

Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
 September 26, 2016
 2:00 pm

Attendees: Audrey Walker- THA, , Barbara Buckley- MCBOS, Mary Gay Abbott-Young-RMT, Jay Everett – Monarch, Joanne Locke-MATEH, Jackie Edwards-Catholic Charities, Vernett Sherrill-CO, Marygrace Billek- MCHS, Greg Paulson, Trenton Health Team, Virgin Velez- MC-One Stop

Absent: Brenda Whitaker -Homefront

Agenda Topics	Discussion/Narrative	Action
Meeting Called to Order	<p>Informed members that the voting process will be shared at the Full Body CoC meeting on July 12th.</p> <p>Dennis Micai is retiring the end of July. Vernett S. thanked him on behalf of the City and CoC for his years of service to the community.</p>	<p>Marygrace Billek called to meeting to order at 2:09 pm.</p>
Review and Approval of June 2016 Minutes	<p>July and August meetings cancelled due to CoC Program application preparation.</p>	<p>Jackie Edwards- made motion to approve minutes as is; Barbara Buckley - Seconded; All in Favor</p> <p>Comment by Mary Gay Abbott Young – suggested to use Medicaid rate to standardize the cost of services in Mercer County to create a county-wide list of specific to each organization. Joanne L. recommended beginning with HMIS data. Vernett confirmed that the concept is being developed.</p>
Review of Mission Statement	<p>The Trenton/Mercer Continuum of Care works to ensure that people who experience homelessness or are at imminent risk of homelessness will have access to community and system resources to resolve their immediate housing crisis and facilitate their transition from homelessness to stability in permanent housing as rapidly as possible. The CoC is charged with overseeing the annual application process to HUD. It provides a forum for analysis and discussion of emerging needs, development of program standards, assessment of progress toward ending homelessness and identification and coordination of other sources of funding.</p>	<p>Members read quietly.</p>

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<p>HUD/CoC Update Vernett Sherrill/ Jay Everett</p>	<p>FY16 CoC Program Application – submitted a day before the deadline. Vernett S. thanked the team for their assistance. Applied for all renewals and 2 new projects 1 for youth and the other for families in addition to the bonus. Jay provided his projected scores for the 2016 application. Jay stated that he feels our metrics are moving in the right direction based on HUD scoring; hence believes we will score in the 170s (the highest percentile for NJ).</p>	
<p>HUD/CoC Update Contd.</p>	<p>FY 15 CoC Program Status – Resolution should be on the docket for next Tuesday night’s Council meeting. Contracts expected to be ready for pick-up on Wednesday after 12pm. Draw-downs and contracts will be processed together after final Council approval on Thursday.</p> <p>Coordinated Assessment Grant – Awards given in three different service areas. RMOT received award for case management to serve resistant chronically homeless individuals and housing counseling/relocation. RMOT will subcontract with HomeFront to provide housing counseling/relocation services. Arm in Arm received an award for the outreach component. A small amount of funding was awarded to the CEAS Center for refreshments for the consumers.</p> <p>CoC Planning Grant – Monarch Housing received award to provide additional support to the CoC. Mercer Alliance also receiving an award for planning.</p>	
<p>Coordinated Entry & Assessment Services (CEAS) Center</p>	<p>Staff has developed relationships with the providers who are frequenting the center. Moving in a single point of entry direction. The center is providing documentation to ensure that providers are coming through the proper channel for CoC and ESG vouchers. The Senior Project is moving forward and developing nicely (seniors are truly benefiting).</p>	

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Youth Homeless Committee Report	Marygrace advised members of the community's plan to compete for YHDP (very competitive) and P3 grants. Marygrace informed members that the State received federal funding for a youth initiative and Mercer received 20 HC vouchers awarded to PennReach. Anchor House received funding to provide supportive services to their current participants. Advised members that YHDP application/NOFA was reviewed during a small planning meeting last week to identify our community's needs. If selected we have 6 months to develop a plan. Members asked if community youth organizations could be invited to the Full Body meeting on 10/11 to request their assistance. DOE/HUD P3 grant will complement the YHDP as it targets disconnect youth experiencing homelessness. Discussed braid funding, which is a resource allocation strategy. Possible to redirect CoC and ESG funds since there is more flexibility. Vernet appraised members that it is important to go through this process whether selected or not so we are on target with the federal charge to end youth homelessness by 2020.	
HOPE Committee Report Brenda Whitaker	Discussion tabled until the next meeting.	
Leannder Family Center for Women, Children and Families Proposal	A copy of the proposal was disseminated to members for review. Much discussion ensued about the proposal's plan and request for funding. Members advised that the proposal was reviewed at the System Oversight meeting. Consensus of committees to meet with the organization representatives to educate about our system and the direction we are moving.	
Other Business/Announcements	-Isles, Inc. having a community discussion about Micro Homes to house the homeless in Trenton on 10/5 at 4pm at 33 Tucker Street. -300 Clinton Ave closing on 9/30/16 -Mercer County receiving NAEH partnership award for RRH on 11/17 at 6:30pm	DuEwa to review Bylaws and send Exec. Members info about a member vacating a position.
Meeting Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm by Marygrace Billek.

