Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance

Youth and Young Adult Subcommittee Meeting

Friday, January 15, 2021 I 9:30am - 11am

MEETING MINUTES

A. Welcome and Introductions

⇒ Youth and Young Adult Subcommittee was approved by the CoC Collaborative Committee as a subcommittee of the MWVHA—its official!

⇒ Attendees: Tricia Frizzell; Debbie Aguilar; Shanta Frisbee; Heidi Walker, Marion Co.; Laura Reid; Jack Elliott; Mary Heite; Carla Munns

B. Committee Administration:

⇒ Approve December Meeting Minutes: Shanta motioned to approve minutes; Jack seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

⇒ Review Collective Goals and Adopt for 2021-2023: Tricia reviewed the Collective Goals established previously and requested feedback for changing, adding, or removing. Collective Goals are:

1) **Develop a Coordinated Entry system for youth that blends into the system for adults.**
2) **Expand street-level and other forms of community outreach to better engage youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.**
3) **Establish a Host Home program that fits the needs of the Marion-Polk county region.**
4) **Improve local youth data, starting with the Point In Time (PIT) Count in January 2021.**
5) **Advocate for the use of and funding for evidence-based practices addressing youth homelessness.**

Mary made a motion to adopt the listed collective goals for the Youth and Young Adult Subcommittee. Jack seconded the motion. Motion approves unanimously.

⇒ Brainstorm what/how/who to onboard new YYA members

- ⇒ Basecamp was/is a great way to get acquainted with the work of this committee
- ⇒ Meeting Minutes are comprehensive and reflective of the meetings without being too in-detail so reviewing those would be helpful for individuals coming onboard
- ⇒ New members/interested individuals can connect with Tricia who offered to give more information and "onboard"

C. Collective Goal Focus

GOAL 4: Improve Local Youth Data

⇒ Point-In-Time (PIT) Count

- PIT Count will be conducted on January 26th 2021, surveying where individuals slept the night of the 25th. All who are planning to be involved with PIT Count, shelter provider or volunteer for street outreach, need to "sign up" using the volunteer links below to track who is planning to be involved with surveying. Events will take place over three days to survey and count those experiencing homelessness. Volunteers are needed for all three days.

Tuesday, 1/26/2021
8am-12:30pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count-Morning Shift (volunteerhub.com)
12:30-5:00pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count- Afternoon Shift (volunteerhub.com)

Wednesday, 1/27/2021
8am-12:30pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count-Morning Shift (volunteerhub.com)

12:30-5:00pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count- Afternoon Shift (volunteerhub.com)

Saturday, 1/30/2021
8am-12:30pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count-Morning Shift (volunteerhub.com)
12:30-1:00pm- Point in Time (PIT) Count- Afternoon Shift (volunteerhub.com)

- Training for Counting Us application for inputting survey responses is required this year to limit contact and administrative burden with paper surveys. Training schedule is being developed and will be distributed once available.
- HOME Youth PIT Count plan: HOME had a COVID outbreak (one youth) and staff have been redirected to responding to COVID. Shelter counts will be low this year because no intakes are being taken until after COVID quarantine is over. Will be offering gift cards to incentivize participation. HOME had planned to coordinate hosting a food truck onsite to draw
- HOST PIT Count plan: hosting an event outside from 9am-2pm and offering gift cards to incentivize participation and attendance.
- Please connect your networks with the webpage designated for PIT Count for general information and links to the volunteer portal: **http://mwvhomelessalliance.org/point-in-time-pit-count-2021/**
- A flyer is being finalized by Sara with Community Action Agency and one from City of Salem that can be used for distributing to personal and professional networks to raise awareness and recruit volunteers interested in helping with homelessness
- PIT Count received a grant from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, who is joining the PIT Count event for the first time, to support the purchasing of incentives, gift cards, PPE, etc.

⇒ **Statewide Youth Assessment** is scheduled to begin late January and finished in February. Those administering the assessment are seeking youth who have experienced navigating the system. There will be a type of 'youth advisory board' that will help inform how the system really works, not necessarily how it is designed to work. Please let Matt or Tricia know if partners have youth who may be willing to participate. Compensation is being finalized but hoping to offer at least minimum wage for participation.

GOAL 1: Youth-Focused Coordinated Entry System

⇒ Update from HOST/Shanta on how TAY integrates with HMIS and Coordinated Entry
- HOST requested for training for staff; Tricia will follow up with Breezy and Ashley
- Youth entering resource center have intake to assess needs and best support them immediately; conduct referral from case management for housing assessment/VI-SPDAT at Arches if they haven't received one already; Transitional Living Program has checklist for eligibility which includes TAY SPDAT; eligibility includes a TAY SPDAT score below a 10; data is entered into Shelter Point upon intake, entrance, and discharge to track bed count.

⇒ CE System Evaluation Manual was posted on Basecamp this morning. The manual is heavily focused on serving adults. Tricia screen-shared the manual and identified areas to discuss further for youth. **Participants agreed to form a workgroup to review in depth these areas and report back to the subcommittee.**

GOAL 5: Advocate Funding Decisions for Youth Homelessness

⇒ Tricia provided a brief update on current opportunities/legislative bills that are being considered.

⇒ **Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP)** opportunities may be dropped by federal government soon, resulting in two potential opportunities available. YHDP applications include large administrative need, and under a quick turnaround, for approximately $1-2m. Tricia would like to look at requirements now and how to prepare for its drop. Youth Action Boards are needed to be implemented within the CoC to be competitive and functioning as youth voices of lived experience to drive the development and implementation of CoC strategies and system improvement. The group commented on the benefits of applying and opportunity to receive funding, with little negative outcomes for applying outside of being denied. **Will review next month**.

GOAL 2: Expand Youth Outreach

⇒ ESG-CV2 Collaborative Application submitted by December 30, 2020, requesting collectively, approximately $5.5m of OHCS. The application if approved, includes funding for 80 new staff positions.

D. Partner and Agency Updates

⇒ Please attend and invite stakeholders! CoC Housing Summit: February 11th 3pm-5:30pm. There will be a youth breakout session to strategize for 2021-2022 goals. **Tricia will post on Basecamp when a flyer or invitation is available.**

⇒ Heidi discussed some training she's been aware of, including a great workshop from Sara from Sheltering Silverton, and sexual medical exams with trafficking cases. Safety Compass has a hotline to call in suspected cases of trafficking. Esther Nelson is now in the CEO position of Safety Compass. Heidi and Debbie discussed partnering to conduct stings in the region. **Members asked Safety Compass to share more at upcoming meetings about who they are/what they do.**

⇒ Debbie noted that Heidi was instrumental in getting toys to families after Debbie's announcement last meeting requesting referrals to distribute toys. Great partnership!

⇒ HOST has six open beds available; Coordinated Entry has been very helpful in getting youth off the streets and into open beds.