

OHS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 19, 2023, 9a-11a

Front Steps Housing and Services – 2554 West 25th Street

Attendance

Board Members: Elaine Gimmel, Natasha Wynn, Angela Glassco, Loh, Karen Anderson, Chris Knestrick, Michael Sering, Dr. Michael Seidman, Barb Karam, Levine Ross (for Yvonne Conwell), Star Sizemore (for Claire Rosser), Mary McNamara, Angela Glassco, Kirsti Mouncey, Karen McHenry, Paul Mosher, Fred Berry, Teresa Sanders, Ed Gemerchak, Melissa Graves, Beth Graham, Marcia Zashin, Raymond Mills

Others: Sharon Parries, Sherri Brandon, Phil Buck, Jillian Watson Esposito, Martin Bielat, LaTonya Murray, Sierra Moindjie Ali, Jenny Eppich, Kelly Camlin, Jessie Beck, Anne Hutchison, Michael Bernot

OHS: Melissa Sirak, Erin Rearden, Allison Gill

1. DECISION ISSUES

a. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes 11.17.22

- i. Motion – Barb Karam; 2nd – Mike Sering
- ii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

b. Approval of 2023 PIT Methodology (Allison Gill)

- i. Motion – Beth Graham; 2nd – Chris Knestrick
- ii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

c. Approval of Emerald Senior Development as #1 Priority for Continuum PSH (Elaine Gimmel)

- i. Motion – Loh; 2nd – Chris Knestrick
- ii. Elaine Gimmel and Barb Karam abstained; none opposed; motion carries

d. Approval of 2023-2027 Cleveland/Cuyahoga Continuum of Care Strategic Plan (Overview provided by Matt White – Housing Innovations)

- i. Motion – Angela Glassco; 2nd – Loh
- ii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

e. Approval of 2023 NOFO Performance Standards (Overview provided by Howard Burchman – Housing Innovations)

- i. Motion – Elaine Gimmel; 2nd – Barb Karam
- ii. None abstained; Loh opposed; motion carries

2. Cuyahoga Continuum of Care Strategic Plan Community Forum (Melissa Sirak)

- a. Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services (OHS), in partnership with the Homeless Services Taskforce (HST) of the Funders Collaborative on COVID Recovery, will formally release the plan during a community event.
 - i. Date/Time/Location TBD. An invite via email will be forthcoming.

3. 2023 Point-in-Time Count (PIT)/Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) (Allison Gill)

- a. Methodology has not changed from 2022 except additional break-out of age ranges for data collection (Handout available)
- b. HMIS providers have already been contacted by Nick Butina for sheltered portion
 - i. Unsheltered count outlined in guidance document created by OHS
 1. Count to be conducted between 8p 1/24/23 to 8am 1/25/23

2. Question from Marcia Zashin: Should CMSD submit counts to OHS? Answer: Yes, may not be able to include in report to HUD but will use for YHDP/Youth CoC work
 - a. Discussion to happen next week/offline with providers
- 4. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Update (Melissa Sirak and Ebony Clayton)**
 - a. OHS has been awarded approximately \$4 million over 2 years.
 - b. Community Coordinated Planning Committee has convened and started working on a youth-centric strategic plan for these dollars.
 - i. As part of this work, there will be a series of subject matter expert meetings to enhance the committee's understanding of need, service gaps, etc.
 - c. Planning dollars will come from our CoC Planning Grant will also support this work
 - d. The plan is due to HUD by April 24, 2023 and will require OHS Advisory Board approval
- 5. Unsheltered Community Plan (Melissa Sirak & Chris Knestrick)**
 - a. OHS, in partnership with NEOCH, is initiating a community planning process to create a Strategic Plan for Persons Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness. The plan will guide efforts from 2023 - 2027 to address service and housing needs for unsheltered persons.
 - i. Kick-Off meeting is February 7th. Work Group composed of community stakeholders
 - b. The Work Group will define the special needs of unsheltered persons, clarify the existing network of available resources and services, define the need for new approaches, map out system improvement strategies, and recommend an investment plan for the most strategically impactful system of care.
- 6. Workforce, Income, and Stability Work (Jenny Epich, Kelly Camlin, Chris Warland – Heartland Alliance)**
 - a. Heartland provided overview – purpose is to unite the homeless, benefits, and workforce systems around the shared goal of increasing income for people experiencing, or who have recently experienced, homelessness.
 - b. Heartland recommendations: form a cross-system leadership group, facilitate data matching and sharing across systems, cross-system trainings, and identify resources
 - c. Next Steps:
 - i. Follow through on Steering Committee's recommended plan that aligns with OHS strategic plan, develop pilot specifics, create referral system, and secure funding
 - ii. Issue RFQ to select agency to facilitate the referral process
 - iii. Continue to build partnership with Ohio Means Jobs
 - iv. Continue to formalize relationship via outreach and regular meetings – Ongoing priority
 - v. Employment questions in coordinated entry; Select questions to ask at CE intake
 - vi. Continue to seek feedback from committee, system users, and people with lived experience
- 7. 2023 HUD Application/PSH Restructuring (Special Item – Email to Advisory Board April 11, 2023)**
 - a. OHS is working with Housing Innovations, the NOFA Review Committee and CoC Providers to review projects for the 2023 NOFO Application. "It has been determined that it would create more efficient and effective programming if PSH grants were restructured." Description was provided of restructuring and outlined benefits to the CoC. This will be an incremental process requiring HUD approval in preparation for the upcoming NOFO. A formal letter of support from the OHS Advisory Board was requested to support the CoC in this effort. Board Members were asked to respond via email with a vote by COB, April 14th. Advisory Board Approval received April 17, 2023. Chairs will draft formal letter of support to HUD.

8. Initiative Reports

a. Ending Veteran Homelessness (LaTonya Murray)

- i. Handout available upon request

b. RRH (Anne Hutchison)

- i. No Handout

c. Ending Youth Homelessness (Kate Lodge)

- i. Handout available upon request

d. Unsheltered Report

- i. No Handout