

## MC2 Meeting Minutes, August 3, 2020

### Updates

**BOS** - Voted on a new collaborative applicant: Community Partnership of Southeast MO (CPSEMO). They will be working in conjunction with HOMEBASE to sub-contract the COC NOFA application process for the upcoming grant opportunity. Homebase has a lot of experience with COC homeless grants, conducting data collection, working on planning grants and CoC grant submissions. The CA will also be working with the CoC board to address applying for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program for participating agencies within the Balance of State. There is a youth sub-committee group that has been formed and meets every third Tuesday of the month, we should have an update for the GCEH on the work that is being produced for YHDP as well as ESG funding opportunities and CARES funds for COVID relief assistance throughout the continuum. We are asking that participating homeless services providers get with our new Collaborative Applicant to ensure the NOFA is submitted for new and renewal projects allowing the best opportunities to utilize awards for this funding cycle.

**Kansas City** - Heather Hoffman has resigned as Executive Director, and Marqueia Watson will be the active Interim Director through October until the board can finalize how that position will be filled. Coalition finalized the transfer of HMIS lead agency from MAAC to Greater KC Coalition to End Homelessness, so the lead agency is acting in both roles as the HMIS lead and CA, but that transition has gone well. No movement on competition, the Administration committee is meeting year round and looking at policy and procedure for the continuum, they are starting to look at last years collaborative application and piece-mealing from other agencies locally to see where we can have improvements.

**Springfield** - Has not really looked at NOFA details for this year. NOFA committee has had meetings and just waiting around to see what changes or updates there going to have to this year for application process. CoC plans on applying for YHDP again. And the taskforce has met to debrief last year's application in anticipation for this year's funding.

**St. Charles** - Not applying for youth grant. Has not started planning for NOFA application either. Not much has happened other than responding to the COVID pandemic, things are still very active within the CoC however.

**St. Joe** - Does not believe the NOFA is going to happen in the traditional way due to congress and legislative bills pertaining to holdup regarding funding amid COVID. They are dealing with a flood at the moment, 200 homes damaged in the poorest area in town. Hoping emergency shelter keeps operating to deal with displaced individuals and families, church affiliated with emergency shelter lost its funding resulting in layoffs, so not quite sure if services will remain available or for how long due to funding. Waiting on COVID relief funding, but can't access the funds due to bureaucracy.

The House 2021 appropriations bill includes \$75 million for DV bonuses, everyone expects some negotiations on the Senate side, but all discussions with Senate leaders indicate that their aware of the need for housing with this targeted population.

## **Covid Response & Gap updates**

**Balance** - All 10 regions received presentation from Dirk Cable on the 2020 Census. Census information has been helpful for planning of Project Homeless Connect events being held in the Balance of State; however, several regions are having issues to even see if there's going to participate in PHC due to COVID. CoC is trying to develop regional approaches for that in case these events can't be held. In regards to extreme weather shelters, the sub committee chaired by Dottie Kastigar continues to meet with leaders from all CoCs in the State to address and identify shelters and the needs that they have during extreme weather months. The Balance of State has been committed to the group discussion and sharing resources with the full committee. In Central Missouri the decision has been made to move forward with PHC events but only the "essential" providers, i.e., medical and dental providers will be providing services. All supportive services providers will be disseminating flyers and can arrange with individuals attending the event how to access the services remotely at the participating vendor's location(s).

**Kansas City** - Doesn't do a traditional PHC event, they have a group of volunteers that have hosted a similar event, but haven't heard from that membership committee as to if they would be sponsoring an event in the Summer or Fall. As far as shelters, the "3 trail shelter" is closing down at the end of August, but the hotel vouchers for those who have tested positive for COVID are still being use. The CoC has reached out to those motels that are providing quarantine rooms for individuals who have tested positive or awaiting test results.

**Springfield** - The CoC has made the decision to cancel their Project Homeless Connect event amid COVID concerns, having conversation with community partners that can offer services at their facility instead of having a large event that couldn't provide appropriate mitigation. Awaiting more information regarding the Census to be discussed at the full GCEH meeting. Cold weather committees have met and they talked to churches and they're not comfortable with opening up because volunteers are in that range of risk to COVID. The city of Springfield has passed a mask ordinances and provided mask to the public.

**St. Charles** - The cold weather shelter committee has met and they've surveyed the churches and they are not comfortable opening because staff are at-risk to COVID especially in the age range group. They're looking to do motel sheltering instead of church sheltering. There is a separate shelter situation through the Coordinated Entry process, but a lot of issues with accepting individuals into the shelter and also test results taking way too long after initial assessment. A lot of problems with shelters taking people in due to not having a negative COVID test before going in & test are taking too long to get back. Those with positive or pending test results working on resources for shelters through motel vouchers. Project Homeless Connect is not going to happen, however participating agencies are offering services with pop up service provision through everyone's individual networks which is working fairly well for now.

**St. Joe** - Main focus right now is to save their one shelter right now, they do have a men only shelter ran by an agency, but they are currently closed due to them having to pay \$15,000 for sewer repairs before they can even re-open. Still grappling with the repair cost and utilizing management of another participating shelter, new group vs old group politics, so trying. Project Homeless Connect doesn't seem

like it is worth pursuing with recent outbreak from packing plant locally. If the CAP agency situation falls through, no option for emergency shelter.

### **2020 PITC**

Scheduled to be done on January 27, 2021. Asking if this date is ok for everyone and peoples' response was that January is too far to really be able to tell what's going to happen with the COVID situation and that the date for PIT count just needs to be voted on later at the next October meeting.

### **GCEH Leadership**

Liz is retiring in October and will be resigning as GCEH chair. Asking for any volunteers that would like to fill this spot and they can vote in December's meeting.

**No other statements.**