**SMAC Governing Board Meeting**

12/19/2023

*Governing Board Meeting Attendance*: Liz Moen, Peter Goldstein, Heather West, Nathan Delgado, Doreen Farrell, Allison Streich, Jen Romero, Sarah Broich, Molly Link, Kamaria Toulon, Jeff Conner, Linda Hall, Jacob Wasmund, Bianca Nordwester, Jenny Mason, Suzie Misel, Mike Manhard, Bre Baker, Jane Lawrenz

1. **Introductions**
   1. Favorite holiday tradition icebreaker
2. **Collaborative Applicant Information**

SMAC needs to have a collaborative applicant to apply to HUD annually for CoC NOFO process.

Hearth Connection was the previous Collaborative Applicant but identified their agency’s intent to move away from the provision of this role.

MESH holds the staffing positions funded through parts of this but is not presently positioned to take on the administrative portions of this Collaborative Applicant role.

Following Hearth’s announcement, SMAC has sought a new partner for this role.

ICA identified their agency’s intent and noted their capacity, along with the ability to carry out this work as demonstrated by their work of doing this in several other CoCs.

ICA has been asked to take on the fiscal host position. MESH holds the staff, does a lot of the work around operations and support for CoC Processes and assists throughout with the preparation and completion needs of various reports and NOFO submission components.

HUD frequently communicates with the Collaborative Applicant and doesn’t always provide insight to the other entities along the CoC. The hope is that by positioning these roles with one agency, MESH will be positioned to carry out this work with increased efficiencies.

MESH believes that they’ll be positioned to take this on by next Fall (2024).

Need an MOU with our Collaborative Applicant to position this adjustment. HUD transitions take a bit of time, so hoping to get this initiated while also acknowledging that we need to continue to adjust and/or make improvements to this MOU.

New Collaborative Applicant and Grant need to be in place as soon as possible to ensure that staffing positions can continue to be paid through these means. Absent entering into an MOU with a new Collaborative Applicant, there will be no funding in place to cover CoC Coordinator position, and MESH would be in a place where they’d have to absorb these costs (likely not feasible for long!)

ICA has agreed to sustain the role that Hearth Connection is vacating, which is why this hasn’t been adjusted beyond what was in place with Hearth. Anticipating that there can and will be needs to address within the MOU to address further role clarity and development.

Voting: MOU with edits that have been shared.

Jeff motioned, Peter Seconded. Vote approved.

1. **CoC Program Spotlight (Carver County CDA PSH)**

CoC Permanent Supportive Housing Program

14 households are served by this program (93% utilization right now (and 1 household searching)!)

Operating this program since 2002

Works alongside Carver County HHS – Adult Mental Health Services & Home and Community Based Care (HCBC) Program (Waiver programming)

This is a tenant-based housing program, which allows tenants to locate housing anywhere in Carver County (service area)

Tenants pay 30% of income and the subsidy covers the other portion.

Most folks participating in this program have a case manager in place already, but it’s not a requirement for participating in this program nor for referral to this program. Often, there are connections made to Case Management once the household is referred to the program.

When the Carver County Housing Unit is involved in the provision of services, they are frequently supporting enrollment into HSS.

Emilie has been the staff (Rental Housing Specialist) working alongside this program from the CDA for quite some time. She connects folks to a variety of programs and benefits, schedules issuance meetings and inspections, and is a frequent go-to for clients, service providers, and property owner partners.

PSH allows the CDA to look at Rent Reasonable Levels, which is different than Bridges and HTF. This allows the CDA to have a little more flexibility in those rental amounts. The CDA takes all of the referrals for this program through Coordinated Entry.

1. **Committee Updates**

Director’s Council

Started the year by reviewing the budget and came up with a monitoring plan

Established a process for ensuring that Directors are compensated for their participation in these efforts

Worked to solidify a process for establishing GB member selections and criteria/guidelines to follow

Worked on making updates and recommendations for improving our CE tools

Housing First – tool: Create a Client Survey to deploy to participants that are working alongside CoC Programs and DC has been working on a client exit survey for use across the continuum. Hoping to follow this up with a provider survey.

Identified additional goals for 2024, along with goals for long-term visions.

Working on a fundraiser that will be next May at the Mn Music Café (St. Paul) – more to come!