**East Central CoC**

**December 16, 2019**

**Portage County Public Library, Pineries Room 9:00 a.m.**

Attending:

L. Arendt-W2 Case Manager, C. Nicklaus-FSC WIOA Program, J. Higgins-Boys and Girls Club, D. Ruetten-Evergreen Community Initiatives, T. Krueger-ECI, M. Schreiber-211, B. J. Amann-Beloved Community Church, D. Woods-CAP Services FCC, T. Heuer-Salvation Army Case Manager, R. DeBot-Operation Bootstrap, B. Quam-Salvation Army

E. Wilson Salvation Army, CoC W. Fletcher-CAP Services FCC Youth Services, Chief Skibba, L. Napstad-Emergency Services

M. Nachman-United Way of Portage County

Meeting was called to order by Ed Wilson

**Agency Updates**

Nachman shared that the InterFaith Food Pantry no longer wished to participate in the EFSP Program -Phase 36 and wants to relinquish their allocated amount of $810.68 that was under the “Other Food Category”.

B. Quam made motion to reallocate the $810.68 by splitting those dollars between Operation Bootstrap and the Community Thrift Store-under the “Other Food” designation, seconded by D. Woods, all voting members present were in favor. Nachman will notify Community Thrift Store of the additional Allocation amount that must be used before March 2020.

Chief Skibba joined the meeting to talk about resources available to the chronic homeless and those experiencing temporary homelessness.

* Chief Skibba would like some type of resource list/guide to share with first responders/officers who are dealing with the chronically homeless population
* 2018-142 entry’s-residents weren’t transients, not couch surfing
* Library 15 calls welfare checks
* 170 calls end of September, 2018 Library ranked 27th for calls now in 2019 they rank 12th
* Salvation Army ranked 27th as well, in 2019 they are now 7th for calls, some calls are prevention-pre-crisis
* What affect does having the Franciscans downtown have on community members? Complaints continue to come into police department
* Not a good location near the library and other stores
* What can the clergy do to support the homeless? What have they already been doing to provide services-all community groups may not be connected and know what supports are in place, PC Chaplains group in place and have been discussing issue
* RentReady Program will help get some of the folks into permanent housing-HPPP Coalition
* Transition Coalition-Assessment of services being provided, Adult Protective Services
* PD has had over 400 calls for 16 individuals who are chronically homeless

Consensus was to develop a subcommittee of the Continuum of Care group whose purpose it is to work on homelessness in the Community

* Suggested 2-1-1 and the Community Resource Guide, Give and Get Help Guide
* Coordinated Point of Entry for Services in the Community-can that work here like in Marathon County?
* Need to include Aging, EMT, Emergency personnel, lived experience, Ed Wilson will lead the sub-committee

Ed Wilson

**C. Nicklaus**-WIOA

* Can work with drug court-(tuition assistance)
* FSET co-enroll-more funding
* Youth-18-24 years old who have barriers to employment-homeless, disabled, criminal, might have had an IEP for behavior
* Can do paid work experiences, career exploration-FAFSA/enrollment if needed
* Can refer to other programs
* Work in conjunction with the college/tech school
* Tuition assistance for in-demand classes-usually a couple of classes can be paid for

**L. Arendt-W2**

* Work with single moms & dads who are at 100 FPL - $1,676
* CNA program just getting started
* Must have a child under 18 years of age in the home to receive services
* Seeking meaningful employment

**J. Higgins**-Boys & Girls Club

* Serving about 2,000 kids annually at all their 9 sites
* Step Up Program-new, hiring 2 PT behavioral specialists
* Be Great Graduate Program-works with students identified to have truancy type issues and are in danger on not graduating. Identified by teachers and counselors
* Charging fees to be members-free and reduced lunch students can receive waiver of fees

**T. Krueger-**Evergreen Initiatives

* Kids Closet has been very busy
* Think they found a new location
* Place of Peace meal still happening on Thursdays
* Warming Center is open, full at capacity of 12
* 34 different people last year
* Things have been quiet/calm
* No limit to amount of days you can stay at the Warming Center

**M. Schreiber-**United Way 211

* Mai Ger Moua left United Way and is no longer with 211-Megan has taken her place
* Tax appointment calendar is in place
* Appointments will again be taking place at MSTC, the Library and Lincoln Center
* 211 will be making appointments for low income individuals-nobody is turned away-Income Restrictions are shared with callers, also get a list of documents they are to bring to their tax appointment

**D. Wood**-CAP Services Family Crisis Center

* Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault support services
* Shelter is almost always full
* No more transitional Living-HUD
* No SPADT
* 3/6 month rent free in transitional living units owned by CAP Services
* Through the VOCA grant, can provide 1st month rent and security deposit for those transitioning out of shelter
* Hmong strengthening project-working with those in the Hmong culture is different

**W. Fletcher**-CAP Services Children/Youth Services

* 11-17 year old unaccompanied youth
* 2 youth currently n shelter
* Doing presentations t middle schools
* New law says that 17 year old can come into the shelter unaccompanied-still working out details
* Juvenile detention center-cooking center

**L. Napstad**-Energy/Emergency Services

* Have been very busy with the utility disconnects
* Call volume mostly about food
* In A Fix auto repair program-$500 to fix auto used for Work, 20 hours a week employment

**T. Heuer**-Salvation Army

* Dana Kaminski has left Salvation Army, Tara Heuer will be handling the Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
* New to her position but has experience in case management with other organizations

**B. J**. Amann-Beloved Community Church

* Rent Ready Program
* Community members call and request first months rent or security deposits from the church
* Go down the yellow pages looking for an organization/faith based group to help them
* Big Tent Conversations
* Coordinated Entry would be helpful to know if people are attempting to get service from several organizations
* Working with faith based community/Franciscans on homelessness

**B. Quam**-Salvation Army

* Rent Ready Program is moving forward
* Looking for 8 sponsors of $2,000 to support potential delinquency of renters
* Program participants will receive a certificate of completion that that can give to landlords
* Program does not provide dollars for potential clients (no security deposits or first month’s rent)
* Mark Kordus from the City is heading up the project
* Helping those with barriers to achieving rental units because of eviction or criminal history to find safe, affordable housing
* Client goes through about a one month process o learn about being a good tenant and what it takes to maintain that status with landlord
* If tenant defaults, the landlord could get up to three months rent to cover loss
* Anticipate 10% delinquency rate
* February will begin classes with 6 potential tenants who are willing to do the work to get their certification and an opportunity to rent

**E. Wilson**-Salvation Army

* Hiring another Case Manager-Faith will work from 2-10 pm
* TBRA-Tenant Based Rental Assistance Grant for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness-14 day notice of eviction 2 or more times within 60 days
* Don’t pay arrears
* Not sufficient resources to prevent homelessness
* Can stay up to 2 years
* 30% adjusted gross income
* Will have $260,000 for two years
* Rapid Rehousing funds available-$28,000
* Must be homeless-Security deposit, 1st month rent, minimal utility assistance
* VI SPADT faster service
* Street outreach-Evergreen would qualify
* Need to do Point In Time Count – January 29th
* Prevention rental assistance-membership performance will go up
* Balance of state-member of homeless population-stabilized could participate
* Eventually the COC will represent Waushara, Portage, Marquette and Wautoma

 **Meeting adjourned**