# Minutes……………………….………………Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care Network

**Meeting Description:**  **MCHCCN Steering Council Committee Meeting**

**June 15, 2023**

**United Way of the Lakeshore 31 E Clay Ave. Muskegon MI 49442**

**via Zoom:**

**Meeting Date:**  **June 15, 2023** **Time: 9:00 – 10:30 am**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Representatives | Present | Absent |  | Representatives | Present | Absent |
| Julie Aaron-Shyne, City of Muskegon Heights | x |  |  | Dan Skoglund, Muskegon Rescue Mission, Co-Chair | X |  |
| Hillery Ross, Health Project, Chair, Nominating Committee | X |  |  | Leslie Slater, Department of Health & Human Services  |  | X |
| Brandon Baskin, Health West, Chairman, Coordinated Entry Committee | X |  |  | Madison Butler, Community enCompass (HARA) | X |  |
| Valerie Nance, Salvation Army, Secretary | X |  |  | Sharonda Carson, City of Muskegon | x |  |
| Jamie Hekker, Public Health of Muskegon County, Chair | X |  |  | Angela Mayeaux, Muskegon Housing Commission, Chair Review Committee | X |  |
| Lashae Simmons representing lived experience | X |  |  | Cindy Larsen, Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce |  | X |
| Joe Whalen, Fresh Coast Alliance |  | X |  | Miranda Paggeot, Coordinator (Non-Voting) | X |  |
| Christine Robere, United Way of the Lakeshore  | X |  |  | John Peterson, Consultant (Non-Voting) | X |  |
|  |  |  |  | Nathan Smith Manley, HMIS Administrator (Non-Voting) | x |  |

**MINUTES**

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 9:06 am by Ms. Hekker. Welcome and introductions were made.
2. Approval of Agenda– (AR) Valerie Nance made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Simmons provided the second. All in Favor. Motion Carried.
3. Approval of Minutes of Steering Council (AR) – May 11, 2023. Ms. Mayeaux motioned to accept the minutes with no changes. Ms. Aaron-Shyne provided the second. All in Favor. Motion carried.
4. Data Committee report – July meeting was moved to July 12 due to people being on vacation. The Veterans by name list has been updated to the URISH By-name list we have meet 2 of the 4 benchmarks for declaring ending of Veterans Homelessness. Emphasis on income being updated in HMIS was a primary topic. Having this updated will reflect in HUD (Housing and Urban Development) System Performance measurements. Miranda is also doing some digging on the people that are pulling on the report and reaching out to the case managers to provide technical assistance.

Valerie Nance has asked the committee to type a paragraph on who they are and what they do so she can pass the information off to the new major that will be stepping in her place at Salvation Army.

The Sharing QSOBAA (Qualified Services Organization Business Associates Agreement) is on hold until the new HARA is in place. MCAH (Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness) is also updating the document but until then we will update the current document with the updated one from MCAH. The sharing agreement is for HMIS data to be shared between agencies. Agencies decide on what data they are willing to share.

1. Coordinated Entry report– Miranda went over how CE is being tracked. Changes are coming to how this is currently being done. BOS has moved to have a program entry program bin, and this will make the by name list creation a much faster process. The by-name-list report in HMIS pulls from program enrollments so the way we currently create our by-name-list is taking too much time and is not efficient. Miranda will work with providers and MCAH to get this process to run more efficiently.

Miranda has had a meeting with the new program manager at Every Woman’s Place. DV shelter staff will get trained on doing VISPDATs and they can become an access point for DV shelter clients. The clients would go on CE by name list by them empower client ID number a soft hand off would occur if a case manager has a housing solution that best fits that client. This process would streamline the housing process by eliminating the need for the client to be assessed at the HARA to get on our CE by name list.

1. ESG (EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT) HARA Review Committee-(AR) – Angela Mayeaux there was 1 applicant for the HARA review. True North did an excellent job on their application. All questions were answered; they did have 3 staff members attend and provided responses to any questions brought up. They are HARA for several other communities they presented very well in the application process and at the table.

Jamie Hekker added that provided how to serve clients without a brick and mortar. They are interested in CRC and libraries and other public places. They have accommodation for meeting where people are. The ability to manage the finances is also well documented in their application. Communication in the organization is open and involves the case managers.

Hillery Ross added that she has worked with True North in the past and they are very professional and have no unpleasant experience when working with them.

The recommendation to the Steering Committee by the Review Committee is to select True North as the HARA for Muskegon County Homeless Continuum of Care. A motion was made by Lashae Simmons and supported by Hillery Ross. Motion passes.

1. Planning Grant-(AR) – The planning grant RFP was posted and sent out to several consultants. There was one applicant and that was John Peterson. A motion was made by Valerie Nance to approve John Peterson LLC as the planning grant consultant. Second by Lashae Simmons. Motioned passed.
2. Coordinators report-Miranda – A Coordinated entry report was presented. This report will be more inclusive as time moves on. A lot of work with the DV shelter on being an access point. Exhibit 1 has been submitted to MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Authority) on time. The HNP (Housing Navigation Program) program was awarded to HealthWest. There has been a hiccup with IGX and UEI (Unique Entity Identifier) numbers. Miranda reached out to John and asked him to help Brandon get this cleared up. New HUD grant agreements are being sent out. Once the grants are accepted, we can transfer the HMIS grant and the Planning grant to United Way of the Lakeshore.
3. Other Business/Announcements

Valerie Nance and Joe Whalen are both leaving the committee. We have a couple of seats open. In consultation with Miranda and John, Jamie is going to request nominations be sent to Hillery. This will be looked at in the August meeting. Elections are not held until January so the positions would be appointed.

A discussion on generational poverty was brought up. Changing the mindset of people who have lived in poverty seems to be a challenge. Often people do not see the value in increasing their income because some benefit they end up losing. Valerie Nance asked for any input from Lashae on her experience with increases of rent when income increases. Lashae added her insight on the conversation on increases of rent when income increases. A slower process should be taken because people who never had money and now get money do not want to put it to rent when rent was provided before. Self-esteem is built when people can go out and buy things they want or need. If the money is required for rent people tend to go without money to have the rent paid.

1. Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.