

Continuum General Assembly Minutes

Date and Time

Thursday, April 17th, 2014 12:00PM-1:00PM

Location

434 Lake Avenue, Manchester, NH 4th floor

Attendees

Angela Roberts	Bill Sullivan	Cathy Kuhn	Charles Perkins	David Carroll
Dick Webster	Dominique Rust	Elise Annunziata	Erin Kelly	Jean Melvin
Kevin Kintner	Kyle Beaulieu	Laurel Redden	Lauren Paradis	Mark Stokes
Mary Sliney	Mike Austin	Natalie Martin	Rich Doyle	Robert Mottola
Susan Howland	Lisa Jacobus	Jean Jacques		

Introductions

March Minutes Approved

ESG Written Standards

- The city of Manchester receives ESG funds from HUD, which it then subcontracts out to eligible agencies to provide four kinds of services: Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-Housing and Outreach (as well as HMIS and admin.)
- The city recently drafted its annual action plan, laying out plans to spend these funds
- This year we must provide written standards governing how all agencies will provide these services
 - We have used HUD's standards for the past three years but now must create our own
 - These standards will be the same for all agencies and their services, with a few possible variances between services for families/individuals or adults/youth, for example
- Elise was hoping that CoC partners who provide these services could all come to the table to help create these standards
- She is hoping to convene three workgroups to work on standards for three categories: ES, Prevention and RRH and Outreach
 - MCoC Coordinator will get the names of people interested in participating in one or more of these groups and will reach out after the meeting to schedule workgroup meeting times
- If anyone else is interested in helping with this, or know anyone who may be, contact eannunziata@manchesternh.gov or vista@mcofnh.org

FIT's Family Place and Community Garden

Maureen Beauregard, President of Families in Transition, gave a presentation on plans for FIT's new facilities and programming

- FIT is developing the Family Place on Lake Ave.
- The first floor will house the Family Resource Center, including
 - A classroom where SNHS' Head Start program will partner with FIT to provide early childhood education
 - A community dining room and commercial kitchen, where NH Catholic Charities food program will help families prepare meals and teach about cooking with whole foods
 - An intakes office
 - Police substation
 - Drop-in office for any local agency to provide their service(s) to guests
 - Donations closet in the basement
- The second floor will include approximately 10 units of family emergency shelter, each with separate bathrooms, 24 hour staff coverage and other safety/security provisions
- Additionally, FIT is currently designing a Community Garden and Learning Center
 - This space will be located on the corner of Spruce St. and Massabesic St.
 - There will be raised beds, possibly a greenhouse, and a pocket park outdoors
 - There will also be an indoor learning center where children can learn about where food comes from
- The garden will partner with the Family Place kitchen to provide food for the residents and, ultimately, to educate people about where food comes from and how to eat healthily

Health Care for the Homeless

- Jean Jacques for HCH introduced some new members of their outreach team
- They successfully signed 89 people up for health insurance through the ACA exchanges
- They are now working to connect eligible people to Medicaid
 - The ACA expanded Medicaid to cover adults without documented disability
 - The open enrollment period is from May until June, with coverage starting July 1st
 - The new Medicaid program requires no documented disability and is completely income based
- To find more info, schedule the outreach team to come to your location, or to refer clients, call 603-663-8155 or e-mail jjacques@cmc-nh.org

Other Announcements

- The Way Home is holding a karaoke fundraiser, Sing for a Cause, hosted by Milly's Tavern on June 6th from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Housing Action NH announced that the NH Senate is holding a hearing on HB1409 at 10:00a.m. on April 22nd
 - They are encouraging people to call Senators Soucy and Boutin to encourage them to support this effort to end rental discrimination against DV survivors and Section 8 holders
 - The Senate finance committee is also holding a hearing on raising the minimum wage the afternoon on April 22nd
- The NH Coalition to End Homelessness' Granite Leaders Program is graduating 16 graduates Wednesday, April 23rd at 10:00 a.m. at SNHU



**The next MCoC General Assembly meeting
Lake Ave. 4th floor**

will be Thursday, May 17th at 12:00 p.m. 434

Minutes Prepared By
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