

August 16, 2018 IL519 CoC Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Mary Muehlenfeld and Myndi Boyd; YWCA of Quincy, Erica Douglas, Jeff Cozadd; WIRC, Brooke Lovekamp; Crisis Center Foundation, VA Homeless Outreach Center, Amanda Akers; Cornerstone, Shannon McElroy; Quanada, Emily Robbearts; Chaddock, Candace Whitman; Genesis Garden, Tammi Lonergan; MCS, Kelsey Wenger; SSVF, Jim Gatti; Veteran Affairs, Tametha ; Two Rivers, Barb Baker-Chapin; Transitions, Karen Walker; United Way Prairieland, Morgan Parker, United Way Adams Co., Meg Woods and Taylor Gaines; Salvation Army Quincy, Danielle Barnes; Samaritan Well.

Announcements: Emily Robbearts announced that Chaddock is no longer providing the service for locked-out youth for Adams and Pike County that was fuded through DCFS. She inquired of the group if anyone knew who did get the contract. Barb Chapin suggested that perhaps no one was awarded.

Mary Muehlenfeld announced that if Regional Office of Education Homeless Liaisons need CoC sign off on their grants that are due to please contact her.

CoC Competition

No agency expressed interest in the bonus that would target victims of DV with a RRH/rental assistance program. So only the six renewal projects were submitted for the Research and Evaluation subcommittee to rank and review. The subcommittee included Jerry Gille, CoC board member and ED of QHA. Glenda Hackamack who was formerly the lead of the CoC and very familiar with the HUD grant process and requirements. Dona Leanard from Crisis Center in Morgan County. Lori Sutton from Henderson County. Candace Whitman from McDonough County. The score cards for those six projects and the minutes of the meeting that includes the ranking were posted to the wciccc website on August 11. The end result is:

The process for application is transparent. The NOFA was posted to the website that included links for instructions regarding application. The CoC posted the criteria and scoring tools as well as policy and procedures with a timeline for any interested applicants. A notice of the posting was emailed to the CoC membership.

The next step in the competition process is to submit our projects to Illinois Housing Development Authority for certification that they are consistent with the State's consolidated plan. There is also a CoC application portion of the process that has to be completed that asks numerous questions about our System Performance Measures (posted on the website); our point in time count; and our housing inventory count as well as questions about how the CoC is strategizing to end homelessness in our 11 counties. That application will be completed by September 7 and posted to the website for public review and comment.

ESG

All five of our project applications should have started July 1 and Salvation Army was given authorization to rollover approximately \$15,000 in RRH due to it's late release after being process with DHS legal department. This was funding CoC reallocated due to Madonna House closing. In the last two calls DHS

has mentioned they plan to monitor each program this year. I worked with Samaritan Well a little yesterday on some monitoring questions and issues and will be working with them in preparation. Danielle from SW might reach out to some of the veteran ESG recipients with questions on how they run their programs. Please be a mentor to Danielle as she is new to the position and to ESG programs. If any other ESG recipient would like me to come do a monitoring before DHS does, I would be glad to make some time after September to do that.

Research and Evaluation – Emily Robbearts reported that the funding for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program was allocated as reported in the June meeting.

Veteran Affairs & SSVF

James Gatti reported that the most recent year's data from his VA Outreach program shows 5 vets from IL519 served with 3 being literally homeless. Without the report in front of him he knew 2 were from Adams, 1 from Warren and 1 from Henderson. He also reported they have hired a Coordinated Entry Specialist. His VA Center is beginning a pilot program for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Homeless. He has also been trained in SOAR to help veterans access the social security benefits.

Kelsey Wenger from Salvation Army in Galesburg reported that Matt Griffin will transition out of the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program and begin administering a Grant Per Diem for the VA but that it does not fall into the jurisdiction of IL519. She will advise Matt's replacement.

The Veteran's Referral Initiative in Quincy functions as an Unmet Needs Committee specifically targeting veterans who need short-term assistance and advocacy to access veteran services/benefits. Members of the group includes the local VA, James Gatti from the VA Community Resources and Referral Center in the Quad Cities, Matt Griffin from Salvation Army in Galesburg who manages a Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant, United Way, our CoC, American Legion, IDES, and Tri-State Warriors.

Last Saturday at Heartland Lodge in Pike County Tri-State Warriors, GREDF and several business sponsors held Heroes at Heartland which was a day at the lodge for veterans and their family to enjoy at no cost the activities at the lodge: ATV rides, archery, trap shoot, horseback riding, Boy Scouts set up children's activities and a BBQ lunch was provided.

Tri-State Warriors is having a fundraiser October 28 with a Run/Walk at the Illinois Veterans Home. You can check them out on Facebook: Tri-State Warrior Outreach

System Performance Measures

Just a reminder that this is posted on the wciicc.com website and this is a grade card of how well our CoC is performing on our goals to end homelessness. It shows the last two year's data so you can compare. I think the highlight here is that there was a dramatic drop in the incidents of homelessness, we are moving people out of shelters at a reasonable rate and returns to homelessness particularly from PSH are very low. But there is always the concern that we are not getting the full picture. Incidents of homelessness are numbers provided by HMIS so if providers are not on the system we do not have their date. DV providers are not allowed to enter data in our HMIS and while they do have a comparable system it does not make it into this SPM report.

Coordinated Entry

Things are finally falling into place for coordinated entry/assessment in Macomb. Candace has helped me network in Macomb to meet the right players who had already set the wheels in motion to develop a collaboration of agencies dedicated to developing an unmet needs committee. At an Interagency Meeting yesterday Morgan Parker of United Way of Adams County provided an overview of how the program works. Pete Tarantola, lead for Interagency and ED of BBBS wrote a grant to acquire an Americorp volunteer to coordinate the Unmet Needs Committee. The City of Macomb is providing space for this position and I spoke with Pete about our CoC providing the HMIS software/hardware and funding down the line to enhance the position. We have to wait a year before the CoC can contribute to the salary because of the nature of the Americorp program. Once this position is in place we will work with them to implement Coordinated Entry/Assessment.

I prepared some revisions to the CE policy/procedures based on the fact that Madonna House was referenced many times in the document and HUD is requiring coordination with the VA so I prepared a rough first draft to give to Dona Leonard to review and bring to the committee.

HMIS

A training was held in July for all Service Point users and potential users. Our CoC added Genesis Garden as a user so Candace will begin gathering data for McDonough County so that we can collect data that hopefully can be used for funding opportunities down the road. Our goal is to expand the YWCA's current PSH in Macomb to serve homeless families with disabilities, but we need data to support the need and as mandated by HUD there has to be a coordinated entry/assessment process in place. We are also working with Morgan Parker at United Way of Adams County about the possibility of their contributing data to our HMIS in regard to their helpline and Unmet Needs Committee.