

# Continuum of Care Board

**December 8, 2021**

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at **3:07 PM**.

## **Attendance/Introductions**

- **Board Members Present:** Ben Stuckart (Chair), Dale Briesse, Jasmine Bower, Jan Simpson, Arielle Anderson, Morgan Smith, Lynsey Romero, Erik Larson, Daniel Klemme, Andrey Muzychenko, Angela Chapman, Julius Henrichsen, Kim Brinkmann, Arielle Anderson, Eric Robison, Hallie Burchinal, Braden Fish, Amy Johnson, Melissa Morrison, Bob Lutz, Pam Haley, Mark Mattke, Pam Haley, Jason Campbell, Jennifer Haynes-Harter
- **Staff Present:** Kim Clifton, Daniel Ramos, Heather Page, Brian Walker, Devin Biviano, Eric Finch
- **Guests Present:** Barry Barfield

**\*\*The Attendance roster listed above may not capture all the individuals that attended virtually if they joined the meeting after it had started due to the limitations of the virtually meeting platform\*\***

## **Approval of the October and November Board Minutes:**

Motion to approve the October and November Minutes made by Board Member Jan Simpson and seconded by Angela Chapman, all aye, no nay, none abstaining.

➤ BOARD MINUTES APPROVED

## **Additional Approval Items**

Coordinated Assessment:

Ben started with a brief review of the letter received by permanent supportive housing providers about fewer BIPOC and high acuity people getting housing before white people and less chronically homeless people get. The tool being used is somehow referring out more white people. Ben mentioned a new building opened and a 5-years homeless woman in her seventies couldn't even be housed. There have been studies with SPDAT and they have shown there are systemic problems with it. The company that technology supports SPDAT will no longer support it in about 6 months. There is a need to define what is needed from a replacement tool and it will be a 12-18 month process so we need to implement changes now with what we have. However, the original idea to add points to BIPOC, etc. but after checking with fair housing law, that is not an option.

Andrey spoke about what the workgroup surrounding this has done so far. Andrey offered to share recording of the meeting they had on December 2, 2021, for the workgroup. Morgan explained that based on the research they have done, they are looking into a three-step process to reforming the coordinated entry system with the goal to have something that is more racially equitable, diversifies acuity across PSH providers, and something that we understand and has

capacity in all the different areas needed.

Morgan asked for the ability to prioritize by age as some other areas have done and found success. This would be a PSH-focused project looking at the percentages of people who are 62+ and those 18-24. Those age groups were chosen because they were the groups not represented in the current system the way they are in the general population. They aren't asking to only prioritize these two groups, but they are asking to prioritize them at a rate that is equal to their representation in the current general homeless population (about 20% for those over 62 and about 10% for those 18-24).

Julius explained additional benefit is being able to address additional needs and wants from providers and the community, but highest priority is to address the PSH programs. Their needs to be a test of the new method to make sure that it works the way we think it will. This won't need to change the SPDAT tool but can be applied to this one specific element and be implemented quickly and tested. This will also help us figure out what a future tool may look like.

Dale Briesse: Recommended to checking with Pam to see if units can be set aside for these age groups.

Ben: Agreed to double check.

Morgan: Reminded us that it is a percentage prioritization process and not a set-aside so there is no reason it shouldn't be possible.

**Board:** No objections. Morgan, Julius, and Andrey given green light to start testing.

Board recruitment: Ben and Dale will be talking about that next week.

Farewells: Mike Dunn (not present) is retiring from ESD 101 and this is his last meeting. Jan Simpson's, from the eye clinic, last meeting as well.

Ben invited others to join the recruitment meeting.

**Retreat:** Possible date for a retreat in January - 10, 11, 12, 14, 18, 21, 24, 25. A doodlepoll will be sent out for people to choose the date.

Discussion on Ben not being the chair anymore. He will be making an announcement in January that could create a significant conflict of interest. Someone will either need to step in as Chair or be Co-Chair. Before the retreat, board members should consider joining executive committee and consider being Chair. Would like to discuss more during the retreat.

January 2022 PIT Count – Daniel presented on what the PIT Count is and does. Date for count this year is January 27. PIT Count Coordinator, Amira, is planning the count but the document was unavailable, but it showed planning should have started in August. However, we are playing

catch-up and are asking for some guidance from CoC. They need to create a survey (as required by HUD) for demographic information but can also include more information – which questions would be recommended. Another area where help is needed is in volunteers for the count. They would like to get at least 100 volunteers for this. Follow-up email will be sent out to give further information on how to volunteer. Barry offered to send out the information to the listserv.

Questions for PIT Count Survey were asked for and given in chat. Not included in minutes for brevity and because they aren't necessarily the questions used for the survey.

### **Updates and Discussion Items**

#### **Winter Plan- Heather Page**

Heather shared the power point for the Winter Plan with CHHS. Four staff have been hired and six positions still need to be filled. CHHS Director to be brought to Council. Four shelter surge capacity efforts moving forward, three to Council. HUD NOFO application was submitted on time. State Commerce report submitted on time. PIT count planned and resourced for the end of January, Regional planning and governance to move forward in January 2022. Policy and planning will be the NHHS/CHHS priority in January.

Eric Finch clarified the surge capacity plan includes hoteling. Also clarified that the Way Out shelter numbers are an estimate since it is not open yet to give us accurate numbers. 190 nights for families/women fleeing DV. The hope is with the Way Out and DV spaces, more people will move from some shelters to those and then that will free up low-barrier spaces.

#### **NOFA Lessons Learned/Shortage Plan**

Ben brought up that there were questions about how the number were configured. There were two new projects approved when some of the numbers we had were from 2019 so we it ended up shorting VOA. Another issue was how admin fees were calculated which needs to be fixed next year. Ben would also like to try to incorporate COLA and long-term plans need to be made to make NOFA stronger for next year.

Kim Brinkmann spoke on deliverables to dig into the whole process and take known information to get things better documented and recommendations to improve the process.

Ben asked if there will be a document available for the retreat.

Kim said there will include a project debrief with observations, a grant cycle timeline with key milestones, and the process improvement plan should be ready in time for the retreat.

#### **Hope House**

Ben spoke about Hope House announcing it will close in January/February. Ben explained that it's been around for 25-30 years and is the only overnight shelter for single women, yet their subsidy from the City and County is only about \$200,000. Meanwhile, some of the more recent shelters are being subsidized 100%. Because of the process that lead to NOFA, there were issues with how the CoC funded VOA programs. Ben called for a letter be sent from CoC to the City on

the VOA issue be drafted and presented at the retreat in January so it can be finalized. Letter will be drafted with recommendations. Board agreed unanimously.

Report to Commerce

Eric F will send the finalized report to Ben who will distribute to the board.

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:19 PM.**

The next COC Board Meeting is scheduled for **January 19, 2022 from 3:00-5:00 pm.**

Meeting video link: (I will get this to you tomorrow 1/25)