Members Present: Sheila Sebron, Andrew Lofton, Keith Scully, Meghan Deal, Nancy Backus, Okesha Brandon, Sara Levin, Jason Johnson  

Members Absent: Melinda Giovengio (recused), Leo Flor, Daniel Malone (recused), Gordon McHenry Jr. (recused), Tess Colby, Colleen Echohawk, Hamdi Abdulle

Agenda Item | Action Steps and Follow Up
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Public Comment | none
FY2019 Continuum of Care NOFA Rank Order | Board members with a conflict of interest recused themselves, per the Conflict of Interest Policy, for this Board meeting. Kate and Eileen shared the updated Rank Order Recommendation from the CoC Application and Rank Order Committee with Board members.

**Background**
The FY2019 CoC NOFA was released on July 3rd. Our Seattle/KC CoC formed a new CoC Application and Rank Order Committee this year to review the NOFA and make recommendations to the Board for final decisions on the values, priorities, and rank order. In addition, this year marked the first time the CoC included a deliberate effort to solicit related input from and vet recommendations with people with lived experience of homelessness; an important step in putting our region’s Theory of Change into practice. With the support of the Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) and Youth Action Board (YAB), the CoC Application and Rank Order Committee provided recommendations on the Rank Order for Board review and decision.

**Discussion**
- CAC and YAB members had historical and recent experiences with Salvation Army projects that resulted in discriminatory impacts to people identifying as LGBTQ+.
- CAC and YAB members present for DV Bonus Interviews had significant concerns about LifeWire’s capacity to address racial equity.
- Other challenges YAB and CAC members voiced about the process included:
  - There is no stated value to prioritize the experiences and input of people with lived experience over our other stated values which includes maximizing the points available to our application for a higher score (and increasing our competitiveness for funding across other CoCs)
  - There are a limited number of process points to disrupt the process of renewing previously funded programs
  - The need for new skills and community norms around engaging with people with lived experience in funding and policy-making decisions at the system level
- The CoC Application Committee collectively made the following stipulations with the Rank Order recommendations:
In partnership and in the spirit of living into the Theory of Change by holding our system accountable to the needs and experiences of people experiencing homelessness and ensuring projects are living out the broader CoC values and requirements, the Continuum of Care (as defined by the various partners across the region) will:

- Make available broad training to all CoC-funded organizations, specifically in the areas of serving LGBTQ+ community and racial equity;
- Offer targeted technical assistance to the Salvation Army and LifeWire to address the concerns brought up by lived experience members; and
- Ensure contractual oversight by the project funders to account for any additional concerns in these areas.

- The Board voiced support of the direction of this CoC process to more deliberately and meaningfully involve people with lived experience in the CoC decision-making process.

**Final Rank Order Decision**

Two Board members (Tess Colby and Colleen Echohawk) provided their votes prior to the Board meeting and their votes were read aloud to the Board members present in their absence.

**Action:** The Board voted to approve the CoC Rank Order (available here) as recommended by the CoC Application and Rank Order Committee (9 votes yes, 1 abstain).

**Next Steps**

- All Home staff will update the broader community about the FY2019 CoC process including the efforts to deliberately involved people with lived experience, the learnings from this process, the action items the CoC will be leading per the Committee’s recommendations, and the expectations for future years.
- All Home staff will incorporate this information and awareness into the CoC Annual Conference to further develop our community norms around engaging with people with lived experience and strengthen our collective equity analysis.
- The All Home and City of Seattle/King County CoC staff teams have followed up individually with organizations whose projects are ranked in Tier 2 for notification prior to the posting of the final rank order.
- The CoC will make available broad training to all CoC-funded organizations, specifically in the areas of serving LGBTQ+ community and racial equity.
- The CoC will offer targeted technical assistance to the Salvation Army and LifeWire, named in specific concerns brought up by lived experience members.
- Funders with contracts of CoC projects will provide ongoing monitoring of programming to ensure no disparate impacts to people of color and persons identifying as LGBTQ+.