

NWCoC General Membership Meeting

Thursday, June 15th, 2023

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

(Hybrid meeting)

Meeting Attendance: Lori Anderson, Annette Spanier, Carmen Zuniga, Catie LeMay, Chris Kujava, Cory Boushee, Denise Gudvangen, Elena Guerra, Erica Maxwell, Hyacinth Stiffler, Karon de Silva, Karyn Novak, Lori Waavra, Lori Wollman, Margie Flanagan, Margret Treuer, Maureen Hams, Randi Jensen, Reed Olson, Rita Ostman, Shannon Lee, Shelamar Henderson, Sherry Mullan, Sheril Schluter, Harold Lindsay, Connie Norman, Barbara Johnson

Guests: Michelle Gerrard, Jenna Tomlinson: Wilder Foundation

Welcome & Introductions

- Lori Wollman, Barbara Johnson opened the meeting welcoming everyone. A special thanks to all that are able to attend today.
- Approval of the March 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented:
 - Motion to approve meeting notes: Sherry Mulane
 - Seconded: Erica Maxwell
 - All in favor

Wilder Research:

Michelle Gerrard and Jenna Tomlinson gave updated on upcoming Wilder Research study. Changes to this year's study include the availability of phone surveys to agencies. Monetary stipends will again be available to study participants. Agencies will be provided more information in the coming weeks. Wilder Research is preparing for the 2023 Minnesota Homeless Study coming up on Thursday, October 26, 2023. Since 1991, the Minnesota Homeless Study has been a collaboration between Wilder Research, state and county agencies, CoCs, and hundreds of service providers across the state. The aim of the study is to better understand the prevalence of homelessness in Minnesota and the circumstances of adults, youth, and children experiencing homelessness providing advocates, program and service providers, funders, and policymakers information they need to identify and address systemic issues, improve programs and policies, and ultimately eliminate homelessness.

MHFA:

This week the NWCoC Executive Board approved and adopted the FY23 MHFA Regional Planning Grant workplan and budget as presented. The plan and budget will be sent to MHFA for execution.

Racial Equity Accountability Project (REAP):

System Performance Measures:

This project seeks to advance racial justice and reduce disparities in Northwest Minnesota's homeless response system by establishing a team of leaders to direct the decision-making process for the Northwest Continuum of Care. This includes reviewing the homeless response network's system of coordinated entry, and partnering with community leaders to dismantle instances of systemic racism specific to homelessness.

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP):

Margret updated membership on YHDP, giving a high-level overview on a year long look at data for our region. NMF will be employing two Youth Consultants in 2023 for a short-term summer youth consultant program. The goal of this program is to utilize the voice of youth in informing the work of mitigating youth homelessness. The Strategic Planning Session with JFC Strategic Services will take place Tuesday, June 20th. The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program ([YHDP](#)) is an initiative designed to reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness. The goal of the YHDP is to support selected communities, including rural, suburban, and urban areas across the United States, in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

Performance & Evaluation (P&E):

The P&E committee has engaged Patty Beech Consulting in a series of sessions to assist in simplifying and streamlining the NWCoC NOFO process. Upon conclusion of the June 13th meeting, the anticipation will be to have in place the following:

- ▶ Updated draft of the Scoring Tool
- ▶ Updated application and instruction form that incorporates changes to the Scoring Tool.
- ▶ Reallocation policy
- ▶ Housing First Assessment and Housing First Pledge

Coordinated Entry System Dashboard:

The Coordinated Entry (CE) Dashboard is a tool to help our NWCoC community monitor the coordinated entry system for changes, gaps, and slowdowns that need to be addressed. A five-quarter data look-back was reviewed by membership to identify trends, gaps and successes in Coordinated Entry. Discussion took place on overall system performance.

Lunch and Networking:

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:45am.