

COC Meeting

April 4, 2022

3:00PM

Present: Brandi Scott, Erica Johns, Mindy Burden, Andy Patterson, Alicia Ariatti, Laura Albovias, Ashley Tabor, Andrea Mayberry, Cindy Read, Nora Inman, Danielle Otte, William King, Nolan Nelson, Tony Cecil, Erin Wallace-Wimsatt, Jean Romano, Gail Nall, Tony Cecil, Mary Frances Schafer, Liza Kerr, Derek Renko, Randall Weber, Greer Hannan, Ayla Espinoza, Natalie Harris, Carey Addison, Nikki Thornton, Shannon Derrick, Christina Bunch, Mindy Burden, Mary Luke Noonan, Amanda Minogue, Andrew Pettyjohn, Jean Romano, Stachelle Bussey, Teshanna Brown, JaDora Parks.

Brandi began the meeting at 3:00 PM.

FY 21 COC Awards: Brandi informed all participants that the Louisville COC was awarded nearly 14 million from HUD. She described the breakdown of what projects were awarded and those that were not funded. She will inform the group when the score for the overall COC and info on grant agreements from HUD are received. Brandi concluded her report by cautioning agencies to conduct their environmental review as it required by HUD for issuing grant agreements.

Unsheltered PIT: It has been reported that 243 people were counted during the unsheltered PIT. Brandi thanked the outreach workers and various agencies who worked tirelessly to complete this year's count. She will report the demographic breakdown from this count once the data has been received.

COC Board- Board Member Recruitment: Brandi discussed the current need for 6-10 COC Board members. Duties of the board include the oversight of the COC governance and the ranking approval of projects during the application season. Brandi also spoke on the representation that is needed within the board from various agencies and causes including lived experience, LGBTQ and youth work. She further noted that those with lived experience may receive a stipend for their participation.

RAVE System Update: Mary Frances Schafer discussed her current work on the new RAVE alert system. This 1-way communication system will send out various messages regarding shelter openings, white flag status, camp clearings, weather advisories, bed availability, etc. Any recipient of these messages may fill out a form to opt in and list the preferences of the messages to be received. Anyone in the COC is encouraged to send the form link to anyone of interest. Mary Frances also discussed her future plans to expand this tool for 24-hour use and sending one way message alerts directly to clients.

Monitoring and Training Update: Ashley Tabor discussed her current work on Monitoring and Training and noted that the monitoring period is almost finished with 2 agencies left. She concluded her report by noting the scoring and ranking committee are working on the requirements needed in the future.

Common Assessment Survey- Carey Addison discussed his work on a common assessment survey to improve coordinated entry through new strategies and tools. He has requested that the COC community fill out the survey to provide feedback on systems and priorities. He has requested the surveys be completed by April 18th.

Metro Safe Deflection Program- Jean Romano- VP of adult services for Seven Counties- spoke about the newly launched Metro Safe Deflection Program and the efforts to provide those experiencing mental health crisis with a mobile crisis team rather than law enforcement. She discussed her current work on collecting resources and reported that there are currently 200 resources available within their database that can be used when needed.

Louisville Metro for HOPE Village- Alicia Ariatti and Stachelle Bussey spoke about the work being done on the HOPE village and reported that they are looking to open sometime next week once an electrical panel is installed. Stachelle reported on the operations and staffing and also discussed the mission of bridging the gap between the streets and stable housing. Services and resources that will be used to facilitate this transition include harm reduction practices, trauma informed care, needle exchange, sex education, covid prevention, etc. She concluded her update by discussing the work for the management and oversight involving staff, site upkeep, guidelines, and reintegrating clients back into the community.

Inappropriate Hospital Discharge and meeting with Norton- Natalie Harris reported the work for replicating Lexington's successful practices for the hospital discharge process of homeless clients. She noted that there has been an increase of inappropriate discharges due to covid. Her wishes are to work to educate the hospitals on shelter abilities with medically complex clients who cannot care for themselves. A form has been created to report incidents - available through a link that will be shared with the COC. Natalie also noted that a quarterly member agency meeting will be scheduled for May 9th at 2:30PM to hold a conversation with Norton Hospital on ways to coordinate a better discharge process for homeless clients.

Racial Equity Committee- Danielle Otte discussed her efforts on the Racial Equity Committee and noted that a link to a google form will be sent for anyone interested in joining. She also discussed the Racial Equity roadmap provided by HUD that will be used as the guideline for areas of improvement.

Consumer Participation Committee – Danielle also discussed the Consumer Participation Committee and the need for 5-10 members including participants with lived experience. She has asked for recommendations from the agencies of the COC. She concluded her report by noting the lived experience stipend will also apply to the seats within this committee.

Additional Notes:

- Fair Housing trainings are available- the links for these trainings will be sent out to the COC. Members of the COC are strongly encouraged to participate and to share the opportunities with their staff.
- Nina Mosely of Wayside has offered socks to any agency with need. Please reach out to her if needed.
- Natalie Harris discussed the availability of blankets and clothes available from the Nearly New Shop- please reach out to Natalie at nharris@louhomeless.org.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Erica Johns
Executive Assistant
Coalition for the Homeless**