CoC Business Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2020

9:00AM-10:15AM

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Welcome!

* Please sign in via the chat box (Name and Agency) moving forward

2020 Funding Round

* The Ranking Committee met earlier this week and made final recommendations
* Hope to publish ranking recommendations sometime next week
* Unknown at this time - competitive funding round for this year
* HUD COVID Office Hours every Friday - mentions of funding round updates
	+ Greta will share updates if she receives any

ESSH Funding and HHAP Funding

* NYS has published RFP for both
* Governance Board - put out guidance and decided that we would as a region support applicants who are seeking those funds upon their agreement to participate in local CE process (slightly different from CoC CE process)
	+ Issued and received MOU for this (many requests so far)
	+ If you still need a support letter or need the request form please email Greta (gguarton@addressthehomeless.org)
* ESSHI - populations being targeted that may not be presenting in large numbers in overall homeless population
	+ ESSHI Coordination - We need to focus on working on stronger direct partnerships with those agencies
		- In some cases, based on who they are intending to target in terms of eligibility and specific populations, it may be unlikely that the CES is readily identifying a large number of those HH’s (this is what we will be coordinating with agencies on a case by case basis)
			* Please reach out to Mike mgiuffrida@addressthehomeless.org (if needed) to set up planning calls (to give agencies more perspective and provide data and information on the population they intend to serve)

Suffolk County DSS Updates

* Census Numbers - Numbers have been going down since COVID
	+ 494 singles, 387 families (as of today)
	+ No individuals in motels for a couple of months now
	+ Shelter case workers can work directly with residents in shelters
	+ Total of 1790 persons housed
	+ Census numbers have been the lowest they’ve been (not anticipating they will remain like this but we are taking advantage of this)
* Encouraging people not to come to their offices
	+ Use mobile document uploader to submit documentation to the department

Nassau County DSS Updates

* Decline in people using Emergency Shelter System
	+ 1500 at this time last year, down to 1230 now, 670 total cases and 144 families in shelter and 67 in motels. 220 single males and 64 single females
* New regulations coming down from OTDA for the shelters
	+ CDC Guidelines and inspections from OTDA for the shelters
	+ All counties will have meeting with OTDA to plan this out
	+ Added responsibilities to shelters

ESG and CDBG

* HUD notice and waivers
* MEGA Waiver (no date)
	+ Extended many of the amendments and exceptions that had been in placed for CoC programs
	+ Language did not include specific ESG items
	+ Waivers are needed for CoC programs not ESG programs (already have that built into program regulations and notices)
* ESG-CV notice
	+ Any RRH programs that are funded through ESG-CV, if region or jurisdiction submitted their substantial amendment after September 1st, any of the funding for ESG RRH programs would be limited to 12 months for rental assistance
	+ If substantial amendments went in prior to September 1st, those programs would have the 24 month flexibility that other ESG programs and our CoC-funded RRH programs had prior to this
* CoC Waiver
	+ Continued the extension through the original CoC Waiver - allows for an extension beyond 24 months for CoC RRH programs
* Suffolk County
	+ New York State, ESG-CV
	+ Substantial amendment went in prior to September 1st
	+ Suffolk’s ESG RRH programs can operate and provide rental assistance for 24 months
* Islip, Brookhaven, and Nassau County
	+ Any programs that have been or will be funded through their ESG-CV programs currently are limited to 12 months
* ICF working with Nassau, Brookhaven, and the CoC to draft waiver request
	+ To continue programs for 24 months (TBA to go in for next week, need finalized language)
* ESG working group with ICF
	+ Moving forward
	+ Started as a HP cohort and will eventually grow into a Street Outreach cohort, RRH cohort, etc.
	+ Eviction moratorium - thrown a wrench into some of the rental/arrears assistance for HP programs and given us more time to coordinate and prepare
		- Nassau and Suffolk both reported lower numbers at the moment

Town of Brookhaven Updates

* Published NOFA for ESG-CV funds - Deadline is October 30th
* Sent email out to Suffolk CoC Group only
* If you did not get the notice, please email gguarton@addressthehomeless.org

COVID Prioritization Updates

* Continue to work with local policies to help identify those who are at the highest risk of contracting COVID
* Recent CDC changes and discuss with Governance Board
* Working with TSCLI - to identify households highest risk of contracting COVID
* Please continue to do covid health screenings (reviewed daily, if not weekly)
* Please follow up with Mike directly if unsure if client(s) are at higher risk, etc. mgiuffrida@addressthehomeless.org

CES Updates (LICH)

* New Case Manager - Welcome Amanda!
* CE Steering Committee Onboarding - Completed 2/4 sessions so far
* CES referrals
	+ Referred a chronic Suffolk county SPA approved covid priority male to a CoC SPA vacancy
	+ Referred a SPA approved Nassau county vacancy
	+ Past week - 11 households pulled from RRH waitlist
	+ CH SPA approved clients (male or female, specifically female) - please keep Jessica updated with all of those clients (to make sure we are prioritizing and capturing everyone properly)
* Case Conferencing biweekly (Next Wednesday)
	+ Case Conferencing workshop at the Keys Conference
* CES Evaluation (first one) extended September 2021
	+ Allows region to do onboarding for steering committee and make sure everyone is up to date and fully understanding what is necessary and planning of the evaluation

CES Updates (TSCLI)

* Handful of COVID prioritized households
* Updating referral form (will send this out once completed)
* Working to streamline referrals to 1 email address instead of 2 staff members
* By January, hoping to hire an employment specialist which would benefit the clients (with CE grant)

HMIS Updates

* COVID health screening - please continue to use this on HMIS (easy to access)
* You can run a report to see who is completing the forms and how many are being completed by your staff (Demographics Report Builder)
* Trainings
	+ 3 in October; 2 on the 19th (New user and 1 intermediate) 30th - New user training, morning session is full (please contact rbannerman@addressthehomeless.org to confirm)
	+ Registration process for trainings (current changes underway)
		- Link in training emails and will lead you to an online registration form
		- More changes in communication and notifications in the next few weeks
* ESG-CV Programs
	+ Wayne/LICH will be the main point of contact for HMIS matters for this funding
		- Project set up in HMIS, trainings for new users, quarterly reporting for SAGE
	+ Grant recipients
		- Understanding roles and responsibilities (Wayne will reach out to you)
	+ Staffing
		- Roxzelle is back!
		- HMIS Consultant - Dan G.
		- HMIS Data Quality Specialist - Stephanie R.

CoC Training and Support

* RRH Trainings (upcoming via Zoom)
	+ October 27th - LI ESG RRH Grant Administration Training hosted by ICF **(REGISTRATION REQUIRED)**
	+ November 2nd - LI RRH Session: Serving Vulnerable Households hosted by TAC
	+ November 5th - LI RRH: Progressive Engagement hosted by TAC
	+ November 12th - LI RRH: Community Service Panel hosted by TAC

Next Meeting

* November 20th (Friday) via Zoom