

MC2 MEETING MINUTES: MONDAY APRIL 4, 2022

Attendees

Amanda Stadler (DMH)	Michelle Garand (Springfield CoC)
Ann Benson (Jobs Plus, Independence MO)	Randy Sharp (St. Joseph CoC)
Anthony Smith (BOS)	Sandy Wilson (ICA)
Dottie Kastigar (St. Charles CoC)	Sonia Campbell (Catholic Charities – St. Joseph CoC/BOS)
Janelle Williams (MOCADSV)	Tammy Walker (Joplin CoC)
Kelli Kemna (DMH)	
Marqueia Watson (Kansas City CoC)	

Warming Shelter Updates

St. Joe - Emergency Shelter in St. Joe is a big mess. Community Action did a women's shelter, which only had 2-3 women per night accessing it. There were struggles with volunteers/staffing. Several agencies are trying to produce ways to get shelter including a motel voucher type model. There was some frustration with varied hours across shelters - males could enter the facility at 5pm as opposed to women who were only allowed in after 8pm, and this was primarily a staffing issue with limited staff resources COVID issue notwithstanding.

Springfield - Had a phenomenal warming shelter, had more communities step up and help expand the number of people they could help. Over the last couple of years, they had an expansion that focused on people that have pets and also couples. Before that people would not come in from out of the cold because of their beloved person or pet. Churches doing this has helped out tremendously and the city of Springfield donated \$30,000 to get a larger shelter space, however the CoC has not been able to locate a suitable property yet. CoC perspective is, it is really nice for our faith communities to step in and to be able to invite others in and educate on the challenges of homelessness. Through the first round of stimulus funds, Community Partnership bought a van or shuttle to help transport people; the City of Springfield also provided funds to hire the shuttle driver. Tear-drop trailers and tiny homes are some viable solutions in response to the housing/homeless crisis in the city.

Kansas City - Warming shelter is a big topic in Kansas City; their Mayor appointed 10 people to a coalition to address this issue. An overflow shelter at one of the community shelters was created; there were communication issues with shelter access/placement. Implementation was also complicated because of existing hotel placements with partner agencies. Some agencies utilized an Uber model with volunteers for transportation to shelter.

Joplin – There are existing warming centers that partner loosely with the CoC, but there is no revenue for emergency weather shelters.

CE Updates: DMH's CE directory has been updated for this year (<https://dmh.mo.gov/media/pdf/missouri-cocs-coordinated-entry-directory>). Everyone should please review it- any updates can be sent to housing@dmh.mo.gov. The only access points that are listed are those that will serve anyone (ie not limited to special populations).

CoC NOFO Debrief: Very few CoCs received any bonus awards. Discussion on housing shortage across CoCs.