

CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) BOARD

JANUARY 15, 2020 | 3:00 – 5:00PM

HURON ROOM, LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER | 4135 WASHTENAW AVE, ANN ARBOR

Board members present: D. Kelly, J. Little, J. Carlberg, J. Rosen, S. Dowling, J. Hieftje, K. Wyatt, L. Grant [for R. Weathers], R. Kraut, A. Seipelt, R. Smith, M. Conkin, H. Linky, N. Adelman, J. Hall, P. Smith, T. Gillotti.

OCED staff present: Morghan Williams Boydston, Anna O’Toole, Andrew Kraemer, Amin Al-Qadi

Members of the public: Barbara Niess-May [SafeHouse], Kim Montgomery [SafeHouse]

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
3:00pm	1. Call to Order J. Hieftje called meeting to order at 3:06pm.
3:01pm	2. Welcome/Introductions
3:03pm	3. Public Comment (<i>limited 2 minutes per person</i>) No public comment.
3:05pm	4. Approval of Agenda (ACTION) M. Conkin moved to approve agenda. R. Smith seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no opposition.
3:06pm	5. Approval of Minutes (ACTION) A Seipelt moved to approve the minutes. R. Kraut seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no opposition.
3:08pm	6. Select CoC Board Chairs & Secretary (ACTION) Both Board Co-Chairs and the Board Secretary position terms expire in January and are open for nominations. No nominations were received prior to the Board meeting; no interest was indicated at the meeting. J. Hieftje and R. Smith offer to continue serving as Board Co-Chairs, and D. Kelly offers to continue serving as Secretary. J. Little moved to approve selection. M. Conkin seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no opposition.
3:15pm	7. 2020 CoC Board Calendar Approval (ACTION) – Anna O’Toole, Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) The 2020 Board Calendar is largely the same as last year. Only small changes are suggested for this year, including changing PIT debrief from February to May, adjusting dates for the CoC committee reports, adding a Governance Charter update in February, and Board elections in August. A. Seipelt moved to approve the 2020 CoC Board calendar. R. Smith seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion carried with no opposition.

3:25pm

8. CoC Systems Collaboration & Efforts

- a. State Innovation Model (SIM) Project Updates – *Dan Kelly, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC) and Amanda Carlisle (Not Present), Washtenaw Housing Alliance (WHA) Anna O'Toole, (OCED) in place of Amanda C.*

SIM Project involves Diversion, Discharge Planning, and System Modeling. So far there have been two well-attended Diversion trainings for CoC service providers. The core group of providers for the pilot Diversion program include SAWC, HAWC, PATH, and Ozone House. They meet every two weeks to track their progress. The final report on the pilot program will be unveiled at the WHA meeting on April 15th. At present, there have been 20-30 completed diversions, mostly done by HAWC.

The SIM program is continuing to build relationships with hospitals around Discharge Planning for homeless patients. An online tool, also an app for mobile use, has been designed for hospital social workers and discharge workers conducting the discharge process. They can access this tool to determine adequate services available in the homelessness and housing system for discharged clients. Hospitals have positively responded to the diversion tool.

In December 2019, Corporation of Supportive Housing (CSH) held a meeting on the system modeling project. On January 23rd a final report by CSH will be released detailing gaps found in the CoC system.

- b. Built for Zero (BFZ) Update – *Andrew Kraemer, OCED*

The majority of the BFZ work is done at Community Housing Prioritization (CHP) meetings. In April 2019, the CoC had its first CHP retreat of service providers and OCED staff and held a second in October 2019; CoC will continue to hold these retreats when appropriate.

In 2019, 55 chronically homeless individuals were housed—two fewer than in 2018. There has been a huge improvement on chronic homelessness documentation, which has helped lower the number of clients on the CHP By-name list. Washtenaw County was recognized for its achievement at Denver BFZ conference in October 2019. In the final 5 months of 2019, the length of time from client identification to housing was less than 90 days. In 2019, over 100 veterans were housed.

The CoC applied for Federal recognition from the US Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) that our community has effectively

ended veteran homelessness. We are still awaiting confirmation that our community has achieved this goal.

c. 2018 CoC Annual Report – *Morghan Williams Boydston, OCED*

The CoC Annual report only focuses on CoC resources to end homelessness, not the resources of the community at-large. The CoC has seen a 55% reduction in people entering and exiting the system since 2015. As of December 31, 2018, there were 762 people on the CHP list. Throughout 2018, 3,312 people experienced literal homelessness in Washtenaw County. So while our system has seen progress this year, the CoC still lacks the resources needed to address the overall need. The average length of time between clients entering and exiting the system is 135 days. We continue to see people of color, especially black, experiencing homelessness at a higher rate. On average, it cost \$503 to prevent homelessness; this does not include funds from Barrier Busters or congregation funds from outside of the CoC. Including funding sources from outside of the CoC, an average of \$1,500 is spent per client.

In 2019, 98 households were placed in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and 346 households were rehoused through Rapid Re-Housing (RRH). Rehousing families in 30 days or less is a nation-wide best practice goal, but it is unfortunately not realistic in terms of available resources in the community. In 2018, Washtenaw County was at an average of 57 days from entry to housing for families.

The CoC continues to reach for its goals of ending veteran homelessness, chronic homelessness, and increasing funding and resources to meet these goals. The CoC continues to improve the relationship between law enforcement and the CoC. In 2019, the CoC will place an emphasis on improving Racial Equity in the system.

4:15pm

9. Washtenaw Housing Alliance Update – *Amanda Carlisle, WHA*

A. Carlisle not present. Written update was provided to Board members and sent via email after the meeting.

4:25pm

10. OCED Updates – *Anna O’Toole, OCED & Morghan Williams Boydston, OCED*

a. Tier 1 CoC Funding Announcement

CoC has received a slight increase in Tier 1 project funding; this is mostly to keep up with fair market rent rates. The CoC was awarded a DV Bonus Project, funded at \$155,000. We have not yet received Tier 2 funding, but OCED will update the CoC when notification is received.

b. Upcoming CoC All-Membership and other meetings

- CoC Funding Competition Rubric Review on February 13
- CoC All-Membership meeting on February 18th
- SIM project meeting on January 23rd

c. Discussion of Governance Charter update

CoC is required to update Governance Charter annually, and the version presented today will be voted on at the All-Membership meeting in February. OCED is proposing three amendments to the Governance Charter:

- Add the three CHP Leadership Teams (Ending Family Homelessness Leadership Team; Ending Chronic Homelessness Leadership Team; Ending Veteran Homelessness Leadership Team) to the official CoC Committee list
- Change frequency of committee updates to CoC Board to twice annually rather than quarterly to better fit the Board's meeting schedule
- Add a Board seat for DV representative; this member would be nominated by All-Membership

d. Equity Update

CoC is examining findings from the Racial Equity focus groups that were convened between August and December 2019. Findings will be compiled in a report and shared with the Board. OCED has also been holding equity trainings with the Diversion pilot group and will continue to do so more broadly.

e. Point-in-Time Count Update

The PIT Count will take place on January 29th from 10pm-2am. A community debrief on the results will be held in May.

4:40pm

11. Board Member Updates/Issues

M. Conkin states Salvation Army is looking to relocate its Ypsilanti property and are hoping to move in February; the current location will be put up for sale. HAWC will relocate three rehousing resource staff to the new location, and the family shelter assessment staff member will be on-site three days a week. Their office location will be on Packard near Golfside, near the bus line. The ultimate goal is to have one community Salvation Army location along the Carpenter Rd corridor.

Prospective Avalon property in Dexter is receiving pushback. Community meetings are coming up, so please ask community members for their support of affordable housing/supportive housing. The pushback is caused by a multitude of issues including racial bias, the location's proximity to a school, and lack of community knowledge on success of the supportive housing system.

J. Rosen states an assembled team of stakeholders and providers are leveraging work from the CoC and SIM mapping to look at the service systems in order to make these systems friendlier. The group will report back to CoC Board when final report is ready in May/June.

K. Wyatt states Sheriff Clayton will be on panels for Dexter Avalon projects and advocating that supportive housing makes communities safer.

Additionally, a study on incarceration in MI produced recommendations for the entire state of MI that have the potential to impact homelessness. If the study's recommendations are approved by the state legislature, they will help keep people out of the jail system and have positive impacts across the state. The Sheriff is asking the County Board of Commissioners and the Cities of Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor Boards to approve the study's proposals. It has 18 recommendations and is bipartisan. Study recommendations also called for funding to Victim Services; MI currently does not have funding for this.

S. Dowling states the VA is contracted with SAWC for emergency beds, and the prior contract ended on September 30, 2019. New contract has been awarded for 5 beds for the next 5 years. Additionally, 11 more VASH vouchers were granted by HUD to Washtenaw County. The Ann Arbor Housing Commission will work with the VA on these.

D. Kelly states Winter Shelter and Rotating Shelter are up 15%. SAWC is conducting more focus groups with guests, and they have had positive reactions to the groups. Majority of participants are asking for housing. More case management has been present in the evening. A Crisis Team, led by CMH, will be at SAWC in the evening.

T. Gillotti states 1,000 rent-controlled units have been lost in Washtenaw County over the last few years and an increase in family homelessness has been seen due to this. There is a 3-year tenant protection clause that requires a 3-year delay in charging market rate rent on units where subsidized housing used to be present. However, new incoming tenants can be charged market rate rent.

4:50pm
5:00pm

12. Public Comment (*limited 2 minutes per person*) No public comment

13. Adjournment

T. Gillotti moved to approve adjournment. R. Smith seconded.

J. Hieftje adjourned meeting at 3:56pm