# HHC Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2021

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Present: | Diane Cooper- Currier, Allison Brooks, Amber VanderPloeg, Andrea Wandersee, Cassandra Montressor, Danielle Johnson, Diana Jakimoski, Fred Hintz, Joe King, Karen Goetz, Kelly Gonzales, Kristian Peterson, La’Shonda Hamilton, Lindsay Bentley, Liz Vuillemot, Marty Skahen, Megan Stuart, Nan Eaton, Renee Jensen, Sally Curran, Sherrain Clark, Sue McMahon |
| Next meeting: | September 14, 2021, 2:30 pm, via Zoom |

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 2:32 pm, by Chair Diane Cooper Currier. Welcomed new members, Diana Jakimoski and Andrea Wandersee.

1. Emergency Housing Voucher

Megan shared about the CARES Act and how the EH vouchers were allocated. This is the first time HUD has given these out. HUD has strongly recommended partnering with the CoC and Housing Authorities. By the end of the week, we will have the MOU’s signed. We will be meeting with providers this week and next about getting leased up quickly. People who are currently in stable housing with the 7still needed subsidies. We would like to get people settled prior to the eviction protections ending. 53 vouchers at SHA, Fulton has 15. And we are not sure how many the county could get about 20-30 vouchers, based on some rough estimates from Megan and Fred. The state possibly may have some sort of competition for the vouchers.

1. YHDP

Megan shared the updates on the YHDP process. Opportunity for investment in the community to end youth homelessness. The application is on behalf of the CoC, 9-month planning period, what to fund, needs in the system. This is to secure the funds to go into the planning period. The types of projects would be RRH for youth, cuts off at 24 months, this would allow a longer term of 36 months. Hybrid transitional to RRH. We want to look at the CE specifically focused on youth. We know that there is a lot of couch surfing that doesn’t qualify for HUD’s definition of homelessness. There is a formula based on PIT, child poverty rate, and FMR. Minimum is $1 mil up to $15 million. Buffalo was funded $3 million so we may get a little less.

The YHDP workgroup has been helping to guide the application process. Megan is happy to share the application draft. It is currently 1 page too long.

Fred also did an intensive youth needs assessment that will be published on our website soon. Fred shared that through the survey how people were experiencing the RRH and perceived barriers. Half of the people had been living in an unsafe environment or family environment. Employment and transportation services were the most requested/stated needs. He did a comparison from last year and what we would need to serve everyone adequately and it helps to justify our need for this YHDP grant. We need more/a lot of units because of the low turnover. The community planning process will pull in more stakeholders from groups that are outside of the normal housing providers. We want a cross-sector committee. It’s not just homelessness.

1. Strategic Planning Presentation

Megan asked the HHC staff to join today because they were very instrumental and invested in the process. This is the team that Megan wanted to use this team to build our strategic plan. The community was great in helping to input this. We wanted this to be aspirational to us as well as the community.

The structure is one over-arching document and then 3 county-level documents. Megan shared the documents. The hope is that these are living documents to be updated as we grow and accomplish certain metrics.

Lindsay liked the hard-no sections, which was echoed by Karen and Diane.

Metrics were presented. The plan is once the metrics are approved, we as the HHC will build a dashboard with the ability to keep the metrics trackable and accountable. Sally would like to see more numerical goals for racial disparity and adding to affordable housing stock. We would like to do another assessment for exiting to housing. We wanted a meaningful number and update these. #4 is more of a placeholder for racial disparity. We will come back to the board with a measurable number.

Diane asked if there was a role that the Advisory Board can play in this strategic plan. The PPA is usually the one to review but having the Board should be reported back to it. She recommended utilizing the PPA as the detail subcommittee. Andrea recommended periodic updates on the strategic plan and how we are approaching the problems and re-evaluation of the approach. Twice a year was thrown out as a recommendation. Diane recommended either an acronym index or all acronyms spelled out.

Approval: Renee Jensen motioned, Sally Curran seconded. No further discussion was held. The motion was passed unanimously.

We will truncate this document and hope to present this as the Annual State of Homelessness

1. Adjournment

We have not yet heard anything about the NOFA. If you are not funded by ESG or NOFA, you are welcome to join the performance and selection committee.

Diane asked to discuss committees in the executive committee.

The eviction protection will end before the next meeting and we will be able to do some reporting out on the community reactive plan.

Sally Curran motioned to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 4:02 pm.