



Consumer Advisory Council Meeting Summary

June 15, 2011

Consumer Advisory Council members present:

Anthony	Dara	Jaclyn	Margaret
Ariyetta	Daniel	Latrice	Nancy

Members absent:

Blue	Paul
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Community present:

Bill Block	Gretchen Bruce	Kristine Gullin
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Welcome and Introduction.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09pm by Latrice. The April 20, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Public Comment

Gretchen and Bill gave a short report on Count Us In, the youth and young adult one night count of unsheltered individuals that was held May 25, 2011. 347 people were counted and 87% reported themselves as homeless. Participants were asked to take a survey that included information such as gender identification and age. Bill and Gretchen will try to have someone attend the July meeting to give a formal presentation on the full report.

Jaclyn announced that PSKS will hold their annual memorial for homeless people that have passed away in the last year this Friday (June 17) at 2pm.

Agenda and Minutes Approval

The May 18th minutes noted Jaclyn as stating she was disappointed in the whole Mid Plan Review process and found some of the comments frustrating. Nancy asked Jaclyn what she found frustrating. Jaclyn attended the youth and young adult charrette. She didn't understand how or who defined what a homeless expert is and what makes them an expert. One particular comment she found upsetting was regarding age limits for youth and young adult programs, noting that people do better working with programs and services where they feel comfortable and welcome, not necessarily based on seemingly-arbitrary age limits.

The meeting agenda and May 18, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes.

Mid Plan Review Report

The Mid Plan Review process began in March, with guidance from CSH, with the Steering Committee hosting a series of community meetings to identify the key policy considerations for the final years of the Plan. There was strong consensus on the following issues and about the types of actions needed:

- Maintaining the pace of housing production
- Alignment with the HEARTH Act
- Alignment with the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Alignment with the Affordable Care Act (healthcare reform)
- Implementation of the Homeless Families Initiative
- Implementation of the Veterans' Five Year Plan

Six key policy issues were identified and made up the charrette discussion on April 25 and 26:

- Performance measures and accountability
- Homeless youth and young adults
- System level prevention
- Emergency shelter for single adults
- Political will
- Homeless immigrants and refugees

Following the charettes, CSH drafted recommendations for CEH's consideration on each of the six key policy topics. The final Mid Plan Review Report incorporates CSH's recommendations within the framework of the other consensus initiatives. Initiatives and recommendations were grouped in three broad categories:

1. **Overarching Priorities:** Overarching priorities that will need to be embedded within each of the other initiatives for the remainder of the Plan. Includes: Performance Measures, Production, Political Will
2. **Aligning with New Federal Laws and Initiatives:** Areas in which we need to take advantage of / align with emerging federal opportunities. Includes: Affordable Care Act (Healthcare Reform); National Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness; Five Year Plan to End Veterans' Homelessness

3. Systems Change

Include: Homeless Families Initiative, Emergency Housing for Single Adults; Homeless Youth and Young Adults; Immigrant and Refugee Communities; System Level Prevention

Feedback from Governing Board, Funders Group and Interagency Council

Each body has been discussing and working on the Mid Plan Review which was presented to each of these groups at their respective May meetings. Each of these bodies meeting summaries was included in the CAC packet.

Governing Board

Two discussions around the Mid Plan Review Report developed:

1. Are we doing what needs to be done? - General consensus we are doing a good job of getting things done.
2. Do we change our timeline? – General consensus that we should not change our timeline nor our commitment to ending homelessness, but we change our targets for what is realistically achievable by 2015 with another check-in at that point as to whether / how to extend goals past that date given circumstances that exist in 2015.

Interagency Council

A discussion of the aging/senior population developed around the Mid Plan Review Report. The main point being that this population is an emerging demographic and has been overlooked to now. Bill noted that the charrette report also states that the aging/senior population needs focus.

Funders Group

A discussion of the proposed investment priorities and task forces that will need to be convened out of the Mid Plan Review, and which funder will provide leadership/staffing to move these bodies of work forward.

Membership Recruitment

The history of membership recruitment has been to identify which populations lack representation and focus our efforts in that direction. The Mid Plan Review has prompted the development of specific task forces. In our current recruitment efforts, it's suggested that we strategically recruit to match task forces. The idea being that representation on a task force would be stronger with two representatives than with one. We can then recruit task force members onto the CAC.

Two types of task forces will be created, exploratory and implementation. We are at the exploratory stage which will look at best practices, what services are offered, who offers them, who's using them, etc. Task Forces will be time limited. The aim is to keep the group small with a good representation of experts, providers and users. The IAC will be responsible for vetting each task force. There are currently three task forces being organized:

1. Youth and Young Adult – UWKC is taking the lead in creating and organizing this task force
2. Refugees and Immigrants - It is being negotiated who will take the lead creating and organizing this task force
3. Single Adult Shelter – Jason Johnson (Kent), Emily Leslie (Bellevue) and Dannette Smith (Seattle) are leading and organizing this task force.

CAC agreed that recruiting new members through the task forces is a good idea.

There was concern over the application process of requiring potential members to attend three meetings before being voted in as a member. The purpose of each of the three meetings was reviewed:

1. Applicant's introduction to the CAC and what we do
2. Applicant's level of commitment and interest
3. Vote and accept applicant into the committee

Ariyetta doesn't think that three meetings are enough for an applicant to really get a feel for the CAC and what we are doing. She has been attending for almost a year and is still confused at times. It was agreed that a better orientation process is needed. Gretchen suggested two-on-one (herself, one member, plus applicant) orientations to go over the CAC charter in detail, the Ten Year Plan and the Mid Plan Review Report.

Public Comment

Bill announced that the legislative session has ended for 2011 and that Disability Lifeline took a significant hit in funding. In addition to funding cuts, recipients will no longer receive a monthly cash allowance. Funds will now be distributed to agencies to provide housing, services and necessities.

July CAC Agenda

- Count Us In Report
- Concepts of Task Forces: Youth & Young Adults and Immigrants & Refugees
- Focus Group Feedback

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm. Respectfully submitted, Kristine Gullin, CEH Staff