

## General Assembly Meeting

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### **Date and Time**

Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

### **Location**

Manchester Community Resource Center, 434 Lake Ave, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Manchester, NH 03103

### **Attendees**

Arlene Agosto	Cassie Gudek	Cathy Kuhn	David Harris	Dick Webster
Emily Reisine	Jennifer Macla	Jocelyne Pinsonneault	Julie Morris	Keith Howard
Kevin Kintner	Laurel Redden	Lynne Lorentson	Mark Stokes	Mary Sliney
Mikaela Gerry	Nicole Clark	Rich Doyle	Sophia DeFrancesco	Stephanie Costello
Julie Darling	Debbie Wheeler	Kelly Riley	Denise Therrien	

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### **12:00 Meeting begins**

#### **Coordinated Entry Update**

- I. The state recently met for a state workshop.
- II. Mary highlighted the importance of all of us coming together, despite our different perspectives and goals, to work efficiently in serving our shared population. While some agencies have to work more directly with HUD and their directives than others, as a CoC, we should focus on how we can all benefit from these responsibilities as well as knowing when we should step back as a group.
- III. Coordinated Entry isn't a process that requires the participation of all the MCoC's agencies, but will have positive effects throughout the continuum. This process:
  - a. Encourages all agencies to work together to equalize or make housing a fairer process.
  - b. Prioritizes limited resources to make the process more efficient.
  - c. Pays attention to special need populations (ex: Domestic violence, HIV, vets, families, etc)
- IV. Cathy explained that in Manchester, we will be using a tiered approach so that the different target groups (single adults, families, youth, and vets) will be directed to a centralized phone number, which will then redirect to the entry point agencies (New Horizons, FIT, CFS, etc). This system serves only the Manchester region. Diversion and prevention play a large role in this process.
- V. Next step is to market this system out to the population served.

#### **Manchester Housing and Redevelopment Authority**

- I. Dick Webster gave the continuum a presentation on some of the programs offered by MHRA.
- II. There are currently 8,000 people waiting on MHRA's waiting list. While preference is given to Manchester residents, MHRA does serve anyone in the state. Their homeless program is referral based.
- III. Among other programs MHRA serves: low income, those with disabilities, veterans, and the elderly. While services are not a required element of their housing, they will provide services and work to establish relationships with other agencies.

#### **Strategic Planning**

- I. Leadership is looking to involve the general assembly in making our meetings more efficient, in order to maximize the value of everyone's time.

- II. Survey was sent around looking specifically at meeting time, location, and the positions of those who regularly attend. Results will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- III. Leadership has also begun looking over the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, created in 2008. As we approach the end of this timespan, we should begin to focus on what the takeaways are. For example, is this document still relevant? Have we been effective?
- IV. Mary suggested that we create a taskforce to focus on the goals laid out in the plan and review if we've met these check points. Taskforce would focus on:
  - a. What has been accomplished in the past 8 years.
  - b. What has changed? What are the critical issues now?
  - c. Are there topics that we want to discuss ass a group?

### **General Updates**

- I. Homeless Liaison continues to meet. The benefits of the Housing First model were discussed at our last meeting.
- II. Amber's Place, HOPE for NH Recovery's new building is opening July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- III. PIT count numbers are finalized. Count for Manchester will be sent out via email, but you can contact Mark Stokes ([mstokes@fitnh.org](mailto:mstokes@fitnh.org)) or Nicole Clark ([vista@mcoenh.org](mailto:vista@mcoenh.org)) with questions or concerns.
- IV. Child and Family Services is looking to raise awareness on the issue of youth homelessness.
- V. 1269 Café has recently moved to a new location and is looking to increase their hours. This population serves the homeless and needy. Showers will be available for use as soon as installations are completed.
- VI. Serenity place recently began a wrap-around care program. This is a community resource intended to collaborate with other providers.

### **1:00 Meeting Concludes**

#### **Minutes Prepared By**

Nicole Clark

Manchester Continuum of Care Coordinator, VISTA