

CAPE COD & THE ISLANDS REGIONAL NETWORK TO END HOMELESSNESS

MEETING SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE: Policy Board	DATE: November 23, 2009	TIME: 8:30 AM
RECORDING: Kathie Callahan, Admin. Asst., BC Human Services	MEETING PLACE: Rm 11/12 – Barnstable Superior Courthouse	
	NEXT MEETING: 12/15/09	
PRESENT: Bob Murray, Sheila Lyons, Claire Goyer, Connie Teixeira, Merrill Blum, Alan Trebat, Paula Schnepf, Steve Jochim, Diane Casey-Lee, Donald Brown, Christine Austin, Kelley Sweeney, Estella Fritzinger, UNABLE TO ATTEND: Beth Albert, David Willard, Allison Rice		

Introductions by the group: Kelley Sweeney, Department of Correction, Re-entry Program introduced herself and gave a brief description of the Re-entry program and goals & objectives. She noted that she has had 4 persons in September and 5 in October who have been released and located to Cape Cod. Alan Trebat recommended that Kelley be added to membership of Policy Board. **Bob Murray** motioned, seconded by **Claire Goyer** to add Kelley Sweeney to Policy Board membership – unanimously approved.

1. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of October 26th.

Estella Fritzinger motioned, seconded by Claire Goyer to approve minutes as written – unanimously approved.

2. Report on meeting with Network Chairs and Lt. Governor Tim Murray

Bob Murray reported on meeting he attended with Regional network Chairs and Lt. Governor & staff. He noted it was made quite clear that there will be no more significant funds from the State going forward for Homelessness issues. C&I Regional Network needs to be innovative in fundraising efforts to keep the momentum going. Meeting included discussion on creative ways to raise additional monies through match requirements. Bob also attended an afternoon meeting with Rick Presbrey, the Lt. Governor, Bob Pulster, Sen. Rob O’Leary and staff from Sen. Terry Murray’s office. Meeting included discussion as to how to address the C&I family prevention issues and concluded with the agreement that Bob would bring back the budget changes discussed to create a pool of about \$150,000 that could be used as a match pool for a fundraising drive to be held in February. Paula Schnepf requested that Policy Board members be notified via email from Alan Trebat of ICHH meetings scheduled in the future.

C&I Regional Network Executive Committee is recommending that the following transfers be made into the Prevention budget line: \$88,289 from Contingency line, \$40,000 from the Triage Phone System line and \$25,000 from the IT Consultant line totaling \$153,289. He noted that the contingency funds had not yet been designated for specific expenditures. \$30,000 in IT funds had been initially allocated for web page design, however, the Regional Network can link into the County’s Human Services website and will not need to spend the entire IT budget as initially thought. Triage phone system had initially been allocated \$120,000 for an 18 month project, however, this has now been down-sized to a 12 month project. By doing these transfers a pot of \$153,289 will be created for additional prevention and those funds would have to be matched dollar for dollar in order to be made accessible. It was noted by several members that they did not feel the County should

be the fiscal agent for the matching funds due to limitations in accessing the funds. Changing the budget would only require a vote of the Policy Board. After some discussion **Diane Casey-Lee** motioned, seconded by **Connie Teixeira** to go forward with the budget transfers – unanimously approved.

Discussion also re: mass fundraising mailing around February 14th. Bob noted that the approximate projected cost of this mailing would be \$30-35,000 and mailing costs could be unwritten by donations. CACCI is hosting a meeting surrounding the fundraising topic on December 3rd. HPC is hosting a meeting on December 4th in Orleans to discuss details of how funds raised can and should be distributed.

Merrill Blum noted that he is attending an ICHH meeting for Vets only in Boston on November 24th with the Lt. Governor. He will report back to the Policy Board with results of meeting. Diane Casey-Lee reported that ICHH met on November 19th to discuss the involvement of the faith community in homelessness issues. Some regions have no involvement with the faith community but want to know more about their involvement with the Regional Network on Cape Cod. She noted that state funding has been used to create the infrastructure and now Regional Networks must look at alternative funding sources going forward. Some Regional Networks used the Fireman Foundation funds to create websites.

3. Report from Duffy Health Center re: Award of HPRP Funding

Claire reported on Duffy's award of \$625,000 of HPRP funds for individuals to be distributed over 3 years. Funds have not yet been received and Duffy is awaiting final budget approval. The program will include financial aid for housing tenancy and case management. They also received \$40,000 for data collection which was not requested and are awaiting clarification for use of this funding. Targeted numbers are: 156 individuals receiving homeless prevention services and 60 individuals receiving rapid re-housing services. Duffy will, where appropriate, partner with other interested community agencies. They will draft a memorandum of agreement in order for agencies to tap into funds. Funds are subject to income eligibility and can be used for rapid re-housing vs. permanent housing options.

4. Report of the Network Coordinator – Alan Trebat

ICHH quarterly reports distributed. Alan reported that the work of the C&I Regional Network is ahead of other regions. Goals are change driven and include transparency of sharing information with other agencies and the public. Focus should include growing the Network and data collection to be able to measure outcomes.

a. Forms and proposed short form: Alan distributed the proposed short form (4 pages). This form will be used for family intervention under \$1500 and individuals under \$500. After discussion Alan asked the Policy Board to approve the form as written. **Estella Fritzinger** motioned, seconded by **Claire Goyer** to accept the format of the short form, unanimously approved. This will now be forwarded to ICHH for their approval. It was noted that the trans-gender question is quite insensitive however, it was also noted that the purpose for inclusion may simply be for ICHH to collect data. Claire asked who will communicate the instructions on use of this form & handle distribution. Alan noted that this would be discussed & determined at the Client Coordination Council meeting. He stated that he can email them to all case managers with emphasis that they must use this short form for ICHH funded interventions. It was noted that this form will not necessarily be used for additional funding sources outside of ICHH. Discussion that it may be difficult to capture information on cases where funds have already been disbursed.

b. Triage Phone System: CACCI entertaining RFP response.

c. Client Coordination Council: Advocacy trainings on 11/9 and 11/16 went well. Alan will collate feedback information and distribute. Trainings will provide network building and will continue. Client Coordination Council S/C will meet today following this meeting. Discussion will include determining in what direction the CCC wishes to move forward.

5. Sub-Committee Reports

Estella: HUD grant out. Main St. Outreach meeting scheduled for 11/24. S/C meets once a month with quarterly public meetings. She noted that there have been very positive outcomes to date with the Main St. Outreach being done.

6. Other Business

Donald Brown distributed a DTA informational packet. He noted of interest the TAFDC benefit changes and cutbacks. Of 9,000 households currently receiving TAFDC, 8,400 of those cases will be closed and 600 cases will receive reduction in benefits. These cuts will greatly impact those households receiving benefits.

Claire Goyer noted that the Regional Network needs to get a handle on media and P.R. – let people know about the Regional Network and the work they are accomplishing. The Media & Communications Committee need to facilitate a plan regarding this. Sheila Lyons noted that the Regional Network needs to come up with a “main message” and get it out in the media. Suggestions were to let the public know that the Regional Network “exists” and they are working collaboratively and innovatively. Once the message is determined Sheila will contact the editorial board for help getting the message disseminated to the public.

7. Next Meeting---Time & Place:

The next regularly regular meeting would have been scheduled for Monday, December 28 but with the holidays it was decided to change the meeting date. Group decided that **Tuesday, December 15th at 8:30 AM** worked for most. **Rm 11/12** availability was verified as well.

8. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.