

Continuum of Care
Public Policy & Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2014
CHIP Boardroom
1:00-2:30 PM

- Committee sign-in / contact info updates (Kelly Frank)
 - Please review your contact info and update as needed.
- Welcome and Introductions (Christy Shepard)
 - Attendees:
 - Christy Shepard
 - Bill Moreau
 - Matt Holland
 - Julia Kathary
 - Michael Schwing
 - Rebekah Bricker
 - Alissa Renz
 - Carolyn Harkin-Binton
 - Jeri Warner
- Committee Chair update (Kelly Frank)
 - Committee Chair = Matt Holland
- Update on Blueprint Council (Christy Shepard)
 - Seated – 6 appointed and 13 elected for total of 19 BP Council Members
 - Chair – Phil Smith
 - Vice Chair – Mary Jones
 - Orientation held last month
 - First meeting this week = focusing on roles and responsibilities of the BP Council, governance charter amendments, CoC annual calendar of activities
 - Past meeting info will be posted on Indycoc.org
- Priority community performance metrics (Kelly Frank)
 - See PowerPoint
 - Committee comments
 - Frequency could be more at first – then less frequent as we know more and improve how we measure performance (ex; start at 6 months then move to one year then to 2 years)
 - Domestic violence sometimes intentionally extends homelessness for safety reasons – need to figure out how this plays in to performance

measures / should we differentiate between those that are already homeless or those that have a home but need to leave it to become safe

- Want to ensure we also focus on homeless teens, young adults, and aging out of foster care
 - For # prevented from becoming homeless – should we only have a X in support services only
 - Don't like use of "recidivism" because interpreted as incarceration/ex-offenders
 - How does recidivism relate with transitional housing....for many programs you are not allowed to come back even if you need or want to
 - Less time in transitional housing does not necessarily equate to success – based on person's support needs
 - Recidivism – does this mean going back to same program or repeat homelessness
- Service provider survey (Kelly Frank)
 - See draft survey
 - Committee comments
 - Bold adults and youth when asking for #s served
 - In intro – add – one survey to be completed per agency
 - Add sub-population list with two check box columns (primary service audience and do not serve)
 - Types of programs
 - Triage and outreach
 - Medical services
 - Legal services
 - Mentoring
 - Re-entry
 - Follow-up services
 - Add Glick Fund to funders
- Committee priority discussion items (Matt Holland)
 - Ban the Box (Matt)
 - 26 to 2 vote – city council passed it. Criminal history cannot be used in initial screening or held against you in initial interview – but can be used later when run criminal history check – applies to city, county and contractors. Need to understand incentives being offered to companies that hire those with a criminal background.
 - See if Vop is willing to come to a future meeting.
 - Panhandling legislation (Christy)
 - Buffer zone – can be seen two ways – pushing them outside city or still places where they can
 - Working with ACLU to ensure it does not impact 1st amendment rights

- By ATMs, parking payment kiosks, corners = 3 areas to stop = safety issue
- Met with Downtown Inc. and Jeff Miller – understand there are other issues resulting in convention loss – not just homeless.
- Why does the CoC care about this? Want community to support services not give to people directly – but ticketing and incarceration only create more barriers to our work with the homeless.
- Any research on who is panhandling – downtown they are homeless. Further out – could be homeless or not.
- What can we do to educate visitors and suggest action versus support
- Understand cost to city for the current strategy
- People are receiving payouts for past tickets – significant cost in money and time
- Meet with Sherri next week to look at how we can leverage education to create change.
- Rebrand Chip in the Box, connect with Book of Help, create awareness campaign, signs in store fronts, cards to visitors thru hotels
- Campaign to give to programs not individuals
- Supposed to be back in front of council in late Feb./early March
- Consider placements of boxes - airport
- Development of process to establish policy agenda (annual agenda / urgent response) (Christy)
 - Policy committee identifies and researches key issues and desired outcome
 - Policy committee creates set of positions for each key issue
 - Set of positions are shared and feedback is collected usually electronically
 - Final set of positions and desired outcomes are approved by the BP Council
 - Ex: permanent funding source for Housing Trust Fund – set goal then worked backwards to identify necessary action
 - Federal legislation – least likely to impact (broader Coalition we can support) – needs to be ROI and for Indianapolis
 - State legislation – pathways – policy change, budget change
 - City legislation – need to understand if city has any power over this or is it at the state level
 - Reacting does not work – need to be proactive otherwise you are too late
 - General assembly – get ready for 2015 – Barnes and Thornburg can help us – City of Indianapolis is already doing this

- Updates on Medicaid (Emma) – on hold till next meeting
- Expongement (Marz) – on hold till next meeting
- Tent cities (Marz) – on hold until next meeting
- Human trafficking (Tahira) – on hold till next meeting
- 2014 legislation (Christy) – on hold until next meeting
- Next steps (Kelly Frank)
 - Timeline for creation of implementation plan
 - Finalize performance metrics in May CoC meeting
 - Committee planning time at May CoC meeting
 - Finalize detail plans in follow-up committee meetings
 - Implementation plans approved at fall CoC meeting
 - Next meeting
 - Ready to schedule regular meetings for the rest of 2014
 - Once we finalize CoC meetings for 2014, we will set committee meetings around that for the rest of the year.