

Meeting Minutes

Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative

Committee of the Whole

Thursday, July 23, 2009

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Community Shelter Board

Attendees

Members Attending: Barbara Poppe, Erika Clark Jones, Douglas Lay, David Migliore, Susan Lewis Kaylor (for David Royer), Joe McKinley, Kim Stands, Rollin Seward, Emily Savors, Jeffrey Lyttle, Dennis Guest,

Members Not Participating: Frank New, Steve Gladman, Eric Fenner, Phil Cass, Roger Cloern, Terri Donlin Huesman, Antonia Carroll, Charleta Tavares, Suzanne Coleman-Tolbert, Kathy Werkmeister, Jonathan Welty, Sally Luken

Guests: Don Strasser, Colleen Bain, Mike Tynan, Ron Baecker, Sue Villilo, Michelle Morgan, Gloria Kilgore, Ginny O’Keeffe, Anthony Penn

Community Shelter Board Staff: Tiffany Nobles, Lianna Barbu, Dave Davis

Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Review

Barbara welcomed the group, reviewed the agenda and all gave name and agency affiliations.

Presentation #1 – Collaborative Outreach System Strategy

Erika Clark Jones presented the draft strategy plan that was issued via email in advance. Highlights of the presentation were as follows:

- Focus groups held to date:
- Focus groups yet to convene
- Established goal: “Through the development and maintenance of supportive and respectful relationships, outreach staff will engage and assist all homeless persons living on the streets, camps or in places unfit for human habitation in Columbus & Franklin County to access housing, shelters and services which meets their needs and offers the least risk and harm to themselves and the community.”
- Agreed upon understandings to achieve the established goal
- Four objectives:

- o Objective 1 – to create a sustainable, collaborative outreach model that utilizes a coordinated approach to rapid response, engagement, assessment, intake, case planning and referral to housing and support services.
- o Objective 2 – establish a consistent, reliable process to identify and match housing/support opportunities to those individuals engaged through the outreach collaborative.
- o Objective 3 – create a coordinated follow-up process for recently housed individuals that include agencies, faith based groups, volunteers and material assistance organizations.
- o Objective 4 – Increase awareness and productive public responses to homelessness in Central Ohio.
- It was noted that in the focus group meetings there was discussion of having collaborative standards.
- The focus groups also discussed having a shift in the protocol from agencies responding to City request for remediating a site to a protocol where the City responds to requests from agencies.
- Develop a 24/7 call and dispatch system to report and respond to street homelessness.
- The plan also included an estimated budget for years 1 through 4.

Discussion on Presentation #1

- Barbara commended Erika for the work done to date on planning and convening of focus groups.
- By request, Erika outlined the current protocol in place for addressing street homelessness. She explained that everyone was involved in a collaborative manner but unfortunately it was a rapid process. There were several lessons learned that were at the forefront of this plan's development process.
- It was explained that a variety of outreach providers were involved in the discussion and they will continue to be a part of the collaborative process.
- Erika explained that the goal is that everyone has a role in this collaborative group to contribute to the achievement of the objectives.

Decision/Vote

It was agreed that this proposal would go forward to the full RLFC on August 27.

Presentation #2 – Affordable Housing Campaign Strategy

Erika presented the draft strategy plan that was distributed as a handout. Highlights of the presentation were as follows:

- Erika suggested that a co-convenor for this strategy may be needed. This idea was determined through her discovery and plan development process.
- Plan would have four (4) phases, each with a separate timeline:
 - o Phase I – Form coalition to guide advocacy efforts (Year 1/Fall 2009 Winter 2010)
 - o Phase II – Assessment and Goal Setting (Winter/Spring 2010)
 - o Phase III – Develop public relations plan to support strategies and build community support including community leadership. (Spring/Summer/Fall 2010)
 - o Phase IV – Identify opportunities and strategies for national and local philanthropy and private sector partners to support and sustain affordable housing advocacy. (Ongoing)

- An estimated budget was also included.
- Erika reported that she has received mixed response from several colleagues about the timing and capacity to implement this strategy.
- Erika suggested that the City be allowed to conduct the discovery in the fall of 2009 and then come back to the RLFC with its findings.
 - o Barbara commented that this depends on what the overall goal is with a campaign.
 - o Barbara also suggested that a meeting with Joe Weisbord be held whenever he is in Columbus.
- Kim suggested that Phases I and II be combined because they will inform each other.
- Clarification was made that the campaign would address all housing needs including tenants of buildings that become displaced when the buildings are torn down.
- CSB would be able to provide data from Columbus ServicePoint that would include basic demographics and clients' reason for exiting.
- Dennis commented that solving affordable housing issues will not solve the issue of persons who do not have employment to maintain their housing. The distinction needs to be made early on in the planning.
- Question asked about where Tier III sex offenders fit in to the solution. Erika stated that this population has not yet come into the conversation as of yet since the discovery process has not yet occurred. Barbara pointed out the so far the population has only been defined to include persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- Erika welcomed suggestions for additional representatives on the coalition to guide advocacy efforts.
- Suggestion made that persons interested in becoming homeowners also be included in the population.
- Question asked if the housing developer category in the coalition to guide advocacy efforts was only supportive housing developers or included housing developers in general.
- Strategy is still looking for a co-convenor and resources.

Decision/Vote

It was agreed that a revised version of the proposal would go forward to the full RLFC on August 27.

Next Steps:

- Erika has more work to do on the proposals.
- The full RLFC will consider both proposals on August 27.