

## Northern Tier Regional Homeless Advisory Board – August 17, 2016

### Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome/Roll Call/Introductions
  - a. This meeting was held at Clinton County Housing Authority.
  - b. Ten organization were represented both in person and via conference call.
2. 2016 NOFA Update
  - a. The schedule for the project applications went out. We are still on track with meeting all deadlines.
  - b. FUNDING COMMITTEE UPDATE – The Funding Committee met on 8/16 to review and discuss reallocation of transitional housing programs in the Eastern CoC. We were tasked with reallocating at least 50% of the funding for transitional housing. We did exceed that mandate. Eight of 14 transitional programs were recommended for involuntary reallocation. The recommendations were sent to the CoC Board for approval, which should be done within 48 hours. Individual programs will be notified.
  - c. NEW PROJECTS – The deadline for new projects was 8/15/16. We received 10 applications for rapid rehousing and 4 for permanent supportive housing.
    - i. *Note: At the meeting, it was reported that there were no new project applications in the Northern Tier. This was incorrect. Women’s Resource Center in Susquehanna County applied for a new Rapid Rehousing project for their domestic violence program.*
3. Coordinated Entry Update
  - a. The Lehigh Valley Pilot is ready for implementation. The plan is to have 1 call-in center and 3 drop in centers. They have solicited proposals for drop-in centers.
  - b. They will be asking for funding for pilot projects in the 4 remaining RHABS. We definitely don’t want to lose funding for not having implemented coordinated entry. The Northern Tier will be soliciting for drop-in centers in the coming months. It is still important to get as many parties onboard as possible, so we need to continue to talk to non-funded programs.
    - i. There are still a handful of HMIS licenses for non-funded programs. If any programs you know of are interested in using HMIS, please get their info to Jeff or Mae-Ling.

- ii. At this time, domestic violence programs do not use HMIS due to issues surrounding client confidentiality. Funded programs must report outside of HMIS using a “comparable database”.
- c. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, a training for the assessment tool, the VI-SPDAT, will be held (location TBA). The training is open to the entire CoC. It would be beneficial for projects to attend. A copy of the VI-SPDAT will be added to Wiggio.
- d. We had hoped to have a rep from Capacity for Change speak to the group; however, there is a gap in funding due to a planning grant that has not yet been implemented. The hope is that the rep will be at the next General Membership meeting in October.

#### 4. ESG Updates

- a. MONITORING – A request was made for ESG-funded projects to make changes to the way that homelessness documentation is updated. Projects must now scan documentation of homelessness into HMIS to verify participant eligibility. In the future, this policy will extend to CoC-Funded projects as well. Training will be provided on how to do this.
- b. 2016 Application & Awards – The statewide award was \$5,565,646, of which the Eastern CoC was awarded \$2,248,705. We should be hearing about individual awards very quickly as DCED was given a 60-day turnaround time. There was one Northern Tier application.

#### 5. Housing First – New CoC Policy

- a. HUD is mandating that all CoC projects (including ESG) operate under a housing first approach. Many projects have indicated that they are using a housing first approach, but it’s not certain if there is a total understanding of what that means. As projects were reviewed, we’ve found that some projects weren’t compliant. The CoC Board has outlined new requirements for projects in order to clarify things for everyone. The new policy has not gone out to projects, but will very soon. HUD Exchange documents will be on Wiggio, and we will be doing some training with DMA in order to let programs know what they need to do.

#### 6. HUD Requirements – New CoC Policy

- a. Many projects have said they are compliant with various HUD required policies, but there is no documentation in place to support. The CoC is requiring that there be documentation of compliance. Many non-profits have not had to adopt these policies before, so it is very important to do so. Programs could be at risk for losing or having to return funding. Policies include:

- i. Fair Housing Requirements
- ii. Equal Access Rule
- iii. Appropriate Placement for Transgendered Persons
- iv. Accessibility of Fair Housing Act
- v. Provision of Housing Services
- vi. Prohibition of Family Separations
- vii. Education Access for Homeless Children

#### 7. Veteran's Homelessness Subcommittee Update

- a. Recently, the Obama Administration stated there has been a 50% reduction in veteran homelessness.
- b. The subcommittee is working on creating a list of homeless vets. Most VA programs are involved, but very few non-VA programs. If programs identify a homeless vet, reach out to Jeff or Mae-Ling to get connected to the appropriate services.
- c. Some members reported a lack of support/cooperation from the VA Multi-Service Center. They have not been responsive to our requests to coordinate services. RHAB Co-Chairs will reach out to HUD TA for guidance.

#### 8. Summer PIT Update

- a. No counties in our RHAB elected to hold a summer PIT.

#### 9. Program/Community Initiative Sharing

- a. Lycoming Clinton MH/ID – Permanent Supportive Housing program with 8 beds. Ginny Noble is the case manager and main point of contact. This program has 1 dedicated chronic bed, and 2 beds for chronic turnover. She has been prioritizing chronically homeless.
- b. Lycoming Clinton STEP – Kristin Sweggert joined us for the first time. On 7/1, Step kicked off their Supportive Housing program. They have received numerous applications, and are in the final stages of enrolling their first Tier 2 participant. They have identified 12-15 program partners. This program is funded using PHARE money.
- c. Pinnacle Place – Kim Eroh manages this program. It is a transitional program for pregnant/parenting youth, ages 18-21. They have bed for 4 moms, who can have up to 2 children each. They currently have 1 bed available and 5 people on a waiting list.

10. Open Discussion

- a. The Northern Tier Housing and Homelessness Forum that was held in the spring was very well attended. We would like to schedule a similar fall conference, possibly in early November. We will try to get the details finalized, and then send out a Save-the-Date. If anyone has a suggestion for a location, please let Jeff or Mae-Ling know.
- b. Next Eastern PA CoC Membership meeting will be 10/17 at a location TBA. More info to follow. Please plan to attend.

11. Next Meeting

- a. Our next meeting will be a conference call. Scheduled for 9/21 at 10 am. Each program is tasked with bringing a friend!

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by Tara Day-Ulrich

<b>ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION – 8/17/16</b>			
<b>Name:</b>	<b>County:</b>	<b>Present:</b>	<b>Absent:</b>
Michelle Chandler	Bradford		
Maria Garlick	Clinton	X	
Jeff Rich	Clinton	X	
Mae-Ling Kranz	Lycoming	X	
Ginny Noble	Lycoming	X	
Rae Weber	Lycoming		
Diane Glenwright	Lycoming		
Tara Day	Lycoming		
Melissa Magargle	Lycoming	X	
Karen Parish	Tioga		
Viginia Boley	Tioga		
Lisa Boley/Linda Greene	Tioga		
Edward Clemens	Tioga	X	

Fell Boley	Tioga		
Kevin Holehan	Wyoming		
Madra Clay	DCED		
Leigh Howard	Diana T. Myers & Asso.	X	
Barbara Hodas	Diana T. Myers & Asso.		
Adrienne Nash Melendez	Philadelphia		
Karen Kispert	Diana T. Myers & Asso.		
Charles Burke	Luzerne		
Athena Aardweg	Chester		
Dawn Yates	Bradford		
Darlene Prutsman	Bath, NY/Tioga		
Melinda Stanley	Luzerne		
Gary Baker	Lackawanna/ DCED - NE		
Kevin Cope	Northampton		
Noel Duffy	Luzerne		
Kathleen Remington	Susquehanna		
Nancy Perri	Susquehanna		
Barb Austin	Bradford		
Ashley Schrivner	Bradford		
Kate de Silva	Clinton	X	
HAVEN CEO	Tioga		
Mark Roinick	Sullivan		
Kim Eroh	Sullivan & Lycoming		
Amy McGovern	Lycoming		
Mike Kane	Lycoming		
Dana Rich-Collins	North Penn Legal		
Sandy Ludwig	Clinton	X	
Kristen Sweggert	STEP	x	
Lillian Tyson	STEP	X	