

September 8, 2020

CE Oversight Committee Meeting

In Attendance:

Trish Hobson, Mary Ann Priester, Erin Nixon, James Searcy, Rosalyn Allison-Jacobs, Stephanie Shatto, Megan Coffey, Hope Marshall, Branden Lewis, Chanda Scott, Maurice Collins, Kecia Robinson, Deronda Metz; Katie Lindsey

Welcome, Intro, Overview of Agenda – Trish Hobson

Vote: Approval of Minutes – approved without any changes

VI SPDAT – Trish

- Currently using a vulnerability tool called the VISPDAT. Last year, a subgroup researched to see if this was the best tool for our community to use. It was determined at that time that the VISPDAT was the best tool for us to continue to use. Since then, MaryAnn has looked at the tool with an equity lens. The research is showing that white people score higher on the tool than their African American counterparts – leading to our African American chronic homeless are waiting longer for PSH opportunities than their white counterparts. CE Oversight has been tasked with finding the tool that would be more equitable. The next steps at examining the most equitable tool to use are:
 - Looking at national data for VISPDAT 2 (the tool currently being used) to understand the biases of the tool and
 - Look at the VISPDAT 3 that has just been released and determine if the race equity inequalities in version 2 have been addressed in the updated version.
 - Interviewing other communities. CE Oversight in coordination with the Equity and Inclusion CofC group and the Lived Experience Subcommittee from CofC (once it is operational) are tasked with making a recommendation to the board of the Continuum of Care on the best tool for the community to use.
- Question – what was the prompt for this deeper dive into the equity of the VISPDAT tool?
 - 1 – pulled the data at the request of the board in tandem to the national research released that showed a potential bias. At the same time, an evaluation at the local level was also being conducted. Concerns began to arise about a year ago regarding the racial equity of the VISPDAT tool.
- Question – are we looking at other tools as well or only looking at version 3 of VISPDAT?
 - The research group will be looking at other prioritization tools through an equity lens as well as the VISPAT 3. May also revisit the research was done last year (on other prioritization tools) and evaluating them on racial equity (as this was not the lens used last year during the original research). Also looking at the back at home tool and how that could be used as well. Really want to be as comprehensive as possible in the research.
- Question – community and the C of C voted to use the VI-SPDAT, but at what point can we look at if the VISPDAT is the best tool for our community?

- It was explained that research group will be doing that work as well. They are working with a sense of urgency and want to have the research done by December 1st so we can move on next steps.

New Member:

- Cheryl Carrothers from Supportive Housing Communities is stepping down from the committee as she is leaving Supportive Housing Communities. We need to decide if we want to replace her on the committee. We have all of the areas/populations that she fills the need for covered by other voting members. We currently have 11 members (without Cheryl) and are mandated to have 10 voting members covering the areas outlined. Input from the group is to add a member from the prevention field. Someone from Crisis Assistance and perhaps from the City as well due to their increased funding for Prevention Projects.

Additional Requests:

Rosalyn made the request for additional community members for the prevention research. Looking for people that have needed assistance and have self-resolved on their own or with assistance from an agency.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00