



Lake County Continuum of Care

April 2020 Meeting

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Thursday, April 2, 2020

3:30pm-5:00pm

Attending: Shannon Kimbell-Auth, Robyn Bera, Delores Farrell, Annie Barnes, Linda Hedstrom, Annunziata J.P. van Voorene, Cynthia Van Nostrand, Jolene Treadaway, Scott Abbott, Tina Scott, Morgan Hunter, Tiffany Montiel, Todd Metcalf, Cindy Storrs, Melinda Lahr, Gina Hutchins, Patty Bruder, Linda King, Anne Rubin, Chris Taliaferro, Kelli Page, Rachelle Damiata, Michelle Dibble, Ronni Duncan, Jordan O'Halloran, Sheila Rockwell, Annie Horstman-Peterson, Trevor Thomson, Holly Goetz, Allison Panella, Kimbralee Guerra

Meeting Called to Order: 3:30 pm by Chairman Chris Taliaferro

Welcome: Introductions (name and organization), vision statement

Motions:

Motions to approve March Minutes:

- **First:** Cindy Storrs
- **Second:** Doreen Gilmore
- All in favor, no abstentions

By Laws:

March Minutes: Hope Center would be presenting at the COC today but at the executive meeting it would be to focus on the COVID Emergency rather than HOPE Center. Annina needs added to attendance list

Review and Update By Laws: N/A

Grants: Scott Abbott:

- *HUD TA Grant:* Did get the grant for about \$6k; not yet received
- *CESH:* we are still working to get that from the state
- *HEAP:* Quarterly reports were due April 1, 2020.
 - *Rachelle Damiata:* Asked HUD for an extension last night and this was approved
 - Everything looks good and will be working with everything next week; big focus on youth



- Created Survey Monkey: will be reaching out to each of the counties to get information and keep everyone posted when a meeting will be set up
- *Doreen Gilmore*: What are the age ranges when considering use of homeless youth funds; are TAY considered youth or adults between the ages of 18-25?
- *Rachelle* believes it is youth and will get clarification
- *HHAP (Scott and Linda)*:
 - Squared away; COC “received award letter from the state and it’s good.” April 1st
 - County: \$485k
 - Update as to whether funds will be diverted: COVID-19 emergency response: variety of buckets for people to draw from.
 - Coordinating call for supporting people experiencing homelessness
 - First monies allocated were: \$79k;
 - LCPH asked that the warming center be diverted to the COVID shelter at 24/7 services
 - Hope Harbor has done that; however, those funds can only cover through the first week of May
 - Additional need for shelter in Clear Lake
 - AH has applied for a \$50k grant to help with that but still not enough to maintain operation longer than first week of May
 - LCPH wants shelter to operate 24/7 until June
 - Possible to divert HHAP funds:
 - COC said they wanted to see these funds to be used for Navigation Centers on both sides of the Lake
 - 10% would need to be designated to youth services?
 - *Patty Bruder*: (NCO) is willing to help with ?? process
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: Need a conversation from COC about how to determine percentages
 - Must show that all other options need to be exhausted
 - Need to understand how we are spending the funding in our county before we can apply for any additional funding.
 - *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: Attached a Document Flow Chart from the County to show a variety of options to address needs
 - Congregate Shelter
 - Hotel options (asymptomatic and in high risk categories (over 65, chronic lung issues, renal failure, etc.))
 - Integrated Care Management: AH willing to manage that
 - Pre-screened at the already existed shelter (Hope Harbor only one)
 - Receive discharges



- Questions:
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: HHAP is very flexible and any expenditures (even months before our formal acceptance) could be reimbursed, "That being said, that program also makes a huge...."? As said, you can't supplant other funding.
 - Other pre-existing programs existing within the county that can be diverted to be used to address the COVID-19 crisis
 - *Unknown*: What is the process by which we decide which funds will be used to be redirected?
 - We as COC need to provide guidance to county as the people who are serving people experiencing homelessness
 - We as a group have something to add to that conversation
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: Sounds like the county administrative office needs to step in with what other funding streams are coming to the county and which programs which may need to be converted right now. To prove that we aren't supplanting existing funding
 - Shannon Kimbell-Auth will include Linda in link to a call tomorrow
 - *Doreen Gilmore*: will the county be setting aside of their money or is the county asking the COC to address this?
 - *Scott Abbott*: county has not determined how funding will be used; however, there are ideas. Need to consult with the partners within the county (Todd applied for the funds but we have to work with the county)
 - *Tina Scott*: is there a timeline for when this would happen?
 - As soon as possible
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: did the emergency funding go to the COC or the county?
 - (Scott)Both: HHAP is used as the model grant
 - *Michelle Dibble*: first they have heard about the \$400k funding
 - Has no knowledge about CBDG or any other funds
 - Confused about HHAP money: sounds like county's portion \$400k; what was this earmarked for?
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: HHAP funding was particularly directed towards homelessness; Lake COC had a state allocation of \$500k which we secured with an application which was approved to setup two homeless shelters with navigation centers at both ends of the lake
 - There was some significant set-aside (\$25k maybe for both COC and Lake Co for future strategic planning that the COC needed to do to become compliant with HUD



and 8% set aside for youth homeless prevention or intervention)

- As far as County of Lake: LCBH had proposed homeless transitional housing for people coming out of county mental evaluation holds..? and otherwise going into homelessness in Lake Co, they would have transitional housing within Lake Co to make sure they became stable and then placed into permanent housing
 - Scott Abbott confirmed this
- State is now saying everything is up in the air so if people want to think about diverting some or all of HHAP funding into some kind of emergency COVID response, that is what we need to decide locally both COC and the County
 - *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: How do we do that? Are there equal players at the table?
 - Contracts will be distinct: COC is receiving the \$500k for the two shelters and navigation centers and the county received \$485k for its program for housing
- *Allison Panella*: Hope Rising was counting on the COC to help divert funds to open the doors and would like them to consider how much of that funding will be diverted to Hope Center
 - *Scott Abbott*: we don't have to use these funds for COVID response, we just have to show that we discussed it and have to communicate that these funds have been predetermined for use
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: we just have to show evidence that these funds are being exhausted before we apply for more
- *Delores Ferrell*: we made a decision about the two navigation centers and we can also... ?
 - We know we need a navigation center right away but can we reallocate funds for ONE navigation center and use the other money to address other immediate needs (proposal to hold off on one navigation center and divert funding for ER uses)
- *Todd Metcalf*: Meeting tomorrow to decide where the county money is going to go, so right now there is no decision made



- *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: from the POV of the process of the COC...? Chris, as our leader, what do you want to see us do next?
 - *Chris Taliaferro*: Put together a proposal of people who want money and have a COC meeting (additional) to vote on:
 - Determine \$\$ to go to different organizations
 - *Michelle Dibble*: So, we don't have to give up any money we just have to show that we are a resource limited county and that we need more funding?
 - *Chris Taliaferro*: yes, but we need to look at the options and see what other people are suggesting
 - *Linda*: not a voting member, only offering knowledge: sounds like only other than...? You have the option to direct HHAP funding to whatever you want... Lost connection...both county of lake and the CoC
 - Need more information before we decide where the money will go
 - *Tina Scott*: I would really...? ..where we want to see this money because we need this money allocated to be able to ask for more. So, as a COC, we can decide where the \$500k will go; we don't want to fall behind. We want to make sure we are staying on top of things and we do not lose out
 - *Patty Bruder*: agrees that we do not reallocate money to spend on COVID because this will pass and would like to see us doing some long-lasting projects
 - *Todd Metcalf*: only money we are talking about is the \$73k. We need to think strategically and long term about what we are going to do with this funding
 - *Delores Ferrell*: proposing to use HHAP funds to address immediate needs. Agencies will see an increase need of clients needing services. We need to be proactive. (Appreciation for those submitting referrals to the Utility Assistance Program)
 - *Chris Taliaferro*: Exec Team will setup a date to streamline funding RFPs.
- *Cindy Storrs*: would like to make a motion:



- “I move that we ask the county to consider using the \$73,000 to address the COVID 19 emergency rent and utility need”
 - *Scott Abbott*: \$73k is county money, we don’t have control over this funding
 - *Todd Metcalf*: needs to be a collaborative decision and technically out of the CoC’s hands
 - Not just county’s \$ could be used for *anything* related COVID-19
 - *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: clarifies that the motion was specific to requesting that the county consider the CoC’s perspective
- *Chris Taliaferro*: Email Todd Metcalf before tomorrow if your agency would like the county to consider how funding will be used
- *Allison Panella*: looking for clarity around what the next steps will be for applicants and timeline for HHAP funding (\$500k) so the Hope Center can apply
 - *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: Clarified Allison’s request for information. Allison wants to know what the allocation to the Hope center will look like
 - *Scott Abbott*: as a CoC we are discussing that, so it is a matter of putting that plan together
 - *Chris Taliaferro*: make a proposal and bring it to COC Meeting as this is an ongoing project
 - *Scott Abbott*: keep in mind that the navigation piece (coordinated entry) is essential becoming back in compliance with HUD
 - ***Allison Panella*: Requests that Hope Rising is added to agenda for next month to present.**
- *Linda Hedstrom*: We are going to have to have some kind of press release (public notification) with a formal asking (RFP) despite the urgency; bring us your ideas and your budgets
 - *Delores Ferrell*: needs to be in writing and released to public
 - *Allison Panella*: when do you anticipate that the RFA will go out?
 - *Chris Taliaferro*: anticipates money to come fast
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: guesses these contracts will be drawn out quickly and the state says they will reimburse expenditures against it
 - *Scott Abbott*: Request for Linda to put together a draft
 - *Linda Hedstrom*: Willing participant, need approval
 - *Annie Barnes?*: Said there was time and funds and Linda could go ahead and do that
- *HMIS*:



- *Scott Abbott*: Because Bit focus and Clarity came back with a very high contract (\$51k) to add all the users and to get our own URL and site, they want a lot of money for set up and then \$34k per year after that
 - Seems excessive: Teddie (Consultant) went out and found one or two other vendors who are quoting her about half the price.
 - Tomorrow there will be a demo of Well Sky
- *Patty Bruder*: we are not competitive because we do not have HMIS system in place and because we don't have data in the system
 - Concerned about our lack of ability to be able to compete with other COCs
 - Need a timeline; Fear of losing funding
- *Scott Abbott*: puts us out of compliance with HUD too and it is what we really need to be doing
- *Linda Hedstrom*: Patty and Scott are totally right;
 - We were the only COC and county in the state that doesn't have this data entered into the system
- *Melinda Lahr*: Would it be possible to go with a lower user count with Clarity right now since only a few agencies 'really' need to use it right now so we can be in compliance and look at alternatives for the big goal? Just an idea.
- *Allison Panella*: Other than the price is there a concern with Clarity to execute agreed upon deliverables?
 - *Scott Abbott*: we are using the VA system and without our own URL we are unable to collect the information we need
 - Chris: exploring options
- *Sandra Stolji*: SF has Clarity, Sonoma has ETO, Mendocino has Service Point
 - Yes North Bay Veterans Resource Center has Clarity
- *Robyn Bera*: What are the next steps for HMIS?
 - Chris: HMIS and Executive CoC Committee will participate in zoom presentations with WellSky tomorrow (Friday) and another early next week (Tuesday).
 - Suggests that the Executive Committee meet after these presentations and decide which software to use due to the urgent need for grant funded projects.
 - Chris asked COC members if there were any objections; there were none.
- *Performance Review*: n/a
- *Inter-Faith Committee*:
 - *Shannon Kimbell-Auth*: Shower Trailer is not at partner sites due to closures
 - Operation at Hope Harbor
 - Hope Harbor has radically expanded operations to address COVID
 - Space for vehicles (14 last night and has increased)
 - 3 meals per day and port-a-potties
 - 14 men/12 women in the shelter



- Moderated coordinated entry
- CLPD has been coordinating and bringing people in
- *Point In Time:* N/A
- *Strategic Planning:*
 - Cancelled meeting but sharing emails
 - Have been doing Needs Focus Survey
 - NEXT: From ALL agencies attending CoC, we need:
 - Number of services
 - Number of beds
 - What are your prioritization procedures?
- *Program Coordinating Committee:*
 - Nothing to report at this time

New Business/Organization Announcements:

- *Delores Ferrell:* Interested in working with partners to determine prioritizing screening procedures
 - Concerned about potential increase in need and anticipating a need for prioritizing procedures
 - Request to have agencies reach out to Delores to discuss their prioritization/referral process
- *Chris Taliaferro:* will need to have another meeting before our regular meeting in May for HMIS and information will be sent out as soon as we can.

Motion to Adjourn:

- **First:** Shannon Kimbell-Auth
- **Second:** Allison Panella
- All in favor, no abstentions

Meeting Adjourns: 4:58pm