

## HNM Steering Board Meeting - 4/18/19

Attendees Present: Jerry Risner, Debbie Hillin, Stephen Murray, Rae Sanchez, Clark Harrison, Brooke Osborn, Cindy Sims, Linda Crockett, Dawn Taylor, Derwin Jackson, Tena Payne, Susan Minor, Jaha Martin, Trent Ogilvie, Letitia Franklin, Kevin Riggs, Lisa Cobb, Heather Guest, Angelina Nelson, Morgan Bartels, Clint Cummings, Scott Braden, and Sherri Allen.

Clark Harrison called the meeting to order followed by introductions and approval of minutes. Stephen Murray moved and Jerry Risner seconded, minutes approved.

As a reminder from the last meeting, Buffalo Valley Inc. has decided to step down as the lead agency of the HNM (Homeless No More) continuum they started in 1995. HNM was the first rural continuum in the state of TN. BVI's vision to provide housing for the homeless in the rural counties was a first for HUD. This continuum has been a source of pride, but HUD's mandates are starting to become rigorous and taking too much time away from treating our clients. With the current opioid epidemic, BVI needs to focus on A&D treatment. They will still provide housing for clients, but are stepping away from HUD housing. It is important to BVI for others to step up and take over HNM as we have worked hard to establish and maintain HUD grants for person's in need in middle TN. Jerry Risner & Debbie Hillin were recognized and presented a plaque for their work of 25 years of ensuring services were provided to the rural homeless in TN.

Meeting turned over to Debbie Hillin to discuss various grants to be transferred from BVI:

**1. First grant to discuss was the HNM C transitional housing grant.** Center of Hope, a HUD grantee, organization located in Maury County, considered taking over the HNM C - transitional housing grant. Center of Hope has decided not to accept this responsibility at this time due in part to their recent expansion of DV services in additional counties. Also attending this meeting are representatives from two housing authorities in the continuum - Derwin Jackson, President & CEO of Franklin Housing Authority, & Trent Ogilvie, Executive Director & CEO of Columbia Housing and Redevelopment Corporation & Advent Community Development who are considering taking over this grant. HNM C was the first grant BVI wrote in 1995 for transitional housing beds. Debbie stated that while most continuums are moving away from transitional housing, the need is still there & that Mary Wilson has always been supportive & sees the need for TH housing. Derwin Jackson about time limit for persons in the grant and Debbie stated 24 months in TH housing with the ultimate goal is to find permanent housing for all persons in a shorter period of time. Currently, this grant has 13 units & 53 beds primarily for single individuals. Derwin felt there is a greater need for families & Debbie stated the grant scope couldn't be changed for scope at this time, but could possibly be changed in the future. Derwin stated the Franklin Housing Authority has capacity to operate a grant of this size. Cindy Sims made a motion seconded by Linda Crockett for the board to accept this transfer. Motion approved pending HUD approval. This would be effective May 1, 2019. This grant runs an APR cycle from 3/1 - 2/28.

**2. Next grant for discussion was the HNM Maury Co. - Precious Chosen PH grant.** Pastor Kevin Riggs with Franklin Community Church, doing business as Franklin Community Development located in Franklin, TN plans to accept this grant. After discussion regarding capacity, Cindy Sims made a motion seconded by Linda Crockett for the board to accept this transfer pending HUD approval effective May 1, 2019. The grant runs from 4/1 - 3/31 each year. Debbie will send a letter to Mary Wilson with HUD Knoxville to let them know of the board's decision.

**3. Next grant for discussion was the HNM PSH -A grant.** Debbie has worked with Dawn Taylor with the Family Center, located in Maury county, who is currently a HUD grantee and has agreed to this grant effective 8/1 - 7/31.

**4. Final grants for discussion was HNM HMIS and HNM Planning grants.** Community Housing Partnership of Williamson County will be assuming these pending HUD approval. The Planning grant has to be with the Lead Agency. Linda Crockett made a motion seconded by Cindy Sims for the board to accept this transfer pending HUD approval. This would be effective immediately.

Debbie reminded everyone HUD grants are operated on a "cost-reimbursement" model. Two or three persons can be involved with LOCCS, but the board chair has to be one of those persons. Word of caution: **don't use the same computer** for persons that make draw down reimbursements as HUD finds this inappropriate & will lock you out of the system. A remember there is a 25% match requirement that can be cash &/or in-kind. BVI agrees to let their match remain for the current operating year grants.

NOFA will be announced in the near future & typically submitted in August or September. Debbie has written the application, the exhibit 2's & obtained the Certificate of Consistencies for all grants & the CoC. The Grants committee meets to rank the grant renewals, planning grant, & any bonus money new grants. Debbie stated BVI is already on the CoC application renewal & GIW for this upcoming NOFA process & BVI will work with CHP & new grantees in any way possible for a smooth transition with CHP writing the CoC application, HMIS, & Planning grants. All grantees will be responsible for writing their grants. Changes in name will be determined on HUD timelines when approved. Debbie has agreed to work with Rae in preparation of the NOFA as requested.

Clint Cummings and Morgan Bartels presented on Skill Up Tennessee Family & Consumer Sciences from Knoxville, TN. Skill Up is UT Extension's SNAP Employment & Training program to help individuals reach their employment potential & become self-sufficient. Resources are available for job placement & possible educational programs to earn their GED, college credit, etc. They entertain the opportunity to visit organization to talk with staff and/or clients & distribute pamphlets.

Clark asked if there were any announcements & having none, meeting was adjourned on a motion by Stephen and seconded by Dawn. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2019.