



CoC MEMBER MEETING MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2022

9:30-11:00am

Facilitator:	Lauren VanKeulen
Meeting Attendees:	Lauren VanKeulen (AYA), Tom Cottrell (YWCA), Eileen McKeever (YWCA), Alisa White (LINC UP), Alicia Davis (Community Rebuilders), Amber Clingman (AYA), Asher Thayer (Community Rebuilders), Brandon Frierson (Volunteers of America), LoRae Robinson (Covenant House), Casey Gordon (Kent ISD), Aaron Stewart (Community Rebuilders), Adrienne Goodstal (Mel Trotter), Alisha Pennington (MDHHS), Alonda Trammell (Dwelling Place), Ashely Spencer (Community Rebuilders), Audrey Hutchinson (Community Rebuilders), Berniz Terpstra (ICCF), Bill Stapleton (Community Rebuilders), Catherine Landers (North Kent Connect), Catherine Gage (Disability Advocates), Charli Lee (Spectrum Health), Crystal Kitten (AYA), Dave Gantz (Genesis), Dreyson Byker (Community member), Elizabeth Stoddard (Fair Housing Center), Emily Apman (Alternative Directions), Emily Gibbs (Community Rebuilders), Erin Banchoff (City of Grand Rapids), Georgeta Smith (Community Rebuilders), Hilary Ortiz (HealthNet), Jamiela Owens (Access), Jeffery King (Community Rebuilders), Jennie Compagner (Hope Network), Jennifer Harris (Community Rebuilders), John Bosma (GRPL), Jordan Brinker (VA), Joslyn Ward (Family Futures), Kate Stowell (PineRest), Katrice Smith (Community Rebuilders), K'Quiana Knowling (Community Rebuilders), Kari Sherman (Urban League), Lindsey, Lisa Cruden (Family Promise), Madison Pauley (Community Rebuilders), Marcia Patrick (Senior Neighbors), Mario Leon (LINC UP), Marshall Kilgore (Community Rebuilders), Mary Dyke (Family Life Center), Mellena Francisco (Community Rebuilders), Molly Perez (Health Department), Nancy Ayers (Senior Neighbors), Nicole Beagle (MSHDA), Nicole Kukla (ENTF), Patrick Buhay (Community Rebuilders), Ryan VerWys (ICCF), Sherrie Gillespie (KCCA), Stephanie Gingerich (LINC UP), Tanesha Jordan (Safe Haven), Tracy Mulvany (The Salvation Army), Victoria Moaddel (MSU GR Street Medicine), Bill Weld-Wallis (Community member), Wende Randall (ENTF), Zenaida Jimenez (Safe Haven), Allison Green (MCAH), Holly Wilson (Safe Haven), Diane Shelley (HUD), Michael Polsinelli (HUD), Courtney Myers-Keaton (CoC), Brianne Robach (CoC)
Time Convened:	9:32
Time Adjourned:	10:55

Approval of Minutes	December 16, 2021
Discussion	
Amendments	None
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.
Introduction: Diane Shelley, HUD Midwest Regional Administrator and Michael Polsinelli, HUD Field Office Director, Detroit Field Office	
Discussion	
Courtney introduced Diane Shelley, HUD's Midwest Regional Administrator and Michael Polsinelli, Field Office Director at Detroit's HUD Field Office. They are in town and attended a meet and greet	



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with outreach teams yesterday during PIT Count packet pick-up, rode along for a portion of the PIT Count, and met with community leaders.

Diane shared that she is a retired judge and was recently appointed by the Biden administration. She thanked the Coalition for welcoming her and shared that she has been impressed with work being done in the community. She encouraged attendees to reach out to HUD with inquiries or concerns. Michael thanked the community and encouraged folks to reach out if needed.

Courtney thanked all the outreach teams for their work with last night's annual point-in-time (PIT) count.

Training: Domestic Violence & Trauma Informed Services

Discussion

Tom Cottrell and Eileen McKeever from the YWCA presented a training on domestic violence and trauma. Though not all Coalition members encounter clients who are domestic violence survivors on an everyday basis, it is important to have baseline understanding of domestic violence (DV). The training also covers trauma and trauma informed care.

Domestic violence (DV), which can also be referred to as intimate partner violence, is a pattern of behaviors to gain and maintain power and control in a relationship. It crosses income, race, and other demographic groups and most often impacts women. There are different ways DV can present, all of which have an inherent power imbalance. Gaslighting is one form of abuse where the abuser makes someone question their perception or memories. It can be common in DV and also in other non-intimate relationships. There is not one profile to identify who is abusive. Characteristics include narcissism, selfishness, manipulation, difficulty with self-regulation. In each instance, violence is used as a method to gain and maintain control.

DV has physical and emotional impacts. Strangulation is extremely serious as it can be difficult to detect and to prosecute. It can also be an indicator of increased risk factor of homicide and victims can suffer permanent brain damage. The group viewed a [video](#) from the National Strangulation Training Institute around the significance of strangulation.

Trauma is biological and it related to how the brain processes danger. A self-defensive or trauma response can be triggered by real or perceive danger. Trauma-informed care can be incorporated into interactions with families and individuals experiencing homelessness.

The group viewed a video - [Becoming A Trauma-Informed Advocate](#) from the Michigan Victim Advocacy Network. The video overviewed the components of trauma informed care and how organizations can put it into practice.

When thinking about trauma informed care, organization should consider what things may create a power differential, policies and procedures around gathering information, ways to communicate that staff are safe and non-judgmental, and more. Trauma-informed services should recognize that trauma



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can come from many different places, not necessarily DV. To be effective, it is important to see the whole person, not just problem that presents itself today.

There are a few questions agencies can use to determine if clients may be experiencing DV. If clients do share that they are in a DV situation, staff should respond by accepting and acknowledging the abuse and its consequences, increasing the sense of safety and trust, bringing a sense of normalcy. Common barriers to disclosure include fear of judgement or safety, lack of confidence in the system, fear of not being believed, lack of financial resources, minimization of the abuse.

Organization do not have to have all the answers and connect clients with the YWCA or Safe Haven at any time. The YWCA's 24-hour Helpline can be accessed at 616-454-9922. Safe Haven has a 24/7 call or text crisis hotline at 616-452-6664 or a 24/7 web chat at safehavenministries.org

If you have questions, you can connect with Eileen (emckeeper@ywcawcmi.org) or Tom (tcottrell@ywcawcmi.org). They are also willing to bring this training to organizations.

Advisory Council Update

Discussion

Amber Clingman shared that she recently signed on to lead the Advisory Council for those with lived experience of homelessness. The council is an authentic and supportive space to give feedback into the work and how the system can respond in the most supportive way.

The first meeting will be April 6th from 4:30-6:00pm and will be open to any community member with lived experience with homelessness. Incentives will be provided to attendees.

Governance Charter Overview

Discussion

Courtney Myers-Keaton shared that the Coalition's governance charter is a document that outlines how responsibilities are assigned in the Coalition and how work will be done. It also details HUD expectations and defines Steering Council terms.

It is a federal requirement to review and update our charter on an annual basis. This review also allows the Coalition to align with desired changes and be transparent with decision-making processes. This year, the review process will be open to the community.

A small group will go through the charter to review and suggest changes. A survey will also be sent to the full Coalition membership seeking feedback. There are specific federal requirements that must be included in the charter which will be discussed with the small group. If you are interested in joining the small group, connect with Brianne (brobach@hwmuw.org) or Courtney (cmyers-keaton@hwmuw.org).

Community Partner Announcements and Updates

Discussion



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Fair Housing Center - Elizabeth Stoddard shared the Fair Housing Center's virtual Annual Fair Housing Workshop Series will be on April 28, 2022. <http://www.fhcwm.org/lws>

ENTF - Wende Randall shared that there will be a presentation on Monday, 3/7 at 1:00 around the Normal is Never Enough initiative. This initiative started in fall 2021 and focuses on policy change opportunities for policies that have created oppression and bias for families. The initiative is being led by local organizations and the presentation will share the principles of initiative and how to get involved. Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwuc-GprT0oH9DLahzIHeVuWe4QWAlTqLiT>

Coalition to End Homelessness - Courtney Myers-Keaton shared that the Point-In-Time count occurred last night. Preliminary data should be available in the next few weeks. A huge thank you to outreach teams for their work with this year's count!

Adjourn

Motion by: Tom Cottrell

Support from: Wende Randall