

OHS Advisory Board 11/16/17 Meeting Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS

Melissa Sirak
Abby Staudt
Loh
Beau Hill
Chris Knestrick
Christine Horne
Linda Uveges
Tracie Squire
Michael Doud
Michael Cosgrove
Michael Sering
Joe Nanni for Yvonne Conwell
Victoria Corrigan for Mary McNamara
Sherry Clancy
Allan Dreyer for Kerry McCormack
Elaine Gimmel
Angela Glassco
Keith Moody
Jennifer Croessman for Karen Anderson
Marcia Zashin
Paul Moser

CoC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Ed Gemerchak
Diana Cyganovich
Jim Lombard
Charis Rutledge
Melissa Massey -Flinn
Judy Kern
Dana Santo
Alexia Gardi
Cheryl Gleeson
Kate Lodge
Christie Sozio
Teresa Sanders
Brendan Woodburn
Claire Gauntner
LaTonya Murray
John Litten
Barb Karam

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. 2018 Meeting dates:

THURSDAYS: 1/18; 3/15; 5/17; 7/19; 9/20; 11/15

TIME: 9am to 11:AM

LOCATION: ADAMHS BOARD, 2012 W. 25TH STREET, 6TH FLOOR

3. Decision Issues

a) **Co-Chair recommendation**

- The Advisory Board accepted Melissa Sirak's recommendation that Abby Staudt serve as Co- Chair through December 31, 2018.

b) **Board Appointment Recommendations (3 separate votes)**

- All three names put forward were **approved unanimously**:
 - Jim Lombard, Community
 - Fred Berry, Faith Based organization, Humility of Mary Housing
 - Andrew Katusin, Basic Needs, United Way

c) **Board Endorsement of CFR Part 5.100 – 5.106, "Equal access in accordance with community planning and development programs."**

MOTION: The Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board endorses CFR 5.106 and commits to assuring provider compliance as required by all Community Planning and Development funded programs. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

- Discussion covered concerns both of transgender shelter users and non-transgender shelter users.
- CFR states that agencies must develop policies that demonstrate compliance with the Gender Identity rule. One example was that the Rule should be displayed throughout the shelter so that transgender individuals are aware of their rights and feel safe at the facility.
- There was interest in, and agreement that, staff training, and client education would increase the safety and comfort of all people accessing shelter. Volunteers at shelters should also be provided training in order to appropriately serve all persons.
- Christie Sozio and Lehman Busbee have received LGBTQ training and are willing to provide free training for CoC agencies.

- OHS staff offered to provide draft policies for agencies to utilize as a template.

d) Adoption of HUD Order of Prioritization Notice CPD - 16 -11

MOTION: The Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board approves adopting the recommendations of CPD-16-11 and incorporating the recommendations into the CoC's Written Standards. The MOTION was approved unanimously.

- This Notice supersedes CPD -14-012 in several key areas: (a) it reflects the changes in the HUD definition of "Chronically Homeless"; (b) it distinguishes an order of priority for dedicated prioritized PSH to try to assure that those persons with the longest histories of homelessness and the most severe service needs are housed quickly; and (c) it recommends an order of priority for PSH that is not dedicated or prioritized for CH populations. This is very important as CoC's meet success in housing the chronically homeless and in reducing the incidence of chronic homelessness.
- In Cuyahoga County, the allocation of PSH units for chronically homeless individuals follows the existing Order of Prioritization. Local Written Standards will be revised to reflect the recommendations of CPD -16 – 11.

e) Amend Bylaws to include Youth representative on OHS Advisory Board

MOTION: The Office of Homeless Services Advisory Board approves amending Article II Section 2 of the Bylaws to read:

- a) Increase the maximum number of Board members from 27 to 28;**
- b) Add one standing seat, from a maximum of 22 to a maximum of 23;**
- c) Define the additional standing seat to be for a youth representative, age 18 to 26, selected by and from, the Youth Advisory Committee of *A Place 4 Me*.
The MOTION was approved unanimously .**
- The upper age for "Youth" was increased from age 24 to age 26 to align with the definition used by the Jim Casey Foundation and applied to current members of *A Place 4 Me's* Youth Advisory Board.

4. Housing Innovations Training, January, 2018

- Training for Line Staff of both Family and Single Providers will be provided through a HUD Planning Grant awarded to the CoC. The trainings will take place in February, 2018 and are being provided by Housing Innovations. More details will be sent to agencies in December.

5. CoC process to identify LIHTC Priority Project

- Materials were distributed to the Board describing the process to determine the Priority PSH project for the Continuum of Care. Materials included the application. The deadline for submitting projects is January 5th, 2018. The projects will be reviewed by a volunteer Committee and a recommendation presented to the OHS Advisory Board at the January 18, 2018 OHS Advisory Board meeting.

6. Adoption presentation by DCFS

- The Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services' goal is to have all children reside within a supportive family environment. Presently, there are about 1,000 children who need permanent homes. Over the past year, DCFS staff have reached out to the community to ask people to consider accepting the role of a foster and/or adoptive parent. The presentation to the Board briefly described the training that is offered, twelve, 3 hour classes over a 9 month period, and encouraged people to consider taking on this role. If anyone is interested, please call **216 -881-5775**.

7. Strategic updates:**a) Ending Youth Homelessness**

- This very active group meets monthly to track newly homeless youth, PH placements, employment opportunities and returns to shelter. A data report was available at the meeting.

b) Ending Veteran Homelessness**c) Ending Chronic Homelessness**

- Inez Killingsworth Point will begin leasing units in mid-December. The 60+ , one bedroom units will serve the highest need, homeless individuals. The project is named after a woman who was a very involved community activist in the Union-Miles neighborhood.

d) Ending Family Homelessness

- An analysis of the changes needed to improve homeless families' ability to access child care, income, and job resources through Ohio Means Jobs and the department of Jobs and Family Services was presented in October. The report was prepared by a consultant group called the Seattle Jobs Initiative. The work was supported through a grant from the O'Neill Foundation, the Dept. of Jobs and Family Services, and the Continuum of Care Planning grant. **The report is attached to the Minutes on the OHS website; www.ohs.cuyahogacounty.us .**

8. Updates**a) Family and Single Overflow Shelter**

- Plans are underway to secure an alternative Family overflow location that will provide more amenities for the children and parents. It is hoped the site will open before Thanksgiving.

b) Women's Emergency Shelter

- Negotiations are continuing to assure that basic emergency shelter for women is maintained.

9. Handouts at meeting -

- a) RRH data update
- b) NOFA 2017 Summary
- c) Youth Data