



Funders Group Meeting Summary

September 14, 2010

Funders Group Members Present:		Funders Group members absent:
Jackie MacLean Arthur Sullivan Dannette Smith Alice Shobe	Stephen Norman Emily Leslie Debbie Thiele David Wertheimer	Jason Johnson Tom Tierney David Okimoto Deborah Doyle
Funders Group Representatives/Staff Present:		Guests from HUD/HHS in Washington DC
Bill Block Gretchen Bruce Sara Levin Kollin Min	Cheryl Markham Katy Miller Andrea Akita Vince Matulionis	Don Moulds Fred Karnas David Harris Barbara Broman

Welcome and Updates

Several guests from HUD/HHS joined the meeting. These individuals were in town to learn more about how our local community, particularly funders, are coordinating resources in support of ending homelessness. Jackie MacLean, Funders Group Chair, welcomed members and guests, reviewed the agenda and asked for updates.

Ten-Year Plan Mid-Plan Review

Bill Block reported that a workgroup with membership from the Governing Board, IAC, CAC and Funders Group met September 8th and will meet again September 21st to develop of the Scope of Work for the Mid-Plan Review. CEH staff are working with United Way to develop a Request for Qualifications for a consultant to oversee the research, analysis, stakeholder meetings and report writing of the Mid Plan Review. The goal is to release the RFQ by the end of the week, in order to have a consultant on board by mid-October, in order to have a product by spring 2011.

HMIS / Safe Harbors

Jackie noted that there are a number of deadlines looming for HMIS reports due to HUD and the state. In light of this, representatives from data integration agencies and the Safe Harbors Executive Committee met after Monday’s IAC meeting to talk about the challenges with data integration. This group will continue the conversation to identify the root of the challenges and their remedies.

Update on 2010 NOFA and Terms of Award White Paper

Katy Miller and Cheryl Markham provided an overview, for the benefit of the visitors, of the history, purpose and benefits of the combined NOFA. She noted that the 2010 joint NOFA for capital and services totals \$49 million dollars from seven funders and 22 different fund sources. Funders Group members discussed with the visitors how the NOFA came to be, the role of funding partners, CEH and Funders Group, and policy and implementation issues.

Next Cheryl reviewed a second draft of the Terms of Award White Paper. The purpose of the White Paper is to gain agreement for when and how HHSF funding awards resulting from the Coordinated NOFA process might be awarded on a five-year basis or some other length of term. (See discussion in Funders Group meeting summary for August 9, 2010.) Members requested Cheryl send the paper to the IAC for their comment and bring any comments back to the Funders Group for final review. Upon final approval by the Funders Group, the policies outlined in this white paper will serve as guidelines for the 2010 fall awards and into the future. Cheryl will coordinate with Gretchen to distribute to the IAC.

Mainstream Coordination with Children’s Administration

Alice reported that Denise Revels Robinson has given the green light for DSHS Children’s Administration to coordinate with local providers for the delivery and funding of case management services and housing supports to keep families housed and together. Workgroup members for this project are beginning to meet with DSHS staff on the technical / logistical matters of how to proceed. Alice noted that Denise has made it clear that DSHS does not intended for this to be a pilot to explore if a partnership like this might work, but to proceed with it as an actual systems-change effort to strengthen partnerships, streamline access to services and better coordinate case management and supports to families at risk of out-of-home placements due to unstable housing situations.

Client Care Coordination

Bill reported on the status of the Client Care Coordination (C3) project for vulnerable single adults. There is general agreement within the community on the need for / benefit of a coordinated placement process for housing units dedicated to high needs individuals. Concerns remain, however, about the actual screening tool used to identify individuals who would have highest priority for entry into housing. Some providers feel the tool currently in use is not culturally appropriate, and is too lengthy and difficult to administer, especially if we are asking outreach workers to administer it. They advocate for the use of an additional tool developed by Common Ground (NY) as necessary. Providers also support allowing agencies to have certain placement rights from within their clientele instead of all openings being filled through the C3 process.

For now, DESC is contracted to administer the in-depth vulnerability assessment tool (VAT) and outreach workers will soon be trained to use the Common Ground tool. There will be an evaluation of the process in approximately six months to assure that the processes, tools and other policies of the C3 project are proceeding as intended.

UWKC Youth & Young Adult Investment Plan

Vince reported on UWKC's Youth & Young Adult Investment Plan, noting that UWKC has certain resources that donors have requested be dedicated to youth /young adults. In the absence of a comprehensive YYA plan under the Ten Year Plan, UWKC worked with Heliotrope Consultants to develop an investment plan to guide the allocation of these funds and encourage continued investment / conversation among their donors. After a series of stakeholder meetings, literature review and data analysis, Heliotrope prepared the report *Investments to Reduce Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County*, released in April, 2010.

The plan mostly focuses on Young Adults. Findings and recommendations from the report include:

1. Housing and Support Services for YYA need to be developmentally appropriate.
2. Youth need a sense of belonging/community, and successful programs incorporate community building into their activities.
3. Outreach and engagement is particularly important for this population, and early intervention is especially critical before youth get "sucked into" street culture.
4. With early intervention, approximately 80% of youth can be diverted from homelessness, either by helping them reconnect with family or other appropriate supports.
5. Transitional Housing is still an important model for YYA. In essence, YYA need to finish growing up, and the structure and supports of a transitional housing model allows them the time and place to complete that process.

Vince noted that United Way's next steps will be to use the plan as a guiding tool to:

1. Continue to work with the local funders to coordinate strategies.
2. Support additional fund raising for projects dedicated to YYA .

The group discussed how this plan is (or isn't) aligned with Funders Group priorities. Arthur and Emily noted that the eastside is especially interested in young adult issues, and other members noted that this plan should coordinate with the K-12 / CPS mainstream coordination plans. Components of the Federal Plan also have a young adult focus. Members agreed that coordination and alignment between the UWKC plan and TFG plans warrants additional conversation.

McKinney Application

Jackie briefly reported on the recent announcement for McKinney funding. Our overall score was 86, well above the cut-off threshold and comfortably above the national average, making us eligible for funding for two bonus projects. We have heard, however, that next year's rating factors will put greater emphasis on HMIS Reporting and so we will need to improve our score even more to remain competitive. The COC planning team is at a conference to learn more about the future of McKinney and HMIS reporting and will provide information upon their return.

The next Funders Group meeting is TUESDAY, October 13th (bumped one day due to Seattle furloughs.)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm. Meeting summary drafted by Gretchen Bruce, CEHKC Staff.