



Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
Mon. August 17th, 2020, 6-7:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attending: Natasha Adams, Jessica Anderson, Nate Broman-Fulks, Rebecca Buzzard, Nancy Coston, Christy Croft, Caitlin Fenhagen, Kathleen Ferguson, Barbara Foushee, Sally Greene, Chinita Howard, Jackie Jenks, Megan Johnson, Will Quick, Corey Root, Beth Schehl, Isabel Shapiro, Diiv Sternman, Emila Sutton, Vanessa Watson

Welcome & Updates

Agency Updates:

- Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Department (CJRD):
 - Getting harm reduction deflection coordinator position posted for street outreach program.
 - Other two street outreach positions to be posted in the near future. Those positions are for people with lived experience peer supports who will be responsible for getting clients connected to services and housing.
- Orange County Housing and Community Development (OCHCD):
 - [New flyer](#) on OCHCD website for housing helpline
 - New positions posted:
 - COVID response housing coordinator
 - Housing Choice Voucher Specialist position
 - Housing Access Coordinator started
 - [New flyer](#) about the landlord incentive program
 - Assisted 356 people through Emergency Housing Assistance program
- Inter-Faith Council:
 - Shelters will remain at hotel until September 4th. Will know about future extensions on a month to month basis.
 - All physical modifications to HomeStart and Community House are complete. Includes anti-microbial curtains between beds, partitions between inclement weather mats and staff spaces, and dining room rearrangements
 - Hired a new shelter and housing director, Jessica Aldave
- Community Empowerment Fund:
 - Adjusted hours due to school starting
 - Back from 2 week break, almost back to regular hours
 - Currently: 10am-3pm Monday-Thursday, 12pm-3pm Friday, and 5pm-7pm on Thursday only
- Affordable Housing for Town of Chapel Hill
 - CASA project received 9% tax credit award
 - Construction of 48 affordable housing units starting in the spring
 - One open position: community development management position to manage CDBG programming
- Compass Center:
 - Emergency housing opening up in October.
 - One apartment ready to provide crisis housing for up to 90 days. 2 more apartments coming on-line soon.
- Department of Social Services:
 - Will spend more federal crisis energy money than usual in the near future
- Town of Carrboro:
 - Has provided \$120k in housing assistance funds

OCPEH updates:

- Increase in calls to housing helpline and more emails than any previous month. On pace to exceed calls from every other month.

	Month	# People	# Calls	# Emails
2020	April	113	210	5
	May	350	617	116
	June	391	1005	293
	July	365	915	598
	August	316	949	961

- New temporary full-time and part-time positions staffed to work with the volume, will be more coming on-line soon
- Hired two new case managers for Housing Help Rapid Re-Housing Program
- Completed Back@Home orientation

Approving Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from Leadership Team meetings on [4/20/20](#), [6/15/20](#), [7/6/20](#), [7/15/20](#) [Foushee, Croft]. Motion passes. All in favor.

Racial Equity Committee Update

The Racial Equity Committee (REC) met twice since the last Leadership Team meeting. Committee members gave an update on hiring the racial equity consultant. Committee members informed the Leadership Team that the REC discussed training and board composition with Mr. Jamall Kinard, who will be coming on board as the Racial Equity Consultant. The Coordinator also received word that Mr. Kinard will be submitting a proposal for scope of work the week of August, 24

- [Racial Equity Meeting notes, 7/29/20](#)
- [Racial Equity Meeting notes, 8/5/20](#)

Leadership Team Role in Local Grant Process

There are five upcoming grant processes that will require local processes and timelines to be developed – the 2020 Continuum of Care (CoC), the 2020 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) regular allocation, and three additional rounds of ESG CARES Act funding (ESG-CV). The State ESG Office released the Request for Applications (RFA) for the ESG regular allocation on August, 17th, 2020. Leadership Team members have asked for more involvement in the process to determine the schedule and timeline for these grant competitions. The Leadership Team discussed how they would like to be involved in setting up the local process for applications.

- Leadership Team wants to make sure applicants are aware of the scoring and ranking system. Applicants should be given a checklist of the material they must submit with their application.
- LT would like to provide input on time needed in order for them to reasonably provide the required material.
- The Coordinator will draft a timeline for the process and send out so that the Leadership Team can submit comments and responses. The Coordinator will be out for the rest of the week but will post next week.
- In addition, the Leadership Team established a sub-committee to support the Coordinator's process in building out schedule and process for receiving and reviewing applications.

- Volunteers for standing sub-committee to set logistics for grant cycles: Will Quick, Beth Schehl, Kathleen Ferguson, Caitlin Fenhagen
- LT briefly discussed the local gap for a homelessness drop-in center, although it was clarified that a drop-in center project would not be eligible to receive ESG or Continuum of Care funding. Other logistical challenges would involve identifying an agency/organization to find and apply for alternative funding and administer the program.
 - It was noted that community Behavioral Health (workgroup(?)) discussions would be beginning again soon and this type of project is a priority for those workgroups.

2020 Point-in-Time Count Data

The Coordinator submitted the [2020 Point-in-Time Count Data](#) to HUD on June 30th. The Point-in-Time Count is a snapshot of homelessness taken on the last Wednesday in January every year. LT discussed that since last year's PIT Count, the number of homeless persons overall and chronically homeless persons specifically decreased. The latter may be due to the increase in IFC supportive housing capacity.

- LT discussed possibility of highlighting these positive numbers for the community
- Typically, OCPEH has a Data Review Event in June each year and a press release, but the pandemic made that a lower priority this year, however LT could still have a virtual Data Review Event in the coming weeks and invite representatives from the News of Orange and the Daily Tar Heel. Leadership Team reached a consensus that this would be a good idea and will move forwards with plans for a virtual Data Review Event.
- Some concern that highlighting these numbers will call more attention to possibly bad numbers in 2021 Point in Time count due to COVID-related homelessness. The coordinator pointed out that 1) people who are newly homeless due to COVID-19 will not be categorized as 'chronically' homeless and thus those numbers will remain sustainable, and 2) homelessness is a lagging indicator that reflects the fallout from disasters such as COVID only after 2-3 years.

Next Meeting: September 21 via Zoom, unless further funding meetings necessary prior to this

Upcoming meetings: Sep. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21