

River Valleys CoC
Thursday, March 25, 2010 Minutes
Rochester Salvation Army office, Rochester, MN

Attending:

Cindy Norgard, Rochester Salvation Army
Colleen Hansen, TRCA
Corrine Erickson, OCFS
Julie Anderson, SCTH
Mary Ulland Evans, TRCA
Mary Vrieze, SMRLS
Ruth Hickey, Ruth's House
Warren Duncan, Hearth Connection
Recorder: Kelli McMullen, TRCA

Strategic Planning

The new regulations for the Hearth Act were supposed to be available by now but are not. Mary UE checked with Ben Osborne from the HUD office and it is not clear when they will be available. It would not make sense to do the strategic planning for the CoC without the new regulations.

Strategic Planning for the Hearth Act will be done at an Executive Committee Meeting after the regulations are released. The meeting will be open to those who would like to participate.

Heading Home SE Minnesota

Handout: *Heading Home, Minnesota's Business Plan to End Long-Term Homelessness*

The Strategic Planning should focus on how we will react to the Hearth Act as a continuum and also will include Heading Home (HH) SE MN. Having a HH plan will be more important than it has been in the past. The national HH plan should be available in May 2010. Corrine was at the Executive Committee of the state's HH plan yesterday and a new version of a state plan will be drafted to align with it.

Corrine has been working on getting a facilitator for the April meeting. The first choice, Mary Colliard was unable. She is checking with Robin Summer, a manager in Adult Services. Corrine sent Robin the link to the CoC page.

Mary UE said our last plan mirrored the state plan but did not include any action steps. Mary had wanted to put in action steps but was voted down by the group. Action plans will make it more usable. Corrine said the Olmsted plan is used a lot.

Patty Beech authored the HH NE MN Plan and gave Mary UE permission to use it as a model for the HH SE MN Plan. Members reviewed the plan and liked the content and the layout. We will use the April 15th meeting to start work on a regional plan. We can do a SWOT analysis to find our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats in the region. This will allow us to put together talking points for each of the HRTs as we encourage them to work on county-level planning for the regional plan to end homelessness. Colleen said it will be important to give the HRTs a point to start at. They need an overview of the CoC and Heading Home. We need to explain the connections between the two. We should also emphasize the connections they will make with other resources.

Mary V. said HPRP is a good example. It went very smooth in our region due to the great collaborations in place.

We will include the action steps from Exhibit One in the HH SE MN plan so we are sure to include the goals HUD wants us to accomplish. Another goal could be to find the gaps of representation of participation. We need to inventory the counties to find the gaps. We need to find an incentive to get those not participating to the meetings. Warren mentioned trainings as a draw to gain attendance and knows an individual who provides various trainings including De-escalation. He will send the link to Mary for the trainings available. Julie also knows Mark Skiren from the Human Relation Center. He does Cognitive Behavior Therapy trainings. Colleen said the trainings do not have to provide an official certificate to be able to count CEUs for Social Workers and other professionals. They will just have to track the name of the training, the presenter, date, topic, etc. We will need to outreach to those not participating and educate them on what is available as resources. The CoC overview would be good at the meeting with the training for the HRTs. We will pay for the trainers travel and provide refreshments for the meeting. We will try to secure the meeting space for free or a minimal cost.

The Wilder Study information will be available this spring. The information from the Project Community Connect is not put together yet. Mary UE is working on this.

Steele and Olmsted counties have plans. These would be incorporated into our regional plan. Corrine said the Olmsted County plan is very Social Services driven.

Jane Lawrenz will be at the April meeting. She could explain and give an overview of the CoC. Corrine and Nancy Bokelmann could give an overview of Heading Home and why it is beneficial. Mary will ask George Stone who would be best to explain the MN HH plan.

Plenary Schedule

April 15, 2010

Rochester, SMRLS office, 10:00 – 12:00

Use a facilitator

Heading Home SE MN

SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats)

May 20, 2010

Location TBD (Cabela's or RW Library), 9:00 – 12:00

Overview of CoC/ Heading Home

Potential presenters: Jane Lawrenz, Corrine Erickson, Nancy Bokelmann, George Stone

Invite HRTs and provide refreshments (Goal of 50+ attendees)

Training – TBD

Provide next steps for the HH SE MN plan to the HRT's.

July 15, 2010

Owatonna, Cabela's, 10:00 – 12:00
Discharge Planning
Next steps for HH SE MN

October 21, 2010

Rochester, TBD

Ideas for Program Profiles:

Center City Housing and Silver Creek Corner
Steele County HRA
Youth – Reality Bites
Hearth Connection

Program profiles will be on hold until after the strategic planning and things are set. Hearth Connection will be ready present after things are settled.

Committee Roles and Responsibilities

Tabled. This will be reviewed when needed for the Exhibit One.

Summer Count

We will ask if people have the resources to do this. Many organizations do not have the capacity to do it. It would be nice if the HUD count alternated between winter and summer. This would be another topic for training at a meeting. Explain why we do the counts and how it benefits the region.

Other

Future Executive Committee meetings will start at 9:30 instead of 10:00. This will prevent travel into the office before the meeting.

Kelli will post the CoC Directory on the website.

We will start to post minutes and agendas to the website. They will no longer be sent by email. This will prevent filling email boxes with attachments. Instead of emailing the minutes and agendas, we will email the link to the website.