

**St. Charles County
Community Assistance Board
Community Commons, Room #240
427 Spencer Road, St. Peters, MO 63376**

Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2018

Meeting Facilitator: John Glenn, Chair

Attendance: Cynthia Syberg, Dave Bardgett, Tim Meyer, Carissa Figgins, Christy Weber Melinda McAliney, Melissa Hollander, Caty Beilsmith,

Guests: Pinar Turker (St. Charles County), Anita Telkamp (City of St. Charles) Dawn Hiatt (YIN), Juanita C. Nelson (Salvation Army), Kathy Thompson (LINC), Karen Elhmann (Volunteers in Medicine, St. Charles), Denise Fondren (Our Lady's Inn), Heather St. Peter (Bridgeway), Karen Ford (NECAC), Cheryl Clerkley (NECAC), Lauren Grotegeers (Habitat), Kathy Thompson (LINC), Lindsay Kyonka (Crisis Nursery), Pierre Hampton (Salvation Army), Jack Lipin (Joachim & Ann), Dottie Kastigar (Community Council)

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. **Public Comment** – Dottie shared that approximately 240 households are literally homeless in our community.
- III. Approval of September 11, 2018 minutes- Motion to approve made by Melinda, seconded by Cynthia, motion approved
- IV. **Old Business**
 - a. 5 Year Plan- Dave made a motion to approve the plan. Cynthia seconded. Motion approved
 - b. Site visits – Dave made a motion to hold agency site visits in February, March, and April 2019. Cynthia seconded. Motion approved.
- V. **2019 CAB Presentations**
 - a. **Youth in Need** (YIN) – Dawn Hiatt, Runaway and Homeless Youth program supervisor. YIN houses kids 10-19. 3 populations – kids in foster care-30 day placement; crisis intervention with intact families – “time out” for 7-10 days; and homeless youth – 16-19. Youth are assigned to a therapist, and receive wrap around services. Over 300 children per year are served. Partnership with Juvenile diversion for youth with non-felonies. They

have received 8 kids so far. YIN converted a bedroom for overflow. Two therapists are on staff; interns are used for extra help. YIN also has a Youth Coordinated Entry case manager, who works with youth on housing & employment they have housed 2-3 young adults. Safe Place - from 8a-10p street outreach teams respond to safe place locations. They will also respond after hours as needed. Most youth 17 and under go back home or with another supportive family member. YIN is requesting funding for refrigerator and freezers.

- b. Habitat for Humanity-** Lauren Grotegeers. Habitat St. Charles was started in 1997 by the Rotary club. Since then, 87 families have been housed. Habitat Selection process: 1) live in St. Charles County for 1 year; 2) income level 80% area median income or less (income of \$954 per month or less)- they do have a mortgage with Habitat (average of \$550-600); 3) living in substandard housing at the time of application; 4) willing to partner with 350 sweat equity hours. Habitat builds simple, decent, and affordable housing. Larger families may also receive a basement bathroom. Houses are universal design. Habitat is requesting funding for 2 homes in Wentzville heights neighborhood for neighborhood stabilization. They hope to have families housed by Christmas 2019. Habitat has done several home rehabs; Habitat national is beginning to do some home repair. Request is for \$35,000 toward 2 foundations. They do not currently participate in HMIS.
- c. LINC-** Kathy Thompson, Director. LINC focus is on west St. Charles County; LINC serves homeless and indigent families. They have a food pantry, and triage for homeless prevention. LINC excels in preventing homelessness and keep people within their schools. LINC is seeing an Increase in number applying for SSDI and being denied claims. Grandparents are raising grandchildren. There is a large need for transportation. LINC recently received a grant for the foster grandparent program. LINC also works with Continuum homeless death prevention hotline. Last year, shelters were activated for 29 nights, which is 25% of winter. Last summer 700 student meals were served with daily activities for youth. This year LINC has a new after-school latchkey program. For homeless prevention, 60% of clients are disabled. LINC checks on families 30 days and later – 95-98% will stay in their homes for at least 30 days. 75% remain at least 90 days. 100% get referred if they can't serve them. LINC request is for \$75,000.
- D. Bridgeway-** Health St. Peter, Director. Women's center has provided sexual assault services since 2002. They provide crisis intervention - 24/7 hotline; emergency shelter – 27 beds for women and children fleeing from domestic and sexual violence. Families generally stay 6-8 weeks. Residential support services include case management, support groups; outreach services for persons not needing shelter; youth services and teen dating violence prevention education in schools. Last year partnered with Lindenwood for a 1-2 hour presentation on "consent" for athletes. In 2017, 507 families were helped through hotline and shelter. 251 have been served in 2018, to date. Shelter served 95 woman and children in 2017. 25 people in shelter, including 12 children last week. Shelter is at capacity, and crisis calls are up. Request is for \$13,500 for maintenance and utilities for shelter. Outcomes: (1) want women to be discharged to a safe environment; (2) Measure victim empowerment related to safety. The shelter is in a very old building.
- e. Crisis Nursery** – Lindsey Kyonka. Shared Crisis Nursery impact report. Have been in St. Charles for 25 years, now with 3 locations and 2 outreach centers. There are 22 beds in St. Charles County, and 2800 admissions annually. Work with families with children ages 0-12 with a 3 pronged approach: (1) Outreach - families have a resistance to ask for help. 95 canvassing events were held in 2017. They partner with schools, shelters, 1st responders to identify families needing support. (2) Emergency respite program – 24/7 shelter. Intake is focused on acute crisis needs. Conduct developmental assessments and physicals on

children in shelter. (80% haven't seen a doctor in the last year). Provide therapy. Outcomes – 98% of children are able return home to parents. 96% set new goals by discharge. (3) Family Empowerment program – provide long term support; intensive in-home support and case management. 15% increase in # of families reaching out for assistance. In FY18, more than 50 families called with no place to sleep. Crisis Nursery is not in HMIS and has limited participation in CE. CAB member asked why not as active in CoC? Request for \$30,000 not broken out, but requesting for staff salaries.

- f. **Our Lady's Inn** – Denise Fondren, Director. In existence for 13 years in St. Charles County. Provide counseling, child advocate, RN, etc. to help with pregnancy and children's health and well-being. Many women have been chronically homeless, suffered, DV, mental illness, substance abuse, etc. Also provide case management for children, including play therapy, school enrollment assistance, and addressing physical and developmental delays. Families can stay up to 1 year in shelter, with 2 years of aftercare. Average Length of stay is 75 days/nights of stay. Women who stay longer are more stable at exit. Transportation – ladies are transported 8:30-5:30 M-F as needed. Moms are helped to get to jobs, school, and day care. Moms develop a person-centered plan. If they do not address underlying issues, they often become homeless again. Moms are expected to save 50% of their income. They can pay back fees to resolve court fees, etc. They can save for a car and receive matching funds. Lots of structure and routine in the shelter. About 50 households served annually. Large % are seriously mentally ill, with depression, schizophrenia, high anxiety.
- g. **Salvation Army** – Pierre Hampton, Juanita Cockerel Nelson, shelter director and case manager. Shelter has up to 48 hours to get children into school, and 120 days to get family housed. Focus is on moving folks from homelessness to housing. Sessions are held on character building and focusing on goals. Staff refer to Salvation Army as a lodge, not a shelter. Shelter is seeing increase in severely mentally ill persons; challenges with people who have difficulty being in a congregate environment and have little to no income. Shelter is also taking more elderly people. Also seeing a lot of people with substance abuse issues. Outcomes – 75% have income within 90 days. Families have a case plan identifying and addressing barriers to housing. Pathway of Hope helps people being discharged from shelter. In 2017, 182 people were helped. So far, 160 have been helped in 2018. Thirty households have been placed in permanent housing.

VI. Agency CAB Meeting Hosts Signups (March – June 2019)

VIII. Adjournment – 9:10p

XI. Next Meeting Date: **Tuesday, November 13, 2018**

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