**Southwest Continuum of Care (SWCOC) Meeting**

**Thursday, October 12, 2023**

**1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**201 S. Iowa Street Dodgeville WI. Zoom Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Michelle Friedrich at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance – Roxanne Klubertanz-Gerber, Sheryl Brokopp, Seth Reynolds, Michael Hanrahan, Cindy Kuzdas, Cassandra Robinson, Sue Schwartz, Heather Ringberg, Jane Laity, Kate Chambers, Katie Spaeth, Dawn Cronin, Corie Dejno, Meredith McCoy, Deanna Kloster, Lynn Halverson, Debbie Siegenthaler, Szvon Conway, Jennifer Amacher, Becky Turpin, Marcia Galvan, Teresa Keehn, Keith Lucas, Shawn Monson, Julie McGuire, Michelle Friedrich

Introduction of New Members – Heather Ringberg: W-2 office serving Grant & Richland Counties, Jane Laity: Lafayette County Health Department, Dawn Cronin: Albany Housing Authority, Cindy Kuzdas: CVI

1. Approval of Agenda – Sue made the motion, Roxanne seconded. Motion carried.
2. Approval of September Minutes – Sheryl made the motion, Sue seconded. Motion carried.
3. Balance of State Updates
	* + Michelle forwarded the email updates from the BOS to the group this morning
		+ Information is open to everyone and can be shared with anyone that may have an interest
4. WI Balance of State Competition/follow-up
	* + Sub committee helped fill out info for the collaborative grant for state of Wisconsin
			- Yearly grant that is opened up to other organizations that are part of the continuum of care to apply for funds
				* Use funds for shelters, creating housing, etc
			- Provides extra funding to help support programs
			- Refer people in the community that should be invited to our meetings
5. Housing Coalition Group (work on housing issues in our five counties)
	* + Beneficial to get a group together to work on housing issues
			- Reach out to landlords to see if they would be a part of our group
			- Keep us in mind when they have vacancies
			- Can help them fill their section 8 housing vouchers quicker
			- Are they willing to work with low income tenants that struggle to get into housing
				* Background
				* Credit score
				* Prior evictions
			- Create a comprehensive list of landlords willing to work with us and our clientele
		+ Discussion of holding a landlord summit
		+ Beneficial to partner with other agencies to access more grants
		+ Will discuss on county coalition meetings for those that don’t attend these meetings
		+ May be beneficial to reach out to Foundation for Rural Housing
			- They may have a comprehensive list of landlords
		+ Teresa discussed new grants coming out from WHEDA & new loans available
		+ Michelle discussed ARPA funds
		+ Lynn discussed revolving home loan funds
		+ If interested in being a part of this committee send an email to Michelle
6. Point in Time Count
	* + Next count January 24, 2024
			- Need to start working on getting teams together
			- Need more volunteers than we had for the July count
		+ Roxanne wants to do a presentation to the Richland County Board to get them involved
		+ Flyers will need to be hung up in all 5 counties
			- Keep track of tasks completed on the google doc so not duplicating areas
		+ Discussed possibility of Kwik Trip or Culvers providing coupons for a meal to hand out
7. Program Updates
	* + Heather Ringberg: W-2 Cash Assistance Program
			- Families in low income housing are probably eligible for W-2
			- Focuses on where they are now to move them to the bigger & better
			- Provide training, work skills, etc
			- Can provide transportation, gas vouchers, connect them with resources
			- 2 parent households can be eligible
			- Can do pro-rated placements & unpaid placements
			- Loans to purchase vehicles to get to work
			- Apply at Access Wisconsin
			- Looking for referrals
		+ Jennifer Amacher: Green County Human Services
			- Fill the Trailer event at Walmart in Monroe - October 21st, 10 am to 2 pm
			- Gifts that Foster Hope fundraiser at Junction House - November 11th at 5 pm
		+ Becky Turpin: Independent Care Health Plan
			- Health plan has housing navigators & community health workers
			- If working with someone on BadgerCare that has Eyecare as their health plan remind them or connect them to help navigate services, fill out paperwork, meet comprehensive needs
			- Connect with other local providers that are working with the same person

Motion to adjourn – Szvon made the motion, Corie seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Next meeting – November 9th 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.