

## CAPE & ISLANDS REGIONAL NETWORK ON HOMELESSNESS ANNUAL MEETING

|   |   |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|
| <b>DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE:</b> Policy Board   | <b>DATE:</b> March 27, 2017   | <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 22, 2017   |   |                      |
| <b>PRESENT:</b> Paula Schnepf, Beth Albert, Anne Colwell, Kristina Dower, Rose Evans, Maggi Flanagan, Alisa Galazzi, Gina Giambusso, Cathy Gibson, Gina Hurley, Lysetta Hurge-Putnam, Marc Israel, Barbara Milligan, Eddie Murphy, Edye Nesmith, Greg Quilty, Karen Ready, Brenda Swain, Beth Wade, Mary Waygan, Katherine Wibby, |   |                      |
| <b>Guests:</b> Lee Hamilton, Pat Cawley, Deb Krau, Lynne Poyant, Heather Harper, Mark Forest, Michelle Springer, Elizabeth Wurf Bain, Chief Paul MacDonald, David Hatch   |   |                      |
| <b>Unable to attend:</b> John Economos, Heidi Nelson, David Willard   |   |                      |

- **Welcome & Introductions:** Beth Albert facilitated the meeting. Beth Albert welcomed the group and introductions were made by individuals.
- **Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2017:** Brenda Swain motioned to accept the Minutes of January 23, 2017, seconded by Mary Waygan. Minutes unanimously approved. Edye Nesmith and Kristina Dower abstained.
- **Presentation of Slate of Members, Co-Chairs and Executive Committee of Policy Board:**
  - A Nominating Committee was formed and reached out to current members and identified additional key stakeholders and individuals were invited to apply for membership on the Regional Network on Homelessness Policy Board. Gina Hurley presented the slate of Policy Board members, Chair & Co-Chair and Executive Committee members. Cathy Gibson motioned to accept the slate of PB members, seconded by Edye Nesmith, unanimously approved. Edye Nesmith motioned to accept the nominees for Chair, Beth Albert, and Cathy Gibson, Vice Chair, seconded by Barbara Milligan, unanimously approved. Brenda Swain motioned to accept the slate of Executive Committee members, seconded by Beth Wade, unanimously approved. Beth Albert reported that there are still a few openings on the Executive Committee, in particular from the Upper Cape. Please contact Beth Albert or a member of the Nominating Committee if you wish to join the Executive Committee. The revised Governance Document was distributed. Revisions were adopted at the January 23, 2017 meeting. A 2017 meeting schedule was also distributed. Note: start time of Policy Board meetings was changed to 9:00 AM to accommodate members traveling from the Islands.
- **Report from the Region – Pop-up presentations from Policy Board members of accomplishments, trends, and/or goals, etc. around homelessness:**

- Edye Nesmith, Cape Cod Council of Churches: Edye reported on 3 current initiatives:
  - Baby Boxes will be distributed at A Baby Center. Includes a box which can accommodate a small baby, a mattress and sheet. These will be available to new parents and homeless clients. Also included is a training video on baby safety tips.
  - Faith Family Kitchen at Faith Assembly Church on Bearses Way is up and running. Meals for families will be served from 5-5:45 PM and open to individuals from the public at 5:45 PM.
  - The Council of Churches is working collaboratively with Independence House on an event being held on May 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Peter's Lutheran Church on domestic violence.
- Mary Waygan, Town of Yarmouth: On March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1-5 PM Age Friendly Yarmouth will hold a Housing Forum at the Yarmouth Senior Center to learn about the current status of housing and plans for the future in Yarmouth.
- Gina Hurley, Barnstable Schools: Gina is the McKinney-Vento liaison for the Barnstable School District. This year 106 students were documented as homeless. 50% doubled-up, 33% in shelters, 10% in hotels/motels and 7% awaiting foster care placement. Barnstable High School opened a food pantry for students that include food items and also a clothing section. In collaboration with the Hyannis Chamber of Commerce – Run for Hunger held in November to benefit the H.S. pantry.
- Maggi Flanagan, Homeless Prevention Council: Expanding the Contracted Tenant Services program which will now provide Tenant Services to Community Housing Resource, Province Landing and Lower Cape CDP. This service is available to any tenant to provide case management, address tenancy issues, lease violations, etc. The Council also provides case management services to the Eastham Rental Assistance Program and the Provincetown Self-sufficiency Local Voucher Program.
- Lysetta-Hurge-Putnam, Independence House: Domestic violence is one of the leading causes of homelessness. Independence House helps clients stay stabilized and in their own homes if possible. Independence House is expanding their Orleans office to offer additional services. Applied for DPH funding in hopes to expand their housing stabilization program.
- Brenda Swain, Falmouth Service Center: In addition to being a food pantry site, FSC offers many additional support services to clients including financial assistance. In 2016 FSC served 350 households, 61% of whom needed housing assistance. FSC is working with the faith community to help stabilize families but additional funding is needed in the area of prevention services.
- Eddie Murphy, Protective Services Program Manager, Elder Services of CC&I: Reports that 50% of clients are at risk and ESCCI averages 150 reports/month. ESCCI administers many different programs and are looking at ways to get involved with elderly clients earlier in regards to their housing needs.
- Karen Ready – Catholic Social Services: The number of elders at risk continues to rise as they are experiencing a failure to meet essential needs.
- Pat Cawley, Duffy Health Center: Continue to hold Outreach Committee meetings. Working with Police Dept. and 2 full time caseworkers from Housing Assistance Corp as well as outreach workers from AIDS Support Group, Vinfen and Council of Churches. 70-100 individuals have been identified as homeless on the streets and in shelters.
- Marc Israel, HMIS Administrator, HAC: HMIS Advisory Committee formed to look at new system. New reporting system, SAGE, collects client information and directly populates data on website. The data has multi-uses for local agencies. Marc is working with St. Joseph's House (formerly NOAH Shelter) to gather client data and information to be entered into the HMIS.

Also receiving client data from Homeless Not Hopeless. Have begun discussions with HUD about HMIS funding. Some CoC's are opting to buy into a new data collection system. Rose Evans cautioned jumping to a new system just yet. Rose and Bill Bartosch are available to discuss HMIS options. Beth will invite them to the next Policy Board meeting.

- Barbara Milligan, United Way C&I: The United Way is working with housing advisory committee and HAC. Looking at winter shelters at churches. Faith Groups & HAC are working on ideas to raise funds.
- Heather Harper, Community Design Housing Specialist, Cape Cod Commission: The Commission is working on a Regional Housing Supply Study. Hired a firm to collect data and info will be available on the Commission website in a few weeks. Preliminary information forecasts 8,000 new people and 10,000 new jobs in the future and housing availability needs to be looked at. A Review Panel will review the data being collected and a draft Regional Policy Plan will be developed and include information on health, wealth & resiliency in our region.
- Alisa Galazzi, Housing Assistance Corp.: HAC is looking at what additional wrap-around services HAC can provide to help with success of clients. They have hired a researcher to look at current services available.
- Cathy Gibson, Dept. of Transitional Assistance: Providing outreach, DTA 101. Working with Health Imperatives at Cromwell Court to connect clients with services.
- Gina Giambusso, Veterans Outreach Center: The Center is moving to Stevens St. in Hyannis. Will be expanding Veterans Housing Services. Dennis home for Veterans is proceeding nicely with the goal of creating more housing and case management to provide services to Veterans. SSVF program provides first, last & security to veterans and can also help with rent arrears.

➤ **Continuum of Care (CoC):**

- **HUD Awards:** Beth Albert reported that HUD has announced awards for the HUD CoC 2016 NOFA. The Cape region is the recipient of \$1,758,102 in awards for new and renewal projects. Barnstable County is the collaborative applicant for this grant. Grant provides critical funding for supportive housing for chronically homeless. Will be hiring a program Manager for the CoC.
- **2017 Point in Time Count – Beth Albert:** The Point in Time (PIT) count, required by CoCs, is an annual community-wide initiative was undertaken on January 24, 2017. CoCs are required to conduct a sheltered and unsheltered count in compliance with HUD standards and PIT Methodology Guide. This count does not capture everyone as it complies only with HUD definitions. All information was compiled and a preliminary report was distributed and briefly reviewed. A more thorough analysis of the data will look at the trends in our region. Lee Hamilton will work with Beth to schedule site visits with all of the HUD grantees.
- Paula Schnepf reported on the Coordinated Entry System (CES). She noted that members of the Network have been working on the Coordinated Entry System for the past 2 years. HUD mandated that anyone receiving HUD funding needs access to the data collected through the CES and data on any individual receiving HUD funding be entered into the CES. Agencies with access to the CES can match individuals with funding resources.

- **DRAFT Annual Action Plan: April 2017 – March 2018:** Beth Albert reported that the original 5-year Regional Network Action Plan has expired. Future Action Plans will be drafted on an Annual basis. Planning document distributed and reviewed. Paula is creating

measurable goals and action steps. The 2017-2018 Plan will address needs & issues of households cycling in/out of shelters, and look at low income vs. high cost of housing, physical health and age of homeless individuals, and earlier interventions for prevention purposes.

Actions will look at:

- supporting a Housing Court on the C&I which has garnered statewide support;
- raising funds and awareness of homelessness through the 25<sup>th</sup> Housing for Love Walk, which to date has raised \$250,000 to support homeless prevention;
- expand the reach of the CES to include transitional housing, prevention resources, and strengthen CoC infrastructure.
- Items TBD include additional advocacy or program development for individuals, families, veterans, unaccompanied youth and/or seniors. Suggested that strong focus be placed on seniors, mentally ill individuals and veterans. General consensus was for the Policy Board to support #'s 1, 2 & 4 of the Planning document Core Requirements. Alisa Galazzi and Brenda Swain will meet before the May PB meeting to look at #'s 3 & 5. Mary Waygan motioned, seconded by Karen Reddy to approve #'s 1, 2 & 4 of the Core Requirements, unanimously approved.

➤ **Meeting adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2017

Respectfully submitted: Kathie Callahan