

Veteran Homelessness Task Force Meeting

April 11, 2016

10:30-Noon

Minutes

- I. Welcome & Introductions Lillian Herbers-Kelly
Lillian called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM
In attendance:

Rachael Candee, UWCI	Tahiri McCall, HIP
Jessie Journakins, HIP	Kay Wiles, HIP
Lindsay Leonhard, HIP	Alan Witchey, CHIP
Lillian Herbers-Kelly, HIP	Don Hawkins, Homeless Re-Entry Helpers
Bryan Dysert, HVAF	Keshia Knight, CHIP
Tom Tuttle, HVAF	Corbett Troyer, Partners in Housing
Jacqui Mendenhall, Intecare	Adam Hutton, VOA
Lena Hackett, Community Solutions	Jennifer Coffey, Partners in Housing

- II. Master List Status and Agreements Lillian Herbers-Kelly
Lillian asked everyone to return the Master List agreements to Rachael. Rachael asked they be sent via email or brought to a case conferencing meeting. Lillian asked the group how their progress on the master list was going. Jacqui and Rachael updated that Intecare will start participating in the next week or so after Ashley has met with all staff regarding the process. Lillian asked about the VA's participation in the Master List. Alan updated that CHIP had done a training with the staff team, and the VA team will be adding all veteran's not just those who are eligible for VAMC services. Rachael will check-in with Tricia and Deb about the timing of adding names to the list and participating.

- III. GPD Bridge Housing and RRH/PSH Rachael Candee
Rachael passed out the VA letter regarding GPD bridge housing and asked those who had not already seen the letter to please review it to understand how this opportunity impacts GPD.
The CoC housing committee has expressed interest in prioritizing veterans on the PSH waitlist. Kay shared that the committee is getting some clarification on defining veteran status since non-veteran serving agencies are not familiar with the definitions. Jennifer confirmed that Nancy from the VA was working with Karin on the housing committee to get those definitions to the committee this week. This should help providers understand what it means to prioritize veterans in the CoC. Because the CoC is prioritizing veterans and there are new opportunities in GPD to partner with RRH and PSH it is very important that GPD/Transitional, RRH, and PSH programs understand each other and are working collaboratively. This will ensure a better outcome for the veterans.

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Rachael asked the group what can be done to improve the relationships and collaboration?

- Referral process is not consistent between HUD-VASH and providers
- Lack of understanding of non-VA programs and VA programs among providers and VAMC team

The providers agreed that a meeting with the HUD-VASH team to talk about how to work together would be very important.

Rachael said she would set a meeting up and that it would be scheduled by the end of May, if the VA team is able.

IV. Update on Coordinated Entry and PIT Alan Witchey

CHIP has hired Community Solutions team member Lisa Osterman to work on the Coordinated Entry process with the CoC. The goal is to have it established by EOY 2016 and operating in 2017.

Alan provided tentative PIT Count numbers. This year, HUD removed VA-Dom beds from the PIT count so we saw a decrease of 43 individuals who were in the Dom.

There were 2 additional veterans, so that is a net decrease of 41. Without the Dom being removed we'd be up 2 veterans.

Lillian asked how the veteran self-reporting status may be impacting the PIT Count. Recently, providers have seen non-veterans claiming veteran status to try to gain access to services. This isn't an excuse for the PIT Count, just something providers should be generally aware about.

V. Two-Year Planning Discussion Lena Hackett

Lena led a discussion based upon feedback from the last meeting about where the task force would like to be in two years. She shared what was discussed in the larger housing services committee planning discussion at a recent CoC meeting. The community created a goal for housing services committee:

People struggling with or at risk for homelessness have access to housing and/or services that they need or want in order to obtain, maintain, and sustain the status of the stability they desire.

The task force agreed that the main points of the definition are client choice and provider flexibility to meet the needs of clients.

From our last task force meeting, discussion items were defined under the idea of services or capacity/sustainability.

The key takeaways for the future work of the task force are:

- 1) Increasing shelter capacity and housing in the community (this is not just unique to veterans, so it may be more appropriate for another CoC committee)
- 2) Collaboration of service providers, integrated service provision across providers with agreements on service provision to support consistency
- 3) The future of prevention funds and resources in the community and offering a continuum of housing that gives veterans a choice

The group discussed these ideas for about an hour, and Lena will be back at the next meeting with an updated work plan that includes these ideas as main components. She

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asked for 45 minutes for discussion. She will make sure it is distributed ahead so everyone can see it first before we come to a consensus.

VI. Other Business?

Don shared that they have their veteran community advisory group meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Marriott East. This is an opportunity to hear from any veteran or veteran related group about what they are doing in the community. He asked if someone from the task force can attend to share what we are doing. Veteran appreciation day will be Saturday August 13 at Garfield Park, and Don will provide more details as the date nears.

Tahirati shared the upcoming Lunch and Learn for HIP's HVRP will be April 27, 2016 at noon-1 PM at HIP. Please RSVP to her at tmccall2@iuhealth.org

Individuals and agencies who work with homeless veterans are welcome to come and learn about the job training programs available for veterans who qualify. They are also asking providers to bring clients or to share with clients who may want to come on their own.

Lillian reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings in May, June and July.

Lillian adjourned the meeting at 11:58 AM

Next meeting: May 9, 2016 10:30 AM-12 PM

Future meetings: June 13, 2016 10:30 AM-12 PM

July 11, 2016 10:30 AM-12 PM