

**1/4/2017: January 2017 CoC Meeting Notes @ Schmieding Center Auditorium, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Attendance
    - Ray Carson – Decision Point
    - John McGee – NWA Women’s Shelter
    - Billy Rader – 7hills
    - Liza – Community Clinic
    - John McGovern – Professor at School of Social Work
    - Sherry – Outreach @ VA
    - Kelly Kirby – VA
    - Cynthia Cochran – Restoration Village
    - Donna Johnston – CDBG Administrator, Rogers
    - Margaret Reed – Professor at University of Arkansas; Non-Profit Change Project
    - Emily M. – P.E.A.R.L.
    - Karen Slater – P.E.A.R.L.
    - George Saniff – currently experiencing homelessness
    - Glenn Miller – Genesis Church
    - Angela Belford – formerly experiencing homelessness; Belford Group
    - Cheryl Sharman – 7hills, formerly in homelessness research in NYC
    - Nancy Kahanak – JEMI
    - Brenda Hodges – OGC
    - Debbie Martin – Havenwood
    - Tim Ensley – OHC
    - Nick Robbins – Returning Home
    - Casey Kleinhenz – Community Development Coporation
    - Ayoola Carleton – Center for Collaborative Care
    - Cari Bogulski – Center for Collaborative Care
2. General Membership Meeting / Frequency (Semi-Monthly) – Ray Carson
  - a. General Membership Meeting
    - Not just quarterly anymore
    - NOW: Every other month
    - Want meetings to be very functional
3. Membership Board Vacancies – Board Officer Vacancies – Ray Carson
  - a. Process of Filling Board Vacancies
    - Several Board Vacancies
      - We need 9-14 board members
    - Want general membership to be big
    - Resources are here but homeless suffer a lot

- We encourage everyone to join the CoC
- Our fiscal year is January 1 – December 31
- Challenge in our current by-laws
  - Time requirement as general member before can serve on the board
  - Looking into change in by-laws to change that amount of time
- Need board vacancy applications in soon
  - Before 2/8/2017 to be considered by the current board
- Debbie is custodian of records
- Angela Belford: Are the by-laws available to everyone?
- Ray Carson: Can email those by-laws out to everyone
  - Website is not what we'd like it to be
  - We'll honor the process as much as we can
- John McGee: Who are the current board members?
  - Tim Ensley
  - Debbie Martin
  - Ray Carson
  - Teresa Mills
  - Greg Chambers
- Debbie Martin – We need more diversity on the CoC board
  - May change by-laws to fit what it should look like
    - a. And we want representation from both counties
    - b. Never one county against another
    - c. I'm not going to tell you how to fix South Fayetteville
      - i. That's Billy Rader
    - d. This is a community effort
- Ray Carson – Here are some examples of representatives
  - Nonprofit homelessness assistance providers
  - Victim services providers
  - Faith-based organizations
  - Governments
  - Business\Advocates
  - Public Housing agencies
  - School Districts
  - Social Services providers
  - Mental Health
  - Hospitals
  - Universities
  - Affordable housing developers
  - Law enforcement
  - Organizations serving veterans
  - Homeless or formerly homeless individuals
- Members don't have to fit one category

- Debbie Martin: In March meeting
  - Going to be naming committees
    - a. May be a good option if you are not comfortable with a board role but want to be involved
  - List of board officers
    - a. Chair
    - b. Vice Chair
    - c. Secretary
    - d. Treasurer
  - Committees (according to the current by-laws)
    - a. Executive Committee
    - b. Membership Committee
    - c. Grant Review Committee
    - d. Budget & Resource Committee
- Ray Carson: Interagency support teams?
  - a. Schmieding Center
    - i. They offer training workshop to be home caregivers
    - ii. For \$250
- Cynthia Cochran: United Way connection?
  - Ray Carson: Currently working with the Center for Collaborative Care
  - But other advocacy groups could come together
  - United Way is not currently a member of the CoC
  - Tim Ensley: United Way has been invited to join the CoC
  - Cynthia Cochran: United Way currently only funding children and poverty initiatives
- Nick Robbins: When did the CoC start? And what have you accomplished?
  - Margaret Reed: I have perhaps the longest connection to the CoC
    - a. More than 20 years
    - b. Was on the board for 10 years
  - Angela Belford: Starting fresh?
  - Ray Carson: The CoC framework has been there. We have to have one for funding from HUD.
    - a. Nothing says that we can't create creative projects
  - Margaret Reed: The best CoCs in the country are innovative
    - a. Need to change flexibly
- Nick Robbins: Meeting started about members, board
  - And here's goals, what we've accomplished, plan, etc.
- Ray Carson
  - CoC conducts PIT count (see #4)
  - All HUD funding coordinated through CoC

- Only last 5 years engaged in mission drift
  - Tim Ensley: Short history, 2½ years on CoC
    - 2014 – Full board
      - a. Strategic planning process
      - b. Board totally turned over (members retired, moved)
        - i. Tim was the only one left
      - c. By mid 2016 – trying to recruit again
      - d. Went from making progress to...
      - e. Started from scratch
        - i. No fault of anyone's
  - Cheryl Sharman
    - To be eligible for HUD funding
      - a. We have to work together
      - b. Need centralized intake
  - Ray Carson
    - NWA CoC is eligible for HUD funding
      - a. But only \$382,645 awarded last year to the CoC
      - b. Only \$28,000 awarded to support the CoC
      - c. HEARTH program gets \$194,000
    - At our last CoC meeting
      - a. Discussed how we wouldn't get additional funding because of our HUD scorecard
4. Point in Time Count – January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> (letter to be handed out)
- a. Letter passed out from Dr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, University of Arkansas Professor, Jones Chair in Community, and Director of the Community and Family Institute
  - b. PIT Training coming up Monday, January 23, 2017, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Central United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, AR (6 W Dickson St, Fayetteville, AR)
  - c. Service population are the most generous
5. Coordinated Entry Discussion – Debbie Martin
- a. Where CoC has been and where CoC is going
    - Had non-profit fair to connect organizations
      - Which helps
    - Helps not duplicate services
    - Hate silos and duplication of services
    - Debbie will never tell you how to fix South Fayetteville
      - But she can come alongside and help
    - Debbie believes in the CoC and what we do
    - Appreciate people who have emailed her
    - Asking for patience from the Conversation from Fayetteville group
    - Want to make sure your efforts don't fall on deaf ears
      - And that our foundation is strong
    - We have the potential to get \$3 million for NWA

- But to do it, we need a stronger CoC
  - We need a minimum score on our HUD scorecard of 100
  - Debbie was shocked that our programs were funded
    - Will help our community
    - \$48,000 for rental assistance
      - a. That Debbie can't use for Havenwood residents
      - b. For everyone else in the room
  - Have to look at property development/management
    - Need more low income housing
      - a. Can't live in Bentonville for \$750/month
  - How do we touch those different individuals?
    - How do we get Nick Robbins's clients into permanent housing?
    - How do we help those that don't want to get housed?
  - Debbie hasn't seen this many people at a CoC meeting in a long time
- b. Coordinated Entry
- HUD wants us to do it
  - How we work as a continuum
    - It won't look like Tulsa's or Mobile's CoC
  - NWA is so spread out
    - We need a multi-door approach
  - If we identify a homeless person
    - We are going to do an assessment
      - a. Put them on a list based on their needs and amount of time they have been homeless
  - Chronic homeless and Veteran homeless look different
    - Separate lists because they look different
  - Reason for Coordinated Entry
    - Will help us
      - a. Right now, everyone has their own individual waiting lists
  - Still working through MOUs and other protections
  - We will work on it hot and heavy after the PIT count
    - Conduct it where the homeless are
  - Cheryl Sharman: Will we be using the VI-SPDAT?
    - Debbie Martin: Yes.
      - a. VI-SPDAT has been proven in other places
      - b. Will identify victims of sex trafficking
      - c. Not everyone will be able to use it (the VI-SPDAT)
      - d. We would probably want to send someone to the Salvation Army if they are in Washington County
      - e. Day Centers would be the perfect place for a Coordinated Entry hub
  - We don't want to add work to any agencies
  - If we do this in the correct way

- We will all know (for example) that there is a spot at the Walker facility
- Angela Belford: Clarification on the list and Coordinated Entry being intertwined
  - Debbie Martin: Yes.
    - a. One entity will compile the list
      - i. But the information will be owned by the community
  - HMIS helps you keep a list
    - a. Debbie has been working with Andy to create CoC list in HMIS
- Nancy Kahanak: Is this online? Who has access? What is HMIS?
  - Debbie Martin: If Nancy identifies a homeless family
    - a. Get them in contact with the Day Center of Genesis Church, wherever the hubs are
  - Help people get to the right place
  - If we identify how many people in NWA need Permanent Supportive Housing
    - a. We have, say, 8 units
    - b. We have, say, 25 on the list
    - c. We can go to the community and say that this is the need
  - Or Nick Robbins's individuals: how many need a place to live?
- Angela Belford: Will there be a training?
  - Debbie Martin: Yes.
    - a. Typically case managers will be doing it
- Donna Johnston: Any way to get a list of places? Because people come to the Rogers City Hall and have no place to go
  - Debbie Martin: One of our goals is to get that
  - Donna Johnston: Need for something in the meantime. We don't know where to send someone
    - a. Debbie Martin: Problem is that we don't have the housing
    - b. Glenn Miller: I have 3-4 people right now
    - c. Debbie Martin: Don't have deposit money
      - i. It will get easier
- John McGee: Domestic violence (DV) victims identified in tool?
  - Debbie Martin: Yes. It's built into the tool to identify those individuals.
    - a. Whether there is an immediate DV need or a history of DV
- Debbie Martin: We only have 4 emergency shelters
  - 2 Salvation Armies; 2 domestic violence shelters
- Debbie Martin: CoC handles the PIT Count
  - Dr. Kevin Fitzpatrick won't do it much longer
  - The CoC will take it on

- We're in charge of monitoring
    - a. Writing grants
    - b. Prioritizing
  - Angela Belford: Strategic Plan?
    - Debbie: Part of that.
      - a. Could have a strategic planning committee
    - For 2017 we should identify 3 main objectives and accomplish those well
    - The strategic plan will fall out of that
- 6. Trends and Issues – Provider Updates on Homeless Issues (Brief Discussion) – Debbie Martin
  - a. Nancy Kahanak: Like a foreign language to me. How do we find out about stuff like 30% of apartments in some development can be used for housing assistance for the homeless
    - Debbie Martin: Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
      - We need to build relationships with some property management companies
      - Work with them so they don't give them a 3-day notice of eviction
    - Nancy Kahanak: How do we do it?
      - Debbie Martin: Get someone on the board that can help us with that
      - Service providers can't do it
        - a. They don't have the bandwidth
      - Nancy Kahanak: We can ask them?
        - a. Debbie Martin: Yes.
    - Margaret Reed: Need to make these relationships/partnerships
      - Leery if there is no oversight
      - As CoC: we need to craft language to talk to them
      - We need statistics on their success (not just homeless #s)
    - Cheryl Sharman: Even better if we have a successful pilot project
      - Debbie Martin: The \$48,000 could be seed money for a pilot project
    - Cheryl Sharman: Do we have to wait 2 months? Or can we start now?
      - Debbie Martin: If we have ideas, let's talk
      - On our board meetings
        - a. For next year, general membership meeting will be here at Schmieding Center
          - i. March, May, July, September, November
        - b. Board meetings will be opposite months
          - i. February, April, June, August, October, December
          - ii. Committees can meet at those times, too, depending on the committee
  - b. Remember: Sign up to be a part of the PIT count

- Organizations need representatives at the training
  - Angela Belford: How long will it take to get the updated PIT count report?
    - Margaret Reed: About 6 months
      - a. Dr. Kevin Fitzpatrick works on it with his graduate students
  - Angela Belford: PIT count is every other year?
    - Margaret Reed: It's up in the air right now because of the new federal administration
      - a. It depends on the weather
      - b. And the PIT count is just the tip of the iceberg
  - Debbie Martin: Part of Coordinated Entry
    - It's really like a PIT count on any day
    - We could use that information to go, say, the city council and say where they are and how many people are waiting for housing
  - c. Next general meeting will be here at the Schmieding Center
    - In either a classroom or the auditorium
  - d. Debbie Martin: Membership Forms
    - For an individual member: \$25
    - For an agency member: \$100
    - Send Debbie a note if you paid in August 2016 or some other time in 2016
    - Some organizations can't be an official member by law (e.g., VA)
7. Future Meetings
- a. Continuum Board Meeting, ~~February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017~~ 9:30 AM @ Decision Point, Bentonville
    - Change to **February 1, 2017, 9:30 AM @ Decision Point, Bentonville**
  - b. General Membership Meeting, ~~March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017~~ 9:30 AM Location TBA
    - Change to **March 1, 2017, 9:30 AM @ Schmieding Center** (either the
  - c. Meetings will be switched back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month for the rest of the year
    - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month is the JEMI meeting
    - We will reschedule February and March meetings