

MICH Minutes 4/5/2021

Attendance: Cassie Sipos-Haas MHDC, Johna Elgin, MODOC, Nathaniel Meece, CPSEMO, CA for MOBOSCO; Randy Sharp -- St Joseph CoC; Anthony Smith, FCC Behavioral Health- BOSCO representative; Tammy Walker, Economic Security Corporation, Jasper and Newton County COC; Rebecca Sudduth, St. Louis VA; Debi Meeds - The Partnership; Sonia Campbell, Catholic Charities KC/St. Joseph; Summer Livingston- Hillcrest (Region 4 Coordinated Entry Specialist); Kathy Henderson - Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service; Dottie Kastigar, St. Charles CoC; Dante Gliniecki, Independence, MO Emergency Management

Minutes: Kelli motioned to approve, Cassie seconded; consensus vote, approved, no opposition or abstentions.

New Business

Amanda stated we will table the voting membership until a later time. We all have many issues we are dealing with in our community including the ongoing pandemic.

ESG Emergency Shelter Written Standards – Cassie sent them out with the minutes. They are finished and ready to be voted on. The workgroup was comprised of agencies from St. Louis, St. Joseph, St. Charles and Springfield all but one of which operated emergency shelters. These standards are to be implemented on a statewide basis and should be taken to all of the CoCs for adoption.

Randy moved to approve, Dottie seconded. Consensus vote, unanimous approval, no opposed or abstentions.

Cassie will put an effective date on the document and send out to the group.

COVID Response Updates

MHDC Funding Updates – Cassie stated the MHDC has disaster relief funding and ESG funding. DRF funds went to community action agencies for COVID-19 relief. SAFHR is open and available to all areas of the state. The landlord application opened April 1, 2021. A paper application is in the process of being created and available soon. The paper application will take longer to process. MHDC is needing agencies to provide supportive services related to these funds. MHDC doesn't have great data for SAFHR right now. No new ERAP applications will be processed after today, April 5, 2021. There are over 900 landlords that have been approved by the program. St. Louis County received 40%, St. Louis City received 20%, Kansas City received 9%, and all other areas received 27%. ESG-CV agencies have been approved and are able to provide services. New agencies would have needed to apply by March 31, 2021. Additional funds can be available to existing agencies.

MO Advisory Committee for Equitable Vaccine Distribution

Sarah Hart Weir – making sure people with disabilities were at the table related to COVID vaccine distribution. Meet Thursdays at 1:00pm, have many stakeholders at the table. This helps inform the supply of vaccine in the state and the delivery of the vaccines. Helping ensure there aren't any blind spots in vaccine distribution. Minority outreach and engagement workgroup, homebound workgroup, unhoused workgroup, and transportation workgroup. Transportation workgroup just launched a resource showing low cost or free transportation throughout the state, called **Get A Ride**

[\(https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/ride/\)](https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/ride/). Know that the local CoCs have relationships with public health agencies and want to utilize those relationships to outreach to the unhoused population. National Guard is helping to vaccinate the unhoused population in the St. Louis area, they are hoping to use those strategies to expand services. LPHAs are the entities that will order the vaccine and determine a vaccination site. Phase 2 opened up in state.

<https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/equity/>

Randy shared the St. Joseph homeless walk-in vaccination clinic. 30 individuals took advantage of the walk-in clinic. These were some of the most vulnerable individuals in the community. Randy shared that the unhoused population receives information in a different way that the rest of us do. The public health and hospitals were the drivers of the clinic. Simple flyers were used to promote the event and a myth sheet. Street outreach workers promoted the event and provided transportation. The event was located next to the soup kitchen.

Dante from Independence Emergency Management would like to see a best practice protocol for discharging COVID positive individuals from hospitals. Dante will coordinate with Sarah on creating this document. Dottie has a document that St. Charles created with their health dept. for referrals between the agencies for COVID positive individuals. Amanda shared that Springfield also had a protocol with their health department. Springfield has had three events for vaccination. They have been at locations which are frequented by individuals who are unhoused. They were able to offer the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Sarah would be happy to connect us with other health organizations that could provide assistance with vaccinations. Dottie suggested we figure out ways to incorporate peer supports in providing information regarding vaccinations. Could we use our recovery support providers to help inform how to utilize peers for the vaccination efforts?

Dottie – MC2

Met this morning had conversations related to vaccines. Discussed winter response this year due to COVID protocols and lack of volunteers. No one was aware of any deaths that occurred, which is wonderful. Agencies are challenged in spending the funding due to lack of staff and difficult documentation guidelines. Emergency management is becoming more interested in warming and cooling sites.

Cassie motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by Amanda, vote by consensus unanimous approval, no opposition, no abstentions. Meeting adjourned 2:01pm.