

Ozarks Alliance to End Homelessness



Springfield/Greene, Christian and Webster Counties Continuum of Care

Community Partnership of the Ozarks
OAEH Executive Board Meeting

April 14, 2021

11:00 a.m. – noon via Zoom

Attendees

Voting Members

Sabrina Aronson
Bob Atchley
Jennifer Cannon
Elisa Coonrod
Kelly Harris
Missy Hayward
Holly Hunt
Wyatt Jenkins

Tim Knapp

Mike Lucas
Maura Taylor
John Walker

Support Staff

Adam Bodendieck
Dandy Myles
Rebecca Sisk
Amanda Stadler

Interested Parties

Jackie Rehwald
Meleah Spencer
Alyssa Spradlin

Welcome & Introductions – Kelly Harris

Kelly Harris called the meeting to order at 11:02 am and ask everyone to introduced themselves through the Zoom Chat, with their name and organization.

Old Business

Approval of March Minutes (Vote Required) – Kelly Harris, Chair

Kelly asked for any discussion, additions or corrections to the March minutes that were provided to the group prior to the meeting.

ACTION: Maura asked to have a clarification made under the Greene Co. Funds section that relates to the difference between the Greene Co. and other county rent and utility assistance. The following will be added to the current minutes – “so agencies can apply for the additional SAFHR funding to provide housing stabilization services which includes application assistance, on a flat fee-for-service basis for households throughout Missouri including Christian and Webster counties.” Rebecca Sisk will revise the minutes and send them back out to the group. John Walker made a motion to accept the March minutes updated with the requested revision. Jennifer Cannon seconded the motion. A Zoom voting poll was done. Motion carried unanimously. Elisa Coonrod voted in the Zoom Chat.

New Business

Quarterly System Performance Measure Dashboard – Dandy Myles

The reporting period for Local Performance Measures is FY2021 Q2 (Jan 1 to Mar 31).

- Returns to Homeless: 4.6% of people who entered a homeless service project had previously exited to permanent housing within the 24 months - 17 Emergency Shelter (ES), 6 Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), 5 Street Outreach (SO) and 3 Transitional Housing (TH).
- Exit Destination: 71 people out of 288 exited ES to Permanent Housing (PH), 124 exited to TH and there were some who exited to unknown or institutional housing during the quarter. For RRH there were 102 out of 120 exiting to PH, also some TH and unknow/other.
- Length of Stay in Days (Q1 vs. Q2): TH Q1 had 216 days for leavers and 164 for Q2. For stayers it was 233 in Q1 and 173 in Q2. ES leavers Q1 had 55 vs 41 in Q2. For stayers it was 152 in Q1 vs. 68 in Q2. The PIT was done in Q2, and there was probably a lot of data clean up so Dandy attributes the large decrease to that. RRH leavers Q1 had 42 vs 138 in Q2. For stayers it was 172 vs. 272. Dandy believes that partly the reason you might be seeing RRH clients in Q2 longer, might be related to the RRH funding already being used for grant period Jan-Mar when the MHDC grants are being closed out before the new grant period starts. The local programs that are in TH are Catholic Charities LifeHouse and Salvation Army Family Enrichment Center.
- Amanda Stadler put the link to the Local Performance Measures in the Zoom Chat: <https://icalliances.org/mo-system-performance-dashboard>.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Written Standards Emergency Shelter (ES) (Vote Required) – Kelly Harris

This vote is being tabled until the June meeting because there was a typo in the approved document. The written standards are created at the state level, and that group meets every other month. Once they are updated, they will need to be reapproved at the state level before being brought back to each local CoC.

Strategic Planning – Amanda Stadler

This was on the list to do before the pandemic, and now that the need for crisis response has diminished some, it is something that they would like to revisit. There are not a lot of details right now, but they are having conversations and starting the preliminary process. In the next few months, they should start working with the Systems and Services Committee (S&SC) and other OAEH committees as well as other community groups.

Federal Funding Updates

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Bob Atchley

City staff has been working on the FY2021 (7/1/21 to 6/30/22) Annual Action Plan. The first meeting with the City Council was on 3/26 and the second reading and final vote were on 4/5. The City's proposed funding allocations were approved and as well as for them to move forward with their FY2021 Annual Action Plan to HUD. The City did receive about an 8% increase in funding and will be passing that on to all the funded agencies.

They are also working on the CDBG-CV funding and have gotten all the subgrantee contracts out to agencies. They are having to make some amendments to the mortgage, rent and utility assistance contracts, due to HUD just providing them with some guidance that provides some additional flexibility.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) – Bob Atchley

HUD has renewed all the CoC program grants for the next fiscal year. HUD continues to say they will be moving forward with a Notice of Funding Approval (NOFA) for the bonus projects soon, but there has been no information released to date.

COVID Relief Funding – Bob Atchley/Maura Taylor

There are six agencies (Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Consumer Credit Counseling, Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO), Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC), Council of Churches One Stop and Salvation Army) working with Greene Co. regarding the US Treasury CARES Act funding. The funds provide

rent and utility assistance. The US Treasury funding coming to Greene Co. is only for Greene Co. But because we are a Continuum and, also serve Christian and Webster Counties, those County funds are only through the US Treasury State portal. Two agencies (Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri and OACAC) have been approved by MHDC to provide housing stability assistance, which means they can walk along side the client to help them complete the application and do a housing stability plan to become self-sufficient. The agencies will be reimbursed by the state. Catholic Charities will be serving all 39 counties in southern Missouri and OACAC will be serving their 9- county area and they should start taking calls next week. MHDC will be paying for rent and utilities and will work with the agencies on reimbursement for their assistance. The programs allow for up to 12-months of arrears on rent and utilities if clients have been COVID impacted. They are seeing that a lot of landlords are not working well with their tenants and our clients to get information submitted through the state portal, so having agency assistance to work with both the client and landlord will help get the needed assistance for people. If you have clients in the other counties, please refer them to Catholic Charities or OACAC.

Committee Updates

Systems & Services Committee (S&SC) – Maura Taylor

They had a good meeting today, discussing most of the same topics discussed at the Executive Board meeting.

Christian County Homeless Alliance (CCHA) – John Walker

The CCHA met yesterday, and discussed the rent and utility assistance program, so Maura's discussion about the funding was helpful. All the agencies reported out. They met with Least of These and discussed their food program and their potential ability for laundry and shower services. They also discussed the mobile Medical Clinic which is about ready to be out and about. They continued their discussions about host housing and what to do about their under 18 homeless population. They discussed options other than sending them to Great Circle in Springfield, looking at related legal and financial concerns.

Crisis Cold Weather Shelter Committee (CCWS) Planning Committee – Amanda Stadler

The CCWS season ended on 3/31. They were open 72 nights and provided 5,801 bed nights, which includes duplicated people within that count across all CCWS sites. There were 370 individual people that accessed the CCWS at any point during the season. The average served per night was 80. The shelters were opened more frequently through November, December, and January, because they are weather based, and then in February they saw the highest number of folks served per night at 112 due to the frigid temperatures experienced, and having additional sites opened to handle the overflow. None of the sites had to turn anyone away but did have to come up with options to accommodate additional need like reducing spacing from 6 ft to 3 ft or opening additional rooms in their facility. The planning committee has been debriefing and getting feedback from volunteers, which has been positive. The committee is considering restructuring to make the system more sustainable for next year and consistent across all the shelters. As an example, one shelter was able to offer showers and pizza, so that was the shelter that everyone wanted to go to. The CCWS normally quits meeting in the spring and then starts back up prior to the season, but this year they have agreed to continue to meet to address changes and get all the support needed in place.

Homeless Youth Task Force (HYTF) – Amanda Stadler

The HYTF has new leadership. Allison Gregory from Foster Adopt Connect was the Chair and is being replaced by Callie Holden with Ozarks Technical College (OTC) and Kathy Westmoreland with Rare Breed as the Vice Chair.

Announcements/Discussion

COVID 19 Vaccinations – Kelly Harris

Amy Fouse with the Greene Co. Health Dept. attends the OAEH weekly COVID-19 Task Force meetings and keeps the group updated as vaccinations begin to roll out to the CoC's population. They have been doing vaccination

clinics onsite and providing marketing and educational materials. With the Johnson & Johnson vaccine pause announced this week, they will be waiting for updates from her next week.

Alternative Shelter Update – Adam Bodendieck

This is hotel emergency sheltering. Throughout March, they were able to add 30 new households (HH) or 50 additional people. The alternative shelter was started a year ago in March and to date they have sheltered 550 HH made up of about 1,075 people. They continue to work with individuals in the hotels through outreach, the One Door team, and other partners on exiting planning. They have seen some successful exits, which is exciting, especially since someone needs to exit before they can accept a new client.

Fair Housing Week/O'Reilly Center for Hope (ORCH) Update - Adam Bodendieck

They are commemorating Fair Housing Month at the O'Reilly Center for Hope (ORCH) this week with some special events. Yesterday evening they did a presentation for folks from the Robberson Neighborhood Association leadership and neighbors who got a tour and presentation about the center. Tonight at 6 pm they will have Councilman Richard Ollis there to talk about Restore SGF. The presentation could be very interesting for first time home buyers as they discuss what the city is doing to invest in historic neighborhoods. Tomorrow at noon, via Zoom, they will host HUD inspector Connie Radcliff, who will be doing a presentation on fair housing – what it is, what it is not, how to file a complaint, what happens when you file a complaint, etc. Friday, they will wrap up at 11 a.m. with an event to include property owners and rental property owners with a tour of the building, how to get involved in some of the programs and ways they can support tenants who are struggling to pay rent and/or utilities. They will also be relaunching the debut of the database housing platform Socialserve, an online affordable housing tool, which does require an RSVP to attend. If you are connected with a supportive housing program, it would be a good opportunity to talk to some property owners, landlords or managers. Amanda Stadler mentioned that there will be a presentation on Socialserve at the OAEH General Membership meeting on 4/22

O'Reilly Center for Hope-Amanda Stadler

The ORCH officially started the laundry and shower service in March. They provided 235 showers and 165 loads of laundry during that time.

Jennifer Cannon said that everyone needs to see the CPO Facebook post “What is One Door” and it is worth sharing. It is a very good assessment of what One Door does and why things are done the way they are. Adam said they did it because they were hearing a lot of misinformation, so they wanted to take an opportunity to educate the community about what it was that they can and cannot do in layman’s terms. They have gotten a good response to it.

Housing Study – Amanda Stadler

There is no update from what Katrena Wolfram emailed out a couple of weeks ago. Amanda will follow up with her and send out an update.

Motion to Adjourn – Kelly Harris, Chair

Kelly Harris asked for a motion to adjourn.

ACTION: Maura Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer Cannon seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:47 pm.

Addendum

Updated March OAEH Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Upcoming Meetings

Next Meeting is May 12, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm via Zoo