



Racine City & County Continuum of Care (WI-502)
c/o HALO
2000 DeKoven Avenue, Unit #1
Racine, WI 53403

Homelessness and Housing Alliance of Racine County—Membership Meeting

Location: Zoom meeting link –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87066238156?pwd=Nm5CRGdFUENtTXMvZnFoaGpGY0x3Zz09>

September 15, 2023

Present: Officers: President: Teresa Reinders (CoC), Secretary: MaryBeth Kallio (UWRC)

Membership:

Center for Veterans Issues Kasdorf, Justin	Institute for Community Alliance Vazquez, Iraida	Racine Vocational Ministry James Schatzman
City of Racine Anderson, Cathy Brown, Britany	LGBT Barb Farrar	Racine Unified School District Cutler, Kaylee
Community Planning and Development, HUD Von Helms, Jenny	Legal Action of Wisconsin Hayden Knight Matt Perz Robert Held Vander Wyst	State of Wisconsin Basford, Michael
Department of Community Correction Bauer, Laurie	Lovingkindness Transitional Services Davis, Lakesha	Transitional Living Center Burlington Chaffee, Cristen
HALO Anderle, Holly Knott, Jeff Love, Irma Taggart, Melissa	Lutheran Social Services Haas, Jodi	United Way of Racine County Kallio, Mary Beth
Hope Center Fields, Carl	Racine CoC Langdon, Darlene Lorenzen, Gail Reinders, Teresa	VA Milwaukee Majinski, Nicole
Housing Authority of Racine County, HARC Hackett, Claire	Racine Kenosha Community Action Center Hunt, Nicole	Women's Resource Center Chambers, Jori Staufenbeil, Denise

The meeting was called to order by Teresa Reinders at 9:05 a.m. with welcome and introductions.

Reminders: CoC website <https://racinecoc.org> and the Homeless & Housing Alliance of Racine County email address is homelesshousingalliance@gmail.com

1. Consent Agenda

- Approval of agenda as it is. MaryBeth Kallio approved, Jori Chambers second. Jenny Von Helms and Claire Hackett abstained.
- Approval of consent agenda as is. Kaylee Cutler approved, MaryBeth Kallio second. Jenny Von Helms and Claire Hackett abstained.

2. New Business

- DEI next steps – Survey of COC and partners. Equity & Inclusion committee; Chair, Nicole Hunt (R/K Community Action Center) shared after the official statement of DEI, we hope to get a sense of where our partners are and what are the needs going forward. A survey will go out to everyone. Teresa reminds us we are moving forward with the statements.
- Longest Night Service planning- HALO celebrates the Longest Night December 21. To recognize the people who are homeless and who we know and maybe we don't know. If you are interested in participating on the planning committee, contact Teresa Reinders or Holly Anderle.

- c. November elections – Nominations needed. At the CoC November meeting election will occur. Please watch emails for open positions. People are always able to reapply and stay on.

3. Committee and Workgroup Reports

- a. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Workgroup: Chair – Nicole Hunt (R/K CAA) The workgroup continues to meet on the second Monday of each month via Zoom. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Nicole Hunt (nhunt@rkcaa.org) or Teresa Reinders (treinders@halo-inc.org) for the Zoom link. We are working to develop surveys for agency directors and agency staff on DEI policies and procedures usage and seeking ideas on areas of training suggestions for group participation.
- b. Coordinated Entry Committee: Chair – Iraida Vazquez (Institute for Community Alliances (ICA)) Case Managers, our Housing Navigator, and Iraida meet every other week to discuss placement options and availability. Due to the need to maintain client confidentiality this workgroup is only open to Case managers and the housing navigator. Participants must have permission cleared by Iraida Vazquez to attend. This restriction includes listening privileges on phone-in and/or virtual attendance. There are 2 new workgroups under this committee – CE Planning Workgroup and the Prevention Assessment Workgroup
 - o Coordinated Entry Planning Workgroup: Chair – Iraida Vazquez (Institute for Community Alliances (ICA)) The purpose of this workgroup is to review the process of Coordinated Entry now that the CDC has lifted the status of the health pandemic/emergency. The group is looking to replace the VI-SPDAT assessment tool. It has met regular since July 14, 2023.
 - o Prevention Assessment Workgroup: Chair – Iraida Vazquez (Institute for Community Alliances (ICA)) The purpose of this group is to review any assessments previously used and develop an updated resource to be used should funding become available for prevention activities.
- c. Health Services and Homelessness Workgroup: Interim Chair – Teresa Reinders (CoC). No workgroup meeting.
- d. HMIS1 Committee – Co-Chairs: Benjamin Cornell (SAFE Haven) & Jori Chambers (Women's Resource Center Meets every other month on the third Thursday. The last meeting was May 15th. July was cancelled due to the Home for Everyone conference. The next meeting is September 21, 2023.
- e. Housing Workgroup: Chair – Kathy Snyder, Racine Revitalization Partnership. No meeting scheduled yet.
- f. Leadership Council: President – Kaylee Cutler, Racine Unified. Next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2023. During the FY2023 CoC HUD funding competition the Leadership Council has approved, based on recommendations from the Rating & Ranking workgroup,
 - i. a new funding priority list (8/15/2023) The new priorities are: 1, Chronic; 2. Aging 55+; 3. Families with Children; 4. Domestic Violence; 5. Youth; 6. Veterans; and 7. Gender identity/expression. and
 - ii. the final funding rating and ranking results (approved 9/11/2023). Applicants were notified of the funding results outside of HUD's eSNAPS tool on 9/11/2023. Those applications are to be submitted to HUD by September 28, 2023, as part of our CoC Collaborative Application.
- g. Landlord Workgroup: Chair – Rebecca Pritzel, CoC Housing Navigator. We are still in the process of creating a presentation for meeting with the Landlord Association.
- h. Point-in-Time Workgroup: Chair – Scott Metzger, HOPES Center. After discussing the various options, it was decided that there will not be a special summer PIT unless it is mandated. The street outreach team will conduct a PIT count on the night of the count and the following 7 days and record it in the PIT provider. No special preparation is needed by the COC.

- i. Rating & Selection Workgroup (AKA: Rating & Ranking Workgroup): Chair – Position open. The group has diligently worked to provide rating and ranking for the FY23 HUD CoC funding competition. The group recommended changes to the funding priorities for the CoC, which the Leadership Council approved by unanimous vote on 8/15/2023 (see Leadership Council section for specifics). The group also met to conclude the rating & ranking process for the FY23 HUD CoC funding competition. A copy of the ranking distribution, and funding amounts will be posted on our website.
 - j. Shelter workgroup: Interim Chair – Gai Lorenzen (HALO). The group met in May to discuss and review housing projects and the need within the community. Discussion also examined the Wisconsin EHH2 grant to be released in May. (As of this writing it has been released and the group will be scheduling another meeting to discuss the distribution of funds and writing for the grant.
 - k. System Performance committee: Co-Chairs – Scott Metzel (HOPES Center) & Iraidia Vazquez (Institute for Community Alliances (ICA)) Met Friday, May 15 and Friday, July 07 to review system performance measures.
- 4. Presentation SOAR at LAW by Robert B. Held Vander Wyst, Matthew Perz & Hayden Knight - SOAR, SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery presentation from Legal Action.**
- Legal Action of Wisconsin, LAW is a civil legal aid organization. Free legal services funded almost entirely by grants. Some funding comes from federal; however, there are different types of grants. Civil means we do not need criminal work, with a focus on legal assistance. Give advice and individual move forward on their own. Other help, some help to complete forms, third is representation, they are acting as their lawyer. For SOAR purposed administrative or court help. Focus on people living at or below 200% of the poverty line in civil matters.
 - LAW: family law, housing, barriers to employment, consumer law and benefits including SSI/SSDI through SOAR.
 - The SOAR grant is administered by Wisconsin DHS.
 - Residents in Racine, Kenosha, and Walworth Counties are eligible. Currently the team is working with HALO clients. There are two attorneys at LAW help provide legal service to at least four days per week. The staff help coordinate legal services with HALO managers and case manager. Also, provide advice and counsel in many areas of law and provide direct representation when needed such as applications for SSI/SSDI and the redacting of eviction records.
 - Participants: eligible children and adults, experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and have one or more of the following: serious mental illness, medical impairment, co-occurring substance use disorder.
 - Where did SOAR come from; Social Security Administration 1993 in Baltimore. In 2001 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), work began on SAMHSA Stepping Stones to Recovery manual and training curriculum. In 2014, the Stepping Stones curriculum was further developed into the SAOR online Course, currently used to train SOAR practitioners around the country.
 - The point of SOAR is successfully navigating the system initial application. With initial application approved with shorter time approval using this model.
 - Social Security Administration will see the SOAR application and may expedite the process.
 - SOAR application, an appointment of representative is authorized the case manager as the applicant's representative. Ass to the file and copies of the file. Having an MSR is a powerful piece of evidence with a co-signature or without a signature.
 - SOAR is about quality and have someone review for a complete review prior to submission.
 - SOAR using the Online Application Tracking (OAT) website. OAT provides county-wide data on the effectiveness and focus on SSI/SSDI SOAR application at the initial and reconsideration stages.
 - Reconsideration has timelines. Within 60 days of Disability Determination Services (DDS), Asking them to double check with additional information. If reconsideration is missed can be scheduled with the Office of Hearing Operation. If 60-day deadline is missed, you may

submit a Good Cause for Late Filing request. If application has been rejected, the process can be taken to Federal Court to have a Federal judge review.

- If you have clients that are not currently in HALO, contact Bob at rbh@legalaction.org.

5. Agency/Community updates

Community Planning and Development, HUD-Jenny von Helms

HUD is pushing back the start date one full year for compliance with the new National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) until October 1, 2024 for all CPD programs (CDBG, ESG, HOME, CoC, etc.). More info is forthcoming. More information can be found on the HUD exchange.

Lovingkindess Transitional Services LaKash Davis

Lovingkindess Transitional Services mission is aiding low income individuals transitioning from homelessness to housing. The name of the project that is supported by United Way of Racine County Equity Innovation Funding is Individuals in Transition (IIT). Funding started August 1, 2023 for one year only.

Women's Resource Center-Jodi Chambers

Women's Resource Center and Bethany Apartments will host their first Annual Joint Domestic Violence Awareness walk, Walk to Break the Silence, on September 28, 2023, at 5 pm. Many community resources will be present, BeLeaf, Planned Parenthood, Fight to End Exploitation, LGBTQ center, Ascension SANE nurse, and Safe and Sound. There will be kids' activities, a selfie booth, and A Walk to raise awareness for domestic violence. Bring your families and join in the fun. Help us kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

State of Wisconsin-Michael Basford

WI 1955 waiver and the benefit that will be launched 2024. This program will allow agencies to build Medicaid for mental illness and substance abuse. Webinars are on Wednesday 10:00 a.m. September 20 and 1:00 p.m. September 27.

Wisconsin has home Uber funds, not in the City of Racine there are funding available.

Next meeting: Friday, November 17, 2023 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m. MSC

Respectfully submitted,

MB Kallio