

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA REGIONAL
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD MEETING
September 30, 2019
MAG Office Building, Ironwood Room

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Erik Cole, Arizona State University

Diana Yazzie Devine, NAC

Sergeant Rob Ferraro, City of Tempe Police,
Co-Chair

#Marchelle Franklin, City of Phoenix

Tad Gary, Mercy Care

#Scott Hall, Maricopa County

Samantha Jackson, Downtown Phoenix
Partnership

Bruce Liggett, Maricopa County

*Darlene Newsom, UMOM

#Dawn Noggle, PhD., Community Member

Amy Schwabenlender, Human Services
Campus, Co-Chair

*Stephanie Small, City of Glendale

*Tamara Wright, Community Solutions

*Did not attend

#Attended by telephone conference call

OTHERS PRESENT

Priscilla Acero, AZCEND

Juan Aristizabal, Magellan

Richard DiCarlo, St. Patrick's

Alfred Edwards, DES

Paul Magallanez, HonorHealth

Chela Schuster, Community Solutions

Joan Serviss, AZ Housing Coalition

Tamara Spendley, City of Phoenix

Nicky Stevens, City of Tempe

Jacki Taylor, Save the Family

Jowan Thornton, Salvation Army

John Wall, AHI

Brandi Whisler, Circle the City

MAG STAFF

Julie Montoya

Sarah Kent

Anne Scott

Shantae Smith

1. Welcome and Introductions

Amy Schwabenlender, Human Services Campus, Co-Chair of the CoC Board, called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m. Introductions ensued.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Erik Cole, ASU, moved to approve the consent agenda. Dede Yazzie Devine, NAC, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Updated Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Standards & Best Practices

Chela Schuster, Community Solutions, explained that the updated language involves landlord engagement, and ensuring that we are working on mutual decisions. More language was added so that clients know their rights and understand the process. Trauma-informed care was included in the training as well. Even though providers have restrictions based on funding source regarding the time limits of RRH, this document is what organization needs to follow for service delivery. It ensures a RRH standard of care regardless of the provider.

Ms. Scott noted that the matrix remains unchanged. Ms. Yazzie Devine expressed her desire to see a stronger race equity language moving forward.

Tad Gary, Mercy Care, moved to accept the document. Mr. Cole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Family Housing Hub Operations Manual

Shantae Smith, MAG, provided an overview of the manual, and noted that AHCCCS language and the appendix were added. The language reflects as much care for the clients as possible. The manual includes information on operations and what is required.

Ms. Schuster added that the section on the percentage of people who were declined through coordinated entry was removed because it is a continuum of care standard and is included in the Policies and Procedures.

Ms. Scott noted that data collection requirements are included in HMIS Policies and Procedures and that the Family Housing Hub uses HMIS.

Ms. Smith expressed that the monthly inflow and outflow can be viewed on the dashboard. Tracking family data in the BFZ dashboard is a huge win for the community.

Samantha Jackson, Downtown Phoenix Partnership, moved to approve the manual. Mr. Gary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Arizona Housing Coalition—Legislative Update

Joan Serviss, Executive Director of the Arizona Housing Coalition, spoke about impacts of the federal program if Congress takes action. She is hoping there will be a budget conversation before January 1st. Senator McSally is targeted to sign on to affordable housing legislation with Senator Krysten Sinema. The legislation would build over 500,000 homes in two years. The IRS formula is based on population, and would also allow more of a federal funding pulldown. Ms. Serviss offered to provide a sample support letter to providers. The expectation is to push this legislation forward in 2019. Over 20 legislators that have signed on.

Ms. Serviss concluded her update by stating that the current administration nibbles away at the edges for mixed status and LGBTQ protections. The Impact Rule is the newest effort. She put out a call to action to ask people to submit comments about the rule. Deadline for proposed comments is October 18th.

The community is pleased by the State Legislature's action to provide the Arizona Department of Housing one-time funding of \$15,000,000, but there is still a lot more work to do. The Housing Coalition has two priorities, and always seeks feedback from members. The Housing Trust Fund needs to be restated to its original level, as does the AZ Low Income Housing Tax Credit. The mechanisms that hurt homeless youth and families need to be cleaned up.

Ms. Yazzie Devine expressed appreciation for Ms. Serviss' ability to make the numerous legislative bills easier to understand.

Ms. Serviss noted that there is only one proposal this year because they get placated sometimes, and are told by legislators to come back next year. The goal is create some tool kits for local advocates to use for their own advocacy. The Coalition is trying to help with more local input this year. The National League of Cities and Towns has a local best practice to learn about tracking policy. Additionally, the municipal response to homelessness will help keep every organization in line.

Ms. Serviss invited all to attend the October 29 and 30 Coalition Conference.

7. Committee, Subcommittee and Staff Reports

Brandi Whisler, Circle the City, Co-Chair of the CoC Committee, noted that members recommended the Rapid Re-Housing Standards and Best Practices to the Board for approval, as well as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Emergency Transfer Plan and the Family Housing Hub Operations manual. Additionally, the Committee discussed HMIS policies for funder access. A small workgroup will be forming to update the HMIS Release of Information to ease client understanding of the document. Members are encouraged to apply for the co-chair position. Both seats are open, as Ms. Whisler is stepping down from the Committee. Ms. Scott thanked Ms. Whisler for her hard work and dedication to ending homelessness.

Ms. Scott added that MAG staff checked in with the race and equity workgroup, and will follow up with discussions.

Ms. Smith requested feedback from the community on the ROI. Ms. Scott announced that the NOFA was submitted on Friday, and thanked contributing members.

Julie Montoya, MAG, noted that staff met with the Arizona Housing Coalition to discuss scheduling SPDAT trainings, and some dates have been scheduled for November. She added that the Racial Equity Workgroup is working on a scope of work. She asked the Board whether it still wants to workgroup to meet.

Ms. Yazzie Devine expressed that the work is so important and that it should start with the Board. The scope of work shouldn't be made by the workgroup.

Ms. Montoya clarified that her intention was to start the scope of work and then pass it off to the Board, and added that the workgroup had discussed how the scope of work for recommendation to the Board.

Mr. Cole added that the way the data was brought to the Board was very important. The racial equity work should be embedded into everything.

Nicky Stevens, City of Tempe, noted that many community providers have requested inclusion training. There is the opportunity for several focuses. The Housing Coalition is a great organization to schedule and lead these trainings. Ms. Montoya invited everyone to the racial equity workgroup, and will send out notes from last month's meeting.

8. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Co-Chair Ferraro expressed the need for a co-chair, and urged members to apply. Mr. Gary suggested adding the race and equity as a future agenda item.

9. Comments from the Board

There were no comments from the Board.

10. Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Liggett moved to adjourn. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion. The next meeting will be on October 28, 2019.