



Monmouth County Homeless System Collaborative

Executive Committee

January 5th, 2021

Meeting Minutes

- I. Introduction
- II. Public Participation- Jeff, Darcy all in favor
; Paul motion to close, Jeff second, all in favor
- III. Approval of November meeting minutes-Alan T made a motion, Darcy second, all in favor
- IV. New Business/Discussion
 - a. Racial Equity/Community Led Planning Development Program
 - i. Kasey described the CLPD programs goals to incorporate persons with lived experience in the CoC and developing an advisory committee that will ultimately help to make funding decisions. There will also be a goal to bring racial equity trainings to the full HSC and executive committee.
 - b. Code Blue- OEM and social services
 - i. Mike Opegard reports they are primarily utilizing motels for Code Blue; currently they have 7 partners; 23 nights of Code Blue serving 80 persons (could be duplicates); 228 nights of assistance. Mike reports transportation is still a barrier to getting to the Code Blue sites. Pilgram Baptist has run into challenges in reaching capacity and trying to find solutions to assist clients in getting to motels for additional placements. Mike reports no recent reports of any clients being turned away
 - ii. Wendy DePedro identified some barriers with persons at JBJ being denied placement and 211 being non-responsive to clients calling for placements. Mike reports he has a meeting tomorrow with 211 and will bring this issue up.
 - iii. Chris Aumack reports 211 is reporting every placement to social services every morning. Chris reported there has been a challenge with capacity for assisting those that are already in placement and the nightly Code Blue placements. Melissa reported those that follow up with social services after the placement are screened for eligibility for EA and longer term placement.
 - iv. Joan asked about how the public is being made aware that this is a resource. Is there any type of hand out? Ewa reported she posts a flyer at the Red Bank Resource center so that those who pass by can see that it is available.
 - v. Alan Ferraro reports he has been disseminating the information to the homeless liaisons at each Code Blue event.

- vi. Tina reported if the homeless person is a Veteran then Soldier On can put persons up in a motel and work with them.
- c. CARES Act Funding
 - i. ESG-CV
 - 1. Round 2- Laura Kirby reports Round 1 should be all cleared to be spending funding; Freeholders approved the submission and so did HUD and the money for Round 2 should be available to be spent fairly quickly once the Director signs. Funding decisions should be made in the next week or two.
 - ii. CDBG-CV- Round 1 has been allocated to small businesses and they are waiting on DCA to inform on Round 2; Round 3 they are still planning for how to spend that.
- d. COVID-19 Response
 - i. Shelter- Peter reports he has been receiving a lot of assistance with from OEM and Human Services; 5 individuals in need of isolation who were COVID positive; approximately 22 persons placed in motels December; an additional 22 people went through the shelter. Peter reports capacity of 40-45 in the shelter and motels. AHA has been working with social services to get persons placed through EA and Peter reports this process has been efficient and effective to allow the shelter to filter persons through to EA quickly.
 - ii. Jen Dinger reports vacancies at Linkages they aim to fill early this year
 - iii. Prevention- Paul reports they have spent down most of the SSH funding and are now spending CV funding and are seeing an inundation of calls.
 - iv. Outreach- Ewa reports they are seeing an increase in referrals; they have been able to hire two new staff due to the ESG funding who started yesterday. These outreach workers are training and will be assisting in the increase in referrals.

V. Reports

- a. Chronically Homeless data
- b. HUD Update
 - i. Kasey reported that HUD announced an autorenewal process will be allowed for the 2020 funding but they have not announced as of yet what this will look like. The GIW has been confirmed and we are prepared to move forward once a process is announced.
- c. Centralized Intake
 - i. Melissa reports their numbers have been increasing due to Code Blue and those persons will all be referred to the Housing Navigator. Chris reports they have been very busy and are aiming to see persons in person as well as over the phone to complete assessments and placements
- d. Housing Navigator Agency
 - i. Current list:
 - 1. CH- 60
 - 2. December Admissions- 37

3. Total Persons on list- 1331

- e. Sub-committees
 - i. PIT/PHC
 - 1. Kathy reported the PIT count is on January 27th, 2021, there will be a 14 day count this year in which homeless persons can be counted 14 days following the 27th as long as you are asking where they stayed the night of the 26th. Kasey reported that HUD is allowing agencies to complete phone interviews.
 - ii. Veteran's
 - 1. Tina reports in December the county met 3 benchmarks for ending Veteran's homelessness. The one benchmark not being met is quick access to PH.
 - iii. Discharge Planning- Kathy reports the committee has met and discussed recidivism of those being discharged from hospitals to homelessness; the planning committee has discussed bringing the hospitals to the table and discuss actual solutions and housing. We will be meeting with Hackensack Meridian execs to discuss systemic issues and possible solutions in the coming month.
 - iv. Permanent Housing
 - 1. Kasey reported that the committee is working to meet with PHAs to try and collaborate and establish a homeless setaside or moving on initiative. The committee is meeting with Asbury Park Housing Authority this week and is working to coordinate a time with Middletown and Long Branch Housing Authorities.
 - v. Coordinated Systems- meeting next week, will focus on data quality

VI. Adjournment motion Alicia, Leslie second all in favor

Next Meeting: **March 2nd, 2021**

GotoWebinar link will be provided prior to the meeting