
- a. **Continuum of Care Committee- Linda Kilderry & Terri Laver-** please refer to Handout from CoC committee which outlines the difference between HEARTH and McKinney-Vento
 - i. Development of Ranking Tools for CoC and ESG
 - 1. Gale asked when the next COC tool will be developed and if will look at whether our current menu of programs matches the know needs of the community.
 - a. Gale discussed using the results of the PIT to give a rough indication if the menu of interventions matches the need of the community
 - b. Adrienne discussed about pulling information from other systems housed in the data warehouse and making sure the right questions are being asked
 - 2. Nicole Anderson discussed high mobility documented in school systems across the county citing 6,000 children experiencing homelessness that is not being captured in data collections like the PIT. She discussed concerns with the training specifically Kay's statement that programs should exit families to housing where they can pay up to 50% of their income to rent because many families

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that never enter the homeless system can survive. Nicole argued this actually is unstable housing and contributes to recidivism.

3. Chuck volunteered to have overlays from other systems added to the Homeless System Map to see where people are coming from.
4. Suzy Chase suggested each provider a summary of their best data to the next meeting
 - ii. Next Meeting: Tuesday @ 10:00 at DHS
 1. There will be Discussion of Analytic Tool (i.e. SPDAT) for Phase 3 of Coordinated Assessment
- b. **Youth Task Force- Chuck Keenan & Abigail Horn**
 - i. Chuck discussed efforts for a focused count of youth and the plan for a second count in the summer.
 - ii. There has been planning for the creation of a drop in center through Independent Living program
5. **Veterans Boot Camp Update- Chuck Keenan**
 - a. The Boot Camp exceeded its goal within the first 100 days and is now working on the next 100 days
6. **Announcements/Public Comments**
 - a. Announcements for HAB meetings can be submitted by email to Gale Schwartz at gale@housingalliancepa.org
 - b. Announcements for the CoC can be included in the DHS weekly e-share can be emailed to Peter Harvey at peter.harvey@alleghenycounty.us.
 - c. Chuck announced the SWES is being inundated with singles and agencies will be given space to do intake on site

The 2015 Quarterly HAB Meeting Schedule

Location: DHS (1 Smithfield, Pittsburgh PA 15219)

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Dates:

- **Tuesday, April 28th**
- **Tuesday, July 28th**
- **Tuesday, October 27th**