Please note that if you’re not presently receiving updates from the MESH team (Laquita, Liz, Carla & Mike) to connect with your respective IT Departments to ensure that they’re being received. There have been some identified issues with these emails being immediately routed to junk/other folders.

(Upcoming Event) November 3rd from 9-10am Virtual [**SMAC Decompression Session**](https://zoom.us/j/98370819000?pwd=Tjh4cGJQbzN4dXVPUWoxVnFvdGVuUT09&from=addon) – Opportunity to discuss what’s being experienced by providers with others serving the SMAC Communities. If you’re interested in joining this session, please email Liz (Liz@mesh-mn.org) or find the hyperlinked meeting above to create a Calendar Reminder.

1. **Updates**

Director’s Council received the MCH Northern Lights Award for outstanding organizational leadership. Award ceremony video footage is included in the notes.

Our CoC Coordinator, Laquita, was also honored! She received the Catalyst Award for all of the work that she’s been doing.

Congratulations to the Director’s Council & Laquita!!

If you were unable to attend the Conference and are interested in watching the award ceremony, [**please find it here**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lv1BEZ6_E9k).

1. **NOFO Updates**

Special NOFO was submitted this morning. A thanks is due to all of the folks that offered to assist with drafting this response. This was unlike any NOFO process we’ve experienced and are hopeful that future cycles won’t be done concurrently

6 projects were submitted on this Special NOFO

Anticipating that we’ll hear awards in March/April and that we’ll likely know the results of the Regular NOFO first

Thanks to Ali as well for all of her assistance through this process!

Our NOFO Responses are posted on the [SMAC Website](https://www.smacmn.org/nofo)!

Planning for next year:

* Lab session – meet all at once to do a submission of claims for the 1st time
* Debrief meeting to further parse out tasks and processes that we can implement in the future

Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (M&E Committee) will meet again on the first Friday of November to work through a self-assessment tool for providers to utilize during the duration of their biennium. This would allow for providers to check on their progress towards goals/outputs.

Keeping Director’s Council members on the M&E Committee will be important and was so helpful this cycle

Anticipating that we’ll need to recruit additional M&E members as we prepare for any possible bonus projects – which will likely position us better to approach new agencies to pursue bonus funding projects

1. **SMAC Anti-Discrimination Policy**

The intent of this policy is to inform the values of our CoC for any projects presently providing services within the region. Additional applicability to those who are presently receiving CoC NOFO funding

Identified that it may be helpful to review annually

Intending to review how we can incorporate this policy into our project scoring tool and that there’s alignment with the identified equity measures that were included this year

Recognizing that this wasn’t received by everyone, we’re going to again look to use this upcoming month to review this document and discuss it again next month. **Please bring feedback!**

1. **SMAC Community Planning**

Timeline pushed back from November ’22 – January/February ‘23

Wanting to identify ways to incorporate our feedback into what will regain participation and common understanding of items across our Governing Board

Identified that it’s a large community and there are many working on the periphery outside our GB too, will need to figure out how to incorporate and involve them as well

Q) What do you feel like you need to know or understand?

Insight into services offered across the continuum

Get to know each other to facilitate more open discussion

Ongoing – clear updates from different committees that are meeting – something that would tie our collective work together

Quarterly/Monthly: Data points that we’d like to collect, maintain and review

(*Laquita will work on this*) Annual Calendar that outlines major, reoccurring calendar (Review and Update)

Updates around the projects receiving HUD CoC Funding (*New projects, Renewals, and Special*)

Updates/Support for projects around the continuum (Provider specific updates/trends & gaps/successes)

GB Tasks – what are we responsible for?

1. **PIT Count**

Anticipating that we’ll be able to be participatory around understanding the processes for data access during and after the night of the PIT

Subcommittee: What has worked in the past for PIT, what do we need to do differently, and how can we as a community support each other in our planning, etc.

Identification of spaces that we should be going to

COVID protocols

Who has resources and availability/ability to participate in the count activities?

(*Laquita will send*) An email to us all recruiting for this subcommittee

This first meeting will be during a future Operations Committee meeting \*(next week) and will serve as an information-gathering session and then we’ll explore capacities for supporting local efforts from there