



Homeless Services Consortium Board of Directors Meeting
November 18, 2016
11am- 1pm
United Way Dane County Board Room A

AGENDA

Call to Order and Welcome

1. No Minutes received from Oct 28th to vote on
2. Report from Written Standards committee
3. Approval of Written Standard revisions (attached)
4. Update on CoC Coordinator hiring and next steps
5. Prioritize tasks in community plan for committees.

Adjourn

Schedule for remaining 2016 Board of Directors Meetings:

All meetings will be held at 11:00 am at the United Way

November 18, 2016 (11/25 Holiday)
December 16, 2016 (12/23 Fri before Xmas)

The core components of a rapid re-housing program are housing identification and relocation, short- and/or medium term rental assistance and move-in (financial) assistance, and case management and housing stabilization services.

Program staff are expected to remain engaged with the households from first contact to program exit (no more than 24 months of rental assistance, in addition to up to 6 months of continued case management), using a progressive engagement approach and tailoring services to the needs of the household in order to assist the household to maintain permanent housing. (24 CFR 578.37 and *Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing*, National Alliance to End Homelessness) According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, progressive engagement is “a strategy of providing a small amount of assistance to everyone entering the homelessness system. For most households, a small amount of assistance is enough to stabilize, but for those who need more, more assistance is provided. This flexible, individualized approach maximizes resources by only providing the most assistance to the households who truly need it. This approach is supported by research that household characteristics such as income, employment, substance use, etc., cannot predict what level of assistance a household will need.”

Eligibility Criteria

- Participants must meet categories 1- Literally Homeless or 4 – Fleeing Domestic Violence as outlined by the HUD definition of homelessness.
- If the household meets category 4, they must also reside in one of the places set forth in category 1 at the time eligibility is determined. Homeless Verification form must be retained in the household’s file.
- The participant’s household annual income must be at or below 30% CMI.
- ★ • The participant must be assessed using the VI-SPDAT or VI-F-SPDAT. To qualify for RRH, a participant must have a VI-SPDAT score in the range 4- 89 or a family must have a score within the range 4-10. A copy of the assessment shall be retained in the participant’s file.
- Participants must lack sufficient resources and support networks necessary to retain housing without rapid rehousing assistance (24 CFR 578.37(E)).
- Participants will be prioritized based on VI-SPDAT or VI-F-SPDAT score and length of time homeless. Youth ages 18-21 will be prioritized.

Community-wide Prioritization Report

The community-wide prioritization report will rank potential participants by homeless status and total points. The number of points are determined by using the following calculation: (Number of months of homelessness/12) + VI-SPDAT score = total points.

Minimum Standards

1. The maximum length of program participation is 24 months.
2. Supportive services designed to meet the needs of the project participants must be made available to the project participant throughout the duration of stay in the RRH project.
3. Project participants in RRH must enter into a written lease agreement that is terminable for cause. The lease must be automatically renewable upon expiration for a minimum term of one month, except on prior notice by either party. Programs may have additional requirements determined by program funding requirements. For example, programs may require a written lease agreement for an initial term of one year.
4. RRH programs may provide move-in costs.

5. RRH project will use Housing First approaches, following the Minimum Standards listed in the Housing First section of the Written Standards.
6. Financial assistance and case management should be based on a household's individual needs using progressive engagement. Assistance should be offered using a light touch; start with a small amount of assistance and increase it if needed.
7. RRH programs will connect households with community resources and mainstream benefits to allow for individual resources to be used for housing costs.

Access to Rapid Re-housing

- All referrals for RRH projects will come through the coordinated entry system and the HSC community RRH priority lists for families and individuals.
- ✶ • Exceptions to the priority list will be made in rare circumstances. A majority of those present at the housing placement meeting must agree to the exception.

Comment [TKM1]: Proposed language after 11/14 written standards meeting.

Minimum Performance Benchmarks for RRH Projects

- Average length of shelter stay is less than 45 days.
- Average time from program entry to housing placement is 60 days.
- Referral to RRH Priority List within 7 days of emergency shelter entry or assessment for families and individuals living on the streets or in a place not meant for human habitation.
- 80% of participants will remain in permanent housing -at the end of the operating year or exiting to permanent housing during the operating year
- 80% of adult participants will maintain or increase their total income -at the end of the operating year or program exit.