Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance

CoC Collaborative Committee

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

MINUTES

Welcome & Agenda Review

Ian Dixon-McDonald, Committee Co-chair welcomed everyone and invited people to type their name and organization in the chat box.

Kudos / Comments of Appreciation

People took the opportunity to give a shout out to individuals and agencies who they have been working with to recognize them for what they do or just who they are.

Meeting Minutes

6/15/21 meeting minutes were approved with no dissent.

Case Management Study

The Alliance is working with PSU intern Jacob Thode to collect information about homeless services case management in our region. Breakout groups discussed the definition and job description of a case manager to provide context for the survey. Jacob will meet with people interested in providing guidance in developing the survey tools (Michael Couch, Christine Sommers, Hailey Hulsey, Lynelle Wilcox, Marianne Bradshaw, Chris Barber).

Domestic Violence Training

Jayne Downing, executive director of the Center for Hope & Safety discussed the dynamics of domestic violence, the common tactics used in coercive and controlling abuse, resources for survivors and victims, and how to support the people that may be experiencing abuse. THANK YOU, JAYNE, for condensing the information into a mini training today!

HUD Funding and Comprehensive Application ("The NOFO")

On August 12 the Alliance released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for local projects to be funded by two HUD funding streams – the traditional CoC Program Funds and a special NOFO to address unsheltered homelessness among people with severe service needs. Jan Calvin provided a brief overview of the opportunities and noted some of HUD's training expectations:

a. Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.
b. Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.
c. Conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule).
d. Conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity (Gender Identity Final Rule).
e. SOAR Training (SSI/SSDI application assistance). People provided information about staff who have completed SOAR training in the past 24 months.

People with Lived Experience Work Group

The Special NOFO provides the region with the opportunity to incorporate the wisdom of people with lived experience of homelessness to craft a CoC plan for serving populations with severe service needs. Jan shared the format and timeline of this project and asked for names of people who might be interested. The group will meet four times, September-October.

MWVHA Board Highlights

Adam provided a summary of the August board meeting, noting discussions about improving communications between the board and the Backbone Youth Action Board (YAB), approval of the local RFP process and application scoring tools, and resignations and appointments for various committees.

Announcements

Marianne Bradshaw shared that the Backbone Youth Action Board is recruiting for new members from throughout the Marion-Polk region (information attached). Members must have some level of lived experience, but it can include couch surfing, living with family in a hotel, and other types of displacement from permanent housing.

What's Next

Adam noted the topics for upcoming meetings and asked people to contact Jan with suggestions for training topics.

September 21	October 19	November 16
• Strategic Plan Update • Mini-Training: TBA	• Youth Services Update • Mini-Training: TBA	• Rural Communities Update • Mini-Training: TBA