

# Leadership Committee Minutes

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## Date and Time

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 3:00pm-4:00pm

## Location

Bridge Café, 1117 Elm Street, Manchester

## Attendees

Dominique Rust      Elise Annunziata      Mary Sliney      Monica Zulauf      Susan Howland

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## The Future of the Homeless Services

- An RFP was recently released to take over operations of the Homeless Services Center
  - The Granite United Way (GUW) still has available \$75 thousand/year for the next three years
  - The NH Food Bank will still be providing \$20,000 thousand in food
  - Only one response to the RFP was received and it did not meet the specifications laid out in the RFP
- Dominique reported that NH Catholic Charities has enough funding to continue the Center's operations through May 19<sup>th</sup>, after which time staff time and hours of operation will be reduced
- There is the possibility that the MCoC could take over the responsibilities of operating the Center provided that:
  - An agency agrees to be the fiscal agent
  - The role of the Center changes to be more service-oriented and less about simply sheltering people during the day
    - For example, the Center would no longer be able to accommodate 160 people a day, and instead, focus resources on 70 or so individuals who are actively seeking resources
  - All MCoC service providers need to commit to having staff hold office hours at the Center for a sensible amount of hours each month based on services provided
  - The MCoC will need to begin efforts to raise funds for the Center and engage in more resource development and community outreach
- If these changes take place, the GUW will continue to provide their \$75 thousand
  - They are hesitant to do so, however, if such changes do not take place
- Additionally, the city has \$19.5 thousand that they will contribute
- Monica said that in her recent experience, foundations are reluctant to fund continued operations and prefer new projects
- Susan said that several foundations serving Manchester do like these kinds of projects based on the collaborative nature and mission of moving homeless people forward through access to services
- The MCoC could hold a special event this fall to raise awareness about the Center if we do take on this new role
- Dominique said that they have a development VISTA who's VAD needs to change and could be utilized to support the fund raising efforts on behalf of the Center



- This being the situation, Leadership agreed that the MCoC should quickly take steps to ensure that normal operation of the Center continues after May 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Additional discussion will take place during May’s General Assembly meeting

**The next Leadership Committee meeting will be Thursday, 6/12/14 at the Bridge Café.**

**Minutes Prepared By**

Erik Wirkkala

Manchester Continuum of Care Coordinator, VISTA