

Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2016

Today we will focus on how individuals move through the system and conduct a system mapping exercise to map both existing system and our vision for how an ideal system would work.

The Committee was divided into five groups and using a prepared vignette, was instructed to map the way the individual in their vignette would access services and permanent housing in our current system.

Vignettes (the following are brief notes taken from the small groups and their feedback on the vignettes)

John- John is a 55 year old man who has recently been discharged from a local public hospital. He has a chronic illness and walks with a limp that prevents him from walking up stairs. He has held odd jobs from time to time. John is illiterate and has struggled with addiction all his life.  He still smokes crack when he can find it.  He sometimes resides at Peachtree and Pine or sleeps in a tent with a friend in Mechanicsville. He doesn’t like the shelters in the City because they have too many rules.

Barriers🡪has to wait to be found; need recuperative care; must be sober.

* 2 entry points-2 outreach teams-Mercy, Hope because he does have mental illness.
* No bridge housing for PSH
* Central outreach or day shelter where we could begin engagement
* Lack of awareness of what to do

Ideally🡪peer to engage + enter to PSH/Skilled Outreach/TSA Primary/Navigation/Bridge Housing/Assessment

\*Drop-in center within the Community is needed.

Faith: Engagement to use their resources to increase outreach

\*Participant suggested that PATH teams are required to post outreach schedules and these should be accessible to the community.

Carlos+Maria: Carlos and Maria are both 35 years old. They are not married, but have two boys together Juan (13) and George (15).  Carlos and Maria were evicted from their apartment after they both lost their jobs.  They are undocumented residents of Atlanta.

Barriers: Documentation immediate problem not to be found

Voucher for

* No Latino representation
* MKT rate
* Family- Mom/Dad/2 kids

Solutions: unified system; Equal access rule

* Not Married
* 2 teen boys
* No fed Funds

Barriers

* Fair housing issues even without HUD funds
* General documentation barriers

Michelle: Michelle is 50 years old.  She is dually diagnosed with schizophrenia and substance abuse addiction. She has been gang raped while living on the streets.  She is extremely paranoid and difficult to engage. As a result she has been banned from most of the shelters that serve women.  She sits in front of Five Points Marta Station all day.

* PATH to engage
* MH evaluation
* Assessment bed
* TB, RPR, Proof of Income
* HUD form
* Wrap services around

Barriers

* Refuses services
* Long term CM once in housing or ACT
* Service retention

Suggestions= more SRO/1 Bd. And Training for Housing 1st/Harm Reduction

Jane: Jane is 15 years old. She is a runaway homeless youth that identifies as transgender. She was kicked out of her house in rural GA at 12 because of her sexual orientation and was in the foster care system for three years. She has trouble with authority.  She has not finished school and is addicted to opiates.

* Exploitation of youth
* Might be good for person to get arrested
* Enough resources/capacity for LGBT youth
* Barriers🡪reporting regularly, will connect with police

Suggestions🡪 Community policing unit

Lost n Found; increase housing for HL youth

Drop-in centers culturally appropriate coordinated entry

Vey Unique stand-up for kids-outreach

Opportunity

* Children access school system

Paul- Paul is a 30 year old man. He has recently been released from prison. He has a history of incarceration that began in his youth.  He was molested as a child and a gang banger in his youth. He does not have a high school diploma or skill set. He is on the sex offender registry.  He is living in an encampment underneath the I-20 connector. This is the first time that he has not been engaged with the corrections system since he was 15.

Need to connect to assessment; hopefully PATH eligible

* Compliance with probation
* ARC or Taskforce
* May or may not know what/how he’s connected to services

Barriers

* Sex offenders
* Job due to criminal background
* Transportation

Suggestions

* Sex offenders housing
* Coordination of information + communication
* Redemption after prison
* More outreach options if PATH/ACT elis

Following the Vignettes, the group brainstormed their vision what an ideal system looks like. See System Mapping Vision attachment.

Then, the group engaged in an exercise to map an ideal system (see map below).

