

Heading Home Anoka Housing Collaborative 3/10/2021

Meeting Minutes Approved

Attendance at the bottom of this page

Ice Breaker in the Comments-favorite part of spring!

Housing Support Overview and Breakout (Natalie Engelmann-Grants and Contracts Anoka)

- Information:
 - o See attached Power Point dated 3.10.21
- Basic introduction of Housing Support (formerly GRH)
 - o Community Setting
 - Provider/Site needs to be approved and have an agreement with the County
 - Participant accesses eligibility through their local EA system
 - Ex: Long Term Homeless Apartment Based Programs (receiving referrals through CE)
 - Individual can work (see graph on PDF)
 - Providers should not encourage participants to wait to work until they are in the program several months
- Break-Out Session Discussion: (See chart for share back to group)
 - o Background Info:
 - We're looking to change the narrative as to what housing support was previously (ex: you CAN work!)
 - We want you to encourage and support it with client as appropriate
 - It can be scary for people who are chronically homeless to put trust in a system that will access their money
 - It's an important tool in the toolbox so we are working on balancing the challenges and opportunity
 - o How do you see Housing Supports could be beneficial for clients?
 - o How would you share with client the benefits of the program?
 - o What questions do you have?

Benefit to client?	How would you share with your client?
Stabilizes housing to get a good rental history	It is a stepping stone-it doesn't have to be forever
You will be housed	Re: giving up money to program: "It is your rent" money will be tight for your phone bill, etc... but you can work part time
Opportunities to work	Supplement with other programs like free cell phones/PC for people/Bridging
Using it as an opportunity to get "housing ready"	Landlords: Getting paid on-time and having someone to reach out to for help as they become excellent tenants
Been most beneficial to clients with little income and a difficult time affording rent	

Next Steps:

- If your agency is interested in providing this type of service please contact Natalie
Natalie.Engelmann@co.anoka.mn.us

Prevention and Outreach (Barb):

- **COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA):**
 - o More robust services to callers to 211
 - o RFP went out to provide assistance outside of what 211 can do
 - o No max. Rent
 - Everything can go back to March 13th, 2020
 - Possibility for forward-payment of rent (up to 3 months)
 - o Tentative Start Date March 22nd-31st
- Allina Charitable Contribution (New funding opportunity)
 - o Available to Non Profits up to \$5,000 (no deadline)
 - Food Security, Mental Health, Housing/Shelter
 - What are the community gaps? (discussion at HH)
 - Past-due rent would be challenging with only \$5000
 - Gas Cards, Vehicle Tabs, Driver's License Fees
 - See slide for link to application (it's a simple application)
 - o Interest from Agencies:
 - Areyle (Anoka Libraries) I could talk to our community engagement team and our leadership at the library about vaccine education. We could also help market assistance programs.
 - Subgroup conversation with people who can make decisions?
 - Suggestion to send to North Metro Roundtable Group in Roger

FHPAP Advisory:

Budget Reconciliation done with sub grantees:

-YMCA budget is tight and reconciled and good to go

-SA has been spending lots of money to keep people housed and with COVID impact we wanted to make sure there will be enough money at the end of the moratorium to make sure there will be enough for Prevention.

- Anoka Cty. will inform MN Housing of the reallocation AFTER it is approved by this advisory committee

- **Recommendation: See slides 16 and 17 from PowerPoint dated 3.10.21**

- Purpose of changes are to provide longer, deeper subsidies due to COVID

Voting Agencies: ACCAP, Anoka County, A/H schools, FPAC, H4Y, Lee Carlson Center, Radias, SSEH, TSA, YMCA

Motion to Vote by Matt Lewis

Seconded by David Frei

Voting Record: Motion Passes

from Matt Lewis to everyone: 3:17 PM

so moved

from DavidFrei to everyone: 3:17 PM

seconded

from Matt Lewis to everyone: 3:17 PM

I like to keep things... moving

from Matt Lewis to everyone: 3:17 PM

I vote yay

from Johnna to everyone: 3:17 PM

yes

from DavidFrei to everyone: 3:17 PM

Yah sure ya betcha

from bsopp to everyone: 3:17 PM

Yes

from Diane Pottratz to everyone: 3:17 PM

I vote Yay!

from Natalie Engelmann to everyone: 3:18 PM

Yes yay!

from Robbin Lofton to everyone: 3:18 PM

yay

from Jessica Jasurda to everyone: 3:18 PM

yay

from BrendaP to everyone: 3:18 PM

Yes. From Brenda Pritchard Hope 4 Youth

Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care Updates:

Coordinated Entry:

- Lack of resources for single adults
- Not enough vacancies/housing to move into
- What do we do so the priority pool doesn't become unmanageable again
 - o Anyone that is interested please join! We need all minds thinking on this one

Centralized Access-Homeless Response:

- Directors Council has an idea to have clients be able to access any and all information/resources surrounding housing from one place
 - o A group is looking at regions currently using this model and figuring out what we want to take from these models and improve
 - o It will be a long process so updates will be provided but it'll be awhile before we have a large update

Governing Board:

- New governing board takes over this month!
 - o Friday 1-3
 - o Meeting invite is at the bottom of the agenda

Agency Updates:

- Stepping Stones (and other shelters) have gotten vaccinated or are in the process of that!
 - o 65% of residents; 75% of staff got it with no major illness or reactions
- Happy Social Workers Month!
- Aeryle: The sixth annual Write On! Teen short story contest is happening during the month of April! Teens in grades 6-12 who live or attend school in Anoka County are eligible to participate in this fun writing contest. To participate, teens can submit one short piece of fiction (between 1300-3000 words). Stories can be from any genre (fanfiction, fantasy, verse, etc. as long as it is an original piece of work that they have not submitted previously. Beginning on April 1, stories can be submitted on the library's website or by visiting tinyurl.com/ACLWriteOn2021 (this link will not work until April 1). Sponsored by the Friends of the Anoka County Library, there will be three winners in each grade category (6-8, 9-10, 11-12). These winners will receive gift cards and have their stories published on the Library's website. Winners will be announced in June.

Attendance:

Aeryle Kuehn-Anoka County Library

Brenda Pritchard Hope 4 Youth

Ben Walz

Barb Sopp

Chanel Hayes- Housing Director YMCA

Carmen Cruz

Crista Kratzer

David Frei

Diane Pottratz YMCA

Hope Inman

Jessica Jasurda- Homeless Connect at Anoka Schools

Jennifer Crotteau

Jesus Nunez, Neighborhood Healthsource

James Baron

Johnna

Liz Moen

Lisa Robinson YMCA

Matt Lewis, RADIAS Health

Michele Reid, Anoka County

Mthoennes

Natalie Engelmann

Rob Bergfalk - Compassion Church

Robbin Lofton-Guild Services

Ruth Kashmark, MN Recovery Connection, Beyond Backgrounds

Ryane Ottengheime Leifheit- Metro HRA

Stacey O'Donoghue, Anoka County

Stephanie Gustafson

Sue Rosendahl TSA