



**BARNSTABLE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

3195 Main Street, Post Office Box 427
Barnstable, Massachusetts 02630
Office: 508-375-6628 | Fax: 508-362-0290
www.bchumanservices.net

MEETING MINUTES

CAPE & ISLANDS REGIONAL NETWORK ON HOMELESSNESS POLICY BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 25th, 2019

9:00am-10:30am

Harborview Room, Barnstable County Complex

Members Present: Maggi Flanagan, Gina Giambusso, Cathy Gibson, Lee Hamilton, Suzie Hauptmann, Gina Hurley, Susan Mazzarella, Heidi Nelson, Edythe Nesmith, Greg Quilty, Karen Tewhey, Mary Waygan, Maybelline Willner, Walter Phinney, Arlene Rodriquez, Leo Blandford, Caronanne Procaccini, Paula Schnepf
Members of the Public: Kathleen Girouard, Francesca Martin
Barnstable County Staff: Beth Albert, Martha Taylor, Maria Silva
Unable to attend: Jan Kendrick, Eddie Murphy

- **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting began at 9:03am – Beth Albert welcomed everyone to the Regional Network on Homelessness Policy Board Annual Meeting. Beth announced that she has maxed out her term as Chair and that Cathy Gibson will be the incoming Chair. Heidi Nelson has agreed to serve as the Vice Chair. All members around the table introduced themselves. Beth Albert thanked Paula Schnepf for her 7 years of service to the Policy Board. Paula will still be a member of the Policy Board and Executive Committee in the Public Housing slot representing Sandwich Housing Authority.
- **Approval of Minutes of January 28th Meeting** – Beth Albert asked for a motion to accept the Minutes – so moved by Edye Nesmith and seconded by Suzie Hauptmann. All in favor, none opposed.
- **Report from the Nominating Committee** – The Nominating Committee presented a slate of nominees for approval. Cathy Gibson was named Chair and Heidi Nelson, Vice Chair. Heidi Nelson stated that if there was an identified conflict because her agency is a recipient of funds from the Continuum of Care (CoC) to identify the issue without hesitancy. New members are Leo Blandford, Martha Burzycki, Megan Homer, Jan Kendrick, Jacqueline Lane, Dr. Arlene Rodriquez, Paula Schnepf and Erika Woods. There are two vacancies; Town of Barnstable and Cape Cod Healthcare ACO. Beth Albert asked for a motion to accept the slate of nominees for the Regional Network Policy Board as presented - so moved by Mary Waygan and seconded by Suzie Hauptmann. All in favor – none opposed. **(List of 2019/2020 Policy Board Members attached).**
- **Update on Regional Network Priorities for 2018/2019** – Paula Schnepf reported on the following network priorities:

Creating a Healthy Connected Cape Cod

The Mission of the Department of Human Services is to plan, develop, and implement programs which enhance the overall delivery of human services in Barnstable County and promote the health and social well-being of County residents through regional efforts that improve coordination of services.

- **Elder Homelessness** – A task force was convened in 2018 to look at the issue of elder homelessness following an Elder Homeless Forum that took place in the Fall of 2017. The task force met several times in 2018 and released a report with recommended action steps. The action steps will be implemented in 2019/2020. A final version of the recommendations were provided in the meeting packet. **(Handout attached).**
 - **Expansion of Coordinated Entry to Families** – This goal was accomplished.
 - **Winter/Weather Emergency Planning** –A subcommittee of the Policy Board was created and included Heidi Nelson, Beth Albert, Gene Carey, Sean O’Brien, Paula Schnepf and Sargent Jen Ellis. At the same time the subcommittee was convened, the region received a \$45,000 earmark from Senator Cyr that had been requested by Jackie Lane from NAMI to provide temporary shelter to those unable to access St. Joseph’s House or In From the Streets. The subcommittee began meeting in April and recommended several strategies to improve shelter utilization and coordination among providers and programs. Data from the emergency shelter, overflow beds, motels and In from the Streets is being tracked and analyzed. The earmark was administered thru the Barnstable Police Department who contracted with Duffy to implement the motel response. The Regional Network will issue a report by the end of April and provide a copy to Senator Cyr. While these efforts were primarily mid-Cape focused, the subcommittee considered the entire region. Suzie Hauptmann will provide information on Falmouth’s response to winter sheltering at our next meeting.
 - **Support for McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaisons** – The Family Homelessness Subcommittee continues to provide support and linkage to the school-based McKinney Vento liaisons. It was reported that the connection to the Family Resources Center is well established and highly beneficial to the liaisons. Cassi Danzl and Gina Hurley will continue to co-chair the Family Homelessness Prevention Subcommittee of the Regional Network.
 - **Expansion Housing Court and Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP)** – Housing Court is now operating in Barnstable and serves the Cape and Islands. Andrew O’Dell, the TPP Coordinator, was hired in February as an employee of Father Bill’s Mainspring, who has the TPP contract for this region. Catholic Social Services (CSS) has provided space for him in their building on South Street in Hyannis beginning April 1st. Several people mentioned the need to have information on Housing Court and TPP disseminated widely.
 - **Preliminary results of the 2019 Point in Time Count** – Martha Taylor thanked everyone who helped with the Point in Time Count which took place on January 29. **(Handout attached Point in Time Count Update)** - Preliminary results from the January 29 Point in Time Count (PIT) were presented to the Policy Board. The deadline for submission of the PIT and HIC reports to HUD is April 30. Results of both reports will be published on the BCDHS webpage.
 - **FY2018 NOFA Awards Update** - In February, HUD announced funding awards for new projects in the FY2018 CoC NOFA Competition. In addition to all CoC renewal projects having been fully funded, Sandwich Housing Authority received \$185K (a combination of Bonus and Reallocation Funds) for its new Fresh Start project. This new Permanent Supportive Housing program adds 11 new beds to the CoC’s project inventory. The overall increase in the CoC award from FY2017 to FY2018 was 16%. With adjustments made to take into consideration the change in Fair Market Rents from year to year, the actual increase in housing awards was just over 12%.
- Beth Albert reported on the recruitment of a Program Manager who will staff the Policy Board and Executive Committee, provide oversight of the COC grant program and manage the Unaccompanied Youth and Young Adult grant. Martha Taylor is the Program Manager HMIS and Lee Hamilton will continue to assist in the submission of the annual COC grant.

➤ Karen Tewhey expressed concern that the Regional Network priorities for 2019/2020 did not specifically include Martha's Vineyard. Karen Tewhey would like to add working with Duke's County as a priority for the Regional Network. Cathy Gibson suggested that someone from Martha's Vineyard Hospital join the Policy Board.

➤ **Regional Network Priorities for 2019/2020**

- Youth Homeless Grant
- Winter/Weather Emergency Planning (Year 2)
- Elder Homelessness (Year 2)
- Trainings – on a variety of things – quarterly training on topics TBD. Beth Albert proposed that the Policy Board take the lead in coordinating 4 trainings a year, 1 training a quarter.
- Family Shelter Procurement Process – Jane Banks spoke on this topic at our last Policy Board meeting. Paula put in written comments as well as other organizations.
- 6th Priority added by Karen Tewhey – to increase outreach and engagement with Dukes and Nantucket Counties. Beth asked for a motion to adopt these 6 priority areas for 2019-2020 for the Policy Board, so moved by Edye Nesmith and seconded by Cathy Gibson. All in favor – none opposed.

Beth Albert provided an overview of the new Youth Homeless grant and handed out the flyer (**Handout attached**) –There will be a community wide meeting at the end of June to discuss the findings of the community needs assessment.

Beth Albert stated that due to the Memorial Day Holiday the May and July Meeting will be combined – next Policy Board meeting is on June 24th.

➤ **Partner Updates** – Mary Waygan distributed flyers on Yarmouth affordable housing. (**2 Handouts attached**)

➤ **Adjournment** – Beth Albert asked for a motion to adjourn at 10:30am, so moved by Heidi Nelson seconded by Cathy Gibson.

Respectfully submitted by Maria Silva, Human Services