

## **Oakland County Taskforce on Homelessness and Affordable Housing**

Bi-monthly Business Meeting; Tuesday, July 10, 2012 – 1:30 – 3:30

Meeting Minutes - Respectfully submitted by Daniel Kelly

Attendance:

Katrin Michael (Iraqi American Center), Michaele Bradford (SOS), Charles Lang (SOS), Dan Kelly (SOS), Marj Knurick (OLHSA), Beverly Mostowy (OLHSA), Diane Hart (JFS), Jill Shoemaker (CHN), Gloria Lutey (Oakland County Health Div.), Elizabeth Kelly (HOPE), Jim Perlaki (Common Ground), Kathy Williams (OCCHI), Kirsten Elliott (CHN), Roslyn Johnson (CNS), Sara Orris (Oakland Schools), Paul Merriott (CHN), Karla Chambers (Springhill Housing), Helen Arthur (Easter Seals), Ernestine Mcrae (HAVEN), Alex Plum (Baldwin Center), Elisabeth Mirer (SOS), Jan Skinner (MORC), Don Wiggins (TTI), Kevin Bogg (TTI), Leah Mccall (Lighthouse), Marylynn G. Hewitt (CHN), Stephanie Osterland (Habitat for Humanity)

### **Introductions**

Kathy Williams called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm.

Kathy Williams requested that each member print their own documents for the meeting prior to the meeting itself.

Kathy Williams noted that Monica Bellamy of Community Mental Health passed away, she gave best regards to her.

A Motion to approve the 3-13-2012 minutes was put to the floor by Elizabeth Kelly, 2nded by Jim Perlaki, approved unanimously.

A Motion to approve the 5-8-2012 minutes from the Annual Retreat was put to the floor by Jim Perlaki, 2nded by Ernestine Mcrae, approved unanimously.

Kathy Williams asked if there were any additions to the agenda, Kathy noted she would like to add – Homeless Preference Vouchers information under old business.

### **Announcements**

Alex Plum announced the Baldwin Center is out of funding until August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Elizabeth Kelly stated Hope Warming center is open Thursday for outreach. Outreach allows attendees to take showers, consult with a nurse and receive triage healthcare, meet with housing counselors, pick up mail, meet with social workers and secure assistance with systems navigation or applications. The Thursday outreach is from 6 PM to 8 PM and anyone is welcome to attend.

Stephanie Osterland announced Habitat for Humanity will be doing work in Northern Oakland County.

## **Presentations**

Charles Lang, South Oakland Shelter intern presented on research he is conducting. His research focuses on the experiences of those seeking shelter at SOS. This qualitative research will be presented at future taskforce meetings. The goal of the research is gain understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the current homeless services system in Oakland County.

Kirsten Elliott of Oakland County announced that another intern Mr. Paul Merriott will be assisting with the creation of the Alliance for Housing. He will be assisting with the creation of by-laws, articles of incorporation, and other important measures.

## **Executive Committee**

Kirsten Elliott announced the next Capacity Building Workgroup Meeting is in the end of July. She mentioned we will have a lawyer assisting with the process later on. Alliance Intern Paul Merriott is working on drafting a business plan.

It was noted that new board members are invited to the next Capacity Building meeting and that in order to file 501(c)(3) status, the group must have their first official board meeting.

## **Retreat Summary**

Kathy Williams presented on the retreat survey results – she stated that 31 people returned the survey. The event received high marks with an average of about 4.6/5.0 points on everything.

## **HMIS**

Jill Shoemaker stated she was working really hard on the annual report. She stated her goal was to have something very soon; she stated she is adding some benchmarking information. Her goal is to have the report completed by early July.

She stated she will be sending out go to meeting events in the next few weeks for Agency Administrators to discuss program outcomes.

## **Prevention**

Nothing reported.

## **Region 8**

Jim Perlaki stated the next meeting is July 12, 2012.

## **Community Resource Day**

A summary was given of the summer Community Resource Day event by Don Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins stated 40-50 people came to the summer event. He asked that in the future agencies don't leave early

as there were a number of individuals that came to the event at the end for services, however there were few agencies present to assist them.

It was noted that the next Community Resource Day is November November 14, 2012 from 10am to 3pm at Trinity Missionary Baptist Church. The next planning meeting is Monday August 6, 2012 at 2pm at South Oakland Shelter (18505 W. 12 Mile Rd., Lathrup Village, MI). It was noted that agency participation is needed for the event. Please contact Jamie Christofel (CHN) if you're interested in attending as an agency at 248-269-1314.

### **Outcomes**

Kirsten Elliott noted that outcomes were incorporated into the 10 year plan at the May 2012 retreat. She stated the outcomes group has not met since last year. She noted that the Outcomes group will meet after the formation of the housing alliance.

### **HARA**

Amy Coniff reported that she is working on collaborations with landlords, and that the HARA has rapid re-housing funds to assist literally homeless individuals in Oakland County. The individuals must be under 30% AMI. They can provide 1-3 months of assistance. Please contact the HRC for more information at 248-928-0111, extension 2.

Amy noted there is an Affordable Housing Catalog, if you would like information from the catalog or a copy please contact her at 248-928-0111, ext. 1359.

### **Membership**

Kirsten Elliott mentioned the listserv might be taken down with the formation of the new housing alliance.

### **Public Awareness**

Nothing reported.

### **Grant Consolidation Process/Reporting**

Kathy Williams stated Project Prioritization is going to be done around Thanksgiving. If you are a grantee that is renewing – this year we will be scoring grants for the first time.

### **Homeless Preference Vouchers**

Beverly Mostowy from OLHSA reported. She stated that OLHSA's role in the HPV process was to accept completed applications, verify homelessness and send them on to the housing agent. She stated they had over 1100 names on list. It was noted though that according to MSHDA, there are 70 people on the HPV list. Because of this discrepancy, anyone who had applied is encouraged to reapply – they can call the HRC (248-928-0111, ext.2) for assistance or more information.

It was noted that MSHDA has the directions on their website for how to apply at <http://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141--270458--,00.html>.

## **New Business**

### **Landlord Breakfast**

Amy Coniff reported that the landlord breakfast committee is in the planning stage for facilitating the 2<sup>nd</sup> landlord breakfast event a housing agency get together with Oakland County landlords. The group is in the process of developing sponsorship packages and exploring the planning phase. They are working on confirming the site, October 26, 2012 is the tentative date.

### **HUD Policy and Budget Update**

Dan Kelly announced that the US House of Representatives appropriations committee has announced they do not support fully funding all HUD homeless program renewals. There is a current dialogue in the House regarding this process. Mr. Kelly encouraged anyone interested to advocate for fully funding HUD homeless assistance programs should they wish to do so.

Kirsten Elliott noted the OCTAH did not meet any of our performance measures this past year with HUD.

### **Street Count**

The next meeting is, July 11, 2012 at 10am at CHN's office. The group is working on updating mapping. It was noted they need input from people doing outreach. Individuals from the taskforce were encouraged to attend.

Kirsten Elliott noted the Street count is a HUD requirement every other year. She stated it requires about 300 volunteers to conduct the street count. Team Captains are recruited each year and they recruit their team members.

The count looks for homeless individuals and interviews them for subpopulation data. PATH teams will follow-up after the count.

The count will be the last week in January 2013.

If you are interested in joining please contact Kirsten Elliott.

## **Conclusion**

**The next OCTAH general membership meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012 from 1:30 – 3:30 at Oakland Schools Summit Place.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:29pm.