



Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 22, 2014, 1 p.m.
at Metro Social Services
800 2nd Avenue North, Suite 100

Present: Diane Kuhn, Renee Pratt, Megan Barry
Staff: Will Connelly, Deon Trotter, Tiffany Dale, Judith Tackett

Minutes

The minutes of Feb. 18 and April 22 were approved. Megan Barry made the motion, Diane Kuhn seconded. All approved.

Financial Report

Pam McEwen reported that \$40,000 needs to be spent done prior to the end of the Fiscal Year. The money stems from the case management contract. Centerstone has been up and running and it is projected to use all its contract money next fiscal year.

Discussion ensued about possible uses to spend down the money. These include possibly purchasing 30-day bus passes, more NES vouchers, and looking at contractual amendments to shift money to the Day Center/Guest House. Megan Barry expressed concern about justifying the budget allotment to Council if it isn't spent. Diane Kuhn said this was a transition year with the shift from Eckman/Freeman to Centerstone, and the budget will be spent moving forward.

Pam McEwen reported that the Project Homeless Connect RFP has been announced. An orientation of the RFP is being held. Discussion ensued whether the Commission could partner with a nonprofit to staff the event.

Budget

The budget is moving through the Metro Council process. The Metropolitan Homelessness Commission budget as proposed by the Mayor remains at the current level of \$1.4 million.

Metro Ordinance

The Metro ordinance (No. BL2014-777), which would make the Commission a permanent structure, is scheduled for public hearing June 3. Diane Kuhn and Judy Tackett will attend the meeting in case any questions arise.

Will Connelly will attend a budget committee meeting on June 2 in regard to this bill.

How's Nashville

The How's Nashville campaign is on target to assist more than 500 people with permanent supportive housing.

- Housing Retention: Will Connelly reported that he and Deon Trotter are working on looking at each of the 44 people housed last June and see where they are one year later.
- Support Services: Centerstone is hiring an additional person and will be able to serve more people. Currently Centerstone assists about 85 people. The new position will help increase the overall case load by 25 slots.
- Coordinated Entry System: There are three VISTA positions filled now. One is Tiffany Dale, who is working out of the Homelessness Commission's offices. Marshall Friskics-Warren will be working closely with Mandy Wood at MDHA, and Elli Whiteway is working with Support Circles. A fourth VISTA person, Molly Martin, will be starting also in June working with Safe Haven Family Shelter. All four will be offering support to establish a coordinate entry system for Nashville.

Continuum of Care

Will Connelly reported that HUD gives communities the opportunity to create a Unified Funding Agency. Currently, Nashville receives about \$3.4 million in Continuum of Care funding. The grants are made directly from HUD to the individual service providers. In other words, HUD has a contract with each service provider that receives money through the Continuum of Care. Now HUD is interested in cities determining a Unified Funding Agency. The goal would be for that Unified Funding Agency to be the recipient of the Continuum of Care grants and then divide the money up to service providers in the community. Up to 6% of the Continuum of Care grant could be set aside for administrative purposes. At this point, MDHA has expressed interest in becoming the Unified Funding Agency.

Discussion occurred whether Metro Social Services together with the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission could become a Unified Funding Agency and whether there would be interest in doing so. No decisions were made.

Announcements

Diane Kuhn asked Judy Tackett to send out an email and explore whether the executive committee meeting could be held at 9 a.m. instead of 1 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

Meeting was adjourned.

The next executive Committee meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2014, at Metro Social Services. Time to be determined.