WISCONSIN BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

QUARTERLY MEETING

MAY 14 – 15, 2015

PLAZA HOTEL & SUITES, EAU CLAIRE, WI

May 14, 2015

President Robyn Thibado opened the meeting with a call for attendees to introduce themselves.

Outreach & Engagement with Persons Experiencing Mental Illness – panel presentation by Chris Lashock, Homeless Connections, Appleton; Lisa Haen, Kenosha Human Development Services; Dan Robinson, Sojourner House, Eau Claire; Rachel Keniston, The Community Table, Eau Claire; Sue Howe, LSS Positive Avenues, Eau Claire; Dr. Ken Adler, Chippewa Valley Free Clinic. Each panelist talked about the services their agency offers and their experiences in working with homeless persons experiencing mental illnesses and getting those persons connected to the available community resources.

Exploring Homelessness and Youth – Marginalized Populations and Dangers of the Streets: Jen Kronenberg, LSS of Wisconsin/UP Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Programs. This presentation covered the history of services for homeless youth; population statistics; trafficking and risks; and Wisconsin specific programming.

Telling the Story of Homelessness: Julian Emerson of Eau Claire’s Leader-Telegram newspaper spoke of how he became interested in sharing the story of homelessness in Eau Claire and how educating himself changed his ideas about those experiencing homelessness.

Links to these agencies and some of the resources mentioned will be posted to the BOS website and Facebook page.

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Alphabet Soup of the Homeless System: This PowerPoint, which will also be posted to the website, outlines the players, including HUD and DOA; funding sources; rules; where the BOS fits in the puzzle; where the local CoC’s fit in the puzzle; etc. This is meant to be shared at the local CoC meetings to try and get a better understanding of how everything and everyone works together in the goal of ending homelessness.

Wisconsin Coalition against Homelessness: Joe Volk has started a new non-profit which is intended to educate legislators about the need for funding for programs working to end homelessness in the state and doing the advocacy work agencies and programs don’t have the time or staff to do themselves. June 11th is their first annual Advocacy Day in Madison and response has been more than anticipated. Agency and individual financial support is being sought.

Business Meeting: the regular business meeting was called to order.

1. Roll Call of Continua showed all but Ozaukee present.
2. Approval of agenda – Fox Cities would like to add discussion of a proposed by-law change under new business. Motion by Debbie Bushman to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Chris Lashock. Motion carried.
3. The minutes of the February 2015 meeting were distributed in written form prior to the meeting. Motion by Chris Lashock to approve the minutes as submitted. Second by Jeanette Petts. Motion carried.
4. CoC Coordinator Introduction – Carrie Poser has been hired as the CoC Coordinator as of May 1, 2015. Her new email address is [carrie.poser@wibos.org](mailto:carrie.poser@wibos.org). Her phone number remains the same. In the near future she will have a P.O. Box for regular mail. Byron Wright was elected as Vice-President of the Board to replace Carrie.
5. HMIS Lead Board Representative – Jesse Dirkman of ICA has been nominated and approved by the board. Motion by Joana Hemschemeyer to approve the appointment of Jesse Dirkman. Second by Jeanne Semb. Motion carried.
6. Financial Report- Millie Rounsville presented the report through the end of April 2015. Actual revenue totals $55,341.26 and actual expenses totals $45,128.72. Checkbook balance as of April 30, 2015 is $33,329.36 with a receivables balance of $41,528. Motion by Jeff Sargent to approve the financial report. Second by Meika Burnikel.
   1. THP Grant – the BOS just received word that the application for TH funds for 2015 – 2016 has been approved. Any grantee that needs an amendment to the 2014 – 2015 grant in order to spend out their funds can send the amendment request to Carrie Poser.
   2. Committee reports –
      1. HMIS/PIT: Carrie Poser reports that Jesse Dirkman will be joining the CoC workgroup and their focus will be on APR’s and the HUD performance measures. Ellen Hellenbrandt will be joining the ETH workgroup. Lisa Haen has agreed to continue to co-chair the PIT workgroup. The new methodology will not be ready to put into use for the July count. Going forward, any “homeless connect” events held on the Wednesday of the count cannot project ahead where persons will be spending that night. Any event held on the Thursday that asks where people spent the previous night could be counted. The committee sent out a survey that they are requesting all PIT Leads complete ASAP, as it will provide them with valuable information as they move forward. The plan is to have PIT Lead meetings starting in June that will focus more on the “how to’s” rather than the HIC and WISP/Non-WISP aspects of the PIT.
      2. Program Evaluation & Assistance: Joana Hemschemeyer thanks all the agencies that were monitored last year for their cooperation. There are 4 in-person monitoring’s planned for this year. The RFP for reallocating dollars is in the process of being tweaked. They are waiting to hear if there will be any bonus money available in this year’s competition. State TH monitoring will need to be completed by the end of June, so those will be in the form of desk monitoring’s.
      3. 10 Year Plan: Lu Scheer requests all local plans be updated and sent to her if you have not already done so. These local plans form the basis for the BOS plan. Her contact information is [luanns@advocap.org](mailto:luanns@advocap.org).
      4. Discharge Planning: Susan Tucker reminds all local CoC Leads to complete and send to her the most recent survey for county jails and probation and parole, susant@cwcac.org. They are slow in coming in, so there is still time. Duana Bremer recently informed us of the great working relationship they have with one of their Probation & Parole offices, so we will try to arrange to have that supervisor on the GoTo Meeting in the near future.
      5. Coordinated Assessment: Debbie Bushman and Tony Gibart are the co-chairs but this committee has been on hiatus awaiting direction.
      6. Standards & Prioritization: Jeanne Semb reported that the Shelter Standards workgroup has to go back to the drawing board and start over. The CoC Rapid Rehousing Standards workgroup is going into high gear.
      7. Public Awareness: Jennifer Schmohe and Renee Greenland have split the tasks up so that Jen is handling the website and Renee is responsible for the Facebook page. Anyone looking for minutes from the various committee meetings can find those on the website. The link for the quarterly meeting evaluation is on the quarterly meeting page. Information on the CoC competition will be posted as soon as it is available. There will be one page reserved for links for the CoC grantees use during the competition. Check the Facebook page often as Renee is always finding something to post.
      8. Systems Coordination: Joana and Jen are co-chairing. The requested update to the chart that was pulled together last year was due the end of April. They will now be following up with the local CoC Leads. Directions on next steps to follow.
      9. Gaps Analysis: Lisa Schneider is in the process of generating the survey questions to identify what we have, what consumer needs are and what gaps exist. They hope to have everything complete by the end of the year.
7. NOFA Competition Update – The CoC registration for the next funding cycle has been completed. Our best guess is that the NOFA will be released in June. Any suggestions on the board ranking tool should go to Carrie, Robyn or your regional board rep by the end of May.
8. ICA Update – David Eberbach reported that a transition plan has been put into place for replacing Carrie at ICA. He also shared the results of the recent survey we were asked to complete regarding working with ICA; trainings, both past and future; and user satisfaction with ICA and ServicePoint.
9. Home For Everyone Conference Report – registration is now open for the conference which will be held in Wausau July 15 – 16, 2015. To register go to [www.wiscap.org](http://www.wiscap.org).
10. SPDAT information – There is continued confusion as to the difference between the VI-SPDAT and the SPDAT. The VI-SPDAT is the tool available in ServicePoint for screening and prioritizing homeless families and individuals for program entry. The SPDAT is a case management tool that we do not currently have authorization to use. The Madison CoC provided a webinar training to their agencies on the SPDAT and Robyn will be following up with them. On June 5, 2015 there will be a GoTo training on prioritization and documentation for HUD CoC TH & PSH grantees conducted by Carrie.
11. Other business –
    1. Byron Wright led the group in recognizing the work of Sue Schmidt-Decker of Women & Children’s Horizons in Kenosha for her dedication and work locally and with the Balance of State. Congratulations on a well-deserved retirement.
    2. By-Law change proposal – Robyn requests that everyone take time to review the existing by-laws and make suggestions as to things to be changed. Carrie will send them out next week to the local CoC leads to share. Chris Lashock, representing the Fox Cities CoC, presented a proposed change to the by-laws to remove the regions and have 1 representative on the board from each of the 21 local CoC’s. They bring this proposal forward at this time as it may impact the upcoming elections.
    3. November meeting – Lu Scheer proposed that we ask Sam Tsemberis from Pathways to Housing to train on the first day of the meeting on Housing First principals. Attendees should get a list a questions they’d like addressed to Robyn so she can forward them ahead of time.
    4. August meeting will be at the Jefferson Inn in Wausau on August 13th and 14th. Watch your emails for the registration announcement.
12. Motion by Chris Lashock to adjourn. Second by Jeanette Petts.