

**Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Governing Board Meeting**
July 12, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
Lee County Human and Veteran Services
Virtual Meeting

Members Present:

Alex Olivares – Catholic Charities
Amber Hentz – Park Royal
Barbara Short – CareerSource SWFL
Carolyn Johnson – Goodwill Industries SWFL
Jessica Cosden – City of Cape Coral
Charlene Gardner – Centerstone
Linda Hafner – United Way
Luella Richardson – Veteran Affairs
Mary Grubbs – Center for Progress & Excellence
Terryn Baah-Achemfour – The Salvation Army
Michael Overway – Lee County Homeless Coalition
Marcia Davis – City of Fort Myers Housing Authority
Erin DallaCosta – Lee County School District

Others Present:

PJ Brooks
Therese Everly

**Lee County Human
And Veteran Services
Staff Present:**

Timothy Gillmore
Bradley Sissons

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I. Call to Order

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

a. Welcome and Board Roll Call

- Timothy Gillmore reviewed the list of attendees. He stated that there were enough members present for a quorum.

b. Members Absent with/without Excuse

- Arlene Goldberg (Visuality) absent without an excuse
- Carl Baxter (BCW Consulting) absent without an excuse
- Dr. Tom Felke (FGCU) absent without an excuse
- Daniel Kruse (Providence Family Life Center) absent without an excuse
- Jennifer Nelson (City of Cape Coral) absent without an excuse
- Kim Hustad (Lee County Human and Veteran Services) absent with an excuse
- Sheryl Soukup (Residential Options of Florida ROOF) absent without an excuse

Public Comment: None

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes*(May)

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

ACTION: Barbara Short made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 10th, 2023. Michael Overway seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Board Membership – Erin Dalla Costa, LCSD “Project Access”

To prepare for the new school year, engagement has been done all summer with school social workers. So far, there are over 900 students identified as displaced in their housing.

IV. Ratify Amendment to Written Standards on CoC Disaster Policies*

Tim Gilmore

CoC Disaster Policies were reviewed. Policy discusses how priorities would change in an event of a disaster. Policy makes ESG (Emergencies Solutions Grant) flexible and available to people who are working on FEMA Temporary shelter and FEMA direct housing. Motion to ratify Disaster Policies as is, with the understanding modifications can be made later.

ACTION: Michael Overway made a motion to ratify Written Standards on Disaster Policies as is. Barbara Short seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Amend CoC Written Standards on CE Prioritization*

Tim Gilmore

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Changes to the Coordinated Entry Prioritization system, permanent supportive housing, and rapid rehousing criteria were proposed.

Coordinated Entry Criteria Currently:

- Small section of direct referrals for High Need High Utilizer Task Force.
- Up to half of referrals come from the exception process; which is when an exception request is sent to Christopher Molloy in Coordinated Entry who can make an exception to send that person to Permanent Supportive Housing.
- The Other half are People who score an 8+ on the Vulnerability Assessment, Mental Health, Tri-Morbid (mental health, physical health, and substance abuse problem at same time), Chronically Homeless, Physical Health Issues, and Veterans.

New Changes that were proposed:

- Small section of direct referrals for High Need High Utilizer Task Force.
- About half of referrals come from the exception process
- About half 8+ on Vulnerability Assessment, mental health, Tri-Morbid (mental health, physical health, and substance abuse problem at same time), Chronically Homeless, lack self-care, over 60 years of age.

Lacking self-care is explained as having trouble taking care of daily needs; as an example, getting meals daily.

ACTION: Lue Richardson made a motion to add a point for Veterans in newly proposed changes to Coordinated Entry PSH written Standards. Linda Hafner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Rapid Rehousing Criteria Currently:

- Small section of direct referrals for High Need High Utilizer Task Force.
- About a quarter of referrals come from the exception process who score above an 8.
- About a quarter from people who score an 8+ on Vulnerability Assessment, mental health, Tri-Morbid (mental health, physical health, and substance abuse problem at same time), Chronically Homeless, Physical Health Issues, and Veterans
- About a quarter from people who score a 7 or below, mental health, Tri-Morbid, Chronically Homeless, and Physical Health Issues
- About a quarter from people who score 7 and below and have exception letters

Rapid Rehousing New Criteria proposed:

- 1% of direct referrals for High Need High Utilizer Task Force
- 12% of referrals come from the exception process who score above an 8.
- 11% from people who score an 8+ on Vulnerability Assessment, mental health, Tri-Morbid, Chronically Homeless, Physical Health Issues, and Veterans
- 38% from people who score below a 7, Households with Children, households with individuals aged 60 and above, households who are fleeing domestic violence, and 1st time homeless households.

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- 38% of people below 7 and exception letters
- Veterans also get a point in Rapid Rehousing Criteria

ACTION: Jessica Cosden made a motion to approve the prioritization for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing as amended adding a point for Veterans. Motion was seconded. Motion approved Unanimously.

VI. Amend CoC Written Standards on Rapid Rehousing Discharge Policies*

Tim Gillmore

Circumstances under which Rapid Rehousing programs can remove clients who were referred were reviewed.

ACTION: Alex Olivares made a motion to approve Amended Written Standards for Rapid Rehousing Discharge Policies. Terry Baah-Achemfour seconded motion. Motion approved unanimously.

VII. Explore VI-SPDAT Alternatives – Data Committee directive from Governing Board*

Tim Gillmore

ACTION: Michael Overway made a motion to direct Data Committee to find alternatives of VI-SPDAT over a six-month period. Linda Hafner seconded Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. CE and Outreach Activities -

Tim Gillmore

- Training Opportunities June 6th -June 7th were successful.
 - Trauma Informed Care, Cultural Humility, Equal Access
- HOT Team Activities were successful.
 - 1109 3rd Way North Fort Myers (6/14/23)/follow up activities.
 - Park Royal Hospital HOT team presentation at “Coffee and Connection” mtg. (6/23/23).

Tim Gillmore is serving on an interim basis for Mark Tesoro. HOT Team is bringing on additional staff. HOT Team has no further Updates.

IX. Lee County Homeless Coalition – General CoC Membership Update

Michael Overway

- Homeless Coalition –
Homeless Coalition have a full staff currently.
- Committee Updates –
The Committee has been averaging 2 new members a month. For Profit businesses have been added also. Interviews have been frequented with media to discuss the increase in Point in Time Count
 - Events Committee –

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The Events Committee is planning the Annual Fundraising Dinner, The Hunger and Homeless Awareness month, Candlelight Vigil, and the Homeless Service & Veteran Stand Down Day.

- Resource Committee –
The Resource Committee is working on getting presenters for the CoC General Membership Meeting
- Lived Expertise –
Committee is being re-formatted.

There will be a virtual Training on Zoom for Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on July 27th at 9:30am.

Bridges Out of Poverty training August 22nd and 23rd at Mission Community Church on MLK. It is going to be a very impactful training. Light breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided. Invites will be sent via email. Bridges of Poverty Training Day one will be a simulation, and Day two will be a workshop.

X. Adjourn - Next CoC Board Meeting September 13th at 1 p.m.

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

ACTION: Linda Hafner made a motion to Adjourn Meeting. Terryn Baah-Achemfour Seconded the Motion. Meeting was adjourned.

***Item Needing Action**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Lee County will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in its services, programs, or activities. To request an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a reasonable modification to participate, contact Joan LaGuardia by phone at 239-533-2314, adarequests@leegov.com or through the Florida Relay Service, 711. Accommodation will be provided at no cost to the requestor. Request should be made at least five business days in advance.

For translation services or additional information, please contact: Jeannie Sutton, Lee County Human and Veteran Services at 239-533-7958.

Meeting minutes and agenda are posted on our website: <https://www.leegov.com/dhs/partner>

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