

Consumer Advisory Council Meeting Summary

January 20, 2010

Consumer Advisory Council members present:

Anthony	Daniel	Margaret
Ariyetta	Jaclyn	Nancy
Blue	Latrice	

Members absent:

Sheila

Community present:

Bill	Kristine	Scott
Joseph	Niles	

Welcome and Introduction.

The meeting was called to order by Latrice, serving as Co-Chair, at 6:15pm.
The December 16, 2009 minutes and January 20, 2010 agenda were reviewed and approved.

Public Comment

None

Feedback from GB, IAC, Funders Group

Bill reported out on the IAC and Funders Group.

Interagency Council

At the January 11, 2010 meeting the Youth and Young Adult committee gave a presentation on the needs of the youth and young adult population and how they differ from the "regular" system.

Some numbers on the youth and young adults population:

- 75% of youth go home after first night in a shelter
- 13% exit to homelessness
- 12% go to services
- 93% are not homeless 5 years after services
- 50% of homeless adults report being homeless as an adolescent

There is a need for more shelter and transitional housing for young adults; transitional housing, meaning a place for youth to be in a more structured, family-like setting and have more of an opportunity to develop as if they were living in a stable family environment. With an adult you can house them first and then work on services they need, but with youth a lot of them don't have the knowledge of what to do with housing or the responsibilities involved in maintaining housing.

The committee had lots of questions regarding the youth and young adult housing model and requested that Melinda Giovengo be invited to the next CAC meeting to give the housing model presentation.

Funders Group

The Funders Group is still working on trying to get a better handle on renewals and what cutbacks to make to ensure other things get funded.

Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day

CEH is looking for people that were counted in the One Night Count within the last couple years and now are off the streets to interview. Anthony, Ariyetta, Daniel, Jaclyn and Nancy all volunteered.

Michael from Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA) came to share the efforts that WILHA and SKKCH are working on for Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day.

They are working on putting together a video of formerly homeless people telling their stories and would like them, if they are able to, to attend HHAD in Olympia. Legislators can hear numbers all day, but a story with a face is what they need to hear. Ariyetta, Blue, Jaclyn and Nancy all volunteered.

WLIHA and SKKCH are arranging for a bus to transport people to Olympia. They will be picking people up in Seattle and Kent. CEH will be providing a van for transportation also. As many voices as possible are needed to advocate. A rough schedule of the day is bus leaves at 6:45am, check-in at 8:30am and program begins at 9:00am.

Latrice asked if the \$100 million that is being asked for the Washington State Housing Trust Fund is for the next biennium. Michael clarified that it is needed to get through to the end of the current biennium to continue building.

Michael then reviewed a couple of the bills that WLIHA is watching.

HB 2622 – Tenant Screening Act. This bill allows people looking for a rental unit to live in to receive a copy of their credit report and have it last for 60 days rather than having to pay for one for each property they apply to and it also requires landlords to give applicants an explanation in writing of why they are being denied.

HB2623 – Foreclosure Prevention Bill. This bill regulates the foreclosure on real property and charges a \$25 bank fee which is used for counseling. It also allows mortgage deferment up to 12-months for the unemployed.

Governing Board Meeting

Bill went over the agenda for the January 27, 2010 Governing Board meeting.

- 5 new members will be voted on for approval
- The quarterly dashboard will be presented
- Funders Group members will be presenting reports on their work plans
- The advocacy agenda will be reviewed. Two bills in particular we are watching is one that will give sufficient notice prior to an eviction and one that requires institutions to do what is necessary to not discharge people into homelessness.
- Role of the Governing Board in 2010

Discussion:

Nancy asked if organizations track how many people they discharge into homelessness. Bill said that information is currently not tracked. However the bill will require that they do.

Nancy would like to know how many IAC member organizations discharge into homelessness. She is particularly concerned about her building (The Frye). People are being strongly coerced into moving and the staff is not helping with assisting clients to receive the help they need. Bill said he would discuss this with Bill Hallerman.

In reviewing the goals of the 10-year plan, we have not succeeded in getting HMIS working, the disproportionality of homeless African-Americans and reducing discharge into homelessness. We would like to ask the Governing Board to become active advocates in these areas, especially discharging into homelessness.

Membership Recruitment

Each member was given a matrix to fill out based on the experiences they feel comfortable representing on the CAC. Kristine will compile the information and report out what representation is needed on the CAC.

Latrice asked about the status of Paul and Sheila. Kristine gave the most current information that she had on each of them.

Paul withdrew his membership due to physical issues and a series of surgeries he required. Kristine will follow up with him in May to check on his recovery and what his interest level is on returning to the committee.

Sheila is going through some serious physical issues with her back. Kristine believes that she is now confined to a wheelchair, but not certain. Kristine will follow-up with Shelia and her ability to continue with the committee.

Public Comment

Jaelyn announced that PSKS is celebrating 15 years of being in service. She also announced that PSKS will be hosting their annual Squatters Count on January 28th at 9:00pm until January 29th at 10:00am. This event is so people that usually don't get counted during the One Night Count, due to being in squats or in areas where counters are told not to enter, have somewhere to go to ensure they are counted.

Latrice announced that she has started back to school. She is attending City University to retain a bachelors degree in business management with a minor in human resource management.

February CAC Meeting

The next meeting, co-chaired by Latrice and Anthony, will be Wednesday, February 17th at Plymouth Congregational Church, 6pm – 8:00pm.

On the agenda:

- Youth and Young Adults Housing Model Presentation
- Recaps of One Night Count and Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day
- Membership Recruitment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Kristine Gullin, CEH Staff