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/84436345928?pwd=MWp1ZER3bWpGVXpha0lSWXBIdUswQT09

March 18, 2022

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

Membership Present:

Bethany Apartments and WRC
Handrow, Pam
Bethany Apartments
Brostowitz, Adam

Burlington Area School District
Meyer, Samantha

Burlington Transitional Living Center
Chaffee, Cristen
City of Racine
Saunders, Brendan
Selkowe, Vicky
Department of Health Services-PATH
Myhre Foster, Chelsy

HALO
Anderle, Holly
Knott, Jeff
Love, Irma
Taggart, Melissa
Hospitality Center
Fields, Carl
Hope Center
Metzel, Scott

HUD- Milwaukee Office
Hackett, Claire
Institute for Community Alliances
Pritzl, Rebecca
Vazquez, Iraida
Legal Action of Wisconsin – Racine
Edwards, Hilary
Stinebaugh, Elizabeth
Lovingkindness Homes
Davis, Lakesha
Lutheran Social Services (LSS)
Hass, Jodi

MHS Health WI, Community Health Service Rep.
Hall, Scott
Racine CoC
Reinders, Teresa

Racine Community Foundation
Powell, Liz
Racine Dominicans
Broslavick, Chris
Racine Revitalization Partnership
Snyder, Kathy

Racine Unified School District
Cutler, Kaylee
Racine Vocational Ministry
Life, Lori

Safe Families for Children
Wolfe, Amy

SAFE Heaven
Sanchez, Angela
United Way of Racine County
Kallio, Mary Beth

Veterans Affair-Milwaukee
Spann, Mildred

WI Interagency Council on Homelessness
Basford, Mike

Women's Resource Center
Chambers, Jori

The meeting was called to order by President, Teresa Reinders at 9:02 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**
   a. Approval of consent agenda, December 2021 and January 2022 Minutes Liz Powell approved and Holly Anderle seconded. Abstain Hilary Edward. Motion carries with 24 approvals with one abstention.
   b. Committee Reports:
   i. Steering Committee & Membership Committee- Rescheduling due to Director's illness.
   ii. CoC Point-in-Time –PIT report was filed and accepted. More detailed information during the presentation.
2. **New business**
   a. HUD announces funding from CoC competition. The following organizations received funding from Racine CoC HUD Grantees 2021 funding awards
      i. Center for Veterans Issues,
      ii. Institute for Community Alliance

iii. HALO
iv. HOPES Center of Racine,
v. SAFE Haven of Racine

b. Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) and Housing Choice Voucher Referral Program – Becca Pritzl, Housing Navigator

EHV: Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA). Thursday, March 17 meeting was successful. Moving forward with 55 households that are in progress. Out of the 55, five individuals/families completed the paperwork and receiving funding. There are ten individuals/families in programs and ten individuals/families are pending.

The *Housing Choice vouchers*; agencies are ready to go and the homeless choice through section 8 are helping to end homelessness in Racine or reduce number on the list. The biggest challenge is finding safe and affordable housing. This gets us to our goal. Teresa is grateful for all the work this CoC has done.

3. Presentations:

<u>Performance Measures committee report: October 2020 – September 2021.</u>

Scott Metzel, Hope Center and Iraida Vazques, Institute for Community Alliance, CoC System

Rare, Brief and Non-Recurring?

- Length of time homeless
- Returns to homelessness
- Number of people homelessness
- Income growth
- First time homelessness
- Category three homelessness
- Successful housing placements

System Performance Committee reviews community information on-going basis. The HUD homeless definition is used for the information being shared. The timeline for this report is October 2020 – September 2021.

Number of people homeless

- Point in time (PIT) Count: The number of people homeless on a single night
    - 145 people experiencing homelessness in Racine
    - Total number of households experiencing homelessness: 80
    - %.073 of Racine County population.
    - Trends:
        - 2009-354, 2021 – 145
        - Chronic people homelessness 27 in 2021, 2022 down to 7

Annual Count: The unduplicated number of people homeless as entered into HMIS at any pint during the year.

- Lowest ever

Comparisons of other CoC in Wisconsin
Balance of State, 2,40 people experiencing homelessness on one night in January 2021
Milwaukee, 817, Racine 145, Dane County 855
Comparative Communities are

- St. Louise County, Duluth, MN – 248
- Sangaman Cunty, Springfield, IL – 189
- Saginaw County, Saginaw City, MI 331

Contributing factors

- Diversion at shelter entry, prevention Assistance, BRIEF Episodes, housing stability and external factors.
- External factors: availability of affordable housing, economic factors, other external assistance that results in stabilization of household, etc.

Conclusion: Is homelessness rare in Racine? Homelessness in Racine is relatively RARE, homelessness was rarer in 2021.

Length of time of homelessness looks at the average and median number of days in shelter, average and median length; length of time homelessness in Racine 21 and shelter 168 days average of 61 day,

Conclusion: Number of people in shelter were fewer but staying longer.

Factors affecting length of time homeless

- Successful housing placement
- Shelter stay policies
- Shelter Case management
- High acuity

Availability of affordable housing options: The availability of affordable especially subsidized housing options greatly influences how brief.

Conclusion: We have lengthy homelessness periods, increasing lengths of time homeless, becoming less brief and less brief than other communities: Racine has longer lengths of time homeless than other communities.

Non-Recurring
Returns to homelessness; what percentage of people who left homelessness into a permanent housing situation returned to homelessness within 24 months as counted by HMIS entry.

- Project type; Street Outreach (HOPES), transitional shelter (Union Gove) and all project types: Shelter (HALO, SAFE Haven, Burlington TLC) and permanent housing (CVI, HALO, HOPES, LSS, SAFE Haven)

There are factors affecting returns to homelessness; **e**xit destination quality, housing stability (retention), housing stability (post-exit), strong case management in rapid rehousing project.

The conclusion is homelessness is non-recurrence in Racine;

- Recurrence Rate; about 16 out of every 100 people with 24 months
- Little improvement
- Comparatively less recurrence
- Rare, not brief, the is low to moderate
- Recommendations: length of time homeless appears to be the primary challenge facing Racine's COC.
- Improved local SPM reporting with greater disaggregation of data by project and other indicators
- Discuss possible system performance management targets for Racine
- SPM (System Performance Management)

Discussion after presentation discussed if information can be broken down by gender and racial disparities groups for housing? The SPM Committee is recommending to the CoC Leadership Council that the CoC focus on identifying factors related to length of time homelessness and ways to improve. Group also discussed how we can educate the landlords with topics such as mental illness.

Presentation: HOME ARP Brendan Saunders

HOME for homelessness Assistance and Supportive Services under the American Recovery Plan (ARP) provided $5 billion for new federal homelessness assistance and supportive services program. Racine County received 2.1 million to target the homelessness population in Racine County.

Eligible activities include administration and planning, HOME-ARP rental housing, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), supportive services, acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter, nonprofit operating and capacity building assistance.

Targeted populations include homeless individual or family, at risk of homelessness including the population that follows under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating

violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking, other population where providing supportive services or assistance for family's homelessness or those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

Brendan is using the next few months to develop outreach plan for the funding. Funding is available for the next ten years. Submit any thoughts or ideas to Brendan.Saunders@cityofracine.org.

Teresa shared that the next round of CoC is will soon be coming out again. Last time they looked at the health care providers and CoC, next couple of weeks.

4. Community Sharing

UW Extension
-Raising Wisconsin's Children, parenting classes are 100% free, virtual and focuses on Wisconsin families. Dads, moms, grandparents, foster parents, childcare providers, educators, and all those caring for our children are welcome to attend! Register at https://go.wisc.edu/j0dlv1.

-Rent Smart
The Rent Smart workshop series helps tenants understand their rights and responsibilities such as finding a rental, pre-rental inspection, who is responsible for repairs, eviction, effective landlord/tenant communication, and more. The free workshops are held via Zoom and run monthly. Each series has 7, one-hour sessions completed in three weeks. To register, visit https://go.wisc.edu/Rentsmartregister.

Fight to End Exploitation (FEE)
FEE is offering advocacy training. Dates and information are available in the March Meeting Packet.

HALO
HALO received funding for two legal advocates. This is a $800,000 three-year grant to fund two dedicated lawyers to assist with legal activities for clients. Two lawyers will be at the shelter and advocate for HALO client's legal needs that prevent them from getting housing. Funding includes administration costs along with a .3 person to help with finance costs and .5 case management liaison between the shelter and Legal Action. The program will start as soon as paperwork is approved.

Legal Action of Wisconsin
-The Racine office is now doing foreclosure work. Hilary Edwards, who comes to LAW after more than a decade with the public defender's office, will be taking of foreclosure cases. Carmen Ayers will be doing housing work in Racine.

-Legal Action of Wisconsin – Racine, (LAW) is a subgrantee of HALO, which received ARPA funding. Funding will support two LAW attorneys physically at HALO to help homeless folks with legal issues.

-Housing trends, evictions remain steady and for a good "mix" of reasons – failure to pay rent, breach of lease, standard 28-day notices, etc. (versus before, where it felt like a lot of folks were getting 28-day notices because small landlords were taking advantage of the current real estate market and selling). The biggest issue is lack of affordable housing – many clients are getting 28-day notices or even longer from their landlords but just can't find affordable places to live.

Safe Families for Children – Racine and Kenosha County
Safe Families for Children hosts vulnerable children and creates extended family–works with volunteer host families by providing a circle of support with families and children in need. Contact Amy Wolfe for additional information.

Women's Resource Center
WRC secured funding for Safe Start program in Racine. Safe Start is responsible for developing and presenting prevention education to teens and teachers in Racine County. More detail will be shared in the near future.

City of Racine
The City of Racine announced the Wisconsin Governors combined $35 million dollar grants to the City of Racine to provide Racine Community Health Center, rebuild a gaining Community Center, and build up new housing option for residents. – which will create new options for homeownership. The new health center is scheduled to be built next the

Julian Thomas Elementary School. The current Martin Luther King Center will be rebuilt, the Kind Center is not going away. Funding includes creative new options for homeownership opportunities and quality housing.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Chelsey Myhre Foster- Department of Health Services PATH, SOAR, and Homeless Outreach CAA contract Administrator. Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) has a grant available. For more information go to https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/contracts/projects-assistance-transition-homelessness-path.htm and https://publicnotices.wisconsin.gov/NoticeView.asp?lnid=1536257.

MHS Health Wisconsin
Scott Hall started at MHS in December. MHS was hired to revamp the Green Bay and Milwaukee housing program. Scott will work on going case management and get connected to people in the community along with other CoC across the state to better serve their members.

CoC
Teresa reported the CoC SLACK account will be reopened. SLACK is a messaging app for business that connects people to the information needed. CoC Constant Contact account will be used to inform members of upcoming meetings. Posting to this meeting and other announcements and agenda can be found on our website.

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m. MSC by Holly Anderle, second by Pam Handrow.
Respectfully submitted,
MB Kallio



HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDING 2021 FUNDING AWARDS		
Organization/Grant Project	**Award**	**Grant Project Type**
Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd.		
PSH Racine 2021	$219,449	Permanent Supportive Housing
Institute for Community Alliances		
Racine CoC HMIS	$15,000	Homeless Management Information System
Racine CoC ICA Coordinated Entry	$37,525	Coordinated Entry
Homeless Assistance Leadership Org, Inc.		
CoC Planning Project FY2021	$55,618	CoC Planning Grant
Purple Ribbon	$68,516	DV Permanent Supportive Housing
A Place of My Own Housing Initiative	$489,345	Permanent Supportive Housing
HOPES Center of Racine, INC		
HOPES Center Rapid Rehousing	$110,185	Rapid Rehousing Project
SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc.		
SAFE Passage Housing Project	$69,478	Rapid Rehousing Project

YouTube links to past meetings that were recorded:

March 2022 Meeting: https://youtu.be/23N0Z5xVOcs

January 2022 Meeting https://youtu.be/jh7_4fEwjmc

December 2021 Meeting https://youtu.be/6Y1viHTNfXA

October 2021 Meeting https://youtu.be/jUyA3G4JpTg