SMAC Governing Board Minutes

January 15, 2021

Attendance: Abby G, Liz M, Alyssa, Ann L, Barbara S, Betty N, Dana D, Danielle F, Daniel LS, Denise S, Doreen F, Eric G, Heather D, James B, Jen R, Keith N, Kelina M, Kim L, Kristen B, Matt L, Megan J, Michelle R, Natalie E, Rebecca B, Trisha CK

1. Introductions

1. Approve December minutes

Motion-Eric

Second - Kristen

1. Update
   1. Coordinated Entry
      1. Chronic numbers for Youth and Families
         1. The number of chronic families entering homelessness is less than or equal to the number of chronic families exiting homelessness. In November we had 5 enter and 0 exits. December better
         2. The number of chronic single youth entering homelessness is less than or equal to the number of chronic youth singles exiting homelessness. Trending in the right direction as we look to ending chronic homelessness for youth
         3. Majority of Youth and families have open and active referrals
         4. July to December saw us get closer to chronic households having quick access to permanent housing.
      2. Centralized Access

* Idea started with Directors Council. Their idea in response to question on how we can improve shelter, housing stabilization, housing priority pool, etc.
* Completed meetings with 5 counties to talk more in depth and answer questions.
* Consensus that this is a good idea
* New subcommittee formed to get from where we are to where we want to be.
* Opportunity in first step with some work that United Way is doing. Starting in Hennepin but can expand to Metro. A website portal would assist people in eviction prevention resources. Conversations with counties since majority of prevention resources in SMAC are through FHPAP
  1. SPARC
* SPAR team has done presentations with Anoka and Dakota local groups. Scott/Carver and Washington meetings will take place in February.
* Presentation at Scott Diversity Alliance
* Wanting to add members including those from the Directors Council. Do have a budget to reimburse Directors Council members.
* 2 Hour quarterly meetings to keep the recommendations moving

* 1. CHAP/New funding
* Applications closed in early December
* Housing Link is processing applications
* Salvation Army is processing payments. Still have 6 million in requests that can be paid off.
* More money available because of last COVID relief bill. Anoka, Dakota, and Washington can apply on their own. 200 million available to balance of state.
  1. NOFA/PIT/HIC
* HUD is allowing for exemption to the unsheltered count. Since we did a count in 2020 we didn’t need to request an exemption, but we did sign on to the states.

SMAC will not be doing an unsheltered count.

* Still need to do a count of those in shelter.
* Should additional COVID shelter beds be included? Operations group will discuss the shelters to count, including those not in HMIS.
* If in HMIS, make sure data for the night of PIT is entered.

1. Governing Board new members

* The Directors Council met yesterday to discuss the applicants and they are now going to be voting over email.  The goal was to have that process done by tomorrow but because of technology challenges the Directors requested an extension for getting final results.  The results will be final end of the day next Tuesday and we will announce new board members through the newsletter by the end of next week.

1. CoC Project Overview

* No NOFA. HUD funded programs will be funded at same level as previous year
* No bonus projects or extra money including increases for FMR
* PSH bed total is 214 for 1.8 million which is 47% of total awarded.
* In 2019, Guild was awarded a 15-unit PSH project. Plan was to originally partner with Anoka county on 25% match but that has not worked out as planned so will move to Washington County.
* RRH 3 projects with 221 beds (40 youth specific). 1.6 million which is 43% of total.
* Joint RRH/Transitional Housing with Tubman was funded in 2018. Now fully up and operational.
* Coordination Entry total is 260,000 for 7% of total
* HMIS is at 140,000 which is 4% of ARD. Above the expectation of 2%

1. FHPAP status updates from counties

* Washington has rapid rehousing for youth and families. Budget has been hit on the prevention side. RRH has been going smoothly. Expect to be okay on budget. When applying for new money they would like to add single rapid rehousing for singles. At 585K and looks like will apply for 650K. 'Covid-influenced' plan - is to plan on NOT spending a good chunk of our prevention funding (if awarded) in the first 6 months to a year of our FHPAP funding. So sort of back-ending our prevention funds for once 2021 federal dollars aren't available anymore
* Carver/Scott has combined application. Worked in collaboration with Dakota to complete needs survey. Did not get as many responses as hoped. Will work on combining needs assessment and other data to determine what to apply for. Current programming does prevention and RRH.
* Dakota coordinated with Carver/Scott needs assessment. Currently have prevention and RRH. Spending close to on target.
* Anoka has already had RFP and have the providers and services. Has not been announced at Anoka local group yet.