

Atlanta Continuum of Care Governing Council (GC)

June 28, 2018

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Tom Andrews	Jimiyu Evans	Jack Hardin
Phillip Hunter	Monica Johnson	Connie Lee (Rev)
Terri Lee	A. J. Robinson	Janet Tharp
Jenifer Turner-Reid	Paul Vranicar	Cleta Winslow

Members Absent:

Carmen Chubb	Natalie Hall	Dana Johnson Inman
Cathryn Marchman	Katrina Mitchell	Mark Pollack
Ed Powers	Dan Williams	Cleta Winslow

Guests/Staff Present:

Brittany Garner	Melanie Harrell	Rob McGhee
Ashlee Starr	Felicia Stewart (for Ed Powers)	Stephanie Stokes – WSB
Ashley Williams	Amy Zaremba	

Welcome & Call to Order: Tom Andrews

The Atlanta Continuum of Care Governing Council was called to order at 1:11 p.m.

Review of Minutes: Tom Andrews

Minutes from the 3/21/18 Governing Council meeting were unanimously approved.

Point-In-Time (PIT) Report: Amy Zaremba

Stephanie Stokes, reporter from WSB News, joined the meeting to gather information to report on the 2018 Point-In-Time Count.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that communities conduct a PIT count to get an estimate of sheltered and unsheltered people who are homeless on a particular day. This PIT event was conducted the week of January 22, 2018, collecting information from people who were homeless on the night of January 22. Volunteers covered the entire city geography and surveyed unaccompanied youth, children, adults, veterans and adults/children households. The information and data collected provides a snapshot of what the homeless population looks like in the community and is compared to previous years. When comparing numbers from 2018 to 2017, there is a 14% decrease in overall homelessness and since 2015 an overall decrease of 29%. It was reported that the questions on the survey are posed as HUD prescribes. Discussion ensued about documenting youth trends, veteran re-occurrence of homelessness, and using a system to track locations of interviews in next year's count. The report will be updated and distributed.

Governance Update: Jack Hardin

CoC Governing Council Membership: In accordance with the AHCoC Charter, Councilmember Natalyn Archibong as Chair of the City of Atlanta's CDHS committee will join the Governing Board as an ex-officio member, replacing Councilmember Joyce Sheperd.

Committee Reports

- **Coordinated Entry and Implementation Committee (CE): Ashlee Starr**

Once training for ClieTrack is completed in late July, managing housing placement data will no longer be done manually. The housing queue has 1100 people enrolled in the coordinated entry project. In addition to Gateway as the one stationary access point, mobile locations and timeframes have been set up to better serve.

Prepared by: Janice Wallace

- **Youth Committee: Brittany Garner & Paul Vranicar**
The Atlanta CoC submitted the application to HUD for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP). An RFP for the host home will be completed by July 23, and the Youth Strategic Plan is also being updated. Rapid rehousing (RRH) for youth was funded with a bonus project that allowed 22 slots to be filled. Affiliations with other organizations such as DFCS, DBHDD and Chris 180 will help the reach the goal of no youth exiting other systems of care to homelessness.
- **Rapid Rehousing (RRH): Jimiyu Evans & Brittany Garner**
The RRH Standards are being updated for clarity. The employment and childcare relationship is working to ensure seamless collaboration which works when resources available. Since HUD funds are restricted, the CoC should advocate better usage. In addition, expansion of the budget in other ways should be considered. To eliminate transportation barriers, PCCI has 12-passenger vans to transport families to different sites.
- **HMIS Committee: Amy Zaremba & Ed Powers**
Amy Zaremba and Ed Powers are on the statewide Georgia HMIS Committee that provides continued oversight of the project and of the budget. The committee will be looking at the funding to see if local CoCs will need to contribute more to the system. Local CoC efforts include buildout of performance measures and coordinated entry and training for new staff to ensure data quality.
- **Veterans: Jenifer Turner-Reid & Ashley Williams**
As part of the work Community Solutions Built for Zero initiative, work is being done to strengthen and refine the system to continue reducing the number of homeless veterans in Atlanta. In May, 236 homeless veterans were registered by name, and of those, 68 were unsheltered and 19 classified as chronically homeless. However, in May, 18 new veterans entered the system and 35 were permanently housed. Although Atlanta met the Federal Benchmark for veteran homelessness, work continues to reach functional zero whereby more vets are housed than are entering the system.
- **Performance Committee: Melanie Harrell**
The Performance Committee is currently in the process of developing performance reports with the ClieTrack team that will be used to track program performance for street outreach, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing. PFH received a grant from The River to provide training to PSH programs in the Atlanta CoC targeted toward direct service staff and will focus on effectively implementing Housing First standards. The first training session is scheduled for July 31.

Partners for Home/CoC Update

- **Peachtree & Pine: Melanie Harrell**
Of the 255 former Peachtree & Pine residents, 196 are in housing and 17 households have been housed with other programs.
- **NOFA/SPM: Amy Zaremba**
Two new projects were gained in the 2017 NOFA but three were lost; however, the dollar amount awarded CoC increased, as did beds and units. The CoC score was 151.75 (out of 200). Most points were lost on RRH and system-wide performance and HMIS coverage.

System Performance Measures (SPM) track the progress a CoC is making in addressing homelessness using the following criteria: length of time homeless; returns to homelessness; number of homeless persons; employment and income growth; number of persons who became homeless for first time; and successful housing placements. These numbers are submitted annually to HUD and are used in CoC NOFA scoring. Areas to note were a slight increase in length of time homeless and income increase for CoC HUD funded projects and slight decrease in first time homeless.

- **CABHI: David Lee Mattison**
The Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) is a SAMHSA program that works to ensure sustained partnerships across public health and housing systems that will result in short and long term strategies to support individuals (including veterans) who experience chronic homelessness. Thus far 1443 participants have been engaged through outreach, 208 have been enrolled in the CABHI program and 79 participants have been placed in permanent supporting housing.

- **HomeFirst: Jack Hardin**

HomeFirst is the \$50 million initiative to reduce homelessness in Atlanta, comprised of \$25 million in city funds with the same in private contributions. The fund raising has been successful with \$23.6 million in private funds raised, to date. The \$50 million mark should be met in the fall. Projects include many strategic areas such as the development of processes and procedures for the Jefferson Place build-out, and the development of the pipeline to move quickly on housing opportunities. The application process for the various initiatives continues.

Adjournment: Tom Andrews

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.