

WCICCC Minutes/Conference Call

Meeting Location: Western Illinois Regional Council, 223 South Randolph, Macomb

Conference Call Number: 309-298-3683

Online Agenda & Handout Viewing: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/475148725> Meeting ID: 475-148-725

February 12, 10:30 a.m.

Al Coleman, Regional Office of Education #22 (Schuyler)
Amanda Davis, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs/WIU (Macomb)
Ashley Wilson, Samaritan Well (Macomb)
Cindy Grawe, Madonna House (Quincy)
Derrius Scott, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs/WIU (Macomb)
Dona Leanard, Crisis Center Foundation (Jacksonville)
Emily Robberts, United Way Adams Co. (Quincy)
Elaine Davis, Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Official (Quincy)
Heidi Welty, Salvation Army (Quincy)
Jennifer Vancil, Quanada (Quincy)
Jerry Gille, Housing Authority of Adams Co. (Quincy)
Joanne Dedert, Madonna House (Quincy)
John Lane, New Directions (Jacksonville)
Linda Gessman, Schuyler County Mental Health (Rushville)
Lorrecia Horne, Samaritan Well (Macomb)
Lori Hartz, Prairie Land United Way (Jacksonville)
Lori Sutton, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs/WIU (Macomb)
Mary Muehlenfeld, YWCA of Quincy
Megan Kennedy, Salvation Army (Macomb)
Mike McLaughlin, Two Rivers Council of Public Official (Quincy)
Reggie Zomberg, Schuyler County Mental Health (Rushville)
Richard Ray, Salvation Army (Macomb)
Suzan Nash, Western Illinois Regional Council (Macomb)
Tammi Lonergan, MCS Community Services (Jacksonville)
Vanessa Tyus, New Directions (Jacksonville)

Minutes

1. Roll Call (Amanda Davis)
2. Provider Update and/or Personnel Changes
 - a. YMCA – No openings, no personnel changes
 - b. Western Illinois Regional Council – Transitional is full
 - c. Quanada – No change, has 8 beds
 - d. United Way Adams Co. – No changes
 - e. Madonna House – 3 shelter rooms available
 - f. Samaritan Well – No updates, going to continue to assess clients March, renovation on Women Shelter bathroom
 - g. Prairie Land United Way – No changes
 - h. Regional Office of Education #22 – No changes; working with school districts; Secretary, Educators, and Social Work workshop on March 16 in Springfield about homelessness and education – see other section for details
 - i. Housing Authority of Adams Co. (Quincy) – 5 public housing units open that are in various stages of being cleaned out
 - j. Salvation Army (Quincy) – 3 or 2 beds open, hired a cook and another as needed staff member, pantry makeover
 - k. Two Rivers (Mike) – New Fiscal Director, Fiscal Clerk, and Caseworker

- l. Two Rivers (Elaine) – Adams County: full with waiting list; Counties Brown, Pike, and Schuyler have 3 available openings, works in conjunction with Carpenter Management; for availabilities contact from Cheryl Carpenter Management at 773.9043
 - m. New Directions - 11 men, 9 women, 5 children
 - n. Schuyler County Mental Health - Calls from homeless persons and visits from homeless persons
 - o. MCS Community Services – 1 two bedroom that should be open next month and 1 one bedroom open
 - p. Salvation Army (Macomb) – No changes
 - q. Crisis Center Foundation – legal advocate resigned not replaced yet, have openings in shelter
3. Overview of Continuum (Mary Muehlenfel)
- a. IL-519 (CoC number with HUD) We are the CoC (Continuum of Care) designated by HUD for our region of 11 counties, which consists of service providers (housing and non-housing) working collaboratively to identify where the gaps are in our community, work at keeping people out of shelter, getting them out of shelters fast and keeping them permanently housed. The CoC has to take a strategic approach to planning any federal dollars that is received. Which is mainly Emergency Solution Grant and the CoC grant program funds. The CoC has a governing board and that is something new that HUD requires. Their responsibility it to oversee what happens with the funds and holds everyone accountable to make sure they are in compliance with federal legislation regarding housing and homelessness. The governing board also in charge of making sure there is a means to evaluate programs we choose to fund and that we evaluate them and that we make any changes to the strategic plan if there are changes to the homeless population.
4. CoC Grant (Mary Muehlenfeld)
- a. January 26, 2015 HUD announced the CoC Competition Funding. All projects were funded, including the planning grant (\$7,967). The CoC received \$639,734 for seven projects submitted by two organizations. The CoC had to cut 5% from the projects; however both project received slightly more than what they asked for due to the slight increase in leasing dollar in order to keep up with the Fair Market Rent. MCS Community Services and the YWCA of Quincy receive the CoC funding.
 - b. Description from HUD Planning Grant Application: Continuum of Care IL-519 will use this funding to comply with provisions in 24 CFR 578.7. We will concentrate funding on two high priority activities-Evaluation/Monitoring and Coordinated Assessment.

Evaluation/Monitoring: In Section 7 of 24 CFR 578.7 it states that CoC's should: Evaluate outcomes of projects funded under the Emergency Solutions Grant and the CoC programs, and report to HUD. This funding will allow us to enhance our current evaluation plan and provide us time to create new funding streams for this activity. Our CoC currently utilizes the services of Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs as an objective, third-party, Support Entity to assist our CoC's Research and Evaluation committee to develop a meaningful evaluation process. Due to our CoC's geographic jurisdiction it will continue to be a time consuming effort. Our CoC covers 11 rural counties in West Central Illinois.

Coordinated Assessment: In Section 8 of 24 CFR 578.7 it states that a CoC will: In consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area, establish and operate either a centralized or coordinated assessment system that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services. CoC IL-519 will use these funds to complete the coordinated assessment implementation. Due to our CoC's 11-county rural composition, our CoC decided that a Regional Lead approach based on population centers with the greatest service

- providers would be the most beneficial to persons experiencing homelessness. Three regions have been identified and the largest population region will begin stage 1 of our Coordinated Assessment implementation in January 2015. However, more time and resources will be needed to implement Coordinated Assessment in the remaining two Regional Leads. Our CoC utilizes the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs to provide HMIS technical assistance in regard to our Coordinated Assessment.
- c. Grant Inventory Worksheet due to HUD on Feb. 16. The purpose of the worksheet is to ensure that HUD and CoC agrees on all grants that will expire during the time period beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016 and to establish each CoCs FY 2015 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) amount.
5. ESG (Lori Sutton)
- a. Looking at turning in the aggregated statics. Working with Crisis Center Foundation, Salvation Army in Quincy, MCS Community Services, Samaritan Well, QUANADA and Madonna House have provided stats to make sure the data is clean. Two agencies have clean data and the other two have to be checked. The Annual ESG CAPER is due Feb. 13.
6. WCI Council
- a. Research & Evaluation Committee (Emily Robberts)
 - i. Will talk more about CoC needs and work plan for research evaluation committee and things from the government's charter that they want to work on for the continuum that they want to work on in the April and July meeting. Contact Emily Robberts, 217.222.5020 or EmilyR@unitedwayadamsco.org; Mary Muehlenfeld, 217.221.9922 or marymuehlenfeld@ywcaquincy.org; or Lori Sutton 309.298.2968 or la-sutton@wiu.edu if you want to be a part of the April and July meeting because those meeting focus on the CoC portion. Next meeting will be April 7, 2015 at the United Way of Adams County, 936 Broadway, Suite F, Quincy.
 - ii. Research & Evaluation Committee Responsibilities from Governance Charter: Oversight of the point-in-time count, conducting an annual gaps analysis of the homeless needs and services available, establishing system and project-level performance targets appropriate for population and program type, monitoring grant performance, developing a fair process for performance improvement, recommending action per that process, evaluating outcomes of projects funded under HUD (CoC and ESG Programs) and coordinating data collection and systems (including HMIS and Coordinated Assessment).
 - b. Coordinated Assessments Committee (Dona Leanard)
 - i. HUD is requiring CoCs to implement a coordinated assessment. Homeless people seeking services need be given on initial assessment to decide which services are most are most appropriate. We are transitioning away from a first come, first serve to most in need now. Quincy will be implementing coordinated assessment first, with Madonna House and Salvation Army volunteering to be the entry points to make referrals. The committee is reviewing an assessment tool. Gradually bring other communities on board after the kinks are worked out with the assessment.
 - ii. Committee consists of these members and agencies:
 1. Quincy: Cindy Grawe, Madonna House; Heidi Welty, Salvation Army; Mary Muehlenfeld and Myndi Boyd, YWCA of Quincy
 2. Jacksonville: Dona Leanard, Crisis Center Foundation (DV Shelter); Tammi Lonergan, MCS Community Services
 3. Macomb: Suzan Nash, Western Illinois Regional Council

7. Point-In-Time (Amanda Davis)
 - a. Representatives from the continuum go out and search for unsheltered homeless persons, usually last Wednesday in January. In the past, a night-time count was used, but didn't turn up homeless individuals. Tammi Lonergan handles Jacksonville, Mary Muehlenfeld's team handles Quincy, and Suzan Nash was in charge of Macomb.
 - b. This year, a service-based count was used to look for unsheltered homeless persons. Myndi Boyd (YWCA of Quincy) and Jasmine Locke (Madonna House) came up with 2 unsheltered homeless persons using the service-based count. Tammi did the night-time count, but did not identify anyone during the night-time count. Vanessa Tyus did interviews the next day in Jacksonville at the Salvation Army and she did not come in contact with unsheltered homeless. Suzan Nash also reported not coming in contact with unsheltered homeless population in Macomb with her service-based count.
8. Other
 - a. "Help Polish Our Precious Gems" workshop for school secretaries, enrolling staff, parent educators, social workers, liaisons and other essential staff, March 16, 2015 – see handouts.
 - b. PADS opened their first shelter January 30 in Bushnell. They are open on Friday nights and are looking for volunteers – see handout
9. Final Roll Call for Late Attendees (Amanda Davis)
10. Meeting Schedule
 - a. March 12: WCICCC conference call
 - b. April 7: Research & Evaluation Committee/Emergency Food and Shelter Program (Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike Counties) United Way of Adams County, 936 Broadway, Suite F, Quincy – assist on CoC needs
 - c. April 9: WCICCC conference call
 - d. May 14: WCICCC Meeting/Conference Call, YWCA of Quincy, 639 York Street, Quincy
 - e. July 7: Research & Evaluation Committee/Emergency Food and Shelter Program (Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike Counties) United Way of Adams County, 936 Broadway, Suite F, Quincy – assist on CoC needs
 - f. August TBA: Full Continuum Meeting/Conference Call ROE Homeless Liaisons / Homeless Shelter Providers Meeting, Hosted by Eileen Worthington, Regional Office of Education, 130 S. Lafayette Street -- Suite 200, Macomb, IL
 - g. September 10: WCICCC conference call
 - h. October 6: Research & Evaluation Committee/Emergency Food and Shelter Program (Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike Counties) United Way of Adams County, 936 Broadway, Suite F, Quincy – Emergency Food and Shelter Program allocations process emphasis
 - i. October 8: WCICCC conference call
 - j. November 12: Continuum Meeting/Conference Call; MCS Community Services, 345 West State, Jacksonville
 - k. January 5, 2016: Research & Evaluation Committee/Emergency Food and Shelter Program (Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike Counties) United Way of Adams County, 936 Broadway, Suite F, Quincy – Emergency Food and Shelter Program allocations process emphasis