Mountainland Continuum of Care

Meeting Minutes

February 8th, 2016

United Way of Utah County

148 N 100 West, Provo

Members present

Lynell Smith, Utah County Housing Authority

Damon Parcell, Utah Department of Corrections

Stephanie Willmore, United Way of Utah County

Myla Dutton, Community Action Services and Food Bank

Randy Edwards, Utah County Veterans Services

Johnny Bedore, Dept. of Workforce Services

Kim Vera, Center for Women and Children in Crisis

Maynard Christensen, LDS Transient Services Office

Brian Butler, Wasatch Mental Health

Stephen Nibley, Golden Spike Outreach, REAP

Jeremy Runia, Provo City Housing Authority

Dan Gonzalez, Provo City Redevelopment

Alex Hartvigson, HMIS State of Utah

Sandra Curcio, Ability 1st Utah

Via Phone: Jessica Gray, Peace House

Jessica DeLora, Mountainlands Association of Governments

Becky DuBuek, Utah County Substance Abuse

Curtis Pendleton, UVU, Center for Women and Children in Crisis

Guest: Fern, Center for Women and Children in Crisis

**Recorder**: Marie Schwitzer, United Way of Utah County

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Welcome and introductions** | **Larry Ellertson** |
| **Minutes**   * Review and approval of last meeting’s minutes | Myla made a motion to approve the minutes; Kim seconded; the motion passed. |
| **Point in Time Count**   * Point in Time Count involves gathering data on one night each year (between 4:00 and 6:00 a.m.) in order to count how many people were staying in places not meant for human habitation. The CoC also counts the homeless who are sheltered by service providers. 103 volunteers covering Utah and Wasatch counties participated and gave more than 800 hours of volunteer service. 49 unsheltered homeless individuals were counted all 3 days. 15 volunteers helped in Summit County. (Thank you to Peace House volunteers who covered Park City, Coalville and Kamas). Utah County volunteers mainly came from BYU students enrolled in a School of Family Life Research Methods class, who also committed for next year. * Thank you to Food and Care who hosted and everyone who helped! * Sixteen households were found in the early morning. Main hotspot was Walmart in different parts of the county. Across the county, 16 were unable to wake or refused. * Very successful endeavor because people were found who ended up at Food and Care later for shower/services. * Storage units were hard to scout out, but were reported at Food and Care later. * Alex Hartvigsen, State HMIS will email re: sheltered counts. * More male case workers or volunteers are needed in the future. Some locations were difficult to approach. * Jeremy Runia reported that his group found one person from Wisconsin – had personal issues, was sleeping in the car and didn’t know where to go or what to do. Was running from something personal in nature. Stephanie Willmore explained that domestic violence was a common component of the unsheltered that were found. * The Point-in-Time Count is a snapshot of how many people don’t have stable housing resources on one night and are on the street or in the car. The state doesn’t use PIT numbers as a funding platform. It’s an outreach effort and gives perspective to the performance of our system of services. If the number goes down, the system is working well in our area. Approximately half of the people found could be new clients. They were given housing resource cards and told where to go for get assistance. It’s more helpful as an outreach effort than as a research project, but HUD likes the data. System performance measures being put out from HUD will be helpful. * A broad variety were encountered: some folks were homeless for a week and some for 10 years. * Population is diverse: recently released inmates, families, veterans. * A homelessness report of what we are doing and what we need to do that has collective data with our strategic plan has been passed on to Rep. Lee and Rep. Love by Stephanie Willmore. * Margy Layton is working with a professor at BYU on a study at the prison about how many are leaving without stable housing. | **Stephanie Willmore**  **Margy Layton** |
| **Consolidated application**   * Commitments made in the consolidated application: * re: Coordinated Support Services committee include the expansion of the CSS committee to all relevant parties. * Prioritizing services to veterans: Stephanie will be working with all veteran services and there will be opportunities for improvement to achieve the level of commitment HUD is expecting. * Emergency Solutions Grant and Rapid Rehousing: Currently agencies offer utilities and rent assistance separately. We’ll clarify what’s happening now and how to achieve consistency in the best interest of the families and individuals we’re serving. * Education Assurances: Education subcommittee will work harder to ensure children have access to education and reduced repetition of homelessness. * 2016 Strategies: Community Action Services and Domestic Violence shelters ensuring families are informed that they have the right to be together. * The Assistant Planner and Administrative Assistant will Monitor COC programs; * The goal is to have programs commit to house families with children within 30 days of their first case management appointment. This is dependent on housing availability. | **Myla Dutton** |
| **Committee Reports**   * **Discharge Planning:** An update on the JRI program was given. State was complimentary, Mountainland CoC is one of the few using it. Discussing with judges and others to see if there is a solution to solve the problem of inmates being released after hours. Invite Transient Services Office to the next meeting (Tuesday Feb. 23rd at 4:00 p.m., Food and Care). Everyone is invited. Open to suggestions about how to address the problem of hospitals discharging psychiatric patients to the street. Intermountain Healthcare representation is needed at CoC meeting. * **Community Relations**: Posters and housing information cards are available from Stephanie/Marie. (One card covers Utah County and another covers Wasatch and Summit.) * Volunteers participated in a Honk and Wave on Martin Luther King Day for the mountainlandcoc.org website so drivers could be drawn to it and see what’s we’re doing. * **Project Support Committee:** Successful Bridges Out of Poverty case manager training was held. It was suggested to send a survey to attendees for feedback and ideas on what to present next. (A commitment was made to HUD two years ago to execute a ½ day workshop/training for case managers. DWS, SSA, 211 and other outlying services/agencies attend and present.) | **Brian Butler**  **Stephanie Willmore**  **Stephen Nibley** |
| **Pathways Toolkit**  State of Utah supported the Pathways Toolkit training. This training aims to strengthenpermanent housing project by creating a permanent supportive housing model. The goal is to find partners by educating about the need for affordable housing for those with low income and special needs. Received good feedback from Claudia O’Grady, Utah Housing Coalition.  St. George City donated the shelter and two acres along the river for permanent supportive housing. SwitchPoint is the service provider with a realtor from Boise developing. Funding will come from tax credits. | **Stephanie Willmore and Lynell Smith** |
| Provo City and Mountainland Association of Governments in Orem and Lehi are prepping for annual action plan. Encourage your support to Dan Gonzalez and Jessica because it influences CoC HUD scores. CDBG review is March 2nd for funding July 1st. (HUD needs to receive the information by May 15th.) | **Myla Dutton** |
| **Announcements:**  **Utah County Job Fair: March 9th** 120 employers participating.  **Transient Services Office** in Salt Lake process 60 Syrian refugees last week; that number will increase. Refugee and Immigration Center will be taking care of a lot of them. | **Damon Parcel**  **Maynard Christensen** |