



**Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County CoC
Coordinated Entry Committee
MEETING NOTES - DRAFT**

November 4, 2020
1:00-2:30

Meeting Attendees:	Anna Diaz, Victoria Sluga, Tom Cottrell, Lisa Cruden, Samantha Westhouse, Cathy LaPorte, Noelia Garcia, Gayle Witham, Julie Kendrick, Jeffrey King, Sherrie Gillespie, Susan Cervantes, Cathy LaPorte, Brian Bruce, Christina Slofstra, Emily Stroka, Johanna Schulte, Sherri Vainavicz Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio Robach		
Time Convened:	1:04	Time Adjourned:	2:20

Introductions		
Community Rebuilders – Community Housing Connect Assessment Tool		
Discussion		
<p>Anna and Jeffrey presented an overview of the Community Housing Connect (CHC) Assessment Tool. The document outlines each question that is asked, provides rationale, and whether each is based on predictive factors and risk factors. Questions are coded based on risk (high, elevated, and base). Currently, the tool prioritizes those who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness, followed by those staying in emergency shelter or doubled up, followed by others who are others. Suggestion to add this document to the CE Policy appendix as it lists influential risk factors, appendix does not include logic.</p> <p>Question around how this assessment prioritizes households. The tool prioritizes folks for access to a supportive solutions appointment to ensure that those with the highest risk are the quickest connected. When meeting with a supportive solutions specialist, further assessment may occur through progressive engagement. Specialists work to solve a household’s emergency housing need and then look at long-term planning and continue with assessment. Continued assessment is through the LifeWork survey questions focused on social determinant of health areas, not just housing. This assessment is self-anchored so families can identify current and future needs, strengths, areas where they may need support.</p> <p>Question around the use of the GRACE network. This tool will not require agencies to be on the network as in-network and out-network referrals are made. Within network, housing resource specialist (HRS), can view and track referrals. If a referral is outside of network, it is the HRS role to track and report the outcome of the referral. The system is designed so that multiple partners can manage schedules, availability, and populations. It would be possible to adapt this tool and questions for differing subpopulations. In doing so, would want to be mindful of whether question(s) connect to a resource that is specific to the population or should be asked later in the process.</p> <p>Conversation around data sharing between HMIS and CHC. There is the ability to connect through the GRACE network and HMIS. Currently, staff can gather info and enter it into HMIS, but systems are not feeding into one another. This conversation may continue as use of CHC increases.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline



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Current CE Flow		
Discussion		
<p>Samantha Westhouse overviewed the current process for households are accessing coordinated entry. Access is through HAP or 2-1-1. Upon calling, households receive a screen and general resources. If someone is literally homeless, they are referred to HAP and are assessed based on the VI-SPDAT (for singles) or COVID risk assessment (for families). Households are prioritized by chronic homelessness status, length of time homeless, and VI-SPDAT score. Referrals are made based off this prioritization. For families calling in need of emergency shelter, HAP has attempts diversion. If this is unsuccessful, they connect the family with Family Promise staff who help the family access diversion or shelter. Salvation Army also has outreach staff in the community to do assessments with folks who have not connected with HAP.</p> <p>Conversation around virtual meeting options. Community Rebuilders is currently using virtual, phone, or in-person options. They noted the importance of flexible financial supports for consumers who need technology. There is an option to add additional digital tools through Community Housing Connect.</p> <p>HAP and Community Housing Connect (CHC) do not overlap. HAP provides the CHC link to families who are added to the list for prioritization so they can also connect with supportive solutions specialists. After folks go through CHC they are referred back to HAP for a housing resource based on their VI-SPDAT score or COVID prioritization tool. Salvation Army, Community Rebuilders, and the CoC are still working through the details for the process.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Next Steps		
Discussion		
<p>After hours process – meeting Monday at 1:00pm System wide case conferencing – this may be ready to present on 11/17 Funders meeting re: VI-SPDAT – looking to schedule towards the end of November Referral process – small group to develop towards the end of November/early December Consumer walkthrough – will be planned for after implementation finalized</p> <p>If there are questions or things that come up before next week’s meeting, please connect with Courtney or Brianne.</p>		