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

**Thursday, August 10, 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 – Katie Spaeth, Christi McKibben, Darlene Masters, Ryan Graham (sitting in for Meredith McCoy), Jennifer Amacher, Alayne Hendricks, Sheryl Brokopp, Keith Lucas, Teresa Keehn, Monica Sella, Shawn Monson, Kate Chambers, Corie Dejno, Lynn Wolf, Lynn Halverson, Cindy Kuzdas (sitting in for Rachel Trainor), Erin Gaede, Michelle Friedrich, Julie McGuire

1. Approval of Agenda – Christi made the motion, Jennifer seconded. Motion carried.
2. Approval of July Minutes – Christi made the motion, Katie seconded. Motion carried.
3. Balance of State Updates
	* + Michelle forwarded BOS information to the group on Monday
		+ Ryan discussed opportunities for CoC expansion programs in our coalition
			- Anyone with more questions can reach out to Ryan
4. WI Balance of State Competition Additional Feedback Request (committee) due 8/21
	* + Packet of questions sent to each coalition to collect information
			- Report what your coalition’s efforts are to address & end homelessness
			- WIBOS tallies data from all 21 coalitions & submits collaborative application to federal government
		+ Michelle is looking for a core committee to provide input to help complete the packet
			- Would like at least one person from each county
			- Michelle will set up meeting via zoom
5. Additional CoC Planning Grant Fund eligibility
	* + Dedicated funding to support coalition’s work needed to be done to meet requirements set by the CoC & HUD
		+ Potential available funds for each coalition to hire a part-time staff person
		+ Coalitions could combine funds to hire one full time person on regional level
		+ Position to support efforts to increase services for homeless in the counties we all serve
		+ Michelle forwarded the interest form to the group on Monday
		+ Coalitions are to review, discuss & provide feedback to Carrie by 8/18
		+ Email any questions to Meredith
6. Point in Time Count update (how did things go)
	* + We need to get the word back out to city & county police departments
			- How they can assist in our efforts to end homelessness instead of criminalize it
			- How they can continue to help us after our Point in Time count
		+ 6 observation forms – majority from Richland County
		+ Hard to find people in Monroe – fair was going on so were kicked out of fairgrounds where they would usually be camping
		+ Aware of unsheltered folks in some areas, but not able to locate them
		+ Need for more shelters and shared housing in our counties
		+ Reminder we need more volunteers for the next count in January, 1/24/2024
7. Program Updates
	* + Farm Well Wisconsin - Shawn Monson
			- SafeTALK training in Mineral Point this Saturday morning
				* Free to attend
				* 3-hour suicide prevention conversation training
8. Other discussion
	* + SSM gave a sizeable donation to the Men’s Resource Center
			- For remodel & addition for more rooms
		+ Armory in Monroe was sold so no longer an option for a shelter
		+ Need to get Lafayette County to the table
			- Shortage of staff
			- Trouble getting applicants for the positions
			- One of poorest counties & can’t compete with wages in surrounding counties
				* They train staff & then the staff moves on to other counties

Motion to adjourn – Christi made the motion, Jennifer seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Next meeting – September 14th 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.