

Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance

CoC Performance and Evaluation Committee

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 | 3 pm-5:00 pm

MINUTES

Member attendees: Dan Clem, Aryn Walker, Michael Livingston, Shawnn Hartley

Absent: Dede Hazard (excused), Christine Lewis (excused), Lisa Trauernicht (excused), Julie Conn-Johnson, Ryan Gail

Guests: Ashley Hamilton

Staff: Carla Munns

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Dan Clem, Committee Chair, welcomed the group at 3:05pm. Introductions were made. Christine Lewis replaced Cassandra Vigil from Pacificsource as the regular PE member, and Cassandra will now be Christine's alternate. Kristty Polanco is no longer with Polk County and will not be attending PE Committee.
- 2. Standing Items:** Performance and Evaluation Committee July Meeting Minutes were reviewed. A quorum was not reached so minutes will be on the September agenda for approval.
- 3. PE Committee Workplan and Performance Evaluation:** The committee discussed the need to develop a workplan and develop protocols and processes for reviewing, monitoring, and evaluating program and CoC performance. MWVHA Governance Charter states the Performance and Evaluation (PE) Committee has three main objectives:
 - 1) Prepare for NOFA response annually;
 - 2) Monitor and evaluate CoC-funded and ESG-funded project performance; and
 - 3) Monitor and evaluate performance of the CoC as a community-wide system.

PE Committee spent the past several meetings on objective one above, given the expected release of the annual HUD NOFA to be July/August 2020. The PE Committee began discussing objective **number two** above. The committee had not yet been introduced to ESG, **Emergency Solutions Grant**, funds. Understanding ESG funding is a first step in determining how to monitor and evaluate ESG resources throughout the continuum to:

- a) Fulfill PE Committee responsibilities in the MWVHA Governance Charter and HUD requirements, and
- b) Develop processes and protocols for monitoring and evaluating ESG-funded project performance for fidelity and attracting additional resources.

Ashley Hamilton, Community Action Agency, provided an overview of ESG funds in Marion and Polk Counties. Community Action Agency is the only recipient of ESG funds currently—there are no subrecipients. Currently, (FY 2019, July 1-June 30), Community Action Agency (CAA) received \$241k in ESG funds for prevention, rapid re-housing, shelter, and administration. Staff positions

to serve 1,139 unique individuals at the ARCHES day center and staff positions to operate Coordinated Entry (which gets individuals into housing) are funded through this ESG funding. COVID-ESG funds have been dispersed to CAA in the amount of \$816k which has been used for: outreach, shelter, supplies, two culturally-specific staff for effective outreach for the Pacific Islander/Marshallese populations, Taylor's House for supporting youth experiencing homelessness, and warming shelters. COVID-ESG funds have sub-recipients for rural areas to implement warming shelters. A small amount is allocated to hotel programs and for Church at the Park.

CAA also receives SHAP (State Housing Assistance Program) funds from OHCS (\$500k/year) on annual basis with an annual opportunity to renew. SHAP and OHCS 2019 focus were: veterans, families, chronic homelessness, domestic violence survivors experiencing homelessness, and integration with HMIS and Coordinated Entry. Nine sub-recipients are monitored by CAA for fidelity, finances, and accordance to an annual workplan.

Michael Livingston presented a document that stated: "The probability is increasing that the 2020 NOFA will be cancelled. If that occurs, it is likely COC funding will be awarded to 2019 grantees. The MWVHA being new, did not receive a 2019 planning grant. HUD could, under Senate's HEALS bill, award planning grants for 2020. 2020 NOFA is likely to be cancelled so need a contingency plan." Michael requested committee members obtain 'view-only' access to data on the HUD Exchange if possible, and requested training for the committee on HUD Exchange and what to look for in the "screens" as a way to monitor project data. HUD's System Performance Measure data is aggregate HMIS data, so rationale of viewing individual project data is for monitoring performance of CoC-funded projects. Carla offered to inquire with Hunter if this is possible.

4. Updates: Board, CoC Committee Updates, Other Updates and Follow Up

- Community Action Agency continues to administer COVID rent assistance program and applications may be submitted online using CAA's website starting next week. CAA is still providing hydration services, lunches, mailboxes, etc. despite a day center staff testing positive for COVID.
- Marion County is continuing COVID response. Marion is rapidly approaching 3,000 positive COVID cases in the county.
- OHCS stated the State of Oregon E-Board funds were distributed to CAA and CARES rent relief program (\$55mil); COVID-ESG round one funds were released via Community Action Agencies. The COVID-ESG round two funds are estimated to be \$49mil from HUD and distributed via communities.
- A sub-committee of the CoC for integrating the voices of people with lived experience into an effective CoC was highlighted by Michael. The sub-committee met once and is drafting a mission statement for determining how/when to include participation in the CoC in a meaningful way.
- MWVHA PIT Count Workgroup began meeting monthly and determined a tentative PIT Count date of Tuesday, January 26, 2021. The workgroup requested local authorities and ODOT be contacted and asked to 'not sweep' or clean-up in the month of January. DJ Vincent is now the chair of the PIT Count Workgroup to encourage broad community engagement.

- United Gospel Mission’s full capacity due to COVID guidelines is 108 beds. Vacancy is available currently at the men’s shelter. Simonka House also has vacancy (56 beds filled and full capacity due to COVID is 71). Shelters report a record-high number of children occupants. One positive case of COVID has arisen and no other cases have been identified. Construction is starting on third floor of the new men’s shelter but construction is approximately three weeks behind. A record numbers of individuals in camps are reported, many are medically fragile and required deployment of rescue teams. A trend was identified by Marion County Psychiatric Crisis Center and Northwest Human Services where individuals’ medications are occurring as missing and individuals are not getting/retaining prescriptions that they need. Food distribution has been going well. Simonka House is completing the onboarding process for HMIS and will be up and running by end of August. Men’s shelter will onboard next.

5. Summary and Closing

A debrief on the PE Committee’s NOFA-response processes and documents took place. A member noted they enjoyed discussing the priorities and scorecards with PE members and as a committee. Dan closed the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Potential Future Agenda Items:
How to monitor ESG funds with no sub-recipients
Procedures and methodology for monitoring and evaluating project performance
CoC partner project metrics