



## STEERING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2022

8:30-10:30

Facilitator:	Lauren VanKeulen		
Meeting Attendees:	<u>Steering members present:</u> Holly Wilson, Tom Cottrell, Casey Gordon, Lauren VanKeulen, Victoria Sluga, Jose Salinas, Karen Tjapkes, Susan Cervantes, Ryan VerWys, Cheryl Schuch, Adrienne Goodstal, Alonda Trammell, Elizabeth Stoddard, Tammy Britton, Fran Dalton, Wanda Couch, Victoria Arnold <u>Steering members absent with notification:</u> Mark Contreras, Rebecca Rynbrandt <u>Steering members absent without notification:</u> <u>Community Members:</u> Wende Randall (Essential Needs Task Force) <u>Staff:</u> Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Robach		
Time Convened:	8:32am	Time Adjourned:	10:43am

<b>Approval of Agenda</b>			
Motion by:	Karen Tjapkes	Support from:	Tom Cottrell
Discussion			
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>		<b>February 18, 2022</b>	
Motion by:	Tom Cottrell	Support from:	Ryan VerWys
Discussion			
Amendments	None		
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Public Comment on Any Agenda Item</b>			
Discussion			
None			
<b>Approval of Consent Agenda</b>			
Motion by:	Tom Cottrell	Support from:	Holly Wilson
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Petitions and Communications</b>			
Discussion			
None			
<b>FY2021 CoC Program Competition Awards</b>			
Discussion			
<p>HUD announced awards for the FY2021 CoC Program Competition earlier this week. Our CoC received all renewal funding but did not receive funding for any of the proposed bonus projects. Staff do not anticipate receiving the community's scorecard from HUD for a few more months. Courtney noted that she has heard of other communities who were surprised to not receive bonus funding.</p> <p>Staff have been reviewing program competition processes and identifying areas to improve the process and areas to increase the community's score. These include strategies to address racial</p>			



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disparities, inclusion of those with lived experience, promoting racial equity in funding review process, HMIS bed coverage, coordination with healthcare, strategies to improve system performance measures, and reallocation.

Conversation around reallocation. Courtney indicated that the community has not reallocated funds recently and one application category is based on the percent of reallocated funds. She thinks there is opportunity to consider reallocation. Staff are working on improving and clarifying the process. Cheryl feels the process should include funding broader than the CoC Program Competition to allow for strategic conversations. Tom advocated for multi-year and strategic reallocation, to allow programs time to adjust. Courtney affirmed that reallocation is not intended to leave projects in the lurch. Fran would like a broader review process that includes community standards as well as HUD standards. Staff hopes to pull the Funding Review Committee together to discuss process changes.

Courtney wondered if the community's focus on responding to COVID over the past few years has led to less attention on other areas in the CoC application. She thinks it would be helpful to develop an application review group to highlight areas in the application to focus on in the upcoming round.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### MI Racial Equity Strategic Plan Core Team

#### Discussion

Courtney shared that the State of Michigan has contracted with C4 Innovations to work with CoCs across the state to review data on disparities and develop strategies to increase equity. C4 will review system data, provide coaching, develop plans to address findings, and support implementation and sustainability.

The state has asked CoCs to identify a CoC Equity Results Team (CERT) of 4-6+ members including system-leaders and decision-makers, frontline staff, and individuals with lived experience. The time commitment for team members would be 6-8 hours a month and likely more for CoC staff. CERT will serve as space for shared accountability and members would be expected to meet regularly to review data and discuss plans as well as attend monthly state-wide meetings.

Courtney recognized there are currently many ongoing initiatives that Steering members are involved with and asked the group for creative strategies to engage stakeholders. Courtney can ask if Housing Kent is interested as their focus is on addressing inequities in housing. Members with suggestions for CERT members should connect with staff. Staff can include a call in the weekly newsletter and work to connect with individuals with lived experience.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

### Annual Data Reports

#### Discussion

Courtney shared that there has been changes in how the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH) does their annual report on the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in a



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community. In the past, there was a specific filter to include anyone who contacted Coordinated Entry (CE) and was identified as experiencing homelessness. However, this did not align with HUD data standards as they do not include CE data. MCAH's newer report aligns with HUD but there are concerns that the numbers are missing folks who enter the system but do not connect with an additional resource. MACH has stated they are working on filter to include for those who contact CE 2+ times, but this would still produce a comparable number.

Courtney recently spoke with Gerry at MCAH who recommended that the Coalition remove past annual count reports from the website to avoid confusion as a comparable report is no longer available. Any published data will have to call out the difference in reporting tool from previous years.

The newer report from MCAH can be used to show year-to-year trends. An Annual Performance Report on CE and the Housing Assessment Program can also help provide a system picture though the reports could not be aggregated.

There are ongoing conversations around ensuring all entering the system are included in system data.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Other Matters from Steering Council members</b>		
Discussion		
None.		
<b>Public Comment on Any Item</b>		
Discussion		
None.		
<b>Adjourn</b>		
Motion by:	Victoria Sluga	Support from: Cheryl Schuch