

Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2020, 10:00 A.M.
Lee County Human and Veteran Services
Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Janet Bartos, Lee County Homeless Coalition
Myra Fiory, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network
Kimberly Anderson, Lee Health
Adina Bridges, Centerstone
Carolyn Johnson, Goodwill
Linda Hafner, United Way
Danyale Kinney, New Beginnings
Lue Richardson, Veterans Affairs
Keith Campbell, Celedon Recovery
Daniel Kruse, Providence Family Life Center
Jennifer Nelson, City of Cape Coral
Joe Paterno, Career Source
Elenia Cooke, Advocate
Lisa Vogt Wells, Advocate
Jerod Murphy, Advocate

Staff Present: Jeannie Sutton, Lee County Human & Veteran Services
Mark Tesoro, Lee County Human & Veteran Services
Kim Hustad, Lee County Human & Veteran Services
Tim Gillmore, Lee County Human & Veteran Services
Roger Mercado, Lee County Human & Veteran Services
Marc Mora, Lee County Board of County Commissioners

Absent: Gloria Eduardo, Daleen O'Dell, Sharon Rozier

Excused Absence: Sheryl Soukup

Others Present: JP Mojica, Center for Progress and Excellence
PJ Brooks – CASL
Scott Eller - CASL
Gilber English, Veterans Affairs
Amy Yearsly, City of Cape Coral
Erin Broussard, HOPE Clubhouse
Alex Olivares, Catholic Charities
Kristy Santana, Catholic Charities
Erika Cooks – Lee County Housing Development Corporation
Tony Ceresoli – The Salvation Army

I. Call to Order – 10:05 am

Jennifer Nelson, Chair

- Welcome and Introductions
- Members Absent with excuse – Sheryl Soukup, Residential Options of Florida; Heidi Shoriak, Lee Health

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- Members Absent without excuse - Daleen O'Dell, Advocate; Sharon Rozier, City of Ft. Myers; Gloria Eduardo, Catholic Charities

Public Comment – Public comment was requested, none made.

II. Approval of May, August, September, and November Meeting Minutes

Mark Tesoro

- Cold Weather Activation and urgent human services requests were prioritized over completion of meeting minutes. CoC Governing Board Meeting minutes will be transcribed for board recommendation and approval as soon as possible.

III. HOT Team, Homeless Outreach Center and Severe Weather Plan Updates

Roger Mercado

Roger provided updates on HVS initiatives.

- HOT Team is an active outreach partner with HVS providing resources to those they encounter experiencing homelessness. We have been able to get the team up and running in about 4 months, where typically this takes closer to a year, which speaks to our close working relationships with our community partners.
- Homeless Outreach Center – working with TSA to open service center to provide resources and connections to housing for persons who are experiencing homelessness. Will be open 6 days per week, and include access to Behavioral Health and other resources. Anticipated opening date is in mid-January.
- Severe Weather Plan – HVS will activate its Severe Weather Outreach plan in the winter when the EOC reports an extended period of cold weather of 40° or below. This outreach will include providing blankets, hot coffee and offering bus passes or transportation to shelter for the evening by coordinating with our local shelters to identify and if necessary expand capacity.

IV. Presentation: “Mobile Crisis Unit” –

JP Mojica

- JP Mojica from the Center of Progress and Excellence provided an explanation to the group about their Mobile Crisis Unit and the behavioral health support it provides to the community. The Mobile Crisis Unit is accessed by calling (844) 395-4432 and is in discussion with HVS to cover their Coordinated Entry lines for after hours and weekend coverage. This will make the Coordinated Entry line accessible 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week.

V. Connect List and Housing Surge Plan –

Mark Tesoro

- The HVS housing process was reviewed with the board (Access, Assessment, Prioritization, and Referral).
- Connect List meetings (discusses cases of vulnerability not captured by the VI-SPDAT). Meeting are taking place weekly and have were reorganized to include –
 - Standardized documentation
 - New Technology – in the form of communicating needs through Slack app.

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- Hosted open forum for questions from HSV providers
- Housing Surge Plan (housing 100 households in 100 days)
 - After 100 days of this housing effort the group will take a 30 day break to assess progress and make corrections as needed, the process will then re-start for another 100 days.
 - This cycle will occur 4 times (totaling at least 400 clients housed over a 24 month period)
- Dashboard – A visualization of the 100 x 100 effort is being created so the public can also follow the progress of campaign.

VI. Funding Updates and Housing Surge Plan

Jeannie Sutton & Mark Tesoro

- Grant agreements have been received from HUD for Continuum of Care funding. Those agreements have been routed for signature by the BoCC. Contracts with agencies are being executed simultaneously. Grant amendment for State ESG Cares funds is also being routed for signature. We expect grant agreements for federal ESG funding to arrive shortly.
- The written Housing Surge Plan was presented to the board and the plan of action was outlined. The goal of housing 100 households within 100 days, began December 1, 2020.

VII. Homeless Survey 123

Roger Mercado

- ArcGIS surveying is being conducted the last Wednesday of each month to provide HVS a snapshot of homelessness in the community. The data collected is not reported, but is used to help our outreach identify locations to focus services.

VIII. Agency Updates

- Janet Bartos provided updates from the Homeless Coalition. The Candlelight Vigil will be held December 21, 2020, on the Old Courthouse Steps.
- Sheila Dorsey provided updates for Jewish Family and Children's Services. Richard McDaniel will be manager of services, and the agency has procured office space in Lee County.
- Jeannie Sutton requested that members refer persons with lived experience to become Governing Board members.

IX. Adjourn – 10:20 am

Jeannie Sutton

***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.

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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/coc/minutes>