HSC Shelter Providers Committee
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 from 9:00am – 10:30am
Meeting held virtually on Zoom
Meeting ID: 847 3932 2544
Passcode: 644615

December 2024 Minutes

Facilitator: Fares Fares
Notetaker: Torrie Kopp Mueller

1. **Introductions**
2. **City & County updates**
   a. Permanent Shelter
      i. No updates on shelter
   b. Reminder that Catalyst for Change outreach funding ends this month
   c. Overflow shelter and extreme weather is through CFC through December. Equitable Social Solutions will take over for overflow shelter for families starting in January. Melissa will connect with relevant parties to talk through process. There is funding for singles or families on extreme weather nights. That is night by night shelter.
   d. Overflow shelter is accessed through The Salvation Army or through the schools. They will then connect them to Catalyst for Change. This is for families who are sleeping in unsheltered situations. There are limited rooms available. This is seasonal overflow shelter now until March/April. This is funded with ARP. Once the money is gone it is gone.

3. **Shelter utilization & other updates (Focus on Challenges)**
   a. **Permanent Shelter**
      i. Fares concerned about capacity limit at new shelter of 250. They served 320 last night. Could Zierer remain open as a waiting shelter?
      ii. New shelter will be done by October/November 2025.
   b. **Porchlight Men's Shelter**
      i. Serving 300-340 people each night.
      ii. Reduced maximum suspension length to 2 months and reduced all other suspension lengths. This is a permanent policy. Permanent suspensions will remain for severe violations of rules.
      iii. Some cases of scabies, but have had enough room to quarantine folks. MSM comes in and brings medication to assist in recovery and return to common spaces.
      iv. Working on document that shows consequences for violations of each rule
      v. Anticipate getting to 400 guests in the future with the cold weather
   c. **Salvation Army Women's Shelter**
      i. Have been in high 90s/low 100s. last month had an average of 105 women, huge increase from the past.
      ii. Have not turned anyone away from shelter, have served up to 120, last night had 97 guests
      iii. Currently ordering some new beds for replacement and to increase amount
      iv. Currently in process of hiring shelter manager
   d. **Salvation Army Family Shelter**
      i. Busy as usual, opened up 2 more rooms due to moving staff around.
      ii. Serve about 37 families each night

*If you need meeting materials in another format, please contact Fares Fares at ffares@porchlightinc.org.

      iii. Waitlist is 57 families and 10 who were confirmed Category 1

      iv. No updates on new shelter right now.

  e. **YWCA Family Shelter**

      i. Full, have one small room opening, but working to get someone move in

      ii. Affordable housing challenging to find

      iii. Six month limit for shelter and hard to break down barriers in that time

  f. **Healing House**

      i. No representation at meeting.

  g. **The Beacon**

      i. Very full. Can be difficult to find seating. In November, average was 242 each day.

      ii. Fully staffed with volunteers and about 3 agencies each day

      iii. Concerned about safety if have to evacuate

      iv. Uptick in predatory behavior during morning and evening

      v. Have some holiday cheer happening

      vi. Safety is the main concern right now.

      vii. CFC has offered to connect with Beacon guests who are suspended. Nicci and CFC will meet to work on these connections.

      viii. Currently hiring for a Program Manager

  h. **DAIS**

      i. Business as usual. At capacity as we always are…..14 adults, plus children

      ii. Have about 30 families on the waitlist which is typical

      iii. Haven't had as many calls recently, but typically calls go down around the holidays

      iv. Have hired new staff and can return calls within 24 hours

  i. **BriarPatch**

      i. No representation at meeting.

  j. **Safe Haven**

      i. No representation at meeting.

  k. **Off the Square Club**

      i. Have been busy. Trying to get as many people in as we can.

      ii. Capacity and food supply is limited.

      iii. Had highest attendance since before the pandemic. Trying to keep up with intakes and figure out who else people are connecting with.

4. **Gaging interest for training on service animals at shelter**
   a. City's Department of Civil Rights offered to provide training on service animals and access to shelter
   b. Torrie will see if they can attend the February meeting to provide training. We can record that part of the training to share with direct services staff who can't attend.

5. **Miscellaneous/walk-on items** (as time allows)
   a. Reminder HMIS users – staff should do security training
   b. Re-imagine CE Workgroup
         i.
         ii.

iii. Updates – hoping to make the switch at the beginning of February, details will be coming out and training will be provided in January, will record training

iv. Reminder to collect information on enrollment screen for people who are not new to shelter, if these questions aren't answered in the new system, they won't be considered for housing options

v. Question: In the new system we ask these questions: How many adults will you live with when you obtain housing? How many children will you live with when you obtain housing? There are a number of households who want to find housing as a family who have completed a singles VI-SPDAT and previously indicated they were looking for singles housing.

1. Some families may leave one adult off the application due to background issues, they think the one adult will get in then the other will unofficially live there

2. Some women accessing shelter have their kids staying with someone else while the woman is in shelter

3. Have not looked at demographics of people to see if there is a trend

4. Please be aware of this and check this question as you develop relationships with people

5. Reach out to the Re-imagine CE group if you need additional support

6. **Next meeting**
Wednesday, 2/5/25 @ 9:00am