



Monmouth County Homeless System Collaborative

Executive Committee

January 4th, 2023

Meeting Minutes

- I. Introduction
- II. Approval of November meeting minutes- Peter made a motion, Chris made a second, all in favor
- III. New Business/Discussion
 - a. Code Blue- Dec 12th-Dec 30th- 129 Code Blue rooms filled; Human Services and Social Services met with OEM to discuss issues with Code Blue and there being not enough motel rooms to meet the need. They suggested to OEM to explore more congregate shelter options. They are in discussions with Trinity Church to open a warming center for this season and hopefully will have another site on board in the coming weeks. Kasey discussed the need for establishing procedures to fill congregate shelters prior to utilizing hotel/motels. Kathy and Chris reported they going to work with OEM on this. Women's Hospitality Network is opening again as of January 1st and they have 8 emergency shelter beds.
 - b. CARES Act Funding
 - i. Community Development- HOME-ARP- Continuing to work to submit the plan by March 2023; Laura aims to have the money available for construction season this upcoming year. ESG-CV and CDBG-CV are on track to expend funds in time for the deadlines.
 - ii. Dept of Treasury/ERAP- Kathy reports there are no new funds out there; Interfaith still has minimal unspent funds they are working to expend. CARC still has funds for the eviction mitigation they are expending as well.
 - c. Landlord/Tenant Updates- Alicia reported they began 2 weeks ago with in person court and the first 3 days were hectic and there were long wait times, people were assigned two times and the earlier times were overflowing into the later time causing significant delays. All trials are now in person again and case management conferences are mandatory again. Requests for remote trials are being accepted but the criteria for approval is not clear. There is no new landlord tenant judge and there are a lot of judges currently covering those cases. Adjournments are being granted if prevention applications are pending and there is documentation of that process.
 - d. Shelter Updates- Peter reports they are seeing a lot of people with substance abuse issues with persons in the shelter. They are working with the VNA to appropriately refer guests to services they need. Peter reports they are working to engage mental health and substance abuse services to partner with to accommodate the needs of those in

shelter. Joan reports they have had up to ten individuals in her rotating shelter, current census is 8. They can accommodate 12 people and are accepting referrals. Joan reports she is seeing a lot of people in shelter that are working and cannot find affordable housing. Wendy asked how the shelters have been able to access mental health services as there has been a shortage of providers, long wait times for appts, etc. Peter agreed with the sentiment and agreed that they are having challenges with accessing treatment and for those with high needs difficulty accessing inpatient treatment. Wendy reports her agency does a lot of advocacy with the hospitals and will work with the shelters to advocate for stronger partnerships. Anna Diaz-White reports they have 33 adults and 32 children in our shelter program. The congregate care shelter is full with 12 families and the balance are in hotels. We are also housing six dogs, cats and a komodo dragon.

e. Stakeholder Engagement

- i. PHA- Kathy reported that HUD has awarded EHV to a number of PHAs in Monmouth County. We have worked in the past to engage PHAs to establish homeless set asides and they have not previously been responsive. The EHV's will have to be filled with homeless households and work with Coordinated Entry and we need to work to strengthen these partnerships.
- ii. Hospital Systems- Kathy reported that we have been working to engage with Hackensack Meridian to discuss affordable housing development and those conversations have stalled.

IV. Follow Up- November meeting Action Items- Tim gave an update on the action items we followed up on, accessory dwelling units and project based units. We had a call about accessory dwelling units that stalled. It appears to be an option, but it would not be an easy or quick solution for addressing the homeless households currently. We also worked with AHA to identify two properties that could be used to serve the high needs

V. Reports

a. PIT update

- i. PHC/2023 planning- Kasey reported the first training was yesterday and Kathy will send out the registration for the remaining trainings for the month. Ewa reported she is organizing the street outreach and has assistance from Soldier On and Covenant House in conducting outreach.

b. HUD NOFO

- i. Site Monitorings- Kasey reported these were conducted in November and December. All agencies scored well, no major findings.
- ii. SPM/LSA due dates- Kasey reported the LSA is due January 11th and a new upload will be done this week and we are on track to meet the deadline. The SPM will be completed after all LSA updates are done by the end of January.

c. Centralized Intake- Chris reported they have about 180 placements, most are single adults. They are also doing a lot of Code Blue follow up, extensions, etc.

d. Housing Navigator Agency- Ewa reports she has a couple of units becoming available and are working to fill those from the

prioritization list. Seeing a newer trend of persons sleeping in their cars. Ewa is working on end of year numbers and will share report when that is completed.

- e. Sub-committees
 - i. Coordinated Systems- no update
 - ii. Case Management- next meeting on January 11th at 1:45pm
 - iii. Veteran's- meeting has been postponed until January 23rd.

VI. Agency Updates

- a. Alicia Williams reports she is leaving SJLS on February 1st and then will be working with the Supreme Court for the state.

VII. Public Participation- motion to open for public participation- Laura made a motion, Wendy second; no participation; Tim called for a motion to close, Peter made a motion, Laura made a second. All in favor.

VIII. Adjournment

Next Meeting – March 7th, 9am-11am

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n_m7Y0jvTceAWzGc4sJWgQ

CEAS/General Membership Meeting – February 7th, 10am – 12pm