



STEERING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2025

8:30am – 10:30am

Facilitator:	Elizabeth Stoddard		
Meeting Attendees:	<p>Elizabeth Stoddard, Ryan VerWys, Tenisa Frye, Gustavo Perez, Alonda Trammell, Adrienne Goodstal, Paul Smith, Monique Carter, Raymond King (VAB), Miracle Watkins (YAB), Sam Westhouse, Casey Gordon, Kate Berens, Lindsey Reames, Mark Contreras, Ryan Kilpatrick</p> <p>Community Members: Josh (Calvin - documentary), Kiersten Beck (Calvin - documentary), Brooklynn Yahsha (YAB), Callie (intern - KCCA), Nelson Soto (VAB)</p> <p>Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Ronan Parmenter, Brianne Robach, Alyssa Anten</p>		
Time Convened:	8:35am	Time Adjourned:	10:30am

Approval of Agenda – <i>standing item</i>			
Motion by:	Kate Berens	Support from:	Paul Smith
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion	Approved		
Approval of Minutes – <i>standing item</i>		February 21, 2025	
Motion by:	Sam Westhouse	Support from:	Adrienne Goodstal
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion	Approved		
Approval of Consent Agenda – <i>standing item</i>			
Motion by:	Ryan VerWys	Support from:	Tenisa Frye
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion	Approved		
Public Comment on Any Agenda Item – <i>standing item</i>			
Discussion			
None			
CoC Director’s Report – <i>standing Item</i>			
Discussion			
Personnel – The CoC has completed first round interviews for the Program Manager position and hopes to have an offer out by the end of next week.			
Federal Updates – Grant agreements for contracts that need to be executed from January to April are going out, and we have received the official reward notice for Supportive Services. There has been			



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news of some CoCs across the country who have had their grant agreements pulled after it's been signed due to some state lawsuits against the federal government. A continuing resolution was passed for one year, keeping federal funding at the same level as FY24; Courtney noted without the cost of living increases to keep up with fair market rate increases, fewer people will likely be served through this funding. Courtney noted the CoC will send out a survey soon to better understand how the HUD funding delays are affecting the community.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Send survey to HUD funding recipients	CoC Staff	

Coordinated Entry – standing item

Discussion

The CoC is waiting for additional information from Community Rebuilders regarding a CHC 2.0 roadmap. The Coordinated Entry Committee has discussed changes that can be made to the CE system to make it more efficient with the resources we have now. There have been some initial planning meetings to determine gaps and how to best fill those; we will bring an update to the next Steering meeting.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Bring update to April Steering meeting	CoC Staff	

Shelter Capacity Update – standing item

Discussion

Tenisa provided a verbal update on the overflow list, which is currently at 16. She spoke to challenges for chronic families, which include disabilities and language barriers. Courtney also noted a fair housing concern regarding a local motel evicting families. There was discussion around developing a plan of action to address families in crisis, and it was determined to hold a preliminary meeting with a subcommittee to identify stakeholders and next steps. Tenisa Frye, Ryan VerWys, and Casey Gordon noted interest.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Schedule preliminary family homelessness subcommittee meeting	CoC Staff	

QSOBAA Addition*

Discussion

With the approval of the Data Quality Workgroup, CoC staff recommended Steering Council approve adding Catherine's Health Center to the QSOBAA and the HMIS Sharing Plan. At this time, Catherine's does not plan to enter data into HMIS but instead utilize the sharing agreement to coordinate care for individuals and families who are being processed for housing resources and provide ongoing and long-term medical care. Current QSOBAA participants are excited to see where this partnership and level of coordination could go in the future. **Kate Berens motioned to add Catherine's Health Center to the QSOBAA and the HMIS Sharing Plan, with support from Paul Smith; all in favor.**

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

Data Quality Committee Report

Discussion



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Alyssa shared a data quality tool from MCAH for tracking progress and showing hot spots. Alyssa reviewed each of the System Performance Measures (SPMs).		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
MSHDA HCV Prioritization*		
Discussion		
<p>Brianne gave history around the changes made to the MSHDA HCV Prioritization by this committee in December, and noted that vouchers did not come in January so the interim process was never implemented. A small workgroup met to review the prioritization plan and made recommendations to Coordinated Entry Committee, who revised and voted to send to Steering for consideration. Brianne presented the changes made and the justification for the edits. There was discussion around this document being a living document and revisited and adjusted periodically according to the needs of the community. Adrienne Goodstal motioned to approve to adopt the plan as written, with the understanding it will be reviewed periodically; Casey seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Budget Presentation		
Discussion		
<p>This item will not be voted on at this time due to challenging scenario planning with the uncertainty of federal grant agreements. This committee reviewed the worst- and best-case scenario budgets. There was discussion around a shortfall in match dollars and how to increase that through tracking Steering Council member time and additional private funding. A final budget will be presented to this committee at a later time.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Any Other Matters by Steering Council Members		
Discussion		
<p>Lindsey Reames – Grand Rapids Housing Commission is in the public comment period for future plans and welcomes participation at a public hearing April 8th. She gave updates on HCV funding, noting they have been released from shortfall and will continue with PBV and other commitments. She also spoke to concerns with federal funding.</p> <p>Kate Berens – The City of Grand Rapids is having a public hearing on the FY26 Neighborhood Investment plan, with staff presenting to the commission next week for expected approval in early May.</p> <p>Gustavo Perez – Kent County is beginning Strategic Plan work and will send more information at a later date for feedback.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Public Comment on Any Item		



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Discussion	
Adjourn	