



Monmouth County Homeless System Collaborative

Executive Committee

January 9th, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Kim Cole
Laura Kirby
Jeff Schwartz
Steven Horvath
Alicia Williams
Laurie Duhovny

Wendy DePedro
Joan Mandel
Alan Tedesco
Tina Mikes
Ewa Farry
Sue Kiley

Alan Ferraro
Paul McEvily
Maura Comer
Melissa Campbell
Kasey Congero
Donna Blaze

Tim Hearne
Stan Rosenthal
Connie Fahim
George Lowe
Kathy Weir

I. Introduction

II. Public Participation

Paul called for a motion to bring the meeting into public session; Jeff motioned, Tim seconded, all in favor. No comments. Paul made a motion to bring the meeting out of public session; Tim motioned, Joan seconded, all in favor.

III. Approval of November meeting minutes

Jeff made a motion, Joan seconded, all in favor.

IV. Committee Membership/Elections

Tim Hearne was nominated for the Executive Committee chair as Paul McEvily has stepped down. Alan F. made a motion to approve, Jeff second the motion and all in favor.

Alicia Williams was nominated to the Executive Committee. Paul made a motion, Jeff seconded the motion and all in favor. The nomination will be put before the full HSC committee for approval.

V. New Business/Discussion

a. 2020 Focus

Tim reported that a smaller group had a meeting in reference to the 2020 focus. Tim stated that he will be meeting with the subcommittee chairs to identify goals for all the subcommittees to work on for the coming year. He reported he would like to establish a larger, overarching goal for the HSC to accomplish. Tim would like to set a deadline for ending Veteran's and Chronic Homelessness in the next few years. Once the meeting with the subcommittees are accomplished a document will be developed for the Executive Committee to review that will describe the goals for 2020 as well as the longer term goal.

Sue Kiley asked how the county found the numbers for the chronically homeless and Veteran's in the county. Kasey informed the group that the numbers were found in the 2019 PIT report and up to date data will be provided once the 2020 count occurs on 1/29/2020. Ewa states she has

23 on the housing navigation list for 2019. Alan F. brought up the student population that are not stably housed (imminent risk, doubled up) and are seeing over 800 students (not including family members) in Monmouth County that meet that criteria.

b. 211

Melissa reported that as of January 1st 211 has taken over doing the emergency placements and afterhours hotline. Jeff reported that prior to this Monmouth County had a private vendor providing this service. Monmouth County chose to have a one month overlap to ensure there were no gaps. Jeff states there have been three calls since January 1st and all three persons were not screened appropriately by the 211 staff or placed appropriately. Jeff stated that there is going to be an adjustment period and they will continue to work with 211 to train them on resources in Monmouth County. Melissa reported they are working with 211 and HMFA to ensure the process is working and the documentation is accurate. Ewa mentioned that consumers have been asking if they should call 211 all day for services. Kathy states she will clarify on the website that 211 is after hours. Jeff reported there is a flier that DFD disseminated about 211 that can be distributed as well.

VI. Reports

a. Code Blue

Jeff thanked Stan for his tireless efforts in helping the county to secure a contract with St Mark's in Keansburg to be an official Code Blue Warming Center. Jeff stated the county and others are working to find a place to serve the Freehold area. Pilgram Baptist Church in Red Bank and Trinity in Asbury Park and now St Mark's in Keansburg will be receiving \$10,000 in county funding to support the sites for the Code Blue season. There is no restriction on how the money is spent just that it is used to support the Code Blue warming centers and they open every time Code Blue is called. Jeff informed the committee there is legislation up right now changing Code Blue temperatures to 32 degrees across the board. Jeff stressed that the legislation has no funding supported and sites will have to open once the community reaches those temperatures.

b. System Performance

Kasey provided data for the system performance measures for the first quarter of 2020. The system performance measures will be reported to HUD on February 28th 2020.

Tim asked for a chart to track Veteran's and Chronic Homeless as this will be a goal for the HSC. Kasey reported she will take a look at adding charts for the monthly data to track these subpopulations.

c. HUD Update

Kasey reported there is a hope to get HUD notices for funding allocations in January or February. The CoC scoring report usually follows the funding announcements. Kasey reported that the committee has to begin thinking about the monitoring process and RFP process for CoC funding in March.

d. Centralized Intake

No update other than 211 given above.

e. Housing Navigator Agency

Ewa reported there 1802 people on the Housing Navigator's prioritization list. In the last quarter 130 homeless persons were served. 6 people were chronically homeless, 39 persons were housed: 20 of those got rental subsidies, 17 were permanently housed without a subsidy, and 2 people went into transitional housing. There is a large back log that the program is unable to serve just due to the sheer volume. MHA applied for more staffing in this CoC application to better serve the volumes of consumers they are seeing.

f. Sub-committees

i. PIT/PHC

Next meeting is January 13th at 10am to finalize planning for the date of the PIT. Kathy states food donations, clothing donations, as well as signage have all come in for this year. Survey training is January 17th at 2:30pm. Kathy emphasized the need for volunteers to be trained in person to ensure that the data collected is accurate. Kim completes the data inputting in Freehold and states she often sees in the same mistakes year after year that make surveys unusable or she is left to try and decipher what was meant.

ii. Veteran's

Tina reported 11 Veteran's currently on the list. 3 of those have been awarded HUD VASH and one got a Habcore voucher and all are looking for housing. Tina states they are not meeting the benchmarks to ending Veteran's homelessness as they are not housing people fast enough and there are more homeless coming in then are being discharged. Tina states she would like to see more people attending the meetings as they used to do and feels it would be much more valuable to the process to have other resources and providers at the table. Soldier On is breaking ground this spring on a permanent housing project with 74 units in Tinton Falls. They hope to leasing up in 2 years. The committee meets twice quarterly, every other month a phone conference/in person.

Tina presented and requested a letter of support for renewed funding. Tina states 35 Veteran's were served with prevention dollars and 41 RRH in the past year. Paul made a motion to give Soldier On a letter and Jeff seconded, all in favor, no opposed.

iii. Discharge Planning

Steve reported they are waiting the final stats from FY2019 at a meeting on January 23rd. Steve aims to bring the number of people readmitting to psych emergency services from 23% to the teens. Steve identified that staff turnover can affect these numbers but the committee is meeting with inpatient units to discuss discharge planning.

iv. Permanent Housing

Connie reported that in the past year the committee created MOUs for the HSC to use with developers and has worked on engaging developments.

v. Coordinated Systems

Maura reports no update since the last meeting and will meet with Tim and Kathy and schedule a subcommittee meeting after the PIT.

vi. Data Committee

No report

g. Updates

Stan reported the Women's Hospitality Network is up and running for the season. Call 732-705-7178 for information or to refer.

Joan reported her program is open for men as well. Call 848-459-6215 with referrals, they currently have one opening.

Motion to adjourn. Paul motioned, Jeff seconded; all in favor, none opposed.

Next Meeting: **March 5th, 2020 at 9am**

Monmouth County AG Building, Kitchen Conference Room – 4000 Kozloski Road,
Freehold, NJ