

**Funders Group Meeting Summary**

**December 13, 2010**

<b>Funders Group Members Present:</b>		<b>Funders Group members absent:</b>
Jason Johnson Emily Leslie Jackie MacLean Dannette Smith	Arthur Sullivan Tom Tierney David Wertheimer	Rick Hooper Stephen Norman David Okimoto Alice Shobe
<b>Funders Group Representatives/Staff Present:</b>		
Debbie Thiele Gretchen Bruce Vince Matulionis	Joseph Adriano Andrea Akita Bill Block	Alan Painter Kollin Min

**Welcome and Updates**

Jackie MacLean, Funders Group Chair, welcomed members to the meeting. The meeting summary from November 2010 was reviewed and accepted.

**Updates**

Coordinated NOFA – announcements will be made soon on funding and awards. Capital awards have been held up pending decisions of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission, which has not yet decided on their awards. As our local awards leverage those of the WSHFC, local funders must await their notification before proceeding.

State Budget Cuts – A special session of the legislature was called to respond to significant budget shortfalls. Funders Group members agreed that the role for local funders is not to attempt to mitigate the cuts, per se, but rather to identify how we might do things more efficiently / cost-effectively to continue to deliver some level of services. Funders can also take the lead in educating the community and elected officials on the impact of budget cuts. Bill noted that Portland State University has released a report on the increased costs in public systems after cuts to healthcare and other basic supports in Oregon. This might be a good tool to support these educational efforts.

**Role of CEH Advisory Bodies**

The group reviewed several documents: *Maximizing the Role of the Funders Group*, *Maximizing the Role of the IAC*, *Draft Funders Group Charter* and *Draft IAC Charter* and discussed the cross-walk between them. The documents highlight the areas of expertise and span of control of each body. Members discussed that:

- The purpose of the Interagency Council (IAC) is to bring together a diverse body of stakeholders working to address issues of homelessness and leverage the expertise and resources of the wider community in support of the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. The IAC coordinates with the Funders Group, Consumer Advisory Council and Governing Board along with other community stakeholders to identify key issues that will need to be addressed related to program or system changes under the Ten-Year Plan and propose solutions to those issues. The value of the Interagency in that it brings together high level individuals who understand the interplay of policy and implementation.
- The purpose of the Funders Group is to provide transparent decisions and accountability on which policies and initiatives are being prioritized for funding under the Ten Year Plan. The Funders Group coordinates with the IAC, Consumer Advisory Council and Governing Board and other community stakeholders to review housing and service needs, and develops policy recommendations to guide system-wide priorities and create work plans for improvement of the homeless housing and services system. Funders also actively coordinate resources and policy to support implementation of these priorities and coordinate with other groups on non-funding related initiatives. It was agreed that the value (and responsibility) of the Funders is to be a body with final authority and accountability for how funds for housing and homeless services are spent, *the buck stops here* as it were, while ensuring that this work is done in a transparent manner that includes opportunities for feedback and listening.

Gretchen will revise the draft charters for the Funders Group and IAC to better reflect these areas of expertise and distribute the charters to Funders Group and IAC members for their review. The goal is to wrap up of the conversation on restructure of the IAC and Funders Group by January. Bill noted that the January IAC is scheduled for Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> and many people will likely be out of the office. Members agreed it made sense to ask the IAC co-chairs if comments to the IAC draft charter can be collected via email rather than an in-person meeting.

The next Funders Group meeting is Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 in Chinook 115.

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