



Housing Assistance & Models Workgroup Meeting Minutes April 13, 2009

Items Relevant to Other Workgroups

- None to report.

Attendees

- *Stacey Vandenberg, Muskegon, Co-Chair*
- *Michele Wildman, MSHDA*
- *Christine Miller, MSHDA*
- *Janet Irrer, MSHDA*
- *Sharon Ott, Monroe County Opportunity Program*
- *Debra Hendren, Community Housing Network*
- *Suzanne Gaffney, Northwest Community Action Agency*
- *Joe Heaphy, Neighborhood Service Organization*
- *Nelson Grit, Michigan Disability Rights Coalition*
- *Pat Caruso, DHS*
- *Nicholas Armit, PPA*

Discussion Items

Introduction

- Nick began the meeting by stating that the meeting was to discuss what workgroup members would like to see happen at the convening of all of the Campaign to End Homelessness (CTEH) workgroups. The convening is to be held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on May 7th.
 - What would the team like to discuss at the HA&M workgroup section of the convening?
 - What would the team like to learn from the other workgroups? Etc.
- Nick asked if there were any additions and/or corrections to the minutes for the last workgroup meeting and there were none offered by workgroup members.
- There was a question regarding the MSHDA HARP program and whether that was frozen. Janet Irrer confirmed that MSHDA had over-issued HARP vouchers and MSHDA needs to hold back for a while to get back in line with the number of vouchers issued by HUD.
 - Therefore, the program had been frozen for the time being.
 - As soon as MSHDA is able to start issuing vouchers again they will do so.

May 7th Convening Review (Stacey led the discussion of the meeting review)

- PPA has created a working draft agenda for the May 7th convening. It was provided to the workgroup members for review.
- It had already been suggested by workgroup members that the cross-workgroup discussion (to be held at 3.00 PM) be moved earlier to the morning so that it takes place after the individual workgroup sessions.

- PPA has indicated that this option will not be possible as the afternoon session is to enable members of the regional groups and the Voices for Action network (who will both only be attending the convening in the afternoon) to hear details around the work the statewide workgroups are doing.
- Pat stated that she hoped that the workgroups as a whole will be able to address some of the steps that the HA&M workgroup have been addressing. She hopes the workgroup can come away from that conversation with another level of activities for the workgroup to focus on.
 - Some issues may not be possible because of funding, and some may have to be shelved for a year and looked at later, but need to have that discussion.
- Stacey stated that the strategies the group has been working on are just the beginning. Looking at HA&M, there are a bunch of strategies and they are part of the CTEH, but she wondered whether there were not others like herself who wished to understand better how all these strategies will help CTEH in the future.
 - Stacey would like to see at the Convening some form of documentation that would visually show how the workgroup and the work it is doing fits into the CTEH and relates to the other actors within the Campaign. This will help to explain to others who do not come to the meetings [For instance, representatives of the Continuum-of-Care (CoC) providers] the work that the HA&M workgroup is doing.
 - Pat agreed and stated that she would like to sort out the tasks within the individual workgroups. Tasks, for example, that have been taken to a certain point and need to be handed off when the workgroups meet at the convening.
 - Janet agreed that this would be a good idea for something to work on at the convening.
- Janet also wanted to hear about what the other workgroups have done during their meetings. Would like to see the highlights of what each group has done.
 - Nick added that there will be reporting on what each workgroup has accomplished so far at the convening.
- Janet added that it appeared that there are still silos between the workgroups.
 - Pat agreed and said that there is a lot of work on supports within the HA&M workgroup. These tasks need to go to the support services workgroup.
- Stacey asked if it would be possible to have a workgroup discussion before and after lunch and for the workgroup to see another draft version of the agenda before the convening?
 - Nick said that this will be possible and that PPA is working on revising the agenda in consultation with Sally Harrison.
- Nick asked if the workgroup members on the call had any questions for the other workgroups that he could compile?
 - Stacey said that everybody really has the same question of what are the other groups doing. What things are they working on that are similar to the HA&M workgroup, etc.? She hopes that some visual will be provided to show how the workgroups are working together already.
 - Christine asked how we can overlay the various action plans so that it is clear who is doing what in the next quarter and over the next six months, and somehow overlay it all without it being a lengthy document. Something to visually show where the action plans are aligning.
 - ◆ Mike agreed that such a visual is needed to make sense of all of the work going on in the other workgroups.

- ◆ Nick stated that this is something that PPA can put together. Stacey added that the co-chairs of the different workgroups can be the audience to bounce the draft versions of this document off of in order to refine it.
- It was also agreed that having the action plans in advance of the meeting would be a good idea.
- PPA will be working in conjunction with MSHDA to finalize the rest of the convening.

Concluding Comments

- Registration details for the convening were being handled by MSHDA and workgroup members should have received them or will be receiving them soon.
- Nick is leaving PPA and this will be his last meeting as facilitator. The new PPA representative and workgroup facilitator will be Nancy McCrohan.

Tasks Completed

- Review of ideas for May 7th Convening.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be on the convening of all the workgroups plus representatives from the regional workgroups and the Voices for Action network.
 - Meeting to be in person at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on May 7th
 - Workgroup members will receive more specifics in due course.
 - If you know you are unable to make the call please let Nancy McCrohan know beforehand, (nmccrohan@publicpolicy.com).