

The Funders Group Meeting Summary

June 8, 2009

TFG Members present:		TFG members absent:
Emily Leslie Jackie MacLean Stephen Norman David Okimoto	Alan Painter Adrienne Quinn Arthur Sullivan Tom Tierney	David Wertheimer
Funders Group Reps/Staffers Present:		
Debbie Thiele Katy Miller	Debbi Knowles Cheryl Markham	Bill Block

Summer 2009 NOFA

Cheryl Markham explained the need for a large amount of the Homeless Housing and Services Program funds for operating and services for capital projects that are coming on line in 2010. This priority will consume a substantial portion of the funds available in this NOFA.

There is also a plan to request proposals specifically focused on the family homelessness assessment tool. This section will likely specify something as detailed as high needs services to support 20 KCHA FUP vouchers. The agency chosen to implement a high needs family pilot will participate in a larger pilot program funded with KC Consortium HPRP stimulus funds as well as Gates, United Way and HHSF funds to test a tool for assessing high needs families versus low needs families.

It is not clear that the potential for McKinney restructuring-related investments will necessarily be through the NOFA process, but until that is determined McKinney will be listed in among the priorities.

The group discussed the question whether to make a decision to qualify for McKinney bonus using all means necessary, including some discussion as to whether cutting programs would be an acceptable tactic. Jackie explained that the city and the county will meet to plan next steps for McKinney and bring recommendations back to the Funders Group. Because this year we did not meet the threshold, the mayor's office and the county executive will also be involved.

Next step – Cheryl explained that they are drafting the NOFA, but it will require input on the McKinney decisions before it can be made final. The funders will also need to decide on how to ask for the “geographic diversity” projects when a very limited amount of money (perhaps \$400,000 per year) is available after fulfilling the NOFA priorities.

Cheryl asked whether there would be vouchers available. Stephen explained that they will get 100 HASP vouchers and may get another 200. The question then becomes whether we want to take some of those disability vouchers and target homeless populations – but that would take matching service dollars. It was suggested that this could be a great match with the “geographic diversity” monies. Stephen also clarified that a portion of the HASP vouchers could also be project based. Katy Miller asked Stephen about the potential to pair vouchers with the FISH program, which has services but no housing \$, and Stephen expressed an interest.

The final draft of the NOFA will go to David, Adrienne and Jackie for review.

Work Plan Amendments Suggested by IAC Retreat

The group then turned to amendments to the work plans suggested by the IAC retreat.

HMIS Work Plan

HMIS work plan amendments are fairly limited. The biggest is the introduction of a coordinated entry, care and reporting capability. The group also recognized a need to clarify the meaning of “data integration” and the implication of use of data integration in the context of coordinated entry and tracking.

Housing Production

Bill Rumpf agreed to fill in the budget more, although it will show a deficit and will be soft numbers. The driver on the nature of the units will be the level of service and operating dollars available.

Increasing numbers of units added to homeless system

Cheryl Markham reported that there was a later version of this document that contains budget numbers – that version will be provided in the next packet.

Families

The group concurred with a number of proposed changes including the recognition of support for regional hubs for coordinated entry, development of standardized assessment tools used by designated specially trained staff and use of HMIS as the data base for coordinated entry with a goal of integrating other data sources.

High Utilizer Coordinated Entry

Edits were approved including updating to show current status and the inclusion of a goal of tailored services.

Jackie pointed out that now we need to be filling in the score card on what we have done on the work plans.

Governing Board Meeting

The group then discussed the agenda for the Governing Board meeting, resolving to address the McKinney issue in this Governing Board meeting and HMIS in the next. In framing the McKinney discussion, the group is essentially asking for endorsement for difficult decisions if necessary. Alan pointed out the issue that any cuts will then result in demands on the City of Seattle to fund. This pointed out that there are really two questions. We have a system that is pain adverse. How do you deal with that? Second, when there is pain it is generally felt by one player, the City of Seattle. How do we address that so that it does not freeze action?

Next meeting July 14

NOFA and McKinney and HMIS