**Executive Committee Minutes 12/10/2020**

**Present: Josh Jaeger, Peter Burke, Chris Tombaugh, George Fickenworth, Danielle Szklenski, Mike Wehrer., Colleen Hammon, Liz McCormick, Mary Johnson, Corinne Thomas, Linda King, Sean O’Neil, Rebecca Grimaldi**

1:30pm        **Welcome**

1:35pm         DHS Updates

DCED Code Blue Grant was awarded for Winter Sheltering Activity

* + Just over $200,000
  + Majority going to Hazard Pay for shelter staff at Community Shelter Services, Community of Caring, EUMA, Safe Journey, and the City mission
  + Our Neighbor’s Place (ONP) winter shelter was awarded funds for Operations and winter outreach
  + SafeNet – was awarded funds for shelter expansion Shelter expansion
* Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) PHARE Grant
  + County applied for the PHARE grant for $150,000 in Rapid Re-Housing funds. Awards are announced in Spring, 2021
* Home4Good grant – County released some funds from the Home4Good grant to EUMA for hotel/motel vouchers which was needed because ONP is mostly at capacity.
* ECCM also received some County funds for Hotel/Motel vouchers.
* Health Choices Reinvestment - Overflow/Quarantine/Isolation
  + The County put in a proposal to Health Choices (Managed Care for Medical Assistance Behavioral Health) for added Overflow (because ONP is unable to operate at full capacity), quarantine and isolation.
  + The Erie County Health Department has communicated with Erie County DHS that they may not continue their quarantine isolation unit after 1/1/2021 due to funding and staffing issues.
  + Erie has identified a location for both an added Overflow shelter and a Quarantine/Isolation space (both are at the same location).
  + Erie County DHS is looking for a provider that they would fund to run both the Overflow and Quarantine/Isolation Unit
* Preference is for a nonprofit (Community Based Organizations) to manage program, but the county is prepared to ask the state for an exception.
* For quarantine/Isolation, the County would use the model that ECDH is currently using with 3 staff on call at all times to transport and monitor.
  + Clients that are Health Choices make up the majority of those served based on last year’s Winter Overflow shelter. The County proposal would merge non-Health Choices eligible clients into program, including possibly with provision of supplemental funds from the county

1:40pm         Erie City Updates

1:45pm         Erie County Department of Health Updates

* Not sure about vaccination timeline
* Priority of vaccination for individuals experiencing homelessness?
* Quarantine/Isolation shelter funding is may be going away at the end of the year
* ECDH meeting to discuss plan for quarantine/isolation after funding ends
* ECDH requests provider help in contact tracing where possible
* COVID response team available to come to any community shelter in order to do a sight visit
  + If you would like the Health Department’s COIVD Response Team to make a site visit, you can call Tami Fowler@ 451-7813 or David George @ 451-6778 to schedule.  We do not have the capacity to write safety plans, but we can review any plans, and provide recommendations.
* Presentations to Second Harvest Food Bank food pantries for safety protocols in food distribution
* Free COVID testing available at the local community centers
  + Peter to send reminder to Home Team
  + Already posted to [eriecountpa.gov](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2feriecountpa.gov&c=E,1,b_DCVLRStAAsgEJqW7i2MVQnQwV09QCBdnu033YnrnaeW3SfQONTe5ggdj59t4MOz1aD6aWU7eWR7m4h5phEXSovIkz2sv7H7eGk6MzfLO5KTMRqIg,,&typo=1)
  + Corinne to send to provider list

1:50pm         Emergency Shelter Status Update, including Our Neighbor's Place

* Over the last week, there is an increased presentation.
* When at capacity, options include:
  + Hotel/Motel vouchers
  + Mary Rose Sanctuary for women
  + St. Patrick's Haven has had open capacity, and some men are presenting at ONP after 9pm when St. Patrick's closes.
  + Peter to ask if they can close later, at around 10pm
  + Nobody has been turned away up to this point.
* Rebecca from CSS offering to be main point of contact for CSS in the interim between Mark's departure and the new ED starting up.

2:05pm         Committee Updates

                               \* Coordinated Entry – Sean O’Neill – [*soneill@Eccaremgt.org*](mailto:soneill@Eccaremgt.org)

* ONP System, especially with open communication from Rob O'Connell working out well
* Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-housing is slowing down
* Community of Caring’s Finally Home grant that was extended ends on Dec. 31…Erie County Care Management is able to absorb those left in the Finally Home program in their Permanent Supportive Housing Program.
* Coordinated Entry team has been extremely busy
* Sean from ECCM is offering to answer any questions in the interim until this team can start to meet again

\* Project ranking/Application Review – Liz McCormick - [*lzmccormick@gmail.com*](mailto:lzmccormick@gmail.com)

* The NOFA for the Continuum of Care may just be renewed this year, including renewal of all projects, so there would be no need for meetings to rank and score applications.

                               \* SPIT Count – Mike Wehrer - [*michael.wehrer@va.gov*](mailto:michael.wehrer@va.gov)

* Meeting next week in order to look at any sort of pared down version of a PIT count this year
* Assurance that there "will be something"
* Guidance from HUD has been rolling out over the last few weeks
* Communities (CoCs) do NOT have to do an unsheltered count (need a waiver)
  + Still need HIC and Sheltered
* Question from Liz M.
  + is any funding tied to the unsheltered count??
  + Answer from George:
    - we have to answer questions on the NOFA regarding the PIT count, including unsheltered numbers., but it's usually questions regarding our methodology or why numbers may have changed.  Doesn't really seem to be tied to what funding we get.

                               \*Data Collection & Use – Josh Jager – [*jjaeger@stmartincenter.org*](mailto:jjaeger@stmartincenter.org)

* Questions out to PA211 at United Way of SWPA
  + Likely happening as referral only, no warm handoff. Mike J. to confirm with United Way of SWPA
* **Strategic Focus Area #3, Strategy 1**
* On her own (in concert with the HMIS vendor), Lisa has been working to develop and deploy training resources for HMIS
* -Looking forward to using the work done in **Strategy 2** to better support those efforts in the future.
* **Strategic Focus Area #3, Strategy 2**
* List of all housing providers (**Action Step 1)**.
* Survey in progress. **(Action Step 5)**
* **Strategic Focus Area #3, Strategy 3**
* 211 has been a great first data sharing partner (**Action Steps 1 and 2**)!
* We’ve used 211 data to inform Executive Committee and Marketing committee decision making.
* 211 data is better informing our understanding of the Erie County housing and corresponding needs landscape.
* We are actively working towards formal ongoing data sharing and referral partnerships (**Action Step 5**).
* Lisa has already updated the client privacy policy (**Action Step 4**)
* In support of the Client Services committee, we have begun discussions with other outside systems to identify high-end utilization of homeless AND healthcare services to support targeted intervention for homeless medical respite care services. (**Action Step 6**)
* **Strategic Focus Area #3, Strategy 4**
* Developed a common scale scorecard in order to measure and compare housing providers on Key Performance Indicators that tie directly to funding, and have begun the initial work of deploying it.
* **We need more members!**
* Looking into new committee members from PSU Core and Mercyhurst Civic Institute

                               \*Client Services – Mark Alexa & Linda Lyons King - [*malexa@communityshelter.org*](mailto:malexa@communityshelter.org) *&* [*lking@safeneterie.org*](mailto:lking@safeneterie.org)

* Meeting in January with Barb Lewis and Mary Louise Imbruglio

                               \*Community Engagement & Marketing – Chris Tombaugh -  [*chris@eriedawn.org*](mailto:chris@eriedawn.org)

* National Homeless Memorial announcement for December
* Discussion surrounding the creation of a page and posting on Facebook

2:15pm          General Home Team Updates Related to COVID 19 or Other Informational Issues

* Thanks to Mark for his many years of faithful service.
* Shout Outs to staff in the community who've been very helpful:
  + Sarah at CSS
  + Andrea at CE after hours
* CHN has been accepted into a Medical Respite Care collaboration
  + More info to come
* Family Services kicking off expansion of a partnership with OCY’s Independent Living Program (ILP) and the Public Housing Authorities through a HUD grant, Fostering Youth to Independence (FYI). The grant could provide up to 3 years of Supportive Housing for youth transferring out of foster care.
  + Journey House
    - 4 youth living there now
    - RA living on site
    - 2 ILP staff with offices on site during the day
  + FYI program
    - Questions about whether clients must have had OCY involvement within the last 90 days?
    - Question answered – the youth just must be in foster care within the last 90 days.
* VA update Liberty House received funding to expand from 10 to 25 beds
* Liz McCormick asked for all new funding to be a standing agenda item.

2:25pm          Reminder/December Event:    National Homeless Memorial

* December 21 at noon in Perry Square
  + Cleared with the City
  + Working on a list of homeless brothers and sisters who may have passed away this year
  + Requests in for the Mayor and County Executive appear
  + Chris to send Peter and email about the event to send out to Home Team 1 week before hand
  + Erie News Now maybe to cover this as well
  + Flyer to circulate at the shelters so that our homeless brothers and sisters can attend

2:30pm          Adjourn

**Next Home Team Homeless & Housing Coalition Meeting**

**Date:   1.14.2021**