

# Housing and Services Committee Meeting Minutes

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Housing and Services Committee was called to order by Lindsay Kellner on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 at 11:03am via GoToMeeting.

## 1. Roll Call and Introductions

Present: Brandon Kyker, Gina Zinck, Jayona Sayachack, Lindsay Kellner, Nada Lunsford, Julie Davis, Nancy Lawin, Carly Wagner

Absent: Bill Meath

## 2. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. January 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes motioned to be approved by Jayona Sayachack and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brandon Kyker

## 3. Public Comment

- a. None.

## 4. Old Business

- a. **PADs Shelter Update:** Gina updated the group to let them know that currently there are 44 people total in the shelter, and that is comprised of Men, Women and Children. A family with 6 children just left to go to HOS, but Gina mentioned they just got a family with 3 children, so they are right around 7 children at PADs. Doing intakes everyday, and most of them are staying longer, not just staying a day or two. Room for both Men and Women at the Shelter
- b. **Home of the Sparrow Shelter Update:** Lindsay updated the group letting them know that the shelter is livelier now that the family with 6 children moved from PADs to HOS and currently in the Home of the Sparrow Shelter there is a total of 29 people, 12 adults and 17 children. Working on intakes, there is a single person that is getting paperwork ready to come to the shelter and a family with 2 kids also working on coming into the shelter.
- c. **Cold Weather Program:** Gina updated the group that the program is running out of funding and that she did get some negative feedback from a volunteer that mentioned we are not doing enough, and that the clients are cold. Gina also mentioned that as of this date, the program has provided 574 nights of shelter going back from November 29<sup>th</sup>. Planning on opening the program later this week with planned cold days, but will need to double up to conserve as much money as possible. This program is not funded by the government, it is funded through donors to Pioneer Center. Nada mentioned that she is able to help a small amount of people that may not be able to be put into hotels by Pioneer center, and Nada agreed that funding is hard for this program. Nada recognized how hard Gina and Pioneer Center work for this program, and explains to anyone she helps that Pioneer center does not get grant funding for the program, and that we are doing the best we can as a county. Gina also praised Nada on her program and her food delivery that she provides to clients in the hotels. Gina also shouted out Warp Corps for all their help in working with Street Outreach. Brandon asked if the clients who Nada helps are also counted in the PIT count, Gina responded by letting Brandon know that during the PIT count, it was not cold enough to have the program up and running, but mentioned people were counted at Community Resource Day (CRD), but some of those who Nada helps are on the sex offender registry and they are not able to participate in CRD, but they would have been counted for the outside count because they are in HMIS. Brandon thanked Gina and Nada, and mentioned he wanted to make sure everyone was counted so we get accurate data and the most amount of funding possible. Julie asked about if there is something on the website about the cold weather program and a place for people to be able to donate, Gina replied that at the time there is not. Nancy asked about the food program that Nada provides, asking if there is a need for any help or support, and in what way. Nada mentioned there is always a need for support, that most of the food is donated and thankfully it just comes when they need it most. There was further discussion about donations, including paper products such as plates, cups and bowls.

- d. **Backpack Beds**- Gina mentioned that she has gotten a lot of good feedback, there was one person who had experience that expressed concern over tenting under a tree, but besides that it was all positive. Gina mentioned she brought a sample to Community Resource Day, and everyone who saw it wanted one. Gina mentioned this would prevent hyperthermia and frostbite if someone does not have the set up such as tent, propane heater, etc. Gina mentioned this was not a hotel room, but it can provide some relief. Julie asked what next steps are, which Gina mention she is going to test it first, and then Gina was going to look into a grant opportunity, which is a matching grant. So, Gina thought trying to raise money to provide the money for the grant to match.

## **5. New Business**

### **a. Landlord Engagement Program**

#### **i. Landlord MOU**

1. Landlord MOU had no concerns from the partnering agencies, so that will be rolling out to Landlord Participating in the program.

#### **ii. Policies and Procedures**

1. Policies and procedures were worked on by Brandon and a vast majority of it completed, Lindsay mentioned that she and another HOS staff member were going to look over them and get those 100% completed.

#### **iii. Feedback from Landlords**

1. Lindsay asked if there were any additional feedback from Landlords, no one replied that there was.

#### **iv. CoC Website**

1. Brandon brought up that the CoC website is newer and that himself and Gina are the only two that have access to the website when someone reaches out via the website. Brandon mentioned his department has shrunk and it is hard to keep up with the website and is very open to others at the different agencies to have access to make changes to the website. Brandon mentioned again that his capacity is tight to be able to be on the website multiple times per week, and believes that the agencies or a committee would be the better fit for being in charge of making changes on the CoC website. Julie mentioned that she has a volunteer through Willow Creek that might be a good fit for updating the website.

## **6. Member Announcements**

- a. Brandon mentioned to the committee that they are currently making their consolidated plan, and mentioned there are two types of surveys to complete. The stakeholder survey is one per agency, but the community member survey can be filled out by anyone in our community.
- b. Julie mentioned there is a new E-news newsletter for Willow and attached it in the chat.

## **7. Adjournment**

- a. Brandon motioned to adjourn the meeting and Gina seconded the motion. Meeting Adjourned at 11:59am

***Next Scheduled Meeting: 3/11/2025 from 11:00am-12:00pm***