

Homelessness and Housing Alliance of Racine County—Membership Meeting

Location: 2000 Dominak Drive; Racine, WI

January 17, 2020

Present: Chris Broslavick (Racine Dominicans), Betty Breneman (Community), Claire Hackett (HUD), Lynn Hegeman (WRC), Chris Henning (HSD), Jeff Knott (HALO), Irma Love (HALO), Michelle Lussmyer (Bethany), Sharen Pease (CVI), Seth Raymond (Hospitality Center), Teresa Reinders (CoC), Brendan Saunders (City of Racine), Melissa Taggart (HALO), Iraida Vazquez (ICA)

The meeting was called to order by President, Teresa Reinders at 9:01am with welcome and introductions.

Presentations: None

Agenda: M/S/C to receive and file agenda with addition of “Census” to new business and “Legislative Updates” to old business

Minutes: M/S/C to approve the minutes from December 2019 with suggested changes

Treasurer’s report: balance \$5459.47; only activity was \$1 service fee; some membership dues have been received; will make membership forms available again; M/S/C to approve treasurer’s report

Old Business: Advocacy/Legislation—the joint finance committee did meet this past week, however they chose not to take up the pieces of legislation previously passed; shelter grant has passed committee and will go to the floor with the state senate. AB 19-125 and 144—some Senators claim there are concerns, however, are not stating what those concerns are; all are encouraged to contact your local Senators to encourage them to support the moneys being released from the seven pieces of legislation passed now needing the joint finance committee to release the funds (this includes shelter, case management, EHH, 3 new homelessness diversion programs, a housing navigator, landlord program to attain housing quality standards, etc.).

New Business: Executive Committee 2020 vision—Looking at a new format for the HHARC membership meetings 1. have a designated topic presented by those in the community already working with this population, have a Q&A, look at what is already being done and what gaps may still exist—create work groups for gaps 2. Reports all submitted electronically ahead of time—will be available online and via paper at the monthly meeting to review and ask any related questions 3. End with networking time; the executive committee is also looking at bringing in trainers and resources—a survey was handed out and an online poll will follow—topics could range from working with your board of directors to trauma informed care, anything applicable to the work being done by HHARC members; The CoC is in the process of updating their website—there will be a link to the Alliance with upcoming meetings, reports, agendas, a calendar, etc.

Census—Teresa is chair of a committee looking at how and where to get the word out about census; they will also be looking at how and where to hand out census forms; this committee will be done by April and will be a short-term commitment; Census is important because data collected helps to determine federal dollars that come into the city—no citizenship questions will be asked; if interested in serving on this committee connect with Teresa Reinders: treinders@haloinc.org; some time in February or March the topic for the membership meeting will be “why we count.”

Steering Committee – only Executive committee met (see above for what was covered)

Resource Development Committee –Did not meet

Governance Committee—Did not meet

Point in Time—Scott—The next Point-in-Time (PIT) Count will be on January 22nd the group will meet at First Presbyterian Church at 10pm. The January PIT count is the official count used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and compiled into the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) that HUD presents to Congress. All agencies that receive ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) or HUD funding are required to participate in PIT. We also encourage other Alliance members to participate. If you would like to participate in the January 2020 PIT count, either sign up via the alliance website or contact Scott Metzel at smetzel@hopescenter.org. There will be 9 teams going out for the January PIT count.

System Performance Work Group—no updates

Strategic Initiative 1: Breaking the cycle of evictions – Brendan—as previously noted, looking to combine with workgroup 3—updates in February; the complimenting VGR group is looking at creating a website of resources for rental housing; specifically, quick

access YouTube videos; the next meeting is on Tuesday; January 29th at Educator's home office in Mount Pleasant at 5:30pm; connect with Brendan if you are interested in assisting with this group.

Strategic Initiative 2: Overcoming stereotypes and misconceptions about homelessness –Seth—no updates; waiting for system performance report data, then will look into next steps

Strategic Initiative 3: Maximizing housing impact—Gai— as previously noted, looking to combine with workgroup 1—updates in February

AGENCY UPDATES:

Racine Library—having a social work intern has been very successful; the library system has signed up with the Masters of Social Work program at Carthage College to seek future interns

Financial Education and Resource Center work group—Sharen is a part of the work group created via the Mayor's office to look further into the grant that was awarded to the county and how to best implement financial counseling and budgeting services to the citizens of the county

RUSD—Family Empowerment Day will be on April 4th at Case High School; this event generally reaches approximately 1200 people and is an opportunity to provide 10-15 minute workshops, host a table as a vendor/resource and assist families with the resources they may need

Ascension Healthcare—Next medical Mission will be on May 9th at Park High School; if interested in being a part of the vendor fair portion contact: kimberly.leslie@ascension.org ; Also, now available via the ER or pediatric offices—coats, hats, gloves

M/S/C to adjourn at 9:51a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Lussmyer