

**CT BOS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**2/28/2020**

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Announcements

* HUD CoC Subaward letters for DMHAS projects will be sent out shortly
* Moving forward letter will get sent out annually with the Budget Line Item breakdown for each annual grant.
* RA amount may be different than the application because of the change in Fair Market Rent (FMR)
* HUD CoC Second Tier awards have not been made yet

3. Update on 2020 Renewal Evaluation Process

* + Reports were distributed by HI in early January
  + Providers made data changes until 1/31/20.
  + 1/17 was the last day to get helpdesk into Nutmeg for renewal evaluation questions/issues
  + Providers completed score change request forms in late January
  + HI rescores and distributes final reports in March
  + Providers have the ability to grieve scores in early April
  + SC adopts Corrective Action threshold in April

4. Preparing for HUD CoC Competition

a. Gaps Analysis

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* There was feedback from the Steering Committee last year that this year the CoC should look at data on gaps and needs to determine how we decide on which new projects we submit to HUD.
* Data come from Reaching Home based on their work to understand how many units of RRH and PSH will be needed to achieve functional zero by 1/1/23.
* Summary of proposal:
* Allocate funding – 55% for PSH and 45% for RRH
* Target pop for PSH – individuals and for family and youth units; applicants must show need using local CAN data
* Target pop for RRH – individuals and youth; applicants must show need using local CAN data for family units
* PSH will continue to be DedicatedPlus
* Continue to allow applicants to request funding for services only in PSH and RRH
* DMHAS to be applicant/grantee for PSH
* DOH to be applicant/grantee for RRH
* Allow applications from TH projects to transition to TH/RRH and expand
* DOH to use by-name-list to determine geographic unit allocation
* Steering Committee to vote on proposal at next SC mtg.
* ***Clarification***

***There was discussion around whether a disabled dependent child can qualify a family for PSH. While, in general PSH, a disabled dependent child an qualify a family for housing, for DedicatedPlus and Dedicated Chronic PSH, the Head of Household must have the disabling condition and the child cannot qualify the family.***

b. Planning Grant

* DMHAS will be releasing an RFQ for 2022 HIC/PIT project. Every few years, the state bids current projects to update the scope of the work.

5. HMIS MOU



* Each year, the CoC is required to enter into an MOU with the lead agency for the HMIS project. This MOU outlines the roles and of responsibilities of CCEH (lead agency) and CT BOS CoC regarding management of the Connecticut Homeless Management Information System (CT HMIS).
* The document was sent out electronically to the BOS Steering Committee for their review.
* The Steering Committee approves the **Connecticut Homeless Management Information System MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** between The Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness and The Connecticut Balance of State Continuum of Care by consensus.
* **F/U: CoC chairs and Richard Cho to execute the MOU**

6. HIC/PIT Update/Debrief

* Linda Casey from CCEH provided the update.
* It was noted that the state has 99% compliance with data submission. Housing Innovations and CCEH are working on confirming the accuracy of the HIC and PIT data.
* Review of preliminary data indicate that overall point-in-time numbers have decreased
* On the night of the count, there were 650 volunteers helping with PIT.
* Concern was raised that this year over one-third of the surveys of unsheltered persons were observational. CCEH is doing research on when and where the observational surveys were conducted.
* **F/U: CCEH to provide more information on observational surveys at the next SC mtg.**

**Census Info:**

* Linda noted that on 3/31 and 4/1 Census representatives are coming to emergency shelters and encouraged providers to participate and provide the needed information to them. She noted that money comes back into the state and only will if we count people.
* CCEH shared locations of unsheltered persons but did not provide any identifiable info.
* Providers noted that there is mixed messaging coming from Census staff – some say that they need identifying information about program participants.
* Linda asked that providers reach out to her with any concerns and confirmed that no identifiable info on program participants should be asked or given.
* EMBED NAEH handout on census

7. Standing Items

* YHDP - tabled
* CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV)
* Reported that 70 families have been housed all around the state.
* It was noted that New Reach has done a fantastic job training providers on RRH.
* There are many first time advocates providing RRH and they are doing a good job.
* It was reported that is has been a huge challenge to have tenants pay 60% of rent by month 3, tenants do not have the income to do this. If this continues to be the policy, everyone will end up using the exemption policy. It was reported that because tenants know that they will not be able to make the program payment requirements, they are reluctant to participate and it is creating a disincentive for survivors from leaving their abusive households.
* It was suggested to have an in-person mtg about RRH. It has been about a year since the payment standards were set.
* **f/u: DOH to convene meeting to discuss RRH.**
* Opening Doors Fairfield County - tabled
* Reaching Home Campaign
* Advocacy Day is March 11th
* Register to join: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reaching-home-advocacy-day-2020-tickets-96447411805>

Schedule:

* 8:30am-9:15am: Kick-off at the Lyceum
* 10am-10:30am: Press Conference
* 10:30am- end of day: Meeting with Legislators
* Department of Housing (DOH)
* HUD will be monitoring at DOH on RRH 294 on 4/20.
* Bezos (Amazon) gave CCEH a three year grant in the amount of $2.5 million in November to address family homelessness. DOH is giving CCEH $1.1 million for rapid exit and shelter diversion for families. Half of the funds need to be spent by the end of this fiscal.
* Collaborative for Racial Equity
* New cohort started, work continues, deliverable for 2nd cohort will be to plan and host a summit in CT. CSH will come out to any CAN that is interested in having a presentation.

7. SC Meeting Schedule for 2019 – 2020 (generally 3rd Friday of each month)

All meetings are from 11:00 am -1:00 pm unless otherwise noted

* March 20, 2020
* April 17, 2020 – NOTE, Middlesex YMCA – 99 Union Street, Middletown
* May 15, 2020
* June 19, 2020 – Semi-Annual Meeting
* July 17, 2020
* August 21, 2020
* September 18, 2020

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) will be held at:

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