

Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, Inc., Governing Board & CoC Ending Homelessness Stakeholder Meeting

Meeting Minutes: November 22, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Department of Health – Sumter County, 415 E Noble Ave, Bushnell, FL

Officers in Attendance:	—	Robert Morin, Commissioner, City of Eustis, Chair	—	Melissa Simmes, Advent Health Waterman, Vice Chair
Directors in Attendance:	—	Veda Ramirez – Hernando County Health & Human Services	—	Dr. Alan Holden – United Way of Lake & Sumter
	—	Stephen Teaster – Office of the Criminal Conflict & Civil Rights Counsel	—	Jessica Peters – Hernando County Advocate
	—	Steve Smith – Lake County	—	Barbara Venditto – Dawn Center
	—	Sheri Goodwin – LSF Network (GTM)	—	Paula Anspach – (GTM)
	—	Cara Meeks – WellCare (GTM)	—	Shay Razaire – Alan Madden Foundation (GTM)
Staff:	—	Barbara Wheeler, Executive Director	—	Paula Holtsclaw, HMIS Administrator
	—	Tomi Steinruck, Operations Manager	—	Kristy Lindke, Lead CAS Navigator
	—	Cassie Fountain, Coreen Garrity & James MacDonald, PATH Outreach	—	Amber Tucker, Housing Locator
Proxy:				
Presiding:		Melissa Simmes		

Agenda Items		Discussion & Actions Taken	Follow-up
I.	Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Alan Holden called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone and self-introductions were made.	
II.	Approval of Minutes	<p>October 25, 2019 Governing Board & CoC Ending Homelessness Minutes were reviewed.</p> <p>Motion: A motion was made to approve the September 27, 2019 minutes as presented.</p> <p>Motion By: Sheri Goodwin Seconded By: Barbara Venditto</p> <p>Discussion: Barbara Wheeler reported that the minutes that were initially sent out were changed and included clarification to the voting that occurred. The minutes on the website are as corrected.</p> <p>Approved: Unanimously</p>	
III.	Standing Committee Reports	<p>Veteran’s Committee</p> <p>Stephen Teaster reported that the initial meeting will be held on January 31, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Florida Department of Health in Sumter County. Nicole Cineas from James A. Haley Medical Center has indicated that she is not able to attend, and Stephen asked Lisandra, who was on the call, if she could attend on her behalf. Lisandra indicated that she would check with Nicole. The Sumter County Veteran’s Services Officer has agreed to serve on the Committee.</p>	

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		<p>Coordinated Access System Committee (CAS) Barbara Venditto reported on behalf of Melissa Simmes. The evaluation document for the participants was finalized at the last meeting. CAS weekly calls have begun to be held each Tuesday at 4 p.m., and organizations are encouraged to participate.</p> <p>Performance Committee Steve Smith reported that there was no Performance Committee meeting in November. Due to DCF Monitoring Training needs, the Performance Committee meeting was rescheduled for December 10 at 9am. Notice for the meeting will be sent out.</p>	
	<p>Written Standards - Added Item</p>	<p>Barbara Wheeler reported that due to the recent DCF Monitoring, our Written Standards needed to be revised. There is a Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) statute that requires leases being funded with federal dollars must include a VAWA addendum. Barbara is asking for approval from the Governing Board to add this information.</p> <p>Motion: A motion was made to approve the changes to the Written Standards to reflect that leases require the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) addendum for assistance being provided with federal dollars.</p> <p>Motion By: Stephen Teaster Seconded By: Paula Anspach</p> <p>Discussion: Stephen Teaster expressed concern on the addendum where the effective date is listed. Tomi Steinruck indicated that the HUD issued addendum could not be altered. A question was asked about why we needed to do this, and Stephen provided additional explanation about why it is required and who it would apply to. Barbara Venditto indicated that she has provided MFHC with literature to provide to landlords. In simple language it advises them of the statute.</p> <p>Approved: Unanimous</p>	<p><i>Double-check with our PSH providers to see if they have VAWA addendums</i></p>
<p>IV.</p>	<p>By-the-Numbers</p>	<p>Paula Holtsclaw presented grant spending information through October 31 via the Show Me the Money slides. Concern was expressed that St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) was not spending down their dollars at the 33% that was expected at this point. Greg Williams from SVDP reported that they had been understaffed earlier but expected to be able to get caught up.</p> <p>Paula presented the By-Name-List numbers for the entire CoC, as well as the Veteran numbers. She also presented some data pulled from STELLA – a module that works with the annual homeless data submitted to HUD via the Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) report in May 2019. She presented data on the number of days people were homeless while</p>	

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		<p>being enrolled in Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Rapid Rehousing, and Permanent Housing. Additional information will be presented at each CoC meeting in the future.</p> <p>Paula reminded everyone that the Point in Time Census is scheduled for January 28, and we are in need of volunteers. She provided a demonstration of the Survey App that will be used for the Census. Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not wish to use the app. Stephen Teaster asked if questions could be added to the survey. He felt that everyone should be asked if they were ever in foster care. Paula Anspach suggested doing a press release looking for volunteers, and announce the United Way of Citrus County is collecting items for bags that are being created for this event.</p>	<p><i>Paula will add the Foster care question to the survey.</i></p> <p><i>Paula to contact Paula Anspach re: press release.</i></p>
VI.	MFHC Lead Agency Update	<p>HUD Regional IV CoC Conference Barbara reported that she attended the HUD Conference in Miami. This conference was made up of CoC leaders from the Southeast portion of the US. Some of the information shared how to look at programs in your CoC and analyzing the success of these programs. HUD CoC Applications are still being reviewed. Relationships with local Public Housing Authorities are strongly encouraged because there is evidence that these types of relationships improve the success of local programs. Racial equity was also discussed in that HUD doesn't have answers about changing inequalities, but that they noticed a trend, and asked for CoCs to collect data to start looking at this issues as well. Housing First is still supported as a Best Practice.</p> <p>Youth Committee – Youth dollars that have been available for the last few years, HUD is trying to figure out what works best. Miami has been awarded a youth demonstration project. There will be another opportunity to apply for funds in the new year. Having a Youth committee is something that our CoC might want to pursue.</p> <p>Affordable Housing Committee –Shortages in affordable housing is an issue in most communities. Having an Affordable Housing Committee is something that our CoC might want to pursue.</p> <p>Veterans – As a CoC we need to know how many of our veterans have been homeless for more than or less than go days. With no shelters available, if we have money available from a local organization to place into a motel, then that can replace an actual shelter availability. A gaps analysis is done by the VA that determines which counties might have a need for new VASH vouchers which the housing authorities can apply. We are working with the three VAs to get these analyses. Discussion followed.</p>	

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Citrus County Update – James Macdonald provided an update for Citrus County. Daystar Life Center is proceeding with plans for permanent supportive housing units, but there is no date yet for groundbreaking. Information had been received that Catholic Charities was going to open an emergency shelter in their Homosassa building, but no updated information was able to be acquired. Stephen Teaster added that he heard that the Catholic Charities diocese may have decided not to go through with this. Citrus County Family Resource Center is working on their plans for Children’s Christmas, and typically serve over 2000 children annually. LifeStream Behavioral Center is preparing to open an access center in Beverly Hills which may function as a Baker Act facility in the future, which will end the drive to other counties for law enforcement. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is trying to provide counselors in the school system. CareerSource has a program for young adults. See James for more details.

Hernando County Update – Tomi Steinruck provided an update for Hernando County. The Sheriff’s Department is working with the Hernando Providers to locate the homeless in the County. There was a great discussion on Diversion, and how providers can work to help those in need to help themselves, instead of doing things for them. There was a Homeless Symposium recently held by the School System that was very successful. Providers were there throughout the day, and there were also panel discussions with providers, and then again with students who had experienced homelessness.

Lake County Update – Kristy Lindke provided an update for Lake County. The Eustis City Council is hosting a meeting on homelessness on 11/26. At The Salvation Army’s recent meeting there was a presentation on tiny homes. At the Public Safety Committee meeting, The Salvation Army made a presentation about shelter. A Veteran’s Stand Down was recently held. Mark from VSO added that the Stand Down was a huge success, reported that 16 people showed up who were homeless. The VA found 3 new veterans to begin providing services. He reported that they hoped to add Lake County Transportation to next year’s event to bring those veterans in the outlying areas to the event. Mark is resigning as VSO but intends to stay active helping homeless veterans.

Sumter County Update – Amber Tucker provided an update for Sumter County. There is a PJs and Book drive being coordinated by Barbara Crewell. These are being collected and distributed prior to Christmas. Wildwood Community Center has a family self-sufficiency center to help with budgeting, credit repair. United Way of Lake & Sumter Counties has TANF prevention assistance for families in need of rental or utility assistance.

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		<p>Barbara reminded everyone that this week is Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Each county's Board of County Commissioners signed proclamations declaring this and noting their support for the services that are there for those in need.</p> <p>National Homeless Memorial Day is the Winter Solstice, December 21. Citrus County will be hosting a small ceremony identifying those who have died while homeless. Other counties are encouraged to hold vigils.</p>	
VII.	Membership Input	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paula Anspach shared that she belongs to the Kings Bay Rotary Club in Crystal River, and they have donated \$500 to MFHC to put together move-in baskets for families who are moving into housing in Citrus County.• Real Life Church in Clermont also donated 12 "Welcome" baskets of household supplies.• Hebrew College is doing a Thanksgiving luncheon again this year for the homeless at Citrus Tower in Clermont.• The Salvation Army of Lake & Sumter Counties is also cooking Thanksgiving dinner for the community.• Stephen Teaster shared that Tomi Steinruck received some very good press recently in the Citrus County Chronicle, and that also reflects well on the mission of MFHC. <p>Barbara reminded the Governing Board that Ian De Jong will be here on December 13. Invitations went out to both MFHC & Governing Boards, City Managers, Sheriffs, and County Officials have also been invited to learn how to move forward in ending homelessness, to learn best practices in how to spend the money the best way, however not a lot of response has been received.</p>	
VIII.	Next Meeting Date	Next meeting will be held on January 24, 2020, at 9:00am at the Florida Department of Health – Sumter County.	
IX.	Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned by consensus at approximately 11:00 a.m.	

Respectfully submitted by: Paula Holtsclaw

Alan Holden, Chair _____