



## HITF Meeting Minutes 5-24-2023

1. Chairperson Jessica Locher called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.
2. Present:

Alyssa Vis ECO	Heidi Deininger YWCA Rock County	Kerstin Hughes
Amanda Bothun	Holly Sieren BOS CE	Marisol Ibarra
Amanda Okane FPGB	Jackie Revels	Megan McBride City of Beloit
Amy Dora	Jennifer Petruzzello COJ	Paula
Anne Wallisa Salvation Army BP2435	Jessica Campbell YWCA	Rebecca Veium B&G Club
Carrie Kulinski JPS	Jessica Locher ECHO	Sara Garbe CAI
Cassandra ?	Jim Hutchinson Husch Services	Sarah Williams ECO
Cassandra Robinson	Joe Locher ECHO	Tiffany Ford RVCP
Chad Salmon MHS-HOM	Julie Heim Rock County	Tina King
Denise Peters-Kauihou United Way	Karmen Payne-Mancil	Veronica Burton
Elizabeth Knapp-Spooner CAI	Kasey Weiland Hedberg Library	
Hannah Haakenson Project 16:49	Katie Spaeth	
	Kelsey Hood-Christianson FSSWNI	

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Joe Locher advised that the Balance of State membership dues (\$3,178.27) were mailed on 5/2. We received dues from two funded agencies in May for \$201 total. The current balance in the HITF account is \$513.10 as of 5/24.
4. **SSO Lead Agency Approval:** Jessica Locher asked for a motion to approve CAI as the Lead SSO agency, unless there is another agency that would like to do it. **Sarah Garbe moved to have CAI be the Lead SSO Agency for our coalition. Seconded by Kelsey Hood-Christianson. Hearing no further discussion, Jessica called for the vote. Motion carried.**
5. **EHH Lead Agency Approval:** Jim Hutchinson reported that the YWCA of Rock County has been the Lead Agency for the last seven or so years and would like to transition that role to another agency. This desire was shared with the Resource Group, which has representatives of all the EHH, SSSG and SSHG subcontractors. Out of this group of agencies, ECHO has stepped forward and is willing to take on the role of Lead Agency for the EHH Grant. The EHH Lead Agency is to be approved by the HITF each year. Having reviewed ECHO's administrative, fiscal and program operations over the years, Jim finds ECHO to have the capability to fulfill the Lead Agency role and responsibilities. **Jim Hutchinson moved approval of ECHO as the Lead Agency for the 23-24 EHH Grant year. Seconded by Sara Garbe. Hearing no further discussion, Jessica Locher called for the vote. Motion carried.**
6. **23-24 EHH Funding Approval:** Jim reported that the 23-24 EHH Application and preliminary allocations have been received. Final allocations will be made with the issuance of the State contract. We are using the second year of the 21-22 Request for Proposals process extension to determine the funding levels for programs. The funding levels are based on the proposal scores from the RFP process. Final subcontract amounts, to subcontractors, are based on the percentage of the proposal's score applied to the final allocations from the State.

For the current year, the State issued two years' worth of HPP RRH funds, to get back in sync with the Federal grant year. They are back to one year of funds for this year. Consequently, the HPP funding level went down by \$62,236 (\$165,586 - \$103,350). ESG Funds, on the other hand, increased by \$42,130 (\$222,394 – \$180,264). The State is also changing the Grant Year to OCT-SEP, presumably to be in sync with the Federal Fiscal year. The funding levels, based on the RFP process are as follows:

23-24 EHH Budget

	ESG Emergency Shelter	ESG Rapid Rehousing	HPP Rapid Rehousing	Match
CAI	\$30,318			\$30,318
FPGB	\$31,667			\$31,667
FSSWNI	\$29,584			\$29,584
YWCA	\$41,867			\$41,867
ECHO INC		\$82,286	\$93,015	\$82,286
Administration	\$6,672		\$10,335	\$6,672
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$140,108</b>	<b>\$82,286</b>	<b>\$103,350</b>	<b>\$222,394</b>
		<b>Total Grant</b>	<b>\$325,744</b>	

**Jim Hutchins moved approval of the funding levels, as presented, and based on the RFP process. Seconded by Jennifer Petruzzello. Hearing no further discussion, Jessica Locher called for the vote. Motion carried.**

**HITF Vision Statement Recommendation:** Jim Hutchinson presented the Vision Statement. To bring some focus and direction for our efforts in providing services to those experiencing homelessness, the HITF Planning Committee created a vision of what we would like the service system to be like. This vision was forwarded out to the HITF mailing list to elicit feedback. There were several comments of support and comments from the BOS CE staff. The committee made some updates regarding these comments.

It is the Planning Committee's recommendation that the HITF adopt this Vision Statement as a focus for our efforts in working with the service delivery system. Please keep in mind that a Vision is not necessarily static. It may indeed change over time. We may update or create totally new visions as we work to upgrade the system within which we work.

**Jim Hutchinson moved that the HITF adopt the Vision Statement, for coordinating our efforts in our local coalition. Jennifer Petruzzello seconded the motion.**

Holly Sieren, BOS CE, voiced some concerns over the accuracy of some of the items in the vision statement, particularly #6 under Coordinated Entry and that they did not agree with the law. Jim explained that vision statements are how people want things to be or how they see them working. They may very well be in contradiction to the way things currently are. What is being said is that some people are willing to work to change things.

There was discussion of tabling the issue to consider additions or changes and bringing it back at the next meeting for approval. Jim advised that the Vision Statement is not a static document. Changes are expected and the process the Planning Committee envisioned is that recommendations for changes and additions would come through the Planning Committee, for review and consideration, before going to the Executive Committee, that would oversee the process.

**Hearing no further discussion Jessica Locher called for the vote. Motion carried.**

The Planning Committee then reviewed the Vision Statement in relation to our two Action Plan Goals and the HITF Committee activities. The first shot at committee activities to pursue this Vision and achieve our Action Plan Goals was attached, as 23-05-15 Vision Statement Implementation, to the HITF Meeting materials. It is expected that the HITF Committees would focus their work on bringing this Vision to reality through their work.

Jessica, from the Executive Committee, will be sending out directions to the committees for work on the items that pursue completion of our Action Plan Goals. In addition, we will be carrying out a two-session training on Coordinated Entry (CE). The first session will be on what Coordinated is and then training on actually participating in CE.

#### 7. Subcommittee Updates:

- **CE/CM:** No update.
- **Youth:** Hannah Haakenson, reported the committee has started looking at the possibility of a youth shelter in this area. The closest one is in Madison. They will be working to see how they can make progress on the BOS goals.
- **DEI:** Jennifer Petruzzello reported that the committee has provided a DEI vision statement to the Planning Committee for consideration. They're working to define what they are going to be able to undertake, with the capacity of that group. They'll be meeting with the Executive Committee and will report back at the next meeting.
- **Planning Committee:** Jim Hutchinson reported that they have received input on the Vision Statement and will be reviewing that at the next meeting and considering adjustments to the Vision.
- **Data:** Joe Locher reported they will have the quarterly report at the next HITF meeting. It's best if the agency reports are received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, so they have time to compile them. He will be sending out an email with instructions and a calendar reminder invite to get the data in.
- **Point In Time:** Jessica Locher noted that the PIT count is coming up in July, on the night of the 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be coming out, on how to participate, more towards the time of the event.

#### 8. Agency Updates:

- **COJ Housing:** Jennifer Petruzzello reported Section 8, CDA, has looser occupancy standards. Approved 120% level, so they can assist with higher rent levels. Occupancy Standards will go into effect June 1<sup>st</sup>. They were working with an affordable housing provider on a 48-unit project. They did not realize a tax credit, due to changes in the qualified census tracts by HUD. Still looking for other ways to get it done, but it doesn't look good at this time.

- **Project 16:49:** Hannah Haakenson reported they have hired a Youth Outreach Specialist, Kaitlyn, with Rock County ARPA funds. She will work with youth who are homeless or will be homeless and they do not have to be unaccompanied. She's setting up office times around the county in libraries and other places.
- **Family Promise:** Amanda Okane reported that they have two openings for two part-time positions if anyone wants to send their resume.
- **FSSWNI/Defy Shelter/:** Kelsey Hood-Christianson reported that they have an LGBTQ summit coming up in June, at BTC. She'll send the flyer out. Their Next Steps TLP project is moving forward. They received City of Beloit and Rock County ARPA fund awards. Construction renovation to start in OCT 2023.
- **JPS:** Carrie Kulinski reported they are finishing up the school year with 452 homeless youth, which is about double from last year. They also have 114 Spanish speaking immigrant youth, for which she is writing a grant.
- **Hedberg Library:** They're working on an LGBTQ Rainbow Resource Fair. If you are interested in a table contact Kasey Weiland, at [hedberglibrary.org](http://hedberglibrary.org) or 608-758-5831. The event will be June 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

9. Adjourned 12:43 p.m.

Next meeting will be June 28<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.