NCCoC meeting minutes for April 27th, 2022

Present via Zoom: Katie Schumer, Tracy Rieger, Diane Sennholz, Chandra Wakefield, Sue Sippel, Ted Merwin, Theresa Anthoney, Kim West, Ann Jelinek, Ben Lee, Leigh Polodna, Juli Birkenmeier, Amber Tomaszewski, Kim West, Lacey Piekarski, Lisa Hunt, Mary Vang, Beth Richlen, Melissa Walsh, Rene Schulz, Tricia Hebert, Tina Steinkamp, Kevin Burch, Melissa Walsh, Tammy King, Kristin Slonski, Debbie Meye, Stacie Bartelt, Brian Gumness, Ken Corry, Brooklyn Elliot, Jackie Caratini, Caylee Nichols, Jessica Jinski, Lynn Ross, Adam Groskruetz, Beth Larsen, Betty Noel, True Lor, Ben Eberlein, Emily Mueller, Milo Zarazua, Grayson Greer, Breanna Rosik,

**Wausau Community Development Authority -** **Juli Birkenmeier** – Juli shared Wausau Community Development Authority’s Housing Programs. She gave specifics about number of units available in each program and the process by which openings are filled. The presentation was e-mailed to the full coalition.

**Street Outreach Specialist with NCCAP** - **Milo Zarazua** -- Milo introduced himself and spoke to his role working with the homeless population who are dealing with mental health concerns. While the street outreach program does not have housing attached to the program, Milo does assess each individual he comes in contact with and if the individual chooses to participate, Milo can use the assessment tool for coordinated entry (known as the VI-SPDAT) that allows the individual to be referred to the appropriate housing list. In addition, Milo is the Youth Advisory Board Coordinator. In this role he facilitates the connection of the youth and young adults (17 to 24 years of age) who are living on their own or with others and are not connected to their family or relatives. The YAB convenes weekly to discuss their barriers not only to finding and staying housed but also in accessing services that would help them to meet basic needs and grow in a healthy environment.

**Youth Demonstration Housing Project Committee -** Diane shared this committee is composed of many stakeholders who work with Young adults in various capacities and was formed to help complete the Coordinated Community Plan for the Youth Housing Demonstration Project. Sitting on this committee is a member of the YAB so information from youth and young adults can be shared. This will be a standing committee of the NCCoC as we will meet on a regular basis to discuss what we are seeing in the way of homeless youth or at risk youth and how to effectively address concerns and potentially write for new grants available for this population. The committee believes regular connection and communication with each other will yield more success in helping the young adults we are all working with and hopefully allow us to connect with more youth who are in need of services.

Also sent out the whole continua was the Coordinated Community Plan. This plan may be modified as we progress and continue to work with youth and young adults.

**Update on the Governing Charter to include Youth Advisory Board representatives and voting rights** – Diane briefly went over necessary changes to include the Youth voice in our Coalition (NCCoC). A vote was solicited. Motion to approve changes/additions was made by Tracy Rieger, seconded by Ann Jelinek, NCCAP abstains and motion carries. The Governing Charter was sent to full coalition with agenda.

**After hours plan, purpose, and requirements** – Katie Schumer, Coordinated Entry Specialist and Outreach Case Manager went over proposed take-over of the After-hours plan in Wood County. Katie is working with the Balance of State to possibly have United Ways 2-1-1 administer the plan as the Family Center is finding it difficult to administer due to the barriers of those accessing the plan. The Family Center specializes in domestic violence, not necessarily homelessness and as of June 30th they will no longer be able to administer the plan. There is no other 24 hour shelter in Wood County.

Updates from the Coalition:

**Catholic Charities Wausau -** Tracy announced the Warming Center closes as of April 30th and their 3rd avenue location will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays this summer from 10 AM to 1PM for those who have signed up to do laundry or take a shower.

**Lutheran Social Services -** Michael Hanke wanted to let the stakeholders know that Klein Hall in Chippewa Falls has immediate openings for single male veterans in our VA transitional program (two years The application and ROI’s were sent out the full coalition after the meeting.

Future meeting dates: July 27th, October 27th, January 25th, 2023