



**Funders Group Meeting Summary**

**June 14, 2010**

<b>Funders Group Members Present:</b>		<b>Funders Group members absent:</b>
Jackie MacLean	Sara Levin	Jason Johnson
David Okimoto	David Wertheimer	Tom Tierney
Alice Shobe	Debbie Thiele	Emily Leslie
Arthur Sullivan	Stephen Norman	Deborah Doyle

<b>Funders Group Representatives/Staff Present:</b>			
Bill Block	Cheryl Markham	Debbi Knowles	Joseph Adriano
Gretchen Bruce	Katy Miller	Alan Painter	Sola Plumacher
Neil Powers	Andrea Akita	Kelli Carroll	Kolin Min

**Welcome and Updates**

Jackie MacLean, Funders Group Chair, welcomed members, reviewed the agenda and asked for updates.

**Draft Coordinated NOFA**

Cheryl Markham reviewed the initial draft of the Combined Funders NOFA. It includes explanation of the funding environment, expiring contracts and anticipated capital and service/operating/rental dollars that will be available, along with other background information to help providers make an informed decision as to whether to apply for funding. Highlights of the document include:

1. Pipeline Projects - Ensure that capital projects with dedicated permanent homeless units are able to support the intended population. (e.g., funding for necessary service supports, assuming the projects is performing.)
- 2a. Support of the Campaign to End Chronic Homelessness - continued funding of a limited number of new permanent supportive housing units (service intensive) for chronically homeless households. Cheryl anticipates there is capital/service funding to support approximately 125 new permanent supportive housing units this round. The document includes mention of an acceptable operating and services budget of \$10k - \$12k per unit per year.
- 2b. Mention that the funders will encourage, within the next few years, the creation of permanent supportive housing units with intensive services for homeless persons in North and/or East King County.
3. Prioritization of one Disability Lifeline project (may be in conjunction with the capital commitment from number two, above.)
4. Creation of Lower Service Need Units, providing that projects must show a connection to the overall functioning of the homeless entry system as it is evolving, such as: 1) rapid re-housing; or 2) households stepping down to a less service-intensive environment.
5. Alignment with the Ending Family Homelessness Initiative

The document also notes the evaluation and scoring criteria that will factor in project selection, including:

- Financial Analysis
- Quality of Past Performance
- HMIS Participation
- Homeless System Progression
- Culturally Competent Services and Living Environment
- Geographic and Population Spread
- Participation in System Coordination Efforts
- Matching Appropriate Housing with Services

Discussion included:

- Re: HMIS participation – agreement to change language to include “meeting requirements” of participation as well plans for increasing quality
- Re: culturally competent services – agreement to change language to include “special consideration” given to programs that partner with culturally focused agencies, with requirement to describe the nature of the partnership to ensure it is meaningful, and not just a simple referral process.
- Re: homeless system continuum/linkage – discussion that programs eligible for Shelter Plus Care vouchers need to make full use of those vouchers before they ask for NOFA vouchers.

- Re: prioritization of pipeline projects – agreement to clarify that all capital investment projects with dedicated non-time-limited permanent homeless units that have expiring service contracts meet the priority, not just new projects coming online in 2011. Additional discussion as to whether this applies to Sound Families projects, in particular, which raises the issue of other time limited homeless housing projects that were not funded as long term permanent homeless housing. Projects such as Sound Families that want to convert to permanent housing are eligible to apply and will be evaluated along with other projects at the appropriate priority level. It was also a point of discussion that the implementation of the Ending Family Homelessness Plan will be addressing Sound Families and other projects that are time-limited in a more comprehensive manner, and it would better not to address them in a piece meal fashion. There was agreement that this issue warrants additional discussion at future meetings.
- Re: consideration of a high service needs project in North and East King County – discussion whether that can also include a drop in center and interim housing for young adults, which was identified as a high need for the eastside as part of their regional planning process. Agreement that interim housing is not part of this NOFA but we will re-educate ourselves on the Shelter Transition Report and what it says about support of new interim housing options.

### **Families Strategic Plan**

Debbi Knowles reported that the Families Initiative planning workgroup has continued to make changes to the Strategic Plan per feedback they've received from the community, from Gates and from other vested partners. She provided an overview of key revisions made to the Families Strategic Plan since the group last saw the plan.

*Debbi is drafting the six (or so) main key revisions she wants highlighted....*

### **Funders Group Workplan Items for 2010-2011**

Draft workplans were included for two of the new workplan items: Coordination with K-12 and Coordination with DSHS/Child Welfare. Members reviewed workplans and discussed appropriate leads / partners for all of the workplans.

- Implementation of the Families Initiative: KC Lead, Debbie Knowles staff. Debbi will draft a workplan for this item, building off of the first phase which focused just on coordinated entry.
- Coordination with K-12: UWKC or Building Changes may provide leadership (it will be making a decision before the next Funders Group meeting). CEH's role will be to facilitate the convening of school districts and providers to coordinate services/solutions. The group agreed that the milestone around reprogramming money will more likely come first from our funds before the school reprograms their funds.
- Coordination with Child Welfare: Building Changes is lead. Members agreed it is an ambitious plan, and needs to be scoped accordingly towards what is realistically achievable in the next year.
- Services Funding Model: King County and City of Seattle are lead. Cheryl will convene a workgroup to scope out the next steps.
- Coordination with Vets Five Year Plan: King County will be the lead. Workplan priorities will include homelessness prevention among vets, housing capacity (production/access) for vets, securing resources, and communication & outreach.

HMIS Opt-in/Opt-Out: Seattle might be the lead, it has not yet committed. This is an exploratory workplan to see if/how informed consent affects data quality in HMIS, and whether Governing Board can be influential in getting the requirements changed. This may be approached as a CEH advocacy project rather than a formal Funders Group Work Plan.

In addition to these Work Plan items, King County agreed to lead an exploratory role to re-educate ourselves on the role of interim shelter in the Ten-Year Plan and whether/how to support the creation of non-permanent housing options in south and east king county, perhaps independently of NOFA funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm. Meeting summary drafted by Gretchen Bruce, CEHKC Staff.