**CT BOS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**2/17/2017**

1. **Introductions and Announcements**
2. Welcome and Introductions –



1. Review and approve 1/20/17 BOS SC minutes - approved
2. HUD Announcements
   * HUD staff noted that grants will be executed shortly
3. Policies and Procedures and all BOS materials available at: <http://www.csh.org/csh-in-the-field/connecticut/2578-2/>
4. **2016 NOFA Scoring Debrief**



* 1. Report on CoC Score
     + HIC/PIT section was worth 30 points (10 points more than last year)
       - BOS lost 5 points on each of the following:
         * Increase in unsheltered persons
         * Number of RRH units; there was only a slight increase. This year, BOS will have a greater increase.
     + Data quality – Length of time homeless had 20% of records with no data. This was a new data element and the data should be better this year.
     + HUD Debrief Webinar
       - HUD made suggestions:
         * Decrease barriers, serve most vulnerable people
         * Funds should be spent efficiently
         * Serve as many HH as possible
       - HUD notes they are working to get the NOFA out in May and plan to give 90 days to complete.
  2. Reallocation for 2017
* It was noted that per the SC vote in August 2016, TH projects, other than the Youth and DV projects, will not be funded. The two TH providers were sent a letter in November 2016 from the SC Chairs reiterating the August 2016 decision and explaining that the TH projects would not be renewed this year.
* It was suggested that BOS use the reallocation funding to build infrastructure and fund CAN positions in DOH to ensure that the CANs have support for the future.
* There was some discussion around ensuring that there is sufficient funding in the two areas with the loss of TH. It was noted that the new RRH bonus will be available in the communities that will lose TH units.
* The Steering Committee will continue to discuss this at the next meeting.

1. **BOS Policies and HUD Compliance**
2. CoC Governance Charter – annual update – vote needed



* Several suggestions on clarifying language were provided and the changes will be made.

**Motion: To adopt the CoC Governance Charter with friendly amendment on language changes.**

1. **2017 Renewal Evaluation Process** 
   1. Updates - providers have all evaluation documents submitted with very few late
   2. DV TH LOS Criteria update
      * There was a continuation of the discussion around the BOS evaluation standard on length of stay for DV TH programs. It was noted by DV providers that it can be difficult to ensure that participants are ready to leave at 12 months given issues of trauma, physical abuse and the ability to find safe/secure housing for participants.
      * It was noted that remaining homeless is a traumatic experience and it is important to move individuals out of homelessness as quickly as possible.
      * It was noted that HUD will continue to score DV programs by LOS and this could negatively impact the CT BOS outcomes and NOFA scores.
      * There was discussion around focusing on LOS and there was a suggestion to ensure that participants stay no longer than the HUD limit of two years.

**Motion: 90% of program participants exit the program within 2 years. Motion passes. One abstention.**

1. **Letter of Support for VA GPD Applications**

* VA is rebidding GPD program, application is due 4/4/17
* Each applicant needs to get a letter of support from the CoC
* There was discussion around ensuring that these programs serve participants using Housing First, harm reduction and following other best practices
* It was noted that these units will have the ability to convert into PH in the next year or two and it is critical that they continue to be funded.
* It was decided that applicants would submit their draft proposals or a summary to CT BOS no later than 3/10/17 for review. GPD liaisons should be copied on the e-mail.
* **f/u: HI to send e-mail out to GPD applicants**

1. **Coordinated Access (CA) Planning** 
   1. HUD additional requirements for Coordinated Entry Systems (CANs)

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/notice-establishing-additional-requirements-for-a-continuum-of-care-centralized-or-coordinated-assessment-system.pdf>

* Communities have until January 2018 to implement.
* Information will be brought to the SC meetings for discussion.
* It was reported that CANs are almost fully compliant already.
  1. CAN Leadership Committee Report
* Committee is working on challenges around people matched for 90 days but not yet housed.
* There was a Youth Homelessness Statewide Workgroup update. Group is working to have a formal relationship with Youth Engagement Team Initiative (YETI).
* The prioritization standards have been introduced and will discuss at the next meeting.
  1. Disabling Condition Verification Form

  
This recommended form has been updated to reflect feedback from the field and explicitly states that diagnosis is not required.

* 1. Update on PSH Prioritization Standards Policy
* CAN leadership will discuss and pass the policy and they will bring to CT BOS SC for adoption.
* Matt Morgan provided comments on the document.
* **f/u: HI to send out the document to CT BOS SC for review.**

1. **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Update** 
   * The project is one month into 6 -month planning process. Abt is the TA provider. First draft of plan is due July 13th and the System Dynamic modeling project will be finished in June.
   * Group will bring rough draft of plan to CT BOS SC for June 16th meeting for approval.
   * There is a grant requirement that there is the Youth Advisory Board. The YETI will be used as the board. Currently there are 5 members and 2 more will be added. Most members will be from Hartford as it has been hard to recruit from other locations.
2. **HUD System Performance Measures**

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* In discussion on why the data keeps changing for the same reporting period (FFY 2016), it was reported that it takes on average 45 days for PSH providers to enter data on new participants. HMIS SC is going to work with providers to reduce this amount of time.
* Final Systems Performance measures for FFY 2016 are due to HUD by 5/31/2017. These will be the baseline that the CoC gets measured against.
* CCEH is going to provide information to providers on how to run an HMIS report for providers.

1. **PIT Homeless Count** 
   1. Updates
      * Final HIC is getting updated and will be run by 3/2/17
      * Nutmeg will deliver pop count on 3/7/17
   2. Overview of Timeline – currently on schedule
2. **HMIS Updates** 
   1. HMIS SC Report – no updates, has not held meeting since last CT BOS SC meeting
   2. Reminder to Sub-CoCs to review Dashboard Data Quality Reports
3. **Reaching Home Updates**

* Appropriations on DOH meeting is tonight (2/17/17) at 4:30 – seeking to preserve $72 million in funding.
* DMHAS Appropriation meeting is 2/23 - seeking to preserve $23.2 million in housing supports and services.
* There will be a training for legislative aids on CAN process on 3/13/17. Request is for one person from each CAN to join. Cindy will send info out.
* It was reported that there have been successful events all over the state for legislators to educate them on CANs and the work done by providers. It was noted that these events are critical to ensuring future funding.

1. **DOH Updates**

* Agency is in the process of rebidding TLP contracts.
* Section 8 operating at continuing resolution level and does not have the monies available to fund the Moving On from PSH programs at this time. Once funding is back to 100%, the hope is to fund the program.

1. **Updates from Opening Doors Fairfield County - tabled**
2. **Other Items/Issues**

* Mike Santoro from DOH will come to the SC next month to present the Action Plan for the next year of the CT Balance of State Consolidated Plan. It will be very similar to the plan from last year.
* **f/u: HI to send out link to 2016 Action Plan**

1. **Next Meeting Dates - All at Portland Library -** 
   * + - March 17, 2017 – Portland Library - 11am – 1pm
       - April 21, 2017 – Portland Library - 11am – 1pm
       - May 19, 2017 – Portland Library - 11am – 1pm
       - June 16, 2017 – Portland Library - 11am – 1pm
       - To Be confirmed
   * July 21, 2017
   * August 18, 2017
   * September 22, 2017
   * October 20, 2017
   * November 17, 2017
   * December 15, 2017