

El Paso CoC Board Minutes

Thursday, August 13, 2020

Zoom

Quorum established. Meeting called to order at 4:06 PM. Chair, Shelby McCue, welcomes all present.

No public comment.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Bill Schlesinger to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Melissa Lopez. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Discussion and Potential Action Items

Performance Committee/ Performance Benchmark Recommendations – Sierra Ulibarri, Chair, provided an overview of the 2020-2021 Community Benchmarks. Changes that are proposed to the Community Benchmarks are as follows:

- a) HMIS Data Standards – Sierra Ulibarri briefly discussed the changes that are presented for data timeliness. The proposed change - all data must be complete and available for HMIS processing within 4 days after client intake and 4 days after exit
- b) Street Outreach – Sierra Ulibarri reported that contacts and engagement are collected in HMIS. It was reported that up until this recommendation from the performance committee, engagement has not been formally monitored on a larger scale as per the HMIS Data Standards and by agreement across all federal partners. Sierra Ulibarri reported that an engagement date is the date on which an interactive client relationship results in a deliberate client assessment or beginning of a case plan. It is the performance committee's recommendation that the benchmark be set at 30%.

CoC Board members asked questions on the process of discussing with members.

Motion by Melissa Lopez to approve the performance committee benchmark recommendation for street outreach engagement at 30%, and to change HMIS data standard timeliness from 5 to 4 days. Motion seconded by Melissa Lopez. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network/ Data Use Agreement / Eric Samuel, CEO, THN – Mr. Samuel provided background on the data sharing initiative that started in 2012. According to Mr. Samuel, the focus is to integrate data from each of the TX CoCs into one database under the management of the Texas Homeless Network. It was reported that data sharing through a data warehouse will enhance coordination with providers across CoC geographic areas, emergency assistance systems, and other intersecting systems of care and resources (e.g. justice and healthcare sectors). Data sharing will also support improved reporting, planning, and resource allocation strategies at both the local and state levels. Mr. Samuel reported that standardized data sharing across Texas will improve how services and housing are accessed by the most vulnerable households and people who are at-risk of homelessness, leading to improved outcomes and increased efficiencies. Mr. Samuel explained that the next level in this project is for CoCs to approve the data sharing agreement. The purpose of this agreement is for CoCs to provide Texas Homeless Network with client-level HMIS records. CoC Board expressed concerns regarding indemnity clauses that are incorporated into the data use agreement. Bill Schlesinger moved to authorize the approval of the data use agreement pending further review by legal counsel, seconded by Ben Miranda. All were in favor. Motion passes.

City of El Paso ESG regular allocation - Carol Bohle, Executive Director of EPCH, reported that the City of El Paso entitlement entity is required to consult with the CoC regarding the allocation of ESG. Carol presented to the CoC allocation schedules going back to 41st year. Also reported was the regulatory guidance on how ESG can be allocated: 60% for Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach, 40% for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing. The focus of these consults with the City is to decrease the 60% for Emergency Housing and Street Outreach. Carol recommended a decrease in Emergency Shelter/Street Outreach to 40%, and an increase in Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing to 60%, with a 25% of the 40% going towards street outreach. This recommendation is in alignment with the HEARTH Act.

Bobby Bowling moved to approve the recommendation of the ESG funding structure as a guideline, seconded by Deborah Zuloaga. All were in favor. Motion passes.

ESG CARES 2nd round – Carol Bohle provided an update on the City’s 2nd round of ESG Cares funding. No action taken.

Update on the Coordinated Entry RFP – Camille Castillo provided an update on the request for proposals for the evaluation of the Coordinated Entry System by an objective 3rd party. CoC Board discussed how the evaluation plan will assist the CoC in supporting a community of practice that espouses continuous improvement, accountability, and transparency in its practices, collaborations, policies and processes. Bill Schlesinger moved to recognize one response to five requests for an RFP response, and that the CoC Board accept said response to that request and authorize the signing of the contract if the way is clear, seconded by Bill Sparks. All were in favor. Motion passes.

Other Business – None.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:56 PM.