

DeKalb County Continuum of Care

September 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Shelly Perkins, & Jennifer Yochem, HACD; Melodie Smith, MSHV; Cleo Songa & Kristy Bassett, Hines VA; Joanne Rouse, City of DeKalb; Deanna Cada, DeKalb County Mental Health Board; Jenny Swanson & Lesly Wicks, Hope Haven; Dawn Littlefield & Brenna Olson, Kishwaukee United Way; Kelly Sullivan, DeKalb Police Department; Mary Ellen Schaid, Safe Passage; Robert Putz, CACDC; Tessa Acker, RAMP; Cristy Meyer, District 428; Anita Zurbrugg, DeKalb County Community Foundation; Captain Keith Graham, Salvation Army

Business began at 10:35 AM with Perkins welcoming attendees. New members were present and general introductions were done. Perkins reviewed the June 27, 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, Mary Ellen Schaid seconded the Motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Minutes approved.

Perkins reviewed the 2018 CoC grant and current state of submission. Members were directed to the ranking submission from the Ranking Committee and overview of the process, scoring and submitted rank was discussed. Lesly Wicks made note of the score for Rapid Re-Housing stating that the program has not met expectations and plans to discontinue the program and reallocate the funds to a Supportive Youth Housing Program for next year. Members noted appreciation for the comments and Mary Ellen Schaid offered a Motion to approve the Ranking as submitted, Joanne Rouse seconded the Motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Ranking was approved for submission.

Perkins reviewed the 2018 CoC Collaborative Application by discussing key points noted this year along with target areas our CoC needs to focus on for future success. Perkins stated that the entirety of the grant will be available on the website shortly for all to review. Discussion of possible changes and improvements along with CoC Merge with Rockford/Winnebago/Boone CoC. Anita Zurbrugg made a Motion to approve the submission of the Collaborative Application and Dawn Littlefield seconded the Motion. All were in favor, none opposed. 2018 Collaborative Application was approved for submission.

General updates from group members included the following:

- Hope Haven has opened a Youth Supportive Housing program in the model of a group home. The Project has five tenants and is considered full, with the possibility of housing one more person. There is a house parent and the project intends to offer vocational skills, life skills and treatment. Hope Haven is in discussion with Youth Services Bureau about providing services and possibly expanding Homeless Youth Services. Hope Haven is currently full and has the longest waiting list on record.
- DeKalb County Community Action Agency is fully staffed. Offices have moved to Suit F at the County Outreach Building, Suite F. They will be working with the collaborative at University Village to help provide place-based services.

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- Safe Passage looking for a new facility. Turning away 10-15 victims a month along with only being able to serve 27 has compelled them to find alternative accommodations. The hope would be to serve up to 45 victims. Safe Passage is implementing Lethality Assessment Protocol for first responders. This is a series of questions that asses danger for victims while first responders are at the scene of a call. Safe Passage has services available even for victims not staying at the shelter. This includes legal counsel and Domestic Violence support services and counseling.
- The Housing Authority of the County of DeKalb – Over 2,500K 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. Currently have more that 60 families ported outside of our jurisdiction. HACD has been pulling people from the waiting list to fill vacancies in both programs.

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. Jenny Swanson made a motion seconded by Jen Yochem. All were in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 PM.