

Oakland County Taskforce on Homelessness and Affordable Housing

Bi-monthly Business Meeting; Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Meeting Minutes - Respectfully submitted by Daniel Kelly

Attendance:

Deborah Busch (MSDHA), David Permaloff (Common Ground),

Introductions

Marc Craig called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

Marc Craig called for introductions. Each present gave their introductions.

Marc Craig called for the approval of the minutes from December 12th. Amy Coniff called for a change to the minutes under the header "Emergency Shelter Grant" Elizabeth Kelly motioned to approve the minutes, 2nded by Ryan Hertz.

Announcements

Mary Lynn Hewitt announced that CHN is opening its adopt a family efforts. She said they also have a limited number of _____ artwork available to donors.

Ryan Hertz announced SOS's signature event, Dancing with the Stars is Saturday, November 17 at the Townsend in Birmingham. He said please let him know if you're interested. He also announced that toward the end of November SOS will be hosting a housewarming party in conjunction with Urbane apartments for those being housed from homelessness.

___ announced that elder living construction is opening a design center. He offered to show the center to anyone that was interested. It will be on haggerty road, south of 12 mile.

Annual Award

Kathy Williams stated that every year the Alliance for Housing gives a volunteer award to those who exemplify the fight against homelessness in their community. She said there are two awards this year.

Elizabeth Kelly presented Mary Ann Ryan, a homeless advocate working on health-care related issues as an award recipient. Ms. Kelly highlighted _____'s commitment to homeless by stating she has through her efforts organized a partnership with the Bernstein Clinic.

Marc Craig presented Mary Ann the award. She accepted and gave a speech thanking for the recognition.

Ryan Hertz presented _____ and _____ with the award. He highlighted their long standing commitment to helping end homelessness in our community by coordinating shelter efforts every year, being

volunteer drivers, and producing a video about SOS's clients. Austin Kralisz of SOS noted a story of perseverance and achievement with both ___ and ____.

Marc Craig presented them the award. ___ thanked everyone for the award.

Presentation

The Oakland Schools Homeless Education Program was unable to present. The presentation was tabled for the next meeting.

Committee and Workgroup Reports

Board Report

Marc Craig presented on the Board activities. He reminded everyone that the Board meetings are open for anyone and people are encouraged to participate. The meetings are the Community Mental Health Authority. The next meeting is December 19th at ___.

Marc Craig said the organization has been officially incorporated. Marc said the Executive Committee of the taskforce is still doing the substantial amount of work. He noted that the group is still working on transferring these duties over time.

Marc stated that the committees are meeting under the new structure as highlighted on the agency agenda. He said the next phase is to develop a business plan for the organization. He said this must be submitted to the IRS for the organization to receive 501(c)(3) status. Marc encouraged people to get involved in the committees.

Financial Report

Jim Perlaki announced he is the Board treasurer; he said there is no report currently. He said they will complete one and send it out to the google group prior to the next meeting.

Data Collection, HMIS, and Project Monitoring

Kirsten Elliott presented on behalf of Jill Shoemaker. Kirsten said that Jill is working on the street count tally sheets and other HUD related information, completing the AHAR, and putting together data for our COC Collaborative Application.

Region 8

Jim Perlaki reported. He said the last meeting was interesting and that MSHDA did not show up for the last meeting. Jim said the meeting went very quickly and that the main discussion was about homeless awareness week. He said all five COCs at the Region 8 are doing Community Resource Day events during homeless awareness week.

Jim said the group also discussed the HUD COC rules. He said as of the last meeting the COC NOFA had not been realized as of yet. He said the minutes are posted on the Campaign to End Homelessness

Website under Region 8. He said there are six meeting scheduled for next year.

Marc Craig noted that MSHDA has a new executive director, Scott Woosley. Marc noted that Mr. Woosley has not worked with the tax credit program, however does have extensive experience with housing financing. Marc noted that he has not stated he will make any large changes. Marc noted that Gary Heidel's contract had expired and that he did not do anything wrong to lose the job; instead Gary is going to back to a former role within the organization.

Community Resource Day

It is being held tomorrow at 123 Wesson Street, Pontiac. Katie Morgan reported that over 33 agencies are participating. She thanked the service providers involved and highlighted the need for volunteers. Juanita Harper noted that Eric Hufnagel of Michigan Campaign to End Homelessness stated he would try to get the word out to media outlets.

HARA Single Point of Entry Report/Update

Amy Coniff reported. Amy Coniff reported that during the fiscal year of 2011-2012 over 9000 inquires came in through the Housing Resource Center. These individuals were experiencing a housing crisis or needed information about their housing situation. Amy noted that over 1300 were screened for the Emergency Solutions Grant program specifically. She said that approximately 600 households were served in the program through the provision of housing plans, one on one case management, and linkage to community partners and mainstream resources. She said 19 households were assisted with short-term rental assistance through the program.

Amy noted that they are still working with individuals are homeless and under 30 percent Area Media Income (AMI).

Public Awareness

Ryan Hertz reported. He stated that Jeff Brown and him are co-chairing the committee. He said the committee is just now forming its meeting structure and deciding on goals for the next year.

Old Business

Landlord Breakfast

Amy Coniff reported on the Landlord Breakfast. She noted the event was organized in an effort to build relationships with Oakland County property owners.

The event took place on October 26th at Oakland Schools ISD Building in Pontiac. She said the event had 80 attendees this year and was successful.

Amy noted that the planning stages for next year's event has begun. Jim Perlaki reported that next year's effort will be to try to combine this event.

Street Count

Elizabeth Ireland presented. She said that planning for the street count continues. The date is _____. The count will be done from _____. Elizabeth encouraged people to sign-up as team leaders. She said she has the packets for the team leaders and encouraged everyone to reach out to the communities.

New Business

HUD COC Homeless Assistance Program

Kathy Williams reported. She stated there has been an open competition for additional funding as part of the COC program. She stated last year we applied for _____ last year and this year we will apply for _____. Kathy stated there is 63,000 available for COC Coordination.

Kathy stated there have been three agencies that applied for the funding. Kathy stated that an outside body of homeless experts is reviewing these applications and a decision will be made within the next week.

Kirsten Elliott noted that it is important for those with renewal applications to be sure to read over the regs and ensure they are in compliance with these regulations when submitted their applications. Kirsten asked for the group to anticipate the process of applying in snaps to be a difficult process. Kirsten said the group will need full complete APRs from each renewal applicant.

MSHDA Emergency Solutions Grant

Jim Perlaki reported. He said that MSHDA put out their NOFA for ESG dollars last month. He said this year MSHDA put out their NOFA after asking for project applications. He stated the COC has received their allocation from MSHDA, however there was little time for creating a fair, competitive process. Jim Perlaki noted that this year the decision was to use the funds the same as was analyzed by a group of independent auditors last year.

Jim noted that the application was submitted, however the application was brought back to the community from MSHDA. HE noted that MSHDA did not want to fund an agency to perform case management services other than the HARA. He noted there was an 18,000 hole that had to be reallocated to the four partners that were shelter providers. He stated a new submission will take place this week as an addendum.

Jim noted that by next year the Alliance will be in the MSHDA ESG fiduciary role. He noted that is the long-term goal.

Alex Plum asked if there would be additional funds for prevention assistance. Jim Perlaki stated that as of now there are not additional resources for this activity.

Alex Plum highlighted a program that DHS is doing in Kalamazoo and Ingham Counties. DHS goes to eviction proceedings at court and works with people that are about to be imminently evicted to expedite ES funding to stop the eviction from occurring and getting on their record. Alex Plum said he is discussing using this same program in Oakland County replicating on the other counties.

Housing Choice Voucher Program

Jamie Christofel highlighted their role with Evette ____ ____, MSHDA housing agent including with Palmer Pointe project in Pontiac. Jamie also noted that CHN is now working on managing the housing choice voucher waitlist.

Evette reported that MSHDA has heard everyone's concerns regarding this program. Evette said she and Deborah Busch are the two main agents for Oakland County. Evette said she has over 1200 vouchers in Oakland County and that are a total of 1700 in total in Oakland County.

Evette highlighted the HCV process. She said they are going to try and fast track people from the wait list. She said she pulled 25 people off the waiting list on November 25th, 2012. A meeting is set up on December 6th for all people pulled on the wait list. This minimizes the use of mail and miscommunications that occur from that. The preliminary meeting is where the applicant will fill out the paperwork. Her goal is to fast track pulled applicants through the process.

Jim noted there has been a problem with voucher utilization for quite some time. He said that Deborah Busch and Evette are great resources and thanked them for their help in fielding vouchers in Oakland County.

Adjournment

The next OCHTAH general membership meeting is Tuesday, January 8, 2013 from 1:30 – 3:30 at Oakland Schools Summit Place.

Meeting adjourned at 3:02pm.