



## *Flint/ Genesee County CoC Minutes*

Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2020

9:00 AM Zoom Teleconference Call

**Attendance:** Anthony Barker, Hope Network; Angela Beaugard, FGLN; Kelly Bidelman, Center for Civil Justice; Linda Bielskis, SOF; Misty Bowers, GCYC; Maurice Bush, Wellness; Donna Bunin, OLHSA; Tamara Chambers, Catholic Charities; Dwayne Clemons, Hamilton; Tina-Marie Conyer, Baker College; Gina DeShong, Disability Network; Denise Diller, Crossover; Bill Doub, GHS; Tiffani Ferrier, Family Promise; Damon Fortney, GCMPC; James Gaskin, United Way; Allison Green, MCAH; Melton Harvey, Veteran Affairs; Debra Hayes, MBK; Allie Herkenroder, Flint Housing Commission; Myra Hinkle, MCD; James Hudgens, New Paths; Shelly Hoffman, Shelter of Flint; Latoya Jenkins, GCCARD; Cindy Johns, Carriagetown; Kelly Judkins, Baker College; Tamika Mack, MDHHS; Anthony Maasch, Baker College; Antoinette McClain, MCD; Molly Mueller, Communities First; Beth Noye, Salvation Army; Jill Nylander, LSEM; Jim Perlaki, GCYC; Anna Raykov, MDHHS; Shaundale Richmond, MCD; Dinah Schaller, MCC; Vicky Schultz, Catholic Charities; Shearese Stapleton, Mercy House; Kirk Smith, GFHC; Lydia Tabat, Habitat; Jamie-Lee Venable, United Way; Glory White, BECKA Management; Kasie White, UM-Flint Social Work; Angela Willie, Carriagetown; Essence Wilson, Communities First; Rayetta Wyatt, State of Michigan-Veterans Employment; Ashnee Young, LSEM & Power Initiative; Cheryl Zapfe, GISD

**Welcome:** Meeting called to order by Essence Wilson at 9:06 AM

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Approval of August minutes:** Minutes approved with the addition of GCYC's abstention for the MSHDA ESG NOFA vote.

**Governance Council Update:** Essence stated that David Tweedie gave a presentation on HMIS during the Governance Council meeting. She stated that he provided a very helpful overview on HMIS data. The Governance Council initially planned for HUD to present but they were not available. A vote was presented on adding an additional Governance Council member, Jody Kerbyson, CEO of GST Michigan Works. Essence stated that Jody can provide representation with pathways to employment and training opportunities for the homeless population. The motion was unanimously approved. Essence stated that in the Executive Committee and Governance Council meeting there was a need for an agreement or MOU with hospitals to make sure they are informed about coordinated entry and that they understand the ability to easily access those resources as they discharge patients from hospitals. Essence stated that some individuals will be contacted as a follow-up regarding that. The coordinated entry information was previously sent to hospital offices for the opportunity to make the process more seamless.

### **REPORTS**

**H.A.R.A:** Vicky Schultz stated that they have added another call roll-over line to address the amount of calls they receive. Vicky stated that she thought the money from the state was coming directly to HARA but because the fiduciary is still Shelter of Flint, the money and contract actually went to Shelter of Flint. She stated Shelter of Flint has signed the contract for the state and are waiting for the money. She stated that HARA finally were able to get the advanced check about 2 weeks ago for \$417,000 and \$355,000 has already been spent so they must start the billing paperwork.

She stated that the fiduciary information is planned to be changed through MSHDA on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Vicky stated things are going well with the Legal Services of Eastern Michigan partnership. Vicky stated the court system work also seems to be going well and they rarely come across landlords who do not want to participate in the process. Legal services has been asking the courts to allow at least 14 days for check processing and paperwork. She stated that with the moratorium put back on for federal government through July of 2021 she is not sure what impact that will have on the MSHDA program and they will keep forging forward with helping people with funding until the end of December 2020.

Vicky stated that David Tweedie of OrgCode has been assisting while they work through the HMIS data and getting caught up with data information. She stated that she is unsure if the \$2.4 million will be spent down by the end of December 2020. She stated please continue to get the word about the Eviction Diversion funding and Tammy Chambers and her staff has been going to apartment complexes to seek out families to assist.

Tammy stated that they had over 1,100 Eviction Diversion (EDP) and HARA calls as of last month and now lines have been separated so no calls would be neglected. They are open on Saturdays and they take open calls from 9 am to 2 pm. Tammy stated she is still speaking to the landlord association every other week. The HARA has been busy but thriving. Jill Nylander gave kudos to HARA as their project continues to come together quite well. Jim Perlaki stated that as Continuous Quality Improvement chair leading the EDP project, Catholic Charities and HARA are doing tremendous work in meeting the needs of the community. He stated that Genesee County has been noticed as heroes in the EDP project for meeting our communities' needs quickly. The number for the EDP is (810) 600-4525.

Tammy stated that the ones who will truly benefit from the EDP program are those that are under the 50% AMI. MSHDA has changed the rules to where they can pay up to \$12,000 in future rent (usually breaks down to 2 months). The only recipients who can be seen as ineligible for the program is those with a very high income of \$80,000 or above. Low-income recipients would benefit tremendously regardless of their residing subsidy. Jim stated it has to be someone who is facing an eviction due to rent issues as this is not a foreclosure or homeownership program. Vicky stated that Tammy has also been working with Antoinette on trying to get in contact with 50 referrals of individuals with low scores on the QBNL list. Essence stated that as we think about how the QBNL may be available in HMIS, this could be an opportunity to do outreach to other HMIS partners in locating these clients.

**Street Outreach:** Jim stated that the adult engagement contacts were 524 for the month of August, not unduplicated. He stated that the street outreach team was able to complete 8 homeless verifications and of those contacts they made 108 referrals to other agencies, the HARA or internally through the Coordinated Entry process. 456 food bags were passed out as well as ponchos, blankets, shoes and socks. They have also been able to successfully purchase PPE equipment such as masks and hand sanitizers as well as hygiene and other personal products. Jim stated that this past week they began engagement with 2 interns from the University of Michigan school of Social Work so they have been able to increase their team efforts. He stated they are really excited about their involvement on the team and participation in outreach. The team is continuing to engage with HARA and the coordinated entry team daily and they are gearing up to work with Mary Stevenson at the warming center.

**Subcommittee/Work Group reports:** As of September 4<sup>th</sup> there are 294 individuals on the QBNL list. The demographics have increased for single families, youth and domestic violence but remained stable in veterans. A total of 4 individuals were housed in August. 2 clients were housed through RRH and 2 were housed through PSH. Antoinette stated that although the number seems small there are a lot of barriers with the housing process currently, so kudos to all the housing agencies that put in their efforts. Last month 79 referrals were sent out to the QBNL. The referrals have decreased due to funding so no referrals have been sent to PSH. 49 individuals have been housed, year to date, through Coordinated Entry and some of the trends are an increase of activity on the QBNL. She stated more individuals are calling into the Metro helpline and individuals are being added to the QBNL daily. Antoinette stated that if you do not complete a CESA or VISPDAT at your agency you can have the individual call the Metro helpline.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**COVID-19 Community Check-in Calls:** Calls will resume on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 PM.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **COC Program NOFA 2020: No updates**

**Additional discussions:** Vicky Schultz stated that they do not have warming center opening date as of yet.

Jim asked about subcommittee QBNL and IST meetings. Antoinette stated that she is in talks with Tracey regarding coordinating meetings and they may have something scheduled by early next month.

Bill Doub stated that he has been talking with David Tweedie regarding what the new VBNL list may look like and they are in the process of moving from hiatus to having serious conversations about how the list can be used and how it can be fed back into the larger QBNL workgroup. Essence stated that David proposed that the QBNL list be available for anyone using HMIS and there needs to be an opportunity where you can consent to seeing this information, so it is used appropriately for both lists.

Debra Hayes stated the Genesee County veteran grant per diem program will kick off on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The veteran would only need 1 day of active duty to qualify for the program (granted the discharge will be taken into consideration). They have 10 beds available beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>. Program is 90 days and the staff would have to verify that client can self-resolve or know they qualify for some of the subsidies in the community before they can enter program. There are permanent vouchers available to Genesee County and veterans can potentially transition into that program. Bill Doub stated that once the veteran list is moving again there are vouchers available for permanent supportive housing opportunities.

BECKA Management pulled 75 names from HCV waiting list on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and paperwork will go out this week.

Bill stated that on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM there will be a SOAR Stakeholder meeting. Bill stated CoC members are all invited to send staff. He stated there will be an email sent to the CoC and he can also talk individually about the SOAR process and the SOAR training cohorts through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**Adjournment: Essence adjourned meeting at 10:00 AM. Next meeting: October 14, 2020 9:00 AM Location: Teleconference**

**Submitted by:** Myra Hinkle