**August 18, 2023**

**CoC Business Meeting Minutes**

**9:00am-10:15am, Zoom**

**Recording:** [**https://youtu.be/ZBp0mr46LkA**](https://youtu.be/ZBp0mr46LkA)

**Attendees listed at end of document**

**CoC Updates**

* **2023 Funding Round Applications** 
  + **Project applications are due 8/25/2023** (next Friday)
    - The timeline is tight, now is the time to submit for renewals. For new programs, Bonus funds and DV bonus funds (for programs surviving DV survivors) are available.
  + Funding round training was held, discussing information Ranking Committee (RC) will be reviewing. The major focus, especially for new applicants, is leveraged housing and/or healthcare.
  + More information about the funding round is on lihomeless.org. There is a specific page on the funding round.
  + New applicants, please reach out with any questions. Leveraged housing and healthcare are new concepts. We want to make sure we can provide any guidance that we can. The faster your applications come in, the more time we can take to review them.
  + We are trying to respond to questions as quickly as possible. Small things can become big problems as the deadline approaches. You can send questions about esnaps or other application issues to Mike or Greta. Emails are better than phone calls and can be used to schedule phone calls.
  + If you are a new applicant and you are not registered in SAM and do not have a UEI (universal entity identifier), you need to do that right away. This is needed before you submit to HUD. The RC wants to see that you have this together as proof of eligibility to apply
  + Questions
    - Some partners for leveraged services do not want to provide dollar amount for the application. What do providers need to do?
      * The application needs to demonstrate services provided to participants. It might be helpful to share with the partnering agencies what services are provided to help them draft their letter with the financial commitment.
      * New programs need a specified dollar amount commitment. For renewals, if there needs to be qualifying language and less specificity, that is okay, since this
* **CoC Charter Update Process**
  + In 2022, the Governance Board (GB) discussed a governance restructure, where we wanted to take a look at who was being represented in general CoC membership, committees, and the GB.
  + A GB restructure committee looked at representation and power dynamics. The group helped develop a draft charter. The charter outlines roles and responsibilities of CoC, defines committees and working groups. There are a few new committees and working groups. The draft includes changes in GB slate, where categories for representatives on GB are meant to be more diverse and involve more people with lived experience (PLE), which is also a CoC-wide commitment for all committees.
  + The GB is continuing to discuss draft charter where they have had opportunities to provide feedback and have discussions. The GB will be looking at final draft at GB meeting following CoC Business meeting today.
* **Change in HUD’s Domestic Violence Definition**
  + HUD has updated its definition for Category 4 Homelessness: Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence (DV).
  + LICH & TSCLI have had conversations about the new definition and is working to release CoC memo to alert about changes in definition and reminding folks how to connect to DV Coordinated Entry to get access to various supports.
  + The new DV definition included in funding round training and instruction manuals.

**Training and Education: McKinney-Vento Act**

* The McKinney-Vento Act (MCV) is an extensive law authorizing homeless programs, that also speaks to education of homeless children. MCV ensures education for homeless children, including transportation for schools.
* MCV was passed in 1980s in response to homeless crisis. The bill was modified to authorize the CoC Program in 2009. Reauthorization in 2015 included the Every Student Succeeds Act.
* MCV funds ESG and CoC programs. Eligible activities include outreach, shelter, rental assistance, and other subsidies.
  + Education for Homeless Children & Youth is a program under MCV administered by US Department of Education which provides grants to schools to provide services and requires schools to make accommodations for homeless children.
  + MCV includes Title V, a federal surplus property offered to nonprofits for assisting homeless households.
  + Interagency Council on Homelessness, the federal agency taskforce on homelessness, was also authorized by MCV.
* Part B of MCV describes assistance for homeless children & youth, aimed at addressing the educational needs of students experiencing homelessness.
  + The MCV homelessness definition is broader than for CoC or ESG programs.
    - Definition: having no fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This includes living doubled up or sharing residence because of economic hardship, staying in a hotel/motel (including self-pay), camping grounds, shelters, institutions, living unsheltered (cars, parks, buses, train stations), and migrant children.
  + Eligibility for MCV services is determined on a case-by-case basis.
    - Most MV students are doubled up situations. Identification of qualifying children is an important factor, which is easier for children residing in shelter.
    - Certain living situations only qualify if they are for economic hardships, not for personal choice of family (living at campgrounds, living with others).
    - Substandard housing qualifies students for services but is dependent on local laws governing housing standards. Considerations include:
      * Lacking utilities, infestation, lack of working plumbing
* Role of MCV liaisons & the school district
  + MCV liaisons play a role in identifying students, determining eligibility, and assisting students in getting services. Homeless service providers can work with liaisons to help identify students.
  + MCV can provide:
    - Transportation
    - School supplies, study space
    - Free meals (automatically provided)
    - Counseling
    - Allow to stay enrolled in school of choice / origin during duration of homelessness
    - Allowed to enroll without proper documentation
  + Educational stability should be prioritized to minimize disruptions. Changing schools should only occur if it is in the best interest of the child.
  + Students are to be supported during school transitions through support services, enrollment, credit transfer, and social integration.
  + MCV liaisons should provide referrals to supportive services and must connect students & families with available support services, health care, counselling, etc.
  + Students receiving MCV services must have the same educational opportunities as other students, and additional support such as tutoring and after school programs.
* Immediate enrollment –homeless students can be immediately enrolled even when missing previous academic records, medical records, proof of residence, or other documents.
  + The school is obligated to help get documents after enrollment.
* Transportation – Districts are required to provide busing to school, even if the student is living outside of the district.
* Maintaining eligibility - If a student exits homelessness in school year, can continue in that same school for the rest of the year if in child’s best interest.
* Terminal year - last year in level of schooling, etc end of elementary, middle, and high school
  + Formerly homeless students are entitled to attend the same school as before they entered permanent housing through the end of that level of schooling, the terminal year. Transportation must continue to be provided.
    - For example, if entering permanent housing in junior year, the student can receive transportation in their senior year.
  + This allows peace and continuity for kids going through homelessness and recovering after entering permanent housing. Transitions can be difficult for children, having all of their entitlements can help.
  + School districts often do not know about this provision in MCV. Homeless providers can help get information out and advocate for families.
* Questions:
  + What type of transportation is provided?
    - Bussing w/ 50 mile radius
    - Might be a car for individual students, small bus, MCV specific bus route
  + Who would the household speak to about MCV when student placed outside of school of origin
    - MCV liaison is the contact person. Guidance counselor can help you get in touch with MCV liaison.

**Keys for the Homeless Conference Updates**

* In person at St Joseph’s, Wednesday 10/18
* The theme is a focused on people with lived experience: “Less Talking, More Listening: Centering People with Lived Experience”
* There will be a plenary session where PLE are going to be presenting information on their experience, their thoughts on strategies for improving service delivery.
* Extended deadline for workshop proposals is until 8/31. Slots are still available.
* Scholarships have been decided
* 2 Unsung Hero recipients & Lifetime achievement award discussed and recipients will be informed shortly.
* Keynote Speaker: Director of Lived Experience at NAEH

**General Announcements / Open Share**

* September 2023 HMIS training Dates: Via ZOOM• September 14 – New User• September 28 – DATA QualityLinks to register for ZOOM sessions will be sent out to everyone later today. If you would like to be added to the HMIS announcements please email me, Roxzelle Bannerman-Martin at [rbannerman@addressthehomeless.org](mailto:rbannerman@addressthehomeless.org)
* HMIS updates
  + Foothold is amid a AWARDS/HMIS redesign project, which will include changes to home page and navigation to try to make a more intuitive workflow. Foothold has released a lot of information and training videos. The redesign will launch the week of 9/10, exact date TBD.
  + 10/1/2023: New HMIS data standards are being released. Some new questions in AWARDS dependent on program type. New response categories for gender, race/ethnicity. Will probably be a training by HUD or Foothold
  + Foothold Connects has scheduled webinars for refresh & data standards – both in September
* LICH SOS team – NYS OMH put out RFP for intensive street outreach support by region. LICH received an award for the Long Island regional program. The program has been staffing up and will be accepting referrals shortly. LICH is still interviewing for supervisors, required to be licensed social workers or mental health counselors.
  + Runs 7 days a week, 12 hours a day, plus on-call hours
  + Street homeless served, do not need to follow CoC prioritization – not exclusively 1+ year homeless
  + Referrals from shelters, DSS, clinics, hospitals, clinics, other outreach teams
  + Will send out more information in coming weeks
  + People served do not need to have mental health diagnosis
  + If already working with ACT team or have AOT order, would not qualify
  + Medical students will be rotating with team
* Funding opportunities for NYS OMH for homeless service programs have been released lately, including PSH program for re-entry. Can sign up for alerts for more information.

Attendees

Ruth McDade, MHAW

Lindsay Caldiero, Brighter Tomorrows

Wayne Scallon, LICH

Vicki McGinn, Suburban Housing

Catherine Albanese, FSL

Diane Krasnoff, Bethany House

Samantha Grimaldi, LICH  
Chanee Hammonds, Wyandanch Homes & Property Development

Salina Barnao, New Ground

Sam Polins, LICH

Yolanda Johnson, The Retreat

Karen Haber, Huntington youth Bureau

Melissa Amodeo, Options

Donna O’Hearon, Mercy Haven

Madeline Walton, SAIL

Stephanie Lovergines, The Wellness Continuum

Terri Tupper, LICH & LI Connections

Brian Inserro, FREE

Drena Collins, SAIL

Shannon Boyle, New Ground

Elizabeth Bazini, The Safe Center LI

Lorie Taylor, EOC of Nassau

Stephen Brazeau, Hope House Ministries

Jennifer DeGrijze, CIH

Erika Bagley, Hempstead EOC

Rose Cicchetti, LICH

Mandisa Borrel, SAIL

Colleen Juran, TSLI/HHB  
Deirdre Trumpy, MOMMAS House

Raymond Weinmeir, Bridges of NY

Jessica Labia, LICH

Valerie Chamberlain, FSL

Angelina Lunati, LICH

Roxzelle Bannerman-Martin, LICH

Kristin Ohrtman, HELP SUFFOLK

Eira Severino, LICH

Terray Gregoretti, TSCLI

Angel Macchia, NC OCD/ESG

Greta Guarton, LICH

Holly Richards Mosby, FREE

Alexis Goglas, LICH

----after 9:15am---

Elizabeth Lunde, Concern

Kathy Henry, MHANC

Cori Crocilla, PSEG