

# CAPE & ISLANDS REGIONAL NETWORK ON HOMELESSNESS POLICY BOARD MEETING

<b>DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE:</b> Policy Board Annual Meeting	<b>DATE:</b> March 26, 2018	<b>TIME:</b> 9:00 AM
<b>RECORDING:</b> Kathie Callahan, Barnstable County Human Services	<b>MEETING PLACE:</b> Harborview Conference Room, Barnstable County Complex	
<b>NEXT MEETING:</b> May 21, 2018		
<b>PRESENT:</b> Beth Albert, Jean Challis, Cassi Danzl, Gina Giambusso, Cathy Gibson, Lysetta Hurge-Putnam, Gina Hurley, Susan Mazzarella, Heidi Nelson, Edye Nesmith, Greg Quilty, Paula Schnepf, Richard Waystack, Tucker Holland and Karen Tewhey via conference call		
<b>Guests:</b> Martha Taylor, Heather Harper, Jennifer Roche (DMH) for Naomi-Tavares-Silva. Marc Israel, Laura Reckford, Andrea Aldana		
<b>Unable to attend:</b> Beth Wade, Maggi Flanagan, Suzie Hauptmann, Barbara Milligan, Janis Carreiro		

- **Welcome & Introductions:** Beth Albert facilitated the meeting.
  
- **Report from the Nominating Committee:** Committee is comprised of Beth Albert, Cathy Gibson, and Barbara Milligan. Of returning members seeking a new term, John Economos did not seek a new term on the Policy Board but will remain on the Ranking and Review Committee. Brenda Swain did not seek a new term on the Policy Board but recommended Suzie Hauptmann, Director of Falmouth Human Services as the representative for the Town of Falmouth. Both members were thanked for their years of service on the Policy Board. Cathy Gibson presented the slate of Nominees to the Policy Board (ATTACHED). Lysetta Hurge-Putnam motioned, seconded by Greg Quilty to accept the slate of Nominees as presented. Unanimously approved. Welcome to new members Cassi Danzl (HAC), Tucker Holland and Janis Carreiro (alternate) – Nantucket, Jane Banks – Undersecretary, DHCD, Suzie Hauptmann – Falmouth Human Services, Tom Lacey – CACCI, Naomi Tavares-Silva, DMH, Karen Tewhey – Martha’s Vineyard, Richard Waystack – Jack Conway Real Estate.
  
- **Approval of Minutes – January 29, 2018:** Heidi Nelson motioned to accept the Minutes of January 29, 2018, seconded by Lysetta Hurge-Putnam, unanimously approved.
  
- **Proposed Regional Network Priorities for 2018/2019:** Beth Albert referenced the Regional Plan published in 2012. The three primary goals of the original Regional Plan are to: 1) Increase access to safe, stable, accessible, and affordable housing, 2) Improve health and stability of target populations, and 3) Improve economic security. The Network achieves its goals by **educating, advocating, and facilitating**. The Executive Committee of the Regional Network recommends the following priorities for 2018/2019:
  - **Elder Homelessness** (Seniors): The Regional Network will play a facilitative role and create an Ad Hoc Task Force to look at gaps and develop a safety net to safeguard the senior population at risk of becoming homeless.
  - **Expansion of (CES) Coordinated Entry System** (Chronically Homeless, Veterans, Families): Paula Schnepf has been assisting in building the CES and the plan is to expand this system over the next year. One strategy that is being considered is a centralized call line.
  - **Emergency Planning** (Chronically Homeless, Families, Veterans): The Regional Network will assist in planning a better coordinated response to weather related emergencies that impact the region’s homeless population. Our goal is to have a plan in

place by the fall of 2018. Heidi Nelson reported that Sean O'Brien, Director of the Barnstable County Health Department and a member of the Regional Emergency Planning Committee will be part of these planning efforts and has already met with representatives from the Regional Network Duffy and CSS. Heidi mentioned that Barnstable's County coordinated emergency response system is highly regarded. Heidi also noted that the National Low-Income Housing Coalition has a tool kit and resources to assist regions in planning for the homeless population in weather related emergencies. In addition, Heidi reported that Duffy Health Center is the fiscal agent for the In from the Streets program which pays for short term stays for individuals in motels if they are unable to stay in the shelter. Typically, IFTS funding is used to support those who are medically fragile or unable to stay at the emergency shelters. However, due to the extended cold weather emergency this winter, IFTS funds have been depleted - as of the end of January 2018 IFTS is in the red \$16,000, prior to accounting for expenses for February and March. Heidi asked Network members to forward any possible funding sources to her for follow-up. Jean Challis expressed that it is important to develop an advance plan for emergency situations rather than trying to address situations when they present. Karen Tewhey reported that there is currently no shelter infra-structure on Martha's Vineyard. She requested that members of the Regional Network share their knowledge and experience with first responders on M.V. Richard Waystack asked if nursing homes had been considered as a possible place to shelter homeless individuals during an emergency. He noted that the Harwich Council on Aging had been successful in coordinating this kind of effort for a few Harwich residents who are medically fragile.

- **Support for McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaisons** (Families, Unaccompanied Youth): The Regional Network will continue to facilitate, advocate, and educate for better communication and support between the school homeless liaisons and the agencies who have programs and resources for at risk families.
- **Capacity Building to Address Unaccompanied Homeless and At-Risk Youth:** Regional Network will continue to build the capacity of agencies who work with unaccompanied homeless and at-risk youth. Homeless Prevention Council was mentioned as one organization who has an initiative focused on serving this population, the Regional Network has designated HPC to undertake the Unaccompanied Youth Survey in the spring of 2018.
- **Housing Court and Tenancy Preservation Program:** The Regional Network will continue to advocate and educate our community and elected officials about the need for the TPP and will track the progress of implementation of the Housing Court in our region.

Richard Waystack motioned, seconded by Cathy Gibson to adopt the six priority areas as discussed. Unanimously approved.

- **Presentation: Cape Housing Institute, Laura Reckford (HAC), and Andrea Aldana (CDP):** Andrea noted that the goal of the Cape Community Housing Partnership (CCHP) is to increase the capacity of towns to meet the housing needs of their residents. CCHP has a 3-part community-based strategy to build public support for affordable housing and equip elected and appointed officials, business & community leaders and low-income residents with the knowledge and skills to support the creation of more affordable housing. Outcomes include broad public support for the development of affordable housing units, towns will implement changes in zoning bylaws that support affordable housing development, an increase in the number of affordable units to each town's subsidized housing inventory, and towns will utilize Community Preservation Act funding for affordable housing. CCHP will promote the Cape Housing Institute, advocate training and support a media campaign around these outcomes.
  - a) The Cape Housing Institute was introduced by Jay Coburn of Community Development Partnership and is a 6-part series of workshops for selectmen & planning board members, community Preservation Committees, Housing Trusts & Housing Authorities. The first workshops were held in October-November 2017 in 4 sub-regions (upper, Mid, Lower & Outer Cape) and were well attended with 141 attendees, 130 of which were municipal personnel. The curriculum included an introduction to housing, planning

& needs assessment, zoning & site selection, finance & development, making the case for affordable housing & the RFP process and regionalism and creating an action plan. CCHP received very favorable feedback from participants

- b) Advocate Training was held in February/March 2018 and was designed to empower participants to engage I public hearings and town meetings to support affordable housing initiatives and was geared to low and moderate-income residents, business leaders and community members. This training addressed myth-busting, speaking with confidence and how to make a difference. Next steps to this training will be housing meetings, practice telling your story, and tracking town activities.

The next Housing Institute is being planned for the Fall of 2018. Tucker asked if it was possible to bring the training to Nantucket and Jay responded that for now the plan is to hold the training on the Cape but may consider expanding to the islands at a future time. Jay reported that technical assistance is also being offered to towns.

➤ **Continuum of Care (CoC):**

- **Preliminary results of the 2018 Point in Time Count:** Martha Taylor reviewed the draft January 2018 Point-in-Time Count of the homeless. Martha reported that data #'s was similar to 2017 although the number of individuals in shelter was higher. This may have been due to the extreme cold weather experienced during the time the count was taken and to better coverage by volunteers this year. A final report should be ready for release in mid-April and will be posted on the Barnstable County Department of Human Services website.
- **Reallocation Policy:** Martha reported that the Reallocation Policy has been updated to comply with HUD regulations. The two revisions added a policy regarding involuntary reallocation for grantees and a grievance process. The Executive Committee recommended the revised Reallocation Policy be brought to the Policy Board for approval. Richard Waystack motioned to adopt the updated Reallocation Policy, seconded by Gina Hurley. Unanimously approved with Cassi Danzl abstaining.
- **Report on first year of Coordinated Entry System (CES):** Paula Schnepf reviewed the first year of the CES. There is a wait list for housing units funded by the C&I CoC. HUD mandates all resources be made available to all the most vulnerable homeless and at-risk of homelessness population. The CES provides fair opportunities for housing to individuals, families and veterans. Paula reviewed CES match outcomes for 2017: There were 190 transmittals/engagements received and Paula reviewed the referring agencies and totals from each. 20% were housed through CES, 38% were ineligible for the program, 26% were clients not in compliance, 7% have outcomes pending, and 9% were affected by agency non-compliance. Tried to move most clients using a Housing First model. Year 2, will look at a work around for ineligible clients by collecting additional information to support eligibility and examine ways to improve the process. Suggestion to track duration of placement process and outcomes of placements.

➤ **Partner Updates:**

- Edye Nesmith, Council of Churches: Working with Chris Morin at Independence House to coordinate a training “Empowering Prevention of Domestic & Sexual Violence” scheduled for October 20, 2018, 9-5:00 at D/Y High School.

➤ **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM. Next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2018

Respectfully submitted: Kathie Callahan