

DeKalb County Continuum of Care

June 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Shelly Perkins, & Jennifer Yochem, HACD; Melodie Smith, MSHV; Cleo Songa & Kristy Bassett, Hines VA; Colleen Bredeson, Voluntary Action Center; Linda Drake, DeKalb County Veterans Administration; Eric Hicks, DeKalb Fire Department; Joanne Rouse, City of DeKalb; Jerry Smith, Mayor City of DeKalb; Deanna Cada, DeKalb County Mental Health Board; Lesa Eames, Community Activist; Cindy Graves, DeKalb County Health Department; Mike Newman, Hope Haven; Jim Fisher, Formerly Homeless Representative; Diana Hulst, Youth Service Bureau; Dawn Littlefield, Kishwaukee United Way; Jason Leverton, DeKalb Police Department; Renee Wester & Andy Jackson, Safe Passage; Jennifer Jeep Johnson, DeKalb Township; Sue Guio, Hope Haven Board; Diana Manjarrez, Greater Elgin Family Care Center; Laurie Knoke, Martha O’Gorman, Marilyn Ellerby, Community Members

Business began at 10:35 AM with Perkins welcoming attendees. New members were present and general introductions were done. Perkins reviewed the January 17, 2018 Minutes and asked for any corrections or changes to those minutes. No changes were requested, and Perkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Dawn Littlefield made a Motion to approve, Mike Newman seconded the Motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Minutes approved.

Perkins reviewed the 2017 CoC grant noting that the CoC was fully funded and no cuts were received. The bonus project applied for was not awarded/received. Perkins also provided an overview of the debriefing document and noted where the grant lost points and assumptions on why the points were not received. Perkins offered commentary on items that have been improved regarding data collection.

Point In Time Count (PITC) was conducted by Hope Haven this year and was done on January 26, 2018. Perkins provided the CoC with high level summary data of comparison for the last several years noting that the trend is increasing and the our PITC increased from the previous year. Mike Newman provided general comments and concurred that the numbers are increasing. Perkins provided the group a print out of 2017 PITC data for Illinois Continuums Homeless Rates Ranked, noting that DeKalb is 6th with a rate of 8.59 per 10,000.

Perkins discussed the release of the 2018 NOFA and reviewed the local competition deadlines. Perkins noted that all dates and polices are posted on the website for public viewing. Project applications must be submitted by August 13, 2018 and will be presented to the ranking committee on August 17 at 10:00 A.M. at the Housing Authority’s main office. Discussion ensued regarding the amendment of the Coordinated Entry Policy and finalization of the written standards. Perkins asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the document stating that it now encompassed all of the CoC Programs and is compliant with HUD’s latest mandates. Perkins as for a motion to approve the Coordinated Entry System Written Standards & Policy document as amended. Jim Fischer made a motion to approve, Colleen Bredeson seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Perkins gave a quick review of the 2019 ESG Funding noting overall \$60,979 (\$36,587 for Emergency Shelter and \$24,392 for Rapid Re-Housing). Perkins noted that Veteran support programs are doing well. Monthly calls targeting homeless Veterans continue.

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General updates from group members included the following:

- Hope Haven is a cooling center when the temperature gets above 90. July 1 prevention funds will be available, however there is a waiting list.
- DeKalb County Community Action Agency Working to fill open position. We intend to have an in-depth discussion on October 23 at the Networking for Families meeting to discuss data and how to gather it for use in grants and decision making for all entities (not silos).
- Safe Passage has opened a men's shelter and is working with HACD to project base vouchers in there "what once was transitional housing" but is now long term permanent housing building.
- The Housing Authority of the County of DeKalb – Over 3K on the Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List. Public Housing Waiting List is open for persons with two or more local preferences. Public Housing turn over is low, so not many units available.
- Township has increased their emergency grants to \$525 once every 12-month period. Application/qualification can take at least 30 days.
- Jim Fischer's mission committee would be happy to take information from each entity and share its information.

As there were no further announcements and no other further business to discuss the meeting of the DeKalb County Continuum of Care, Perkins thanked participants for the time and asked for a motion to adjourn. Dawn Littlefield made a motion seconded by Jen Yochem. All were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 PM.