

# Introduction of Agenda, Meeting Minutes & Updates

Attendance: Jessica Aldave', Jess Anderson, Jamezetta Bedford, Nate Broman-Fulks, Rebecca Buzzard, Donna Carrington, Nancy Coston, Tim Daaleman, Caitlin Fenhagen, Barbara Foushee, LaKiera Grimes, Melissa Haithcox-Miller, Megan Johnson, Grace Mark, Everett McElveen, Rachel Valentine, Staff: Rachel Waltz, Kat Wies

## **OCPEH Updates**

Partnership staff provided an update on several HUD required activities. The Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) has been submitted in advance of the deadline and staff anticipates that the System Performance Measures to be submitted in advance of deadline. Staff are currently working with the North Carolina Coalition to End Homeless (NCCEH) to review Point in Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data in preparation for submission to HUD.

The Partnership is currently hiring for a Coordinated Entry Housing specialist and vacancies will post shortly for Rapid Re-housing Housing Specialists and Street Outreach Peer Street Navigator.

<u>Leadership Team Minutes</u> from January 27, 2022 meeting The motion to approve the minutes was passed by unanimous vote [DC, MH]

The Partnership receives research requests for publically available data, data available in HMIS and CoC data. HMIS currently has an acceptable use policy for de-identified data. A proposal was put forth that "Research requests submitted by active Orange County CoC members will be reviewed by OCPEH staff. Requests submitted y organizations that are not active members of the Orange County CoC will be reviewed by the OCPEH Leadership Team at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Current Leadership Team members may provide background information at the request of the Leadership Team and will abstain from voting in any materials in which they have a material interest".

A motion to approve proposed policy was passed by unanimous vote [DC, EM]

Leadership Team Chair provided an update on progress with Racial Equity consultation. Management Team met with Thomas Johnson-Bean and Jamall Kinnard to discuss work plan and goals, including assessment of core activities and evaluation of HUD funding scorecard and Gaps Analysis to proactively and affirmatively advance the Partnership's equity goals. Racial Equity sessions will begin at the March 2022 Leadership Team meeting.

## **Racial Equity Presentation**

UNC MSW candidate Grace Mark presented "Stella P: Who gets into crisis and permanent housing? Who returns to homelessness?", a presentation of racial equity outcome analysis using publically available homeless service system data in HUD tool Stella P. This tool incorporates homeless service system data through September 2020. The results show that participants' program exits are proportional but that white Participants are disproportionally more likely to be referred to Permanent Supportive housing programs and African American participants are disproportionally referred to Rapid Re-housing. There appear to be disproportionality in returns to homelessness based on the limited data available. Leadership Team members discussed the large percentage of exits to temporary housing as exits to temporary housing result in higher returns to homelessness than exits to permanent housing. Staff provided explanation of diversion efforts and upcoming training for Coordinated Entry direct service staff. Members also noted long standing gap of



inadequate supply of high quality permanent supportive housing. Staff provided an overview of permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing and members discussed different decision points where bias can enter into assessment and referral process. Members discussed use of the current vulnerability and assessment tool, VI-SPDAT. Staff relayed feedback from the Coordinated Entry planning group indicating a desire to explore technical assistance to implement a new tool. Staff and community members have registered for HUD technical assistance that is expects to begin in March 2022.

# **Annual Report**

Staff previewed the 2021 Annual Report which will be reviewed with local municipalities in March 2022. The 2021 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to US Congress indicates that nationwide people experiencing sheltered homelessness fell 8% while there was an increase in sheltered homelessness in Orange County. Staff proposed rationale that shelter capacity increased due to move to non-congregate shelter plus greater flexibility with seasonal cold weather beds. Staff also shared impacts of additional service availability in Orange County, including the addition of a Street Outreach team and expanded Rapid Re-housing. Staff also shared increased demand for Housing Helpline services and significant increase in the number of households housed through the HOME Committee. Staff outlined savings to the community when system gaps are filled. Members requested clarification on amount needed to fill gaps temporarily compared with permanent costs. Members also requested greater specificity regarding the number of units needed at various levels of affordability in Orange County to meet the need. Members also suggested identifying projected cost savings to various systems impacted by homelessness to highlight the value to the community of filling system gaps. Glossary of terms has been made available on the Partnership website as requested.

# Wrap Up & Motion to Adjourn

**Next Meeting:** March 21, 6-7:30pm **Remaining 2022 Meetings:** 2/21; 3/21; 4/18; 5/16; 6/20; No July meeting; 8/15; 9/19; 10/17; 11/21; 12/19