All Home Coordinating Board Meeting Summary
May 3, 2017

Members Present:
Andrew Lofton  Catherine Lester  Meghan Deal
Nancy Backus  Sheila Sebron  Adrienne Quinn
Jean-Paul Yafali  John Chelminiak  Hamdi Abdulle
Daniel Malone  Gordon McHenry Jr.  Melinda Giovengo
Steve Walker  Joe McDermott  Colleen Echohawk

Members Absent:
Sara Levin

Agenda Item  Action Steps and Follow Up

Public Comment
Bill Kirlin-Hackett: Bill would like to see Vehicle Residency Workgroup activities as part of the updates in the monthly Coordinating Board packet, included as an official group of the Continuum of Care’s governance structure and possibly included on the agenda for future Board meetings. (Action – All Home will ask Bill for summaries and include in packet)

Director’s Report
Mark Putnam, Director of All Home, shared the following updates:

- All Home acknowledges the passing of Governor Mike Lowry, a leader of work to end homelessness across the state of Washington for many years.
- A new, updated conflict of interest form has been created for Board member’s signature.
- Following the NAEH Leadership Council meetings in Washington D.C., we are anticipating a new model of transitional housing bridging to rapid re-housing to be available through this year’s HUD NOFA application. This presents an opportunity for further transitional housing units in our community to re-align to more permanent options for people experiencing homelessness.
- The June Coordinating Board meeting will be rescheduled to Wednesday, June 14th from 2:30-4:30 PM, directly following the All Home Annual Conference at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center.
- Count Us In 2017 results will be available at the end of May.

Open Space
Sheila: The Consumer Advisory Council raised concern about getting messaging and knowledge of services exclusively through providers as well as a concern about getting meaningful feedback back to providers.
Melinda: Melinda would like to see consumer feedback at all levels of the CoC funding process including the scoring and subsequent rank order of projects. Melinda would like clarity on decisions made at the CEA policy committee concerning transitional housing eligibility and clarity around what overall authority the CEA Policy Committee has to make decisions, compared to the Coordinating Board.
Hamdi: Hamdi emphasized the responsibility the Board has to people living unsheltered, and urged the group to not just talk about homelessness, but to employ concrete actions to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness.
Catherine: Catherine wants to have a larger conversation and more discipline around how the group shows up and talks about this issue of homelessness.
Joe: Joe would like clarity on the function of All Home as a whole and the specific function of the Board.

Reduce Racial Disparities
The group was asked to use the Anti-Racist, Multi-cultural Organization Spectrum to evaluate the King County homeless response system and offered the following reflections and comments:

- we have made measurable progress, even having this on the agenda is a step
- the All Home race equity event in March was great
- we still have a ways to go
• still mostly white leadership which has a significant impact on the work we do, leadership should truly represents our community
• we need to understand different views of success
• this is a good start, understanding the different forms of racism and how/when they show up
• veterans seeking services are steeped in other racist systems and are disproportionately people of color
• hiring people of color still not happening at a large scale and there is discrimination at the agency level

Make Homelessness Rare

Prevention vs Diversion
Prevention serves a high number of people at imminent risk of homelessness while diversion serves people currently experiencing homelessness to quickly exit without entering the homeless system. Many households experiencing a housing crisis or instability never become homeless. Prevention is meant to prevent homelessness, not end poverty. Diversion practices can be used at any point along the continuum of homeless housing and services.

Make Homelessness Brief and One-time

CEA
Changes to Coordinated Entry on the CEA administration and provider side are needed. The CEA policy committee will participate in a two-day lean process with CSH, a HUD technical assistance provider, to arrive at the necessary changes. The Board agreed to Adrienne’s request that the County have the authority to make changes to CEA, after conducting stakeholder meetings and review with CEA Policy Advisory Committee, and report back to the Coordinating Board.

Adrienne sat on the phones with King County CEA referral specialists and offered the following reflections:
• Providers feel very restricted by CEA rules
• rejections cause back-ups in the system and there is a need to dig further into denials
• some agencies are discouraging clients from taking RRH
• one of the fundamental issues of CEA is the lack of housing, today for example, there are only 20 openings for over 7,500 people on the by-name lists across all populations
• decisions and accountability need to be aligned

The group shared the following comments on CEA:
• bias and fidelity issues in our system comes out in the process of CEA
• urgency around changes to CEA, the City of Seattle’s RFP timeline is heavily dependent on changes to CEA
• when people are assessed, they are not told that there is a long back-log which is inhumane
• can be difficult to change tools/systems when they are fairly new, would be good to know the output or what’s possible/what are the limitations for our system
• CEA takes away the opportunity for providers to help people they are already connected to

City of Seattle RFP
Catherine and City of Seattle staff are engaging often and early for the upcoming homelessness RFP. This funding round will emphasize:
• alignment with other funders
• structures around system improvements and the funder MOU
• meeting people where they are
• reducing racial disparities
• utilizing data for results
• investing in capacity of the system to do the work

Next Meeting
Wednesday, June 14th, 2:30-4:30PM, Youngstown Cultural Arts Center