Present: Heidi Svee, New Horizons; Abbi Jeffers – Couleecap; Kayla Ryan – The Salvation Army;

Coulee Collaborative to End Homelessness

*Collaborative, diverse, and compassionate individuals working to eliminate homelessness in La Crosse, Vernon, Monroe, and Crawford Counties.*

Megan Gruber – Couleecap; Stephanie Tourville – Inclusa; Daniella Nelles – Couleecap; Becky Koske – Couleecap; Billie Wise, Couleecap; Molly Betts MHS Health WI; Julie McDermid – Karuna; Sam Xiong Cia Siab, Inc; Michael Fitzpatrick, ILR; Kristina Bechtel - Peace of Mind Counseling; Stephanie Van Hulst - Institute for Community Alliances; Lee Walraven, Families First of Monroe County; Lauren Heitman - DHS Area Administration; Jessica Thill, Cia Siab, Inc; Kristi Herold, La Crosse County Human Services;

Deanna Kloster, UnitedHealthcare Medicaid Housing Manager; Kael Clemmerson New Beginnings; Vie Matty, Family and Community Engagement Manager, Head Start; Katie Spaeth - Institute for Community Alliances; Anthony Larson CVI; Marissa Miller Justice support services; Brian Sampson, City of La Crosse; Liz Evans, Great Rivers United Way;

**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 18, 2023**

1. Introductions and Housekeeping – Please chat your name and organization for attendance.
2. March Meeting Minutes – no changes needed. Minutes are approved.
3. Data Dashboard Update –Brian Sampson presented the Data Dashboard showing the monthly CoC data. Pulled on April 3 showing a snapshot of March 2023. The Data Dashboard Team has been making small tweaks to keep improving to make it understandable for all. Next month, a link will be sent with May’s agenda so everyone has a chance to review prior to the CCEH meeting. For March 2023 there were 237 individuals and 56 families on the prioritization list. 68 entered the list in March and 52 dropped off the list. Those that returned to homelessness after having been housed, Stephanie will confirm they were folks who returned to the Coordinated Entry System after having been enrolled in a housing program. Julie will check the over-time homeless interventions graph to see if a correction is needed due to the appearance of a big jump. Migration data – we will share annually. There are anecdotal data around people coming to the area for homeless services. The data we have available for the state of Wisconsin CoCs shows in 2022, 47 people entered Coulee CoC from other WI CoCs and 39 people left Coulee CoC to other CoCs in Wisconsin. Meaning we were +8. We could collect other data, but it would take adding custom fields in the database and training for organizations to enter that data.
4. Balance of State Update: Prepping for the CoC competition. Carrie and the board have completed the CoC project scoring tool. She sends it out to the whole membership for review and comment. Kristie will post the file and the email address to send feedback. This is our opportunity to give feedback rather than be upset after the scores are tabulated. Email feedback to wiboscoc@gmail.com. There was discussion around advocacy at the last BOS meeting. Carrie and others are working on creating more opportunities at the local level. She created a drive where anyone can access an advocacy training recording, slide deck, and brainstorming job board. <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18G2IMmeKXwuwmrC2hAz0GxuNeVcbPeGD?usp=share_link> Keep an eye on the BOS website for trainings: <https://www.wiboscoc.org>. The Action Plan has been voted on and submitted.
5. Action Plan Update: The first subcommittee meeting is this Thursday. One of the goals was to promote DEI within our area.
6. Racial Disparities Presentation – Meredith McCoy and other BOS Staff are presenting disparity reports for coalitions in the Balance of State. Regarding labels: A Continuum of Care is the HUD identified CoC. In WI there are 4. BOS, Milwaukee County, Dane County, Racine County. The Balance of State COC has 21 smaller coalitions. WI Balance of State has quarterly meetings – this Coulee CoC (CCEH) meets monthly. Data presented is from HMIS. The CoC competition happens annually. Each project has to apply. Part of the annual competition: NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity). HUD requires answers to many questions and are focusing on progress in diversity, equity, and inclusion. ICA developed racial disparity reports. Reports shared were July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. Rate of homelessness in Coulee CoC overall was 43/10,000. The rates are disproportionately higher for Black/African American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaskan Native and Hispanic Ethnicity. Question regarding under-reporting – there is a chance that numbers are under-reported due to people not interacting with the system. The information from the DV (domestic violence) system is not included in the HMIS. Asian rate is lower than white, however they may not interact with the system due to language and access. They may be getting help from family. Considering the rates in which non-white folks are experiencing homelessness – it is not reflected in the percent of clients entering our HUD-funded programs. Program Outcomes: There is a lot of outcome data not collected. Non-PH Exits = exit from Non-Permanent Housing projects like emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid-rehousing: 28.8% success rate. Good success rate of those exiting permanent supportive housing 80.9%. “Successful exit” is specifically exit to a permanent destination – not necessarily that they remained. (Slide 8) The lookback for returns to homelessness is 2 years. Question on data by sexual orientation – that data is not collected for all project types and analysis is not available. These data will most likely be collected next summer. This data should be used for the Action Plan.
7. After Hours Plan - This was discussed at the last meeting and an update was needed before we could vote. The Salvation Army vouchers in the rural counties information has been verified and is correct in the plan. It is not a robust voucher program – just a night or two if funds are available. Lee Walraven from Families First of Monroe County updated the contact number. With a quorum of voting CCEH members on the call, a vote was taken and the After Hours Plan was unanimously approved. The After Hours plan will be turned into the Balance of State and can be shared with the membership. If changes need to be made, please contact Abbi Jeffers.
8. CCEH Annual Calendar – Brian created and shared a listing of business items and votes needed throughout the year to help members be prepared and the coalition running smoothly. No additions or corrections.
9. Membership Agreements – Please send in your membership agreement. Remember only one voting member per organization.
10. Agency Updates
* Interfaith Coalition – Mayor speaking at an upcoming meeting. There is a link on the Interfaith Coalition website/Facebook Page.
* Stephanie Van Hulst at ICA – they are restructuring and Stephanie is handing over CCEH to Katie Spaeth. She is our new representative at ICA.
* Compass Now survey will be live by next month. Please help with outreach to gather as much input as possible.
1. Next Meeting: May 16, 2023