Coordinating Committee to End Homelessness (CCEH) Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2011

Facilitated by: Marc Jolin & Shannon Singleton

Prepared by: Zane Potter

Reviewed by: Steering Committee & CCEH

Present: Chris Anderson, Teresa Badel, Caren Baumgart, Stacy Borke, Pat Daley, Reverend Paul Davis, Ryan Deibert, Christina Dirks, Patty Doyle, Sally Erickson, Gabriella Gomez, Troy Hammond, Amanda Hurley, Marc Jolin, Ryan Kaufman, Megan Kidd, Beckie Lee, Lisa Lemcy, Marin McInnes, Rachel Payton, Rachel Post, Natasha Roe, Erika Silver, Shannon Singleton, Ian Slingerland, Michael Smith, Rick Stoller, Tom Wehrley, Bobby Weinstock, J Workman-Purvine

I. Introductions - Marc Jolin

II. Updates

Bud Clark Commons Update - Rachel Duke, Home Forward

Ms. Duke presented an update on the Bud Clark Common's 130 apartments with supportive services. All units are leased and, as units turn over, staff will pull names off the waiting list and continue to find people with extremely high needs based on assessment. They are able to use relaxed screening criteria because of the high level of expertise of the staff. Services onsite include benefits assistance, case management and a full continuum of recovery services for drugs and alcohol. Overall things have been going well. New referrals will be pulled from people that the clinics are screening and if other agencies are serving people who do not access clinics and cannot get into new patient services, they should contact Rachel to discuss possible referral options to have an assessment done.

CHIERS/Sobering/Hooper Detox Update – Deb Malsom & Linda Hudson, CCC

Detox is now able to admit 10 people per day Monday through Friday and can now admit people without them having a prior relationship with the doctor. They have slots for 3 community partner referrals. This is a medical based detox with an average stay of 5-10 days for alcohol and 6-12 days for drugs. The detox is voluntary whereas the Sobering Center consists of people brought in by the police or the CHIERS van. At detox every client gets assessed by one of six counselors onsite, who will then create a treatment plan. In addition to Hooper there are 60 apartments available at the Harris Building with case management and employment services as well as the Mentor Program at the Estate Building.

Disability Application Trainings – Mellani Calvin & George Wall, Disability Benefits Training & Consulting, LLC

There are not enough "rep payees" and problems with some taking advantage of clients. Advocates would like to see a stronger partnership between the SSA, Multnomah County, and possibly the City as well as research into possible program development in this area. This is an issue that the CCEH steering committee should take up at a future meeting. It would also be beneficial to be able to show statistics on how many people are losing benefits and housing due to a lack of having a rep payee in order to make the argument that more funding and support is needed in this area.

Welcome & Introduction - Traci Manning, Director, Portland Housing Bureau

Traci introduced herself and spoke about her background and commitment to ending homelessness, as well as the production of affordable housing.



Homelessness Day of Awareness Walk - Reverend Paul Davis

The walk is being held on November 15th at 7 a.m. and will begin at the Downtown Chapel and end at 13 Salmon Day Center. Occupy/99% may march along and this year the goal is to get people from the homeless community to participate and tell their stories. In addition to raising awareness within the faith community the message is: volunteer-donate-advocate. The event will be promoted on the CCEH listserv.

III. Winter Shelter Services Overview – Ryan Deibert, PHB, Erika Silver, Human Solutions & Caitlin Campbell, Multnomah County

In extreme weather, youth shelter services will be increased by 10 additional beds and there will be day programs at New Avenues for Youth, Outside/In and Yellow Brick Road. For adults, there are about 670 total beds operating year round and in the winter about 290 additional beds will be opened for adults and families, along with about 250 additional crisis beds during severe weather all through the Red Cross. The family system will be very similar to last year. Eastminster Presbyterian Church (NE Halsey Street at NE 125th) plans to open in November and families don't need to call ahead first; just show up. Service animals will also be accepted. Single women will be accepted as long as there is space and if there isn't they will be referred to TPI's women's shelter to the YWCA. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. M-F and 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. on the weekend. YWCA check in time is 9 a.m. and is accessible and allows service animals. You can call 211 for additional details or go to www.211.org. The main changes to the adult homeless shelter system this year are that there are a couple additional large shelters that will be open and additional mats at Portland Rescue Mission (76 for male adults). There will be a requirement that you need a TB card and the program lottery based. Referrals will also be accepted. Harbor Light will open November 15th.

Severe Weather Criteria and & Response

The City uses very specific criteria to determine when to activate "severe weather" protocols. The weather must be at 22 degrees or below on a dry night and there must be at least an inch of sticking precipitation on wet nights. Monitoring and response is ongoing throughout the winter and 211 will be leading communications. 211 will be open 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. seven days a week and will only take Multnomah County calls between 6-7 p.m. on the weekdays. The service will be available 24 hours a day during prolonged periods of severe weather. There was feedback that the system operated much better last year and the communication had improved greatly.

Other Announcements

There was a roof fire at Human Solutions so they are in between office spaces, mostly at the Rockwood Offices and should be returning in about a month. Their energy assistance program has moved to the Rockwood office in the interim. There will be an art show by residents of the Royal Palm on November 3rd and the Portland Chamber and Nightwatch are sponsoring a concert series featuring street musicians.