



McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness CoC Board Meeting Minutes

DATE/TIME/LOCATION: January 16, 2025, 9:00 am; via video conference

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – L Prince called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

2. ROLL CALL AND GUEST INTRODUCTIONS

Agency	Designated Voting Member	Present?	Alternate Voting Member	Present?	Additional Agency Staff	Present?
4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care	Jessica landola	P				
Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital	Suzanne Martinez	P	Rafael Malpica			
Association for Individual Development	Alejandra Gutierrez	P	Aneliz Carbajal			
Catholic Charities	Amber Emmert	P	Cathy Weightman-Moore			
Consumer Credit Counseling Services	Donna Rasmussen	P	Diane Christensen			
Family Health Partnership Clinic	Suzanne Hoban		Erin Kemp			
Head Start	Alma Wright		Shari Figueroa			
Home of the Sparrow	Elizabeth Heneks	P	Kristin Miller	P	Lindsay Kellner	P
Housing Action Illinois	Foluke Akanni	P	Bob Palmer			
Lovell Federal Health Care Center	Lillie Prince	P	Erica O'Neill			
McHenry County Community Development	Brandon Kyker	P	Joe Davis	P		
McHenry County Department of Health	Chrissy Wasson	P				
McHenry County Housing Authority	Kim Ulbrich		Pepper LaFontaine	P		
McHenry County Regional Office of Education	James Menzer		Matt Tabar			
McHenry County Workforce Network	Jeffery Poynter		Elijah Wedwick			
McHenry Township	Deborah Macrito	P	Gary Barla			
Mental Health Board	Leonetta Rizzi		Karin Frisk	P		
MSU Federal Credit Union	Kathrine Pfister	P				
NAMI McHenry County	Abbey Nicholas		Tina Karaway	P		
New Directions	Bobby Gattone		Dan Woodward			
Northwestern Medicine	Sarah Santoria		Dawn Roznowski			
Options and Advocacy for McHenry County	Elyse Sereyka		Kayla Llewellyn			
Pioneer Center	Carrie Freund		Gina Zinck	P	Samantha Marcellis	P
Prairie State Legal Services	Ryan Sugas		Paul Zukowski		Arnetta Simmons	P
Refuge for Women	Meredith Hodge	P				
Restoration America	Anna Hill		Irene Tapia			
Salvation Army	Mercent Smith	P	Nancy Rivera			
Senior Care Volunteer Network	Sarah Schrempf		Erica Snooks			
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Bill Meath		Alan Cichon	P		
Steven's Home	Nada Lunsford					
Thresholds	Anneliese Thurston	P	Aaron Neal	P	Kim McCoy	P
Turning Point	Mary Margaret Maule	P	Nancy Erickson	P	Theresa Meshes	P
United Way of Greater McHenry County	Jamie Maravich		Sofie Dzik			
Veterans Path to Hope	Laura Franz	P	Angela Wood-Zuzevich		Ryan Jacobsen	P
Warp Corps	Andrew Turner	P	Rob Mutert			
Willow Creek of Crystal Lake	Julie Davis	P	Debbie Anderson	P		
Woodstock Food Pantry	Virginia Peschke	P				
Members at Large:	Rich Ring	P				
	Sam Tenuto	P				
Non-members attending:	Tom Riley	P				

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – None

4. **PRESENTATION** – Suicide Prevention Grant – Ryan Jacobsen, Veterans Path to Hope (VPH)
R Jacobsen started doing the SSVF (homeless veterans grant) approximately 8 years ago with VPH working with many of the CoC Board member agencies. Award grant from VA which covers McHenry, Lake, Boone, Stevenson, Winnebago, and WI counties – eligible at Lovell and Madison VAs. Please refer any Veterans you may be working with (no income threshold requirement): rental assistance, safety, counseling, food, transportation, etc. L Franz noted this program is staff by other Veterans who are in a unique position to walk alongside. Veteran doesn't have to be at a "tipping point" but you see behavioral changes, please refer. A hand-picked Veteran team will be working with referred individuals who are trained, resourceful and have walked the walk. VA does a lot of studies on veteran suicide – those who are not connected



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to the VA are at the greatest risk. VA connection is a huge step in prevention. L Prince shared that those who don't consider themselves to be veterans – may still be eligible. Call her agency or Veterans Path to Hope and they can help with eligibility confirmation.

S Martinez said she is on the Board of Suicide Prevention of McHenry County. She would like to connect the two programs to share information and digital resources. R Jacobsen stated he would be at the Board meeting today and will share information on eligibility with the CoC Board.

S Tenuto talked about working with families of Veterans and how these types of prevention programs are so important to helping communities help their loved ones. R Jacobsen stated that they offer on-site counseling on-site to family members and care givers.

L Franz talked about the necessity of partnering with other agencies being the key to the success of Veterans Path to Hope. Seeking out options for referrals with trusted providers for Veterans to choose from helps to strengthen support and affect outcomes.

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

5.1 Approval of December 5, 2024 – Steering Council Meeting Minutes

5.2 Approval of October 1, 2024 – HMIS Committee Meeting Minutes

5.3 Approval of November 12, 2024 – HMIS Committee Meeting Minutes

S Martinez motioned to approve the Consent the Agenda as presented. B Kyker seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

6. ACTION ITEMS - None

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Committee Chairs Updates

7.1.1 *Coordinated Entry* – G Zinck shared that they have a new MOU they will be sending around for completion. They will be updating policies/procedures based on the new HMIS system. They haven't been able to use HMIS since 12/15 for referrals – these have been slow to come in the absence of the system. They meet regularly. All other Shelters are full, but PADS still has some room. The Cold Weather saw 46 unduplicated from 11/29 – 1/16. More cold weather is coming, and they may need additional funding.

7.1.2 *Community Awareness Committee* – Julie Davis reported that their biggest focus has been People in Need Forum and the cards directly people to the website and getting the word out. Please check your agency's information on the website and let her know if there needs to be updates. Next meeting January 27th – please let her know you are interested in the committee's work – her email was put into the chat.

7.1.3 *Finance Committee* – D Rassmussen the committee met and discussed the priority projects for the competition and the process. They will be meeting on the 1st Friday of each month to prioritize and get ready for the competition. They request agencies return the applications as soon as possible to assist with the process.

7.1.4 *HMIS Committee* – Joe Davis shared that there has been some hiccups with the migration nearing the end. and he is meeting with ICA to make sure information is linked correctly. The committee went over the LSA (see below). They will continue to work with the systems and conversion. Joyce Williams from ICA is the best person to address questions to and please copy Joe Davis in the email.



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7.1.5 Housing & Services Committee – Lindsey (?) reported that the committee focused on with the Cold Weather Program and the possible need for funding. There are a select few people who can't use the program. They are looking into the Backpack roll out beds as an alternative for folks who can't be in the hotel program. The beds help maintain body heat and it can roll right into a backpack. Considering purchasing these for a couple of participants. Also re-engaging the landlord program. Draft of MOU they will send out to the landlords.

7.2 Point in Time Count – January 17th (January 24 – backup date) – S Tenuto shared that tonight was the kickoff meeting for the routes to get instructions. Practice of PIT survey routes and collecting information from resource day at Willow Church – they are meeting tonight at 11:30 to begin. He has sent out updates, tips/hints and contact information. Safety is key at this count. He will provide a form to organizations not using HMIS so we can get that information collected as well.

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) Review – Joe Davis shared the system review data October 2023 – September 2024. If you would like to see the data in a different format, please reach out to Joe. He is submitting this to HUD as required. He stated that there were some changes in the trends: increase of households experiencing homelessness; a rise in exits to permanent housing; and zero returns to homelessness from the system. Better outcomes than in previous years.

8. OPEN FORUM AND MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

- B Kyker – CDBG and Home Grant applications due tomorrow by 4pm. The eMail he sent out about the 10 units for a Pearl St 2 in McHenry and the project has combined a lot of funding streams together to make the development happen. It looks like they are able to move forward if they can find 10 clients with vouchers confirmed to fill the units. They want the discussions to take place by mid-February. Reach out to B Kyker ASAP.
- S Martinez – 16th Annual Dr Martin Luther King breakfast. Some spots are still open B Kyker sent out the invite.
- A Guterrez - AID case management program no longer has a wait list. Additional programs are coming online.
- V Peschke the Food Pantry is losing their current space and they want to purchase the next location. They need a larger space. If you hear of anything, please contact her.
- F Akanni - Housing Action Illinois was a Statewide going over the general assembly session advocacy.
 - 1) IDHS late on ESG payments – please let her know if you are affected and she will advocate on your behalf.
 - 2) They will be asking for an increase of \$100,000,000 in funding for prevention, diversion, and street outreach.
 - 3) 25 municipalities that have passed ordinances against camping bans p they are looking to do a State-wide bill to reverse it.

9. ADJOURNMENT

B Kyker motioned to adjourn at 10:10 a.m., Seconded by S Martinez. All in favor, motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by K Pfister.

NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION: February 20, 2025 @ 9:00 am Videoconference