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**Coordinated Entry & Assessment 2nd Stakeholder Meeting**

**June 20th, 2013**

**1pm-4pm**

**SETA**

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| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION/WHO** |
| **Welcome & Introductions** | Coordinated Entry is a system level approach to ending homelessness. Sacramento Region Community Foundation is interested in ending homelessness through an upstream approach.  This is the 2nd of 3 total stakeholder meetings. Please share any and all ideas you have regarding CE. This is a broad group of people to stimulate ideas and discussion around CE. In this meeting we will be going over the 6 goals & deliverables (not in a linear fashion, though) | Priscilla Enriquez, Sacramento Region Community Foundation  Donald Chamberlain, Sound Thinking |
| **Goal # 1: Alignment with ESG & HEARTH.** | * ESG & HEARTH are the two legislative & regulatory pieces that provide the impetus for CE. * HEARTH is a reauthorization of McKinney Vento, to create “systems” that are organized & coordinated. CE is the entry point to this homeless “system” * ESG mandates CE, without a specific deadline. In order to not be penalized, Sacramento must demonstrate evidence of planning of CE and a substantial process of CE. * **Question:** Will CE be for both public & private programs? **Answer:** CE will be a phased implementation process which will start with publically funded programs. We will continue to envision the perfect plan in Sacramento with our end goal on this ideal plan. * **Question:** Will HUD be measuring CE like it measured HMIS? **Answer:** This is a feasible assumption but not certain. * **Question:** HMIS measures user data for people utilizing services. Is there a way to measure turn-aways (who want services but cannot access these services)? | **A list of publically funded programs in Sacramento will be sent out.** |
| **Goal #4: Use and Expand Existing Community Resources (HMIS).** | * 65% of ESG in in Sacramento HMIS system * PATH grants come through DHHS & El Hogar. * **Challenge:** HMIS is currently used as data collection & storage. User practice tells us that HMIS is not used as an active database. Most providers do a “hard-copy” intake, and then put in their information at a later date. To use HMIS for CE, it will be require providers to conduct LIVE data updates. Clarity is open to locally working to make an effective assessment tool for Sacramento. * **Question:** Is the HMIS CE intake form/page usable/viewable to the public? **Answer:** The HMIS CE form is not activated in Sacramento yet. * **Question:** 211 has an intake model currently. Would CE be incorporated into 211 intake? **Answer:** It is possible that some elements of 211 intake could be used for CE. * **Question:** Have you checked with other cities that are doing CE? **Answer:** Yes. As far as HMIS/Clarity usage for CE, nobody has fully implemented this process yet. Other cities are in the same planning phase as Sacramento. * **Question:** The *Coordinated Entry Goals & Feasibility* report did not address the lack of bed options in Sacramento. **Answer:** This is a draft report. CE will be a way to map out the resources in the community that we do have. Regarding expanding housing options, Commonground.wa.org has some innovative ideas. * CE assumed there is a system. In Sacramento, we have not yet devised a system. We have a collection of contracts. We have the pieces of the system, but in order to create a system we will need cooperation among service providers. HUD is looking for HUD programs to work together. * **Question:** How and who will we define as the most vulnerable? **Answer:** In addition to HUD’s definition as homeless, SSF has developed a new model to define homelessness to include those in imminent risk of homelessness. This new certification will be built into CE. Do we want to broaden our definition to house those at risk of becoming homeless, or do we want to house the literally homeless? * **Question:** To be in the CE system, will a person have to put into HMIS? **Answer:** We are thinking this will be the case (for technical/functional reasons and fiscal reasons). | **Focus Strategies has created a Coordinated Entry page on their website with some CE models across the country.**  <http://commongroundwa.org/> |
| **Goal # 2: Locate Coordinated Entry Resources to Ease Consumer Access.** | * Centralized vs. decentralized. Physical central vs. multiple way. * The goal is to ease consumer access. * **Centralized:** 1 location where consumers could go. *Pros:* easier for consumers to have 1 location to go to. Easier to staff one location, update one computer. *Cons:* may be difficult for people to access that one physical location. * **Decentralized:** Geographically & demographically spread. *Pros:* decentralized recognizes that one size does not fill all. *Cons:* may create a system that is confusing to consumers. Consumers may repeat intakes. May be a challenge to coordinate all system to remain consistent. * **Question:** There are so many different requirements for each separate program – how will staff members learn all programs and requirements? **Answer:** Common Assessment Tool may be used. Programs may have to update their requirements. * **Hybrid program:** Central location with mobile spokes. Mobile assessors. * **Question:** Will the quality of the assessment change if the intake is over the phone or in person? Will the outcomes change? * **Question:** If one entry point in established, will it be the only way to enter the homeless system? **Answer:** Everyone wants a trap door, but if there are trap doors in the system then there really is not CE. * **Question:** What about individuals who have committed a sexual offense? Where will they go? **Answer:** We will need to discuss current program criteria and what to do with these individuals. |  |
| **Goal #3: Transparent Assessment that Prioritizes Clients’ Needs** | * People may need to be flexible with their program criteria. * A decision-tree model would be an assessment tool that narrowed down to give people the best fit. * By taking out program-specific, the assessment process into the homeless system would become streamlined. * Should we look to adapting a system that is already in place? VOA has an assessment tool already. * **Question:** With the roll-out of Winter Sanctuary to a year-long program, will there need to be an assessment for this program? **Answer:** WS is currently in HMIS, so it will most likely in in CE. Maybe it will augment how people get into WS. | **VOA assessment tool will be sent to Focus Strategies.** |
| **Goal #5: Measure and Report on Impacts** | * In addition to tracking who we do serve, let’s discuss who isn’t served. * First roll will be for ESG grants. |  |
| **Goal # 6: Securing Funding for Development and Implementation** | * This is an unfunded HUD mandate. SSF will have choices in how funding is implemented. * The exact amount of $ needed is unclear. Need to know what we will do before we decide on funding choices. * **Logical use of resources:** Focus Strategies recommend that core funding for CE will be HUD funding. Most **stable** source of funding and most closely **aligned** funding will be HUD funding. * **Reallocation ESG Funds:** Funding could also be realigned to CE from SSO programs. * To take away funding from programs would be taking away from programs that are already being cut. * Other possible sources of funding: SSF (SSF has the legal ability to generate funds), “real-estate” taxes. |  |
| **Closing** | * Continue to focus on the goal. This is Sacramento’s opportunity to create CE. This is an opportunity to think outside. What are the values you want for this system? * **Challenges:** From a funder’s point of view, with regard to HMIS it doesn’t seem like a best practice that all service providers don’t use HMIS to its full capacity. * **Challenge:** What do you think is missing in our homeless system? * **Challenge:** Can you serve everyone. You cannot heal everyone the way you want to heal them. |  |
| **Next Meeting** | **3rd Stakeholder Meeting: July 25th, 1pm-4pm SETA** |  |

Minutes Prepared by: Jessica Lobedan, Sacramento Steps Forward