

## **Blueprint Council Minutes: February 25, 2015**

The meeting started at 9:05 a.m.

Present: Laura Alvarado, Rachel Candee, Michael Butler, Paul Harris, Betsy Whaley, Julia Kathary, Phil Smith, Mary Jones, Jeremy Turner, Crystal Haslett, Sandy Jeffers, Christy Shepard, Matt Holland, Terri Garcia, Leslie Kelly, Rebekah Bricker, Adam Hutton

The Blueprint Council minutes from the December meeting were approved unanimously. Mary Jones made a motion to approve the minutes. Christy Shepard seconded the motion.

### Community Education and Policy

Matt Holland introduced the document for protocols. The document was reviewed and approved by the Blueprint Council. Sandy made a motion to approve the Community and Education Policy process. Betsy Whaley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

CHIP will continue with logistics and communication on behalf of CoC policy. CHIP will develop a unique format/appearance for policy messages from the Continuum to distinguish them from those of CHIP.

### Supportive Services

Laura Alvarado reported that 211 is a new committee member. They have a lot of data that is useful to our current work. Getting ready to break up in to township areas and we will try to get partners on board to better understand what services are available outside Center Township. We are working on survey delivery with what types of questions need to be answered with Youth Task Force. Will work Laura Littlepage in development of those surveys.

### Housing Committee

Laura Alvarado (for Karin): We have broken up in to three work groups.

Betsy Whaley reported that recently there was a work group created to centered on transitional housing and this group is tasked with measuring the effectiveness and outcomes for transitional housing in Indianapolis. They are also to make recommendations about the need and role of TH in our continuum. Betsy said that shelters would not likely be eligible for ESG grants because shelter stays have lengthened due to trauma-informed care.

Christy Shepard reported that based on a recent conference, HUD is investing in transitional housing for only two sub-groups: youth (transient by nature) and domestic violence survivors. If you want to get transitional housing funding, units would need to be switched over to serve youth and domestic violence survivors. Federally, HUD is moving toward Rapid Re-Housing to reduce the number of transitions for families and reduce length of homelessness. There's a very successful model over on the Westside of Indianapolis at Holy Family Shelter. They have been able to streamline services and move people in to permanent supportive housing. (Bill Bickel) has been able to create relationships with landlords.

Julia Kathary reported that Coburn will be moving towards rapid rehousing funding. They have 35 units on site, but are about to add scattered-site models. We've had great discussion with Jeremy at Damien Center. Additionally, they are moving to add scattered-site units in the next 6 to 12 mos. We are seeing the trend to move toward rapid re-housing at the national level. Many national partners are moving to that model. This model allows us to stay in contact better and can provide more follow-up.

#### Rapid Re-Housing Conference in Indy

Michael Butler suggested that the CoC could have a webinar presentation on successes with Rapid Re-Housing. Betsy Whaley suggested that with the paradigm shift on RRH vs. TH, it would be helpful to inform the community how people think about housing. Showing those resources would be helpful.

Mary Jones commented that this could be a great educational tool and attendees of national conferences have the ability to take conference information to a CoC forum and share. Have a special meeting and have a dialogue. It's interacting with community and opportunity for break out discussion.

Matt Holland suggested that the Community Education and Policy Committee could help organize that.

#### Back to the Housing Committee

Laura Alvarado reported on the Housing Taskforce Statistics: show there are 14 units that open and 10 placements per month. Currently, there are 136 on waitlist.

Jeremy Turner stated they are trying to increase capacity in creative ways. We are looking at ways to track calls better too. Family shelters have been running above capacity over the past year. Betsy Whaley added that the group is collecting monthly reports on shelters for over nights stays. Jeremy Turner also mentioned using hotels in different way. Transition them in to a hotel before transitioning them in to PSH. We could have hotels do in-kind donations. We have to figure out how to report that on clients and what that will look like. Mary Jones asked if there were identified barriers to PSH. Betsy Whaley replied: Income and working. Have an apartment be ready so you can make space in shelter for a family who is calling.

#### Planning and Investment

Jeremy Turner reported that this committee will be meeting at CHIP tomorrow. Looking to better improve funding matrix. We don't have a rep from an ex-offender program – our plan is to reach out to PACE and RecycleForce. We would like to have funders hear about what is going on in our community. We are engaging federal agencies to determine what high-performing programs look like. We need to create priorities for gaps analysis and hoping to create a new action plan. We need to access better low-income tax properties and find HUD trainings relevant to committee.

#### Coordinated Access

Christy Shepard reported that the Coordinated Access pilot has been launched for anyone new to system. The group will measure the clients flow and ability to access referrals through the system. We are looking to build out a system in HMIS as well as using the no wrong door approach. HUD recently

released guidance over Coordinated Entry – we hope this can help give us additional guidance. We are taking information for Coordinated Access for 6 weeks. The SSVF recipients have talked about getting the veterans group represented in coordinated access as well.

Phil Smith – Marion County Re-Entry Coalition is looking at coordinated access and having resource centers throughout the city.

#### PATA

The Grant Inventory Worksheet went out and the CRP slated for June 4. Amy Nelson has officially resigned and until we find another committee chair CHIP will facilitate meetings in the time being.

Michael Butler– Committee is also looking for additional members.

Jeremy Turner– Committee chair can't be in COC – funded program.

#### Year in Review

Phil Smith reported on the document and that is structured in to four general areas. Tried to be as comprehensive as possible and it covers all of 2014. The document is expressed from his point of view about challenges that he recommends the CoC address. Please send any comments to Phil before next meeting at the CoC.

#### Discussion about the Engagement Center

Christy Shepard gave an overview of 291 which covers displacement for individuals removed from camp. And bill of rights. City will give individuals living in camps 15 days and they will notify the Continuum of Care agencies that work with individuals. They hope to codify the processes. They will hold belongings for 60 days. The city will take inventory of the individuals living in the camp. These individuals will have priority to get in to housing programs or to access services. So others who move in to the camp will not be on that same list. It will go to full council on Monday.

The Engagement Center will be introduced as a fiscal proposal on Monday and should be heard on March 11 (updated to reflect recent news) in committee. During that committee, Margie Payne, Val Washington and Christy will provide information. Department of Public Safety will operate and own the building.

The facility will be open 365-day and open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It needs to be a therapeutic model and Department of Public Safety is open to it. Funds will come out of Department of Public Safety budget. Christy stated that were will be a mental health focus and response within the program of the engagement center. Success of the model will be dependent on the buy-in and participation of service providers.

Adjourn: 10:25 a.m.