**Northwestern Continuum of Care**

**Tuesday, July 18, 2017 – 10:00 AM**

**ESG & Rapid Rehousing Committee Meeting**

**Vaya Health Conference Room**

**Present:** Bob Taylor, Tina Krause, and McKala(Intern) (Hospitality House), Lori Watts (Vaya Health), Jennifer Herman, Lesley Icenhour, and Kaylen Lewis (OASIS), and Kim Cashatt (NWRHA), David Barr (Easter Seals), Tommy McClure (Ashe DSS), Katherine Buchanan (A Safe Home for Everyone, A.S.H.E.), and Carl Jenkins (Community)

* **Welcome & Agency Updates**
  + **Northwestern Regional Housing authority (Kim)** – more vouchers, hopefully going to see more movement, autistic camp at Sky Valley
  + **Carl** – no updates
  + **Vaya Health (Lori)** – moving into adjacent building, saving money a lot of people working from home. One-time Housing Grant Assistance funds available for this fiscal year starting in July, significant cuts coming to mental health and disability state funding (at least 4.5 million services cut over the 23 counties Vaya serves).
    - There are some matching grant services that deal with these things so the funding cannot be cut as harshly.
    - Many of the State Non-Medicaid cuts will come from I/DD services where there are not matching grant requirements; many I/DD services are funded by Medicaid instead of State funds; Cuts still being determined… not finalized yet.
  + **Easter Seals (David)** – Wintergreen has one apartment open, otherwise it is full. Hasn’t started reaching out yet, also group home in West Jefferson is open (trying to get someone who was approved in the past in currently).
    - Wants to do waiting list but it’s hard with the apartments.
    - Next two weeks might be advertising for a part time person in West Jefferson to oversee apartments – 6 apartments (20-25 hours). Flexible hours about 2-3 days a week with person on call… residents are stable for the most part.
  + **OASIS (Jennifer, Kaylen, Leslie)** New fiscal year, 3 units available in permanent supportive housing
    - Osnium database created with Sage to get ready to submit their APRs in lieu of HMIS database that they are restricted from using since DV provider.
    - Sage seems to be working very well…
  + **A.S.H.E. (A Safe Home for Everyone – Katherine)** busy with summer outreach and support groups.
    - Enrolled two clients in rapid rehousing just did check request to get her first payments out. Person has been a great example for their program.
    - Hired a replacement and will most likely be the rapid rehousing manager going forth.
  + **ASHE DSS (Tommy) –** here to learn primarily and here because of the influx of adult protective supports, as well as number of guardian supports, people coming in that are walk-ins with known mental illness coming in.
  + **Hospitality House** (Tina) – full in housing, housing families all over. Working with other agencies to work with families for them to stay in their homes.
    - Hired Marty (Data Information Specialist and RISE Coordinator) – has experience in HMIS, creating reports.
    - **Bob** – Learned at workshop, about to launch this new format called Click (sp?) to be user-friendlier for the data. Program is all about data visualization, going to bring fresh utilization of data. Want the community to understand what is happening, example calls for 50 beds in 3 and a half weeks.
    - With Marty there is now a chance to better educate community members that resist what is going on. Trying to address the systematic failures that are being seen and bring awareness. (Point- average of a homeless person is 7)
    - **Tina –** wants a statistic for the amount of overdoses reported in counties (death rates). **Project Lazarus – Director is Fred Brayson**
    - **SAFE Domestic Violence Shelter in Wilkes** almost closed down except for Heather.
* **HUD funding/CoC Competition (NOFA) preparation** – All
  + August 29th – ESNAPS?
    - Notifications to project applications whether approved, what rank, and if not approved have to be out by Sept 13th
  + The 2017 CoC Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) opened July 14, 2017
  + Applications due September 28, 2017
    - PPRN: $819k
    - ARD: $273k
    - 94% of ARD (Tier 1): $257k
    - Eligible Planning amount: **$16.28k**
      * **Continue on with Hospitality House as lead on behalf of CoC**
    - Permanent Housing Bonus: $32.56k
      * Unknown details around it, last year it was rapid rehousing or permanent housing, etc.
      * **Vaya Health** – changes this year to application include hard-coded forms including lobbying, drug-fee workplace; will also need get consistency with consolidate plan form signed.
        + Must have code of conduct listed on HUD’s website
        + Project applicants that submitted previously can just pull screens for this year if there are no changes.
      * Submitted grant inventory worksheet (GIW) in May with name of agency, type of project… (In previous years we have attached to the project ranking but not any more)
      * **Reallocation:** 
        + NWCoC established reallocation policies to fit the NOFA;
        + Reallocation in this competition may be done voluntarily by CoC-funded projects foregoing renewal and may also be done by the competitive process.
        + **Project applicants, both new and renewal applicants are encouraged to submit new project applications to be funded through reallocation to better advance the priorities of NWCoC to address the high number of unsheltered homeless and the high number of homeless households with children.**
      * **New Project Housing bonus** – CoC leadership is encouraging project applications for the Permanent Housing Bonus award - $32,563 available**. Applications are encouraged from organizations that have not applied previously as well as from organizations with renewal applications.** 
        + Permanent supportive housing (rapid rehousing plus permanent housing) must meet dedicated plus, or may request the joint transitional housing - rapid housing component projects.
        + Consider instead of rapid rehousing bonus project, apply for chronically homeless permanent supportive housing bonus project

DSS could provide money for utilities for these chronically homeless, which will match with the grant opportunity.

* + - * + Ashe DSS used to have one of these grants (HMIS) many years ago – more than 12 years ago
      * All project applicants go **housing first**.
      * Case management assessment – income, documentation, housing, job needs, etc. (comprehensive assessment) Catherine from ASHE.
      * WeCan is going to have to do a campaign this year
      * Piece in the paper discuss all of this for the public to become aware.
* **Emergency Solutions Grant and Rapid Rehousing**
  + **They are redoing the requisition process to help simplify and expedite the requisition process**
  + As of June 2017, 44% of ESG grant spent down
  + New requisition process/paperwork for July requisition (August)
    - Always low in HMIS but rapid rehousing – ahead
    - Cutting check right at the end of the month, to put on cost report, previously they had red flagged this.
    - Maybe can ask can we submit two requisitions a month – first half/ second half

* **Follow up items:** 
  + **Article – combine data with all members, meeting where everything is targeted for this.**
  + Regional and Local Data
  + Coordinated Entry roll out and training
    - Need Marty
  + Hospital exit planning
    - Want another meeting, haven’t had a chance
    - **Meeting with probation as well (**Contacted by Detective Wilson)

\*Separate meeting in October (earlier) – publicity planning group and a discharge-planning group **(Tuesday at 10 am August 1st @Northwestern Regional) – Hospitality House, Northwestern Regional, Daymark, Hospital? Second meeting (Wednesday 2nd at 10 am)**

* **Other Business**
  + Governance Committee & NC HMIS update - Bob Taylor
  + NWCoC Website – Bob Taylor
    - **PRESS RELEASE ON WEBSITE, as well as Marti’s charts**
* **Upcoming Meetings and Dates:**
* July 17-19: NAEH National Homeless Conference, Washington, DC
* **September 28: CoC competition deadline**
* August 15: NWCoC Steering Committee meeting

November 14th conflict using Northwestern’s conference room and Hosp House board meeting, change to Wednesday November 15th

\*Meeting in neighboring counties, Ashe, Goodwill, Library – help encourage other parties to come