**Rural North Meeting 11/09/22**

Amanda Newberry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m.

**Present:** Cassandra Robinson – MHS Health Wisconsin, Liza Lane – Embrace, Amanda Newberry – Taylor House, Duana Bremer – Salvation Army, Stephena Smith – Salvation Army, Nancy Kraft -- Workforce Resource, Inc., Sandy Clark – Salvation Army, Angela Friend-Center for Veterans Issues, Deanna Kloster-United Healthcare, Cindy Pohlman-Rusk County Lighthouse, Jessica Christianson-Embrace, Kristen Moen-Salvation Army

**Agency updates:**

* Amanda will be joining the Salvation Army on Monday as the new Youth System Navigator

**Approval of Agenda.** Will do at the next meeting as nobody got a chance to look them over

**Approval of Minutes from** Will do at the next meeting as nobody got a chance to look them over.

**Prioritization list (update).** Stacey gave an update on the length of both priority lists. It is showing more need. The issue in getting people off the priority list remains the lack of affordable housing.

* Reminder to talk about the updated prescreen from V6 and the script.
* Reminder to discuss status of EHV program

**Action Plan Goals for This Quarter**. Discussed the three Goals with decisions made concerned how to address these. Report due November 30th, 2022

* *Collaboration with youth education providers.*
  + Taylor County
    - Really only has one homeless liaison and Amanda will connect with them to get an MOU signed.
  + Burnett County
    - Sandy has reached out to all the liaisons and no response. She will follow-up again this week with a phone call and will go see them in person if necessary.
    - Kristen will connect with Sandy to see which liaisons have been called and then she could reach out to the ones in areas she has TBRA clients as we need that for that program too.
  + Clark County
    - Amanda needs to connect with Angela Friend to see if she can do Clark County and explain what needs to be done.
  + Rusk County
    - Amanda needs to connect with Cindy Pohlman at the Lighthouse to see if she can do Rusk County and explain what needs to be done.
  + Sawyer County
    - Kristen will connect with the liaisons and other youth education providers as she has TBRA clients with children in this area.
  + Washburn County
    - Kristen will connect with the liaisons and other youth education providers as she has TBRA clients with children in this area.
    - Steph will have Autumn Hoff get something from the Spooner School District as she already works with them directly.
    - Steph can help with whatever else needs to be done.
* *Strategies to reduce Length of Time Homelessness.* Shelters are keeping people longer and longer due to the lack of affordable housing in the area. Some strategies include:
  + Contacting partnering landlords to explain programs.
    - Stephena will create a form to track these connections.
  + Hosting Lunch and Learn for landlords
  + Create a list of different places for clients to look for housing.
  + Refer clients to Workforce Resource
    - Employment should help make finding affordable housing more realistic
    - Workforce Resource has an Emergency Assistance program
* *Criminalization of Homelessness.* Duana shared that every provider and homeless shelter should have a document on file that states we are in support of not criminalizing homelessness. She believes there may be a form available on the WIBOSCOC website. Everyone should also be talking to their local police about the criminalization of homelessness.
  + Reminder to discuss at next meeting on whether we need to track these conversations with the PD’s or have anything on file.

\*\*Amanda will start following up with everyone 1x per week to make sure the goals are being worked on. The report due on November 30th goes to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**YHDP Grant Update.** Duana provided the update. Amanda Newberry has been hired to be a System Navigator for this program; offers have been extended to two case managers; and a lease for a transitional housing unit in New Richmond is being negotiated. Stephena asked about how many TH units we need to have (3) and whether the units must follow FMR (yes, utilities must be factored in). Stephena will reach out to a landlord that may have something in Rural North and one that may have something in Barron County.

**Program Funding Update.** No update available-month end reporting not done yet. Still plenty of money available. Steph will have updated funds and grant list at the December meeting.

**Final Notes and Adjournment.** Reminder to send PIT information to Stacey by the last Wednesday of the month if you are not using Clarity. Steph and Amanda will collaborate to get an updated Rural North member list. Steph and Amanda will collaborate to make sure everyone is on the email list and reoccurring meeting. Duana will send out the WIBOSCOC policy on criminalization of homelessness. The next meeting will be **December 14th 10:30am-11:45am**. Meeting adjourned at 11:07am.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephena Smith, November 09, 2022