

Indianapolis Continuum of Care

Making homelessness in Indianapolis rare, short-lived and recoverable

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2016

Present: Matt Holland, Joan Harvey, Jennifer Fults, Amy Nelson, Jeri Warner, Lindsay Leonhard, Tahirah McCall, Michael Schwing, Jen Hunt, Keshia Knight, and Nicole Spacey

- Workgroups update – Lindsay reported that the Policy workgroup will meet on April 5 at 3 p.m. at HIP. The Community Education/Awareness workgroup was not able to find a time when all members could meet and also lost a member. The committee would like to recruit more members for both work groups and the full committee. A callout for additional members will be made at the CoC general meeting on March 16, 2016
- Please note that the Blueprint Review session is March 22 at CHIP and if you are interested in attending you can register at Eventbrite.com.
- Jen gave an update on the Know Outlets campaign – most of the money raised has come from meter sponsorships. Some of the original business sponsors don't see as eager to reengage. The campaign is being evaluated. There's a plan to move one of the collection boxes to the front of the City-County Building. Other desirable locations would be the airport, convention center, State House, and the Indiana Government Center. Mention was made of reaching out to the "bucket brigade" of local sports teams (Colts, Fever and Pacers). Tahriah offered to contact the Pacers. Another idea was to work with ICVB to reach out to meeting planners, conventions and hotels. Jen mentioned a mobile secured box to move around to various lobbies of downtown businesses is being looked into. Monies raised from the campaign have had a positive impact and are administered by an internal committee of the Professional Blended Street Outreach Team.
- Strategic plan action steps – Matt and Joan will be attending the Blueprint Review session on March 22 and are looking for input from the committee on a few ideas for community education training sessions for CoC members such as the topic of self-care (strategies? workshop?) and other challenges where training could be prepared for non-profit service providers (HUD? NOFA?) perhaps scheduled on the backside of a general CoC meeting. Other ideas from committee and CoC members are welcome
- Increasing awareness of the Continuum of Care via social media etc. – would aid new interest for the committees and create general advocacy opportunities. Ideas? Amy mentioned a once a month policy type broadcast on Facebook and Twitter.
- Amy also asked about issue sheets – last year the committee issue sheet shared with the CoC mentioned affordable housing and substance abuse. Perhaps create new issue sheets and share through social media via CHIP on issues like: welfare demystified, permanent supportive housing and government barriers to housing. Jeri mentioned Chris Holtz is developing training on aging in place and how to care for yourself after being homeless. Lindsay spoke about developing a monthly newsletter directed towards

service providers on topics like self-care, agency spotlights etc. Jeri mentioned BMV “amnesty” where one pays the original fine but not all the other fees. She said Representative Justin Moed is looking for people to testify about BMV barriers. Also discussed a fact sheet or workshop on advocacy (Policy/Advocacy 101?) – would like to have something developed by the CoC meeting this fall. Amy made the suggestions to setting a timeline to visit with invited legislators and to also develop policy sheets ahead of said meetings. She advises to keep to the basics and a time limit of one hour. What are the main policy areas we should concentrate on? **Please bring your top 5 policy ideas to the next committee meeting. Matt will also ask for policy ideas from CoC members at March 16 meeting,**

- Joan is stepping away from a leadership role as co-chair of the committee at the end of May to devote more time to outreach and other initiatives at Central Library. She will still be a member of the CoC and the Community Education and Policy Committee. Looking for someone from the committee, the CoC or the greater community to serve as committee co-chair
- Lindsay is attending the March 17 PATA Committee meeting – Matt spoke about ways our committee can collaborate with PATA and Kirk Taylor (chair of PATA) will speak at a future CE&P Committee meeting. Ideas he and Matt have discussed are developing a database or list of landlords and perhaps hosting an event for landlords/developers who may be interested in working with the CoC to create more affordable housing.
- **Save the date: Time Out of Mind** will be screened at Central Library on May 17 at 6 p.m. Flyers and other publicity materials will be distributed to agencies as soon as they are ready
- **The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11 from 3:00-4:30, location TBD.** Matt mentioned that as the workgroups get going we could discuss having the committee meet every other month instead of once a month.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Harvey