

**CT BOS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**3/15/19 - 11am-1:00pm**

1. **Introductions and Announcements**
2. Welcome and Introductions

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1. Review BOS SC 2/15/19 minutes - approved
2. Announcements

* New Reach and Yale-New Haven Hospital were funded for a five-year, $2.48 million grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to help provide housing and services for women experiencing homelessness who have both mental health and substance use disorders and who utilize the emergency room more than once a month.
* Shepherd Home, PSH project with 32 units (16 for veterans) is set to open in April. Referrals are going thru the MMW CAN.
* System Performance Measures are due to HUD at the end of May. Reminder to providers to continue to clean data – esp update annual assessments, inactive clients and unknown destinations.

Upcoming Trainings- info and registration can be found: <http://www.ctbos.org/trainings/>

* 3/19 Outreach Training– CRT – Lumsden Room, 555 Windsor St, Hartford
* 3/20 CoC RA Monitoring Provider meeting – Middlesex Comm College Chapman Hall 100 Training Hill Rd, Middletown, CT
* 3/21 BOS Compliance training – CRT – Lumsden Room, 555 Windsor St, Hartford4/5 Housing First - CRT - Lumsden Room, 555 Windsor St, Hartford
* 4/5 Housing First - CRT - Lumsden Room, 555 Windsor St, Hartford

1. **HUD NOFA Scoring Debrief**

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* CT BOS Score – 174.5
  + Biggest loss on data collection and quality (loss of 15 points) – likely due to unsheltered up, singles up, total homeless up, unsheltered youth up, PSH HMIS bed coverage below 85% - VASH and DMHAS non-HUD units are not in HMIS
* National Highest Score – 190
* National Lowest Score – 47.75
* National Median – 160
* National Weighted Mean – 166.75

**F/U: HI to do analysis of exactly where points were lost**

1. **Discussion on Dedicated Plus**

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* The group had a conversation regarding the pros and cons of converting PSH Chronically Homeless Dedicated (CH) units to Dedicated Plus.
* It was noted that there were 8 people in Hartford with over 30 months of homeless that cannot be served because they don’t meet the CH definition. It was also noted that there are people who have histories of incarceration and they are not able to meet the episodic requirement of CH.
* Providers reported that it is demoralizing to clients with long histories of homeless who are in need of housing and are not eligible for PSH.
* There was discussion around the benefits of having all CoC projects change to Dedicated Plus to keep it simpler for the CAN when deciding on matching and eligibility. It was noted it might be confusing to have only some projects be Dedicated Plus
* It was noted that CANs would continue to prioritize by length of stay if conversion takes place.
* Norm Suchar (HUD) noted on the HUD CoC Quarterly call that CoCs would not be penalized in the HUD NOFA scoring process if projects changed to Dedicated Plus.
* There was discussion around seeing if it was possible to have the By Name List be filtered to show who would be eligible for Dedicated Plus.
* It was decided to wait until NOFA comes out to decide on what to do with existing units.

**f/u: BOS Reps should get CANs to weigh in on whether existing units should convert to Dedicated Plus and bring feedback to April SC mtg.**

f/u: Suggest to Reaching HOME Federal Funding Workgroup to evaluate whether State Resources should change to dedicated plus model.

1. **New Project Priorities**

* Information on projects with no services funding:
* There are about 1000 units that receive HUD CoC funding (RA, leasing, operating) but do not get services funding from HUD. Of those, about 500 get DOH or DMHAS services funds leaving about 500 units of housing with no services funding at all.
* According to Terry Nash (CHFA), there are also about 500 Low-income Housing Tax Credit units for formerly homeless persons with no services funding.
* Agencies could apply for expansion projects to serve existing project participants. It was noted that there are people in programs who are in crisis and not seeing a case manager and not getting the help they need.
* There was discussion around the question if CoC should be funding services for formerly homeless people who have been housed for 15 years who face the same challenges as low-income tenants. Are there other services people can tap into?
* There was discussion around local prioritization and if a CAN should endorse a project be put forth for funding. It was noted that the Scoring Committee recommended that the CANs should not be deciding on which projects to put forth but rather all agencies should have the opportunity to apply to ensure an open process.
* The CoC Planning Grant has a small amount of funding for each CAN to get PIT funding. The RFP for funds will be included in the CT BOS New Project RFP.
* Consensus decision: 5 different projects will be eligible to apply under the RFP for the 2019 CoC competition: New PSH units– for Dedicated Plus or Chronically Homeless Units, New RRH units, new services for existing PSH and RRH projects with no services funds. **Unanimous consent on the decision.**

**5. Reallocation**

a. Update on Underspending Analysis

* All projects are on track to meet spending benchmark and have sent in plans to ensure spending meets BOS standards.

b. Service Rate Caps Update

* One project is still under review but all other projects have agreed to serve more people to meet the cap.

**6. Prep for 2019 NOFA**

* Providers who have RRH programs that are contracted directly with HUD, are invited to have DOH as the grantee with ACT as RA administrator.
* It was noted that providers should be thinking of project consolidations in preparation for the NOFA.

**7. HIC/PIT Updates**

* CCEH working on pops/sub-pops reports for sheltered and unsheltered. Overall both sheltered and unsheltered numbers are down.

**8. CT BOS Renewal Evaluation Updates**

1. Process & Timeline

* Reports have been distributed.
* Providers submitted change forms if they wanted to be rescored.
* CCEH ran new data for projects that requested scoring changes, and HI distributed updated evaluation reports for those projects.
* Providers may submit grievance forms no later than 3/22/19.
* Grievance Committee will meet later this month.
* Scores will be finalized in April and aggregate data will be presented to SC in April.

**9. Standing Items – Updates as Needed**

* Reaching Home Campaign
* iforum – March 27, 9-11:30 Lyceum – The Missing Middle Housing. Advocacy days coming, stay tuned.
* CAN Leadership and Coordinated Entry Updates
* The group discussed outreach and how that could be improved. There was a small group meeting on unsheltered persons, and family diversion plan for 211 has been signed.
* Federal Funding Workgroup Updates - group has not met since last BOS SC. Reaching Home held a day-long strategic planning retreat on 3/8/19, and this workgroup is being configured into the new simplified structure.
* DOH Updates -CAN survey wrapped up last Friday, 270 surveys received, stay tuned for results
* Updates from Opening Doors Fairfield County
* ODFC is applying for YHDP, Carla Mikos is new Co-chair, CoC got 189.75 for NOFA score
* RRH Work Group update - HI is conferring with state partners on next steps.
* Updates from Progressive Engagement Work Group
* Deadline for comments on latest draft of framework is 3/22.
* Collaborative for Racial Equity
* Jess Park from CSH reported that there are listening sessions coming up in Waterbury and New Haven **f/u: HI to get dates from CSH to send out to BOS.**
* YHDP –Katie Durand– people are being housed, 60 youth have been matched to housing/services

**10. Other items/issues - none**

**11. Next Meeting Dates – NOTE NEW LOCATION MOVING AHEAD.**

**The Connection - 100 Roscommon Drive, Suite 203 Middletown, CT**.

You can enter on the main level, and either take the stairs or the elevator to the 2nd floor. You can also park in the rear of the building, enter through the ground level and take the elevator to the 2nd floor. The entrance to The Connection is clearly marked (left at the top of the stairs, or right off the elevator and check in at the front desk)

* + **April 26 – 1:00 – 3:00 pm – NOTE TIME;** May 17 – 11:00 am - 1:00 pm; June 21 – 11:00 am - 1:00 pm; July 19 – 11:00 am – 1:00 pm; August 16 – 11:00 am – 1:00 pm