

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: January 3, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chair: Tammy Black, Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion

Attendance

Leslie Wagner, Celene Steckel, Corey Hardinger- Wilt, Debby Standiford, Gabby Zelaya, Sue Doyle, Jenny Graybill, Cathy Baker, Danielle Yates, Claire Payne, Scott Yard, Tammy Black, Carly Long, Bobbie Lawrence, Heather Powell.

1. Welcome and Announcements from Board Members

2. Approval of November's Meeting Minutes

Scott Yard motioned to approve the November 2021 Executive Board Minutes.

Jenny Graybill second.

All were in favor.

3. Access Carroll Updates – Tammy Black

Before the holidays Access Carroll averaged 20-40 COVID swabs per week. Now Access Carroll is to about 90 per week. Tammy Black requested to have the two parking spots closest to the Distillery building entrance reserved for COVID testing since the nurses haven't been able to find the patients outside.

4. HSP Updates

a. Shelter Utilization/Vacancy Update

b. COVID Vaccination Update

HSP has stepped up the mask enforcement policy. So far it has been very successful with only needing to enforce a few 3-day bans.

HSP continues to be diligent with screening. There was recently one participant quarantining at the Green Street location.

HSP is working with Access Carroll to set up more vaccination dates in the shelters. Shelter participants who receive the vaccination or show their vaccination card can still receive \$50. The most resistance towards receiving a vaccination is coming from the family shelter. Adult Only Shelter participants are almost all vaccinated and about half of the night by night are vaccinated.

All shelters are set up with hand sanitizing & temperature check stations.

14 out of 70 of the HSP staff are out with COVID.

To fight against spreading it amongst the staff any worse HSP has dialed back in person services by trying to be as virtual as possible. If staff must meet with clients they are doing so outside or in the main lobby. No participants are allowed back into the offices at this time.

Throughout the massive staffing call out, HSP has been maintaining shelter coverage. Staff members are stepping up to do overtime.

c. Perm Housing Update

1 perm participants switched over to HUD in January.
3 different households switched to a Housing choice voucher.

d. Eviction Prevention Update

No changes, moving along.

e. Staffing Updates

3 new staff coming in for orientation today.

5. Outreach Efforts – HSP/Health Dept./Springboard

Judi continues to make progress in outreach efforts. The next outreach meeting is pending. The main focus has been on Taneytown and Union Bridge. Judi also continues to make contacts with local police and health department. Hitting all outreach through service point by dividing where we are going and where we have been. Exciting that we have record of it!

Started doing a handful of surveys. Specifically, for street homeless individuals. Will hopefully be ready to roll this month.

Planning for PIT count coming up towards the end of January. Will have a meeting to discuss the plan in detail later this week. It should be the easiest PIT count yet since we know now more than ever where they are.

Also planning to discuss do we have a resource fair? If so, what would that look like?

6. Shelter Plus Care-Amy Baker

CCHD staff is pulling back from visiting inside people's homes. Not transporting participants unless necessary. Mike Clavin is still out, about, and available. Also, although Stacia is not in her previous role of peer for Path. She would still be available for any needs this committee has.

7. COC NOFO – Celene Steckel

a. Full COC Training Calendar

Look at calendar, what trainings need to happen & when. How often do we want it to happen? Quarterly? Biannually?

Who do we think would be the best fit? Not HSP.

Thoughts?

b. Input from those with Lived Homeless Experience

i. Quarterly Town Hall meetings at the Shelters/Day Center

Start town hall listening sessions. Thinking of providing pizza or coffee...something to have a comfortable environment and casual conversation. Same questions will be asked to family shelter, adult only shelter, night by night shelter, and together we own it. Thinking we could piggyback on outreach.

Why TWOI? The youth definition of homeless includes couch surfing/ doubled up.

The idea behind interviewing the youth at together we own it is because the youth are comfortable in this setting. As noted, many youths are uncomfortable utilizing night by night, so it is another means of making sure we are getting information from our youth regarding homelessness.

Anyone want to volunteer? Who would be best?

Danielle said Housing Stability Coordinators would do it.

Celene suggested Pastor Marty.

HSP suggested having a lunch or a breakfast at St. Pauls. Even if Pastor Marty is busy, still use St. Pauls as the location.

Celene and Gabby will do children's and youth.

Go from night by night to Family then to AO. If have them back-to-back we will get the same people.

Having Judi there for street homeless for great report.

ii. Inviting people to COC/Exec. Meetings

There is a gentleman with lived experience Celene has in mind. Do we engage him with us on the Executive board or full Circle? At this point we will take whatever participation we can get. A suggestion was made to start him out with the Outreach committee then full circle might make him more apt to participate if we can help him with that learning curve.

The participant (s) must have lived experience within last seven years and does not have to be specifically from Carroll County. Tammy Black mentioned an Access Carroll team member who has been homeless within the last seven years- Dawn- she would be happy to be a part of this. Dawn is averaging 90-95 patients per month. Dawn has experienced every kind of housing experience that includes family. She is very open about her experiences and would make a great fit!

Celene will see if Eric Brown is interested in joining Executive. If he is a vote will have to come from full circle.

NOFA update? No, update. Although HSP is beginning a project soon!

8. HMIS/PIT Count -Danielle Yates

a. New Coordinator

As everyone knows our HMIS Analyst Shane Fox left. We have hired Stephanie Krome as our new budget analyst. Stephanie is currently Citizen Services budget analyst. She will start on 1/20 and will be going through some intense training.

b. PIT Count Marketing/Dates

January 26th- unsheltered PIT count. Snow date is Monday the 31st.

1st meeting for pit count will be January 4th at 10am.

HSP, county staff, and police will team up to cover all of the municipalities. No volunteers from outside organizations are needed.

9. Update on DV/Safehouse Utilization – Springboard Community Services

No one on from springboard.

Leslie- construction will be done the 10-11th. There is an issue with the fire alarm panel although they received a special permit to stock the building in February or March. No occupancy until April.

10. Review of updated subcommittee flow charts and Exec. Board Chairs/Co-Chairs

Suggestions for next term?

11. Group Recommendation on Subcommittee to report out at next Exec. Board Meeting

a. Detail of the information are we seeking

b. Who will present?

Suggestion- Ending Veterans Homelessness.

Ending Veterans Homelessness is what Chronic By Name wants to do when it comes to data.

Data-wise the metrics. No meeting for Ending Veterans Homelessness. Many issues with that spreadsheet. Is it going to be possible? Advisable to keep having the meetings so we can continue to identify and bring on for VASH.

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place VIRTUALLY on Monday, January 24th from 2pm to 4pm.