

Housing Continuum of Care – Bucks County, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2016

Present: Matt Uhler, Don Detweiler, Rich Aichele, Joyce Schug, Tracy Mellor, Stefanie Hendel, Joelle Pitts, Deborah Kirkner, Marlene Piasecki, Roger Collins, Marti Woglom, Erin Lukoss, Deb Neidhardt

Absent: Jon Rubin

Approval of February 19, 2016 Minutes (Don Detweiler): Stefanie Hendel corrected the PIT count numbers. Rich Aichele made the motion to approve the amended minutes of the February 19, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Tracy Mellor. All approved, none opposed.

Outcomes Committee/Priority List (Erin Lukoss): Outcomes continues to work on the priority list. They have worked with DCED to have the list built in to HMIS. It is customized for Bucks County. They plan to meet in April with a soft launch in May. Providers will be able to access the list and pull people off of the list. Users will be able to filter by program and subpopulation. This should decrease the wait times. After this project, they will resume work on the performance calculator. There is a new tool out from the national alliance (called swap) – this allows for the comparison of outcomes.

Training (Deb Neidhardt): There was a Bridges out of Poverty training on March 16. Over 35 people attended this training. There will be a mental health first aid training on April 8 at Lenape Valley.

Data Management (Stefanie Hendel): Data will be meeting on the 24th to review the PIT outcomes. They will present the outcomes at the general CoC meeting on the 24th. The data is due in to HUD on May 1. The weather was worse this year and there was high utilization of the code blue shelters. This may account for the increased count. The data will be posted on the HCoC website. Marlene asked if information was available on adult age breakouts (55+). The current PIT survey only classifies adults as 25+.

LHOT (Joyce Schug): Didn't meet.

HAB update (Roger Collins): Next workgroup meeting is March 30.

Local Preference (Rich Aichele): Have 4 applications to review today. All total, about 60 have been sent on to local preference.

HMIS (Stefanie Hendel): A few new programs have been added. Valley Youth House has been approved to expand their service up from age 21 to age 24. They are now set up to receive referrals from the Housing Link system. Bucks Villa is also set up, and Family Promise of Lower Bucks County is in the process of getting approved (they expect to be open on April 3 and start taking referrals on March 28).

The HMIS team continues to work on a common referral list. It was recommended that a category be created for outreach. The database can be filtered by age.

Enhanced Housing Link will meet on Tuesday 3/22 at 10:00. They will review current reporting as well as how to incorporate mental health. Additionally, there are some new reports that have been added. They can now pull reports on unduplicated households. Assessment sites can now review open screenings so that they can close them out.

January 15 was the launch of the new call screening. 98 households (13% of calls) were referred to diversion. Marlene suggested that a fact sheet about diversion would be helpful.

Membership and Committee Participation (Don Detweiler): There is a need to get people to reapply/rejoin, and revisit committee membership. This can be done through Survey Monkey. It was recommended that a fillable PDF membership form be made available through the website. Stefanie recommended that the PIT become an ad-hoc committee as opposed to being part of the data management committee.

HUD Update (Marti): HUD has announced the awards for tier 1 projects. Projects that straddled tier 1 and tier 2 will be announced later. We are awaiting decisions on tier 2, one reallocation, and the bonus project.

The county is accepting applications for Emergency Solutions Grant. Announcements went out to the general membership on March 4.

Deborah Kirkner reviewed CoC compliance and paperwork. She put together a draft spreadsheet so that partners could review and ensure that all paperwork dating back to 2014 is up to date. It's expected that there will be monitoring visits this spring, partner agencies should forward all letters relating to monitoring visits.

Erin Lukoss notified the group that BCOG has received an approved budget modification for the IHDC to rapid re-housing project.

Valley Youth House update (Joelle Pitts): Valley Youth House has hired Tom Harrington as the new CEO. They are restructuring staff to fit the geography of their service area. Colleen Landy will be the director working in Bucks County.

Agenda items for 3/24/16 meeting:

- Membership
- PIT
- HCoC grant update
- Elections
- Training
- Discussion on landlord engagement

Notes submitted by Matt Uhler, Secretary HCoC-BC