



# McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DESCRIPTION: CoC Board Meeting

DATE/TIME/LOCATION: August 17, 2023, 9:00 am; via video conference

**ATTENDANCE:**

Agency	Designated Voting Member	Present?	Alternate Voting Member	Present?
22nd Judicial Circuit	Josie Shattuck		Michaylla Meadows	
Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital	Suzanne Martinez	x		
Association for Individual Development	Alejandra Gutierrez		Gabrielle Kitchell	x
Catholic Charities	Amber Emmert		Cathy Weightman-Moore	
Consumer Credit Counseling Services	Donna Rasmussen	x	Maria Vazquez	
Family Health Partnership Clinic	Suzanne Hoban		Erin Kemp	
Home of the Sparrow	Elizabeth Heneks	x	Kristin Miller	x
Housing Action Illinois	Foluke Akanni	x	Bob Palmer	
Housing Authority	Sue Rose	x	Kim Ulbrich	
Independence Health and Therapy	John Buckley		Shannon Guzick	
Lovell Federal Health Care Center	Kya Hays	x	Lillie Prince	x
Makrograde	Andrew Stuckey			
McHenry County Community Development	Brandon Kyker	x	Hans Mach	x
McHenry County Regional Office of Education	James Menzer	x	Matt Tabar	
McHenry Savings Bank	Kathrine Violett	x		
McHenry Township	Deborah Macrito	x	Gary Barla	
Mental Health Board	Leonetta Rizzi		Karin Frisk	
New Directions	Bobby Gattone	x	Michelle Kavouras	
Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association	Jim Wiseman		Heidi Jenkins	x
Northwestern Medicine	Anne King		Sarah Santoria	
Options and Advocacy for McHenry County	Elyse Sereyka		Charlee Morris	
Pioneer Center	Carrie Freund		Gina Zinck	x
Prairie State Legal Services	Jourdan Gardner		Ryan Sugas	x
Refuge for Women	Meredith Hodge		Crystal Botero-Rand	
Restoration America	Anna Hill		Irene Tapia	
Salvation Army	Mercent Smith	x	Nancy Rivera	
Senior Care Volunteer Network	Sarah Schrempf		Erica Snooks	x
Service Inc. of Illinois	Carrie Callery			
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Bill Meath	x		
Steven's Home	Nada Lunsford			
Supportive Housing Providers Association	Joseph Winford		David Esposito	
The Break	Noelle Dodge			
Thresholds	Kim McCoy	x	Aaron Neal	x
Turning Point	Mike Neumann	x	Nancy Erickson	x
Veterans Assistance Commission	Victor Somoza		Michael Iwanicki	
Veterans Path to Hope	Laura Franz		Angela Wood-Zuzevich	
Warp Corps	Andrew Turner	x	Clay Mutert	
Willow Crystal Lake	Julie Davis		Tim Seyler	
Woodstock Food Pantry	Virginia Peschke		Jan Parker	
Workforce Network	Jeffery Poynter		Elijah Wedwick	
	Joe Davis	x		
	Sam Tenuto			
Community Members At Large:	Rich Ring			
	Mary Mahady			
	Aimee Knop	x		
Non-members attending:				
Lovell Federal Health Care Center	Erica O'Neill			
	Emily Nelson			
Pioneer Center	Julie Kovacs			
	Tom Riley			
Prairie State Legal Services	Arnetta Simmons			



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1. **CALL TO ORDER** B Kyker called the meeting to order on behalf of S Tenuto at 9:04 am.

2. **ROLL CALL AND GUEST INTRODUCTIONS**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

4. **PRESENTATION** – Housing Action IL – Foluke Akanni

4.1 Foluke introduced herself. She is relatively new to Continuum of Care. Housing Action is a state-wide coalition with 160 members with a mission to expand affordable housing and eliminate homelessness in Illinois. They do this with public advocacy and policy issues. They also specialize in capacity building around the state via education and advocacy programs that they provide. Their biggest success was recently at the State with the Governor and the General Assembly which created a new line item called “Home Illinois”. Resources were gathered from various state and federal unused funds. See Foluke’s PowerPoint presentation for more information and specific details.

5. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

5.1 Approval of July 27, 2023 – Full Board meeting minutes

5.2 Approval of July 6, 2023 – Steering Council meeting minutes

5.3 June 13, 2023 – Housing and Services Committee meeting minutes

B Meath motioned to approve the minutes in a consent motion for all and S Martinez seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

6. **ACTION ITEMS** - None

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

7.1 **Committee Chairs Updates**

7.1.1 **Community Awareness Committee– B Kyker**

7.1.1.1 **Landlord Engagement Program** - Working to pull together the Pilot Landlord Engagement program. Small group at first and will open this meeting up using a small focus group. Thank you to agencies who sent over landlord names. Looking to coordinate meetings with other CoC activities. They are considering who should be invited to the meeting and the longevity of the group – will it be a sub-committee or an extension of committee responsibilities moving forward. Gina and Brandon created a PowerPoint presentation for the meeting. Still yet to determine where this group might best fit in the CoC structure.

7.1.1.2 **World Homeless Day** – Balloon visualization on October 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> – each person would have a balloon to represent a person who is homeless. Looking to have the demonstration at the Woodstock Square or the County Building. Considering a speech by the President and making it an event to kick-off the day. Ecofriendly materials will be used.

7.1.2 **Finance Committee** – B Meath stated his term is going to be up and



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need to find someone who will be the Treasurer for 2023-2025. One more program that needs to be developed for the UFA regarding reporting requirements. Waiting for HUD CoC competition submission for scoring by the Ranking Work Group.

- 7.1.3 Housing & Services Committee**– A Turner shared that his group has been working with the Landlord Engagement program and community Awareness Committee. They have been working on an Outreach Mapping project is still collecting information to understand where services are being done and where they are missing. VI-SPDAT – training day for all agencies is being put together. Discussed a brainstorming committee to see what services are not being provided and they can fill the gap. Looking to add more members to this committee – please send Brandon or Andrew an email if interested. G Zinck talked about getting feedback from those with lived experience and participants will be given a gift card for their participation. Two funding sources will help make this survey attractive to participant.

### **7.2 HMIS/Coordinated Entry/Built-for-Zero – J Davis shared:**

- 7.2.1 HMIS** – Looking for the visual updates to be applied within the next week or so. Everything will function the same (colors/fonts changed). Seeing an increase of individuals and families coming into the system.
- 7.2.2 Coordinated Entry and Built-for-Zero – G Zinck shared:** Very busy. Please keep giving your vacancies to Gina so she can help plug clients in. Scattered site units are difficult to come by – Big need for PSH for families in particular. Increase they are seeing are in women, children and families. Over 52 people are currently in the shelter with a max of 70 beds. Most every other shelter is full and even have wait lists. There are some funds for the hotel program. Many of our agencies are full with waiting lists. Discussion on anticipation of the increase in shelter needs in the upcoming colder months. Attended a **Built-for-Zero** meeting trying to get to quality data and look at the county's report card. S Rose said we will see more people will be experiencing homelessness because of the increased rent in the county. And there are not many rentals available. G Zinck said she is also seeing a lot of calls with people trying to present homelessness. The housing situation is really serious. People who were on McEURAP funding and that funding has dried up and people have gone beyond the in initial 18 months of support, but many clients have not done what they could do to improve their situation before the funding expired. D Rasmussen concurred that this is something she is also seeing at Consumer Credit Counseling. S Rose stated Case Management is key to folks being successful – but there is not enough case managers to help these clients improve their situation. People who used these funds were encouraged to attend a workshops, make an appointment with a Consumer Credit Counseling, save money they were making, etc. Many did not take advantage of the supports. People/families may not have known what to do or who to talk to. L Heneks stated they had 2 case workers who provided case management to over 100 individual/families to help stabilize the clients. L Heneks said there are not livable wages in the county to sustain some of the clients because of the issues the clients were facing. Many were motivated but the cost of living, childcare, transportation and lack of skills to secure higher-



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paying employment in an area that provides a livable wage for staying in McHenry County. H Mach stated even though the program is winding up, the County has been able put these folks in the system and the recidivism rate was like 7.2% on over 2000 individuals. Rates of 5% or less is high-performing by HUD. Given the number of difficult and complicated individuals that were assisted, this program did very well. Remember that there is still funding for affordable housing development which the application date has been extended to November.

**7.3 July Shelter Report** – J Davis said the data is pulled from HMIS. System performance measures that HUD asks for, the number for shelter counts throughout the month and the summary section. Report was included in the Board packet. We are trending up for street outreach and emergency shelter. This report will now be given monthly to the Board.

**7.4 Gaps and System Updates** – See 7.2.2

**7.5 Strategic Planning Committee** – J Davis said the rough draft has been edited 3 times and they are working with to secure a graphic designer. H Mach is looking to add measurable. K Violet is also reviewing the plan. The Board's Steering Council will have the first review to have it fully vetted. Working to have strong measurable in this plan unlike other plans. Electronic copies will be sent to the Steering Committee as soon as possible. Those who have lived experience will also be included in this plan.

**7.6 HUD CoC Competition** – B Kyker applications due by 4pm today. He met with all agencies applying for funds. Things are being done a bit new, but renewal grants will be prioritized lower. Looking for new projects because we are looking to move the needle more and to serve the population. Do not submit applications, just send him an email which will be your "date" stamp making sure all materials are in by when they are due.

### 8. NEW BUSINESS

**8.1 Annual Full Board Meeting** – B Kyker reviewed the positions open – 3 at large members and the Vice President and Treasurer positions is open and need to be filled. He will be working with Lille/Kya from the Membership Committee and Kathrine to assist. S Rose asked that Megan Bennett be considered for an At Large member. Please reach out the B Kyker if you need additional information.

### 9. OPEN FORUM AND MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**9.1 S Rose** – She thanked the group and wished everyone well. She started with the CoC over 30 years ago. Her retirement is much deserved and her passion will be missed.

**9.2 A Turner** – Warp Corp has a documentary they produced and they are hoping for CoC members to come to their event. B Kyker has the invitation for anyone who has not seen it yet.

### 10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by K Violet and seconded by Suzanne, approved by all, and meeting was adjourned by B Kyker at 10:15 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by K Violet.



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NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION: September 14, 2023 @ 9:00 am Videoconference