

Eastern PA CoC Board Executive Committee
Monday, November 16, 2020 10:00AM-12:00PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94005241608?pwd=R2tCNmVJNy82dHIOWE95NGRTNUgrQT09>

Phone In: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 940 0524 1608 Passcode: 680953

AGENDA

10:00AM: Welcome and Introductions

10:05AM: Consent Agenda

- Approval of October 19th Meeting Minutes
- Ratify items pre-approved by the Executive Committee:
 - Revised CoC Written Standards
 - PHARE Funding Support Letters:
 - Pocono Mountains United Way Regional Homelessness Prevention
 - Valley Youth House Monroe County Youth Rapid Re-Housing
 - Union Snyder Community Action Agency Homelessness Prevention, Diversion, and Rental Assistance

10:10AM: DCED Updates

- Lessons learned from Coordinated Investment Planning HUD TA
- HMIS
- ESG Funding
- CoC Planning Grant

10:30AM: HUD Updates

- CoC NOFA
- 2021 PIT Count

10:35AM: Upcoming Efforts

- Padmission: Landlord Engagement and Housing Search Assistance
 - Are RHAB chairs interested in a December demo?
 - Can ESG or Home4Good admin fund the \$15,000 annual cost for the tool?
- Billing supportive services to Medicaid and Data Sharing between Behavioral Health and HMIS
 - Are RHAB Chairs interested in participating in Magellan training with LV RHAB?
- LV RHAB organizing efforts to advocate to Dr. Levine to issue a statewide order to prevent evictions when the CDC eviction moratorium expires

10:45AM: Equity Work

- Committee Charge and Outreach
- Draft Board vision and goal
- Engaging People with Lived Experience/ Expertise on Board and Equity Committee – discuss budget and staff support structure

11:30AM: Committee Reports (sent in advance, discussion and questions as needed)

- Coordinated Entry Committee Requests:
 - Allocate Home4Good administration funding to United Way PA211 to fill 2020-2021 funding gap
 - Maximum Request: \$33,896

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Board Members in Attendance

Pocono RHAB

Leslie Perryman, President
 Randi Bannon

Lehigh Valley RHAB

Alisa Baratta, Vice President
 Rob Nicolella

Northern Tier RHAB

Melissa Magargle, Secretary

South Central RHAB

Sergio Carmona, 2nd Vice President
 Tiffany Jones

Central Valley RHAB

Mae-Ling Kranz, Treasurer
 Jeanette Triano Sinn

DHS

Beth Ellis

DCED

Angela Susten

DCED Staff in Attendance

Brendan Auman
 Tony Diaz

DMA Staff in Attendance

Leigh Howard
 Lauren Whitleigh

Capacity for Change Staff in Attendance

Jason Alexander

Board Member Absent

Jackie Condor
 Jeff Poch

Approval of October 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mae-Ling motioned for the approval of the October 19, 2020 meeting minutes. Sergio seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Ratification of items pre-approved by the Executive Committee

A summary of the revisions, described below, along with a copy of the revised Written Standards were shared with the Board in advance of the meeting:

- “Cosmetic changes” including new CoC logo, fixed spelling and grammar errors, fixed broken URLs, replaced Community Queue with By Name List, and inserted references to TH-RRH projects where appropriate.
- Inserted new Written Standards related to Governing Board- approved prioritization for 1) people 65 and older and 2) people with an underlying medical condition. Page 28
- Revised PSH Prioritization Standards that provide more clear guidance for resolving “tiebreakers” when two or more households have the same VI-SPDAT score. Page 31
- Removal of the VI-SPDAT “scoring chart” that was causing many RRH providers to ignore households on the BNL that did not fit within the 4-7 scoring range. Page 39

Melissa motioned to approve the revisions to the Written Standards as well as the CoC letters of support provided to PHARE 2020 applicants - Pocono Mountains United Way Regional Homelessness Prevention, Valley Youth House Monroe County Youth Rapid Re-Housing, and Union Snyder Community Action Agency Homelessness Prevention, Diversion, and Rental Assistance. Jeanette seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Coordinated Entry**PA 211 Funding Request**

- United Way PA 211 submitted a request to the CoC Board in spring 2020 for \$46,780; the CoC Board approved allocating \$12,884 in 2020 Home4Good funding to PA 211 to respond to increased CE call volume resulting from COVID-19/ cover the current funding gap. United Way PA 211 submitted a request to the CoC Board for the remaining \$33,896 in October 2020. Since the October 2020 request, \$15,306.73 in unspent HUD CoC CE funding was reallocated from sub-recipients to United Way PA 211, which allowed them to shift Geisinger funding from 2019-2020 to cover the 2020-2021 operating period. As such, United Way PA 211 adjusted their request to the CoC Board to a minimum of \$18,589.27, which would allow them to expand part-time call specialist staffing, and a maximum of \$25,501.97, which would allow them to expand full-time call specialist staff from 5 to 6.
- The Board asked Jason how much this additional funding will reduce call wait times by. Jason advised that United Way PA211 has a formula but that he didn't know the answer off the top of his head. Jason advised that the CE committee is working on a policy recommendation to present to the Board for approval to more efficiently operate CE within the current budget. Said recommendation will streamline CE processes to move people who meet Category 2 more rapidly to a rental assistance referral and prioritize call specialists' time with households who are literally homeless.
- Alisa expressed concern that allocating this funding isn't addressing the long-term Coordinated Entry funding issues.
- Sergio inquired about any efforts to streamline VI-SPDAT administration. Jason advised that OrgCode updated the VI-SPDAT to streamline administration, that the CE Committee would be looking into adopting the updated tool, and that it is currently being built in HMIS.
- Rob asked about data/ reports on the effectiveness of diversion to determine if it has been as successful as the CoC once thought it would be.
- Sergio asked Jason to confirm that the PA 211 CE call specialists are dedicated to our CE project. Jason advised that calls from folks who are literally homeless are prioritized and that unless call specialists are doing Coordinated Entry assessments, they are not being charged to the HUD CoC CE grant. Jason advised that in order to comply with HUD's new HMIS data standards, it takes more time to enroll people into CE.
- Randi inquired about how PA211 is funded across the state because a county Randi serves reached out to United Way PA211 to update resources for that county, and PA211 advised that because the county doesn't contribute to funding PA211, they would not be able to move forward on the request.

Alisa motioned to approve the allocation of \$25,501.97 to United Way PA 211 from the CoC's Home4Good Administration funding with the caveat that within the first quarter of 2021, there is a long-term funding plan in place. Sergio seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Other CE Updates

- Jason advised that CE brought in new access sites: She's Somebody's Daughter - dedicated to human trafficking victims and the Lebanon VAMC - dedicated to serving veterans in the Lebanon VAMC catchment area. Jason advised that they are working with Family Promise of Monroe County to open an access site in Pike county
- Jason advised that the CE Committee is delaying requesting approval of the adoption of the homelessness prevention prioritization tool in order to answer Executive Committee questions for the Board's December meeting
- Jason advised that the first of 3 HMIS customizations are in the restricted part of the training environment and will be tested over the next few weeks. Jason advised that the workflow is sequential rather than folks having to jump around; asks how many bedrooms are needed; incorporates the COVID-19 prioritization factors - does not ask folks to disclose specific medical conditions, just yes or no to having any of the listed conditions; includes a new CE BNL status update for enrolled but not housed, engaged, etc.; includes return of CE intake notes, dedicated notes for CE separate from client's case notes
- Jason advised they will be producing more visual practice guides for CE

- Jason advised that the CoC lost major CE reports with the HMIS upgrade because they were customized to CT15. Majendra is working with the vendor to recreate reports in CT 19. 1 of 2 reports, which allows CoC to run CE reports by county for any time period selected, is nearly complete; it is being tweaked so folks can select multiple counties. The 2nd more robust report that provides details about sub-populations, where folks are contacting CE from, where referrals are going, etc. should be available by the end of the year.
- The Board requested information about roadmap and timeline for the entire HMIS customization project. Jason advised that most complicate customizations should be complete in the first quarter of 2021.

DCED Updates

HMIS

- Customizations are being tested. If they are working, a sync will be scheduled early December
- HMIS team creating New User Guide
- Tony is scheduling one on ones with agencies, doing an agency a week. Lauren recommended coordinating with Tony to prioritize agencies with poor data quality, according to the CoC Renewal Scoring process or Data Committee review. Angela advised that DCED plans on focusing on agencies with documented data quality issues for more intensive technical assistance regarding data entry and quality.
- Sergio suggested having strong performing agencies support other agencies that are struggling with data quality and performance.
- In November and December, the focus will be on LSA clean-up. A new LSA report was added to the reporting workspace in HMIS, which will help to determine where agencies need to clean up their data. Tickets on LSA will continue to be prioritized. A total of about 27 new reports were added in HMIS that were once available in CT15. Workgroup testing is occurring in HMIS for the 4 CoCs in HMIS.

HUD Coordinated Investment Planning TA

- Focus is on braiding funding to best serve the community; DCED and DMA meeting bi-weekly with other systems to best strategize to house folks – Department of Corrections, Department of Health, and Department of Human Services to deepen relationships with other state partners to lay the groundwork for enhanced coordination and cooperation post-COVID

HUD Updates

CoC NOFA

- There is no official update on the CoC NOFA. HUD has not received approval yet to forego a competitive process/ auto-renew CoC grants. If they do not get approval, HUD will have to issue a NOFA.
- Board's December meeting agenda to include conversation regarding reallocating hours within DMA contract from NOFA activities to other CoC activities.
- There are two PSH projects looking to reallocate. Since we don't anticipate a NOFA/ being able to reallocate, DMA releasing an RFP to facilitate a grant transfer to a new recipient. Based on conversations with HUD, budget will remain as-is, project type will remain PSH, must serve Lycoming or Schuylkill counties – can expand beyond those counties but must serve them, must continue to serve chronically homeless households.

2021 PIT Count

- HUD released Unsheltered PIT Count Guidance on Friday the 13th. HUD is requiring full sheltered PIT Count and Housing Inventory Count, but is allowing flexibilities and exemptions to the unsheltered PIT Count.
- HUD will be hosting many PIT Count Office hours calls and providing technical assistance.
- DMA is hosting a planning call with unsheltered count coordinators this Wednesday to talk through options, safety, PPE, etc. If the Eastern PA CoC proceeds with conducting an unsheltered PIT Count, DMA is thinking about recommending a minimum standard that respects public health orders to have a consistent baseline for the count across the CoC.

Upcoming Efforts

Padmission

- LV RHAB did a demo of Padmission, a Landlord Engagement and Housing Search Assistance Tool, and found it interesting and robust. LVRHAB believes it could be helpful for the full CoC. The costs is \$15,000/year. Pocono RHAN and Pike County have expressed interest. Alisa asked if the other 3 RHABs were interested. All RHABs expressed interest. Alisa will set up a demo in December.
- Unanswered: What source of funding can be used for Padmission? ESG, Home4Good admin, etc.

Billing Supportive Services to Medicaid

- Alisa advised that she has been conversing with Magellan re: data-sharing and developing the capacity to bill Medicaid for supportive services/ case management. Alisa asked if other RHAB Chairs were interested in a training Magellan is doing for LV RHAB. Other RHABs expressed interest.
- Board members pointed out that Magellan doesn't serve the entire CoC, questioned the applicability/ generalizability of a Magellan training to the other RHABs, and asked if other Medicaid MCOs have expressed interested in working with providers on this?

CDC Eviction Moratorium Expiration

- LV RHAB is organizing efforts to advocate to Dr. Levine to issue a statewide order to prevent evictions when the CDC eviction moratorium expires.
- Alisa advised that lots of folks are currently being protected by the CDC Eviction Moratorium and that a number of states have public health orders that they plan to extend.
- LV RHAB is looking at providing Dr. Levine with data on the number of people being protected by the CDC Eviction Moratorium. LV RHAB still figuring out where to get this data: PA Association of Courts?
- Beth recommended that the Governor's policy staff be included in this outreach and advised that she would be happy to get those numbers to the Governor's policy staff in coordination with the outreach to Dr. Levine
- Alisa advised she will look into getting a statewide dataset and that she has reached out to Phyllis of the Housing Alliance about this.
- Discussion was had about the best way to communicate with counties about this, collect the data, share on workplace, etc.

Equity Work

The Board recommended scheduling a separate meeting before the regularly scheduled Board meeting to address the following Equity agenda items:

- Committee Charge and Outreach
- Draft Board vision and goal
- Engaging People with Lived Experience/ Expertise on Board and Equity Committee – discuss budget and staff support structure

Lauren to send out a Doodle Poll to schedule the meeting. Alisa requested that the agenda for said meeting present clearly the Board decisions needed.