

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)

Governing Board Meeting

November 8, 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 (Proxy for Joseph Rea)– Centerstone
Linda Hafner – United Way
Luella Richardson – Veteran Affairs
Mary Grubbs – Center for Progress & Excellence
Kim Hustad – Human and Veteran Services

Others Present:

Adina Bridges
Cheri Lynn Arnold
Ethan Frizzell
Therese Everly

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

Juan Albino
Timothy Gillmore
Jason Coleman
Roger Mercado

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)

Governing Board Meeting

November 8, 2023, 1:00 P.M.

Lee County Human and Veteran Services
Virtual Meeting

I. Call to Order

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

a. Welcome and Board Roll Call

- Timothy Gillmore reviewed the list of attendees.

b. Members Absent with/without Excuse

- Michael Overway (Lee County Homeless Coalition) absent without and excuse
- Terryn Baah-Acheamfour (Salvation Army) absent without an excuse
- Marcia Davis (City of Fort Myers Housing Authority) absent without an excuse
- Erin DallaCosta (Lee County School District) absent without an 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
- Sheryl Soukup (Residential Options of Florida ROOF) absent without an excuse
- Stephanie Ink-Edwards (Community Cooperative) absent without an excuse
- Joseph Rea (Centerstone) absent with an excuse

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes*(September)

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

Meeting minutes for September are delayed. Approval will be at next meeting.

III. Consolidated Application Debrief

Tim Gillmore

a. Consolidated Application was submitted to HUD. In total, it requested about 2.5 million dollars from HUD for services that benefit people who are experiencing homelessness in our community.

- About 100k is a planning grant that can pay for staffing and training.
- About 500k is a request for domestic violence rapid rehousing- about half of that is for renewal; it was requested to double it next round.
- About 150k is for coordinated entry
- About 250k is for a new rapid rehousing project
- About 1.5 million is for a bonus project- permanent supportive housing and supportive services for people in permanent supportive housing beds.

It is a tiered system, so a priority list was submitted along with the application. The Priority list was based on the work of the performance evaluation and ranking committees. HUD will review the application and determine what funding will be approved. It is expected at least Tier 1 will be approved. The goal long-term is to put in a great application yearly to maximize funding to help our homeless community.

b. Starting a working group that specifically addresses survivors of Domestic Violence was discussed.

c. Bringing in more partners for the COC Governing Board Process, as well as the Coordinated entry Process was discussed.

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Governing Board Meeting
November 8, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
Lee County Human and Veteran Services
Virtual Meeting

IV. Board Membership Survey

Tim Gillmore

A survey will be sent out for existing board members which has two parts. The first part is about the organization each Board member represents. The second part is about the Board member themselves. HUD has asked for information about the board members, with the purpose of having a diverse board; especially when adding new members. The goal is to have as many organizations, populations, and sub-populations represented on the COC Governing Board.

V. CE and Outreach Activities -

Jason Coleman

- Since last COC meeting, there have been nine HOT team events of differing locations.
- In November alone, Coordinated Entry received 1,899 calls spread across 4 call takers. The calls accounted for are only from 8am to 5pm.
- Resources that are given out are being updated to make sure Coordinated Entry staff is giving out accurate and up-to-date information to maximize assistance for the community.
- More events are being planned to help the homeless community.
- Outreach is identifying where Point in Time counts need to be taken throughout the county.

VI. Lee County Homeless Coalition – General CoC Membership Update

Michael Overway

Cheri Lynn Arnold spoke on behalf of Michael Overway. They receive about 50 to 60 calls a day that are referred by Coordinated Entry.

VII. The Salvation Army- Operations Update

Major Ethan Frizzel

- The Community Resource center is evolving with the communities needs. Originally designed to be an outreach center for people to find out different pathways to resources for housing. It has been more of a day center. The new approach is to have outreach coaching and become a processing center from displacement to housing. This is to avoid the day center increasing unsheltered homeless numbers.
- There will be a schedule which allots time for case managers to see their groups, employment plus, and specific times for seniors. Hours are designated for peer group coaching for housing or meeting with outreach coaches.
- These changes are going to be implemented soon, hopefully 7 to 10 days.

VIII. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

IX. Adjourn - Next CoC Board Meeting January 7th at 1 p.m.

Carolyn Johnson, Chair

MOTION: Barbara Short motioned to adjourn the meeting. Alex Olivares seconded the Motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Governing Board Meeting
November 8, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
Lee County Human and Veteran Services
Virtual Meeting

***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: