



**Funders Group Meeting Summary**

**May 9, 2011**

<b>Funders Group Present:</b>			<b>Funders Group absent:</b>
Deborah Doyle Emily Leslie Jason Johnson	Jackie MacLean Stephen Norman David Okimoto	Alice Shobe Tom Tierney David Wertheimer	Kathy Gerard Arthur Sullivan
<b>Others Present:</b>			
Bill Block Gretchen Bruce Sola Plumacher Joseph Adriano	Kollin Min Alan Painter Kate Speltz	Cheryl Markham Eileen Denham Linda Peterson	Kelly Zelenka Debbi Knowles Amnon Shoenfeld

**Welcome and Updates**

Jackie MacLean, Funders Group Chair, welcomed members to the meeting. The previous month’s meeting summary was reviewed and accepted.

**Mid Plan Review**

Bill noted that the recommendations coming out of the Mid Plan Review were, by and large, well received by the IAC at their May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The questions among most people centered on details of implementation and deliverables. The next step is to identify which elements are investment priorities of the Funders Group and which should be established as exploratory work under task forces. The group discussed the initiatives one by one and who was available to help lead each body of work.

- **Political Will:** Members noted that at any given time, multiple initiatives are in play, generating community interest and opportunities to engage in Ten Year Planning efforts -- members of the larger community just may not know about all of them. Alice offered to be lead on political will and suggested there be time on each agenda of the IAC and the Funders Group to update people on opportunities to engage in ongoing work. Members also agreed that we need a goal-oriented plan to engage the Governing Board and assure that ending homelessness is one of the top five priorities on each member’s plate.
- **Alignment with Healthcare Reform:** This has the potential to be the biggest initiative on the list. Amnon and Janna are currently tracking / leading this effort. Amnon will report out at the June Funders Group meeting on potential next steps, noting that the State appears to be moving quickly. The Governing Board could be helpful in reaching out to the balance of county. The county kickoff position paper on reform will be circulated as soon as it is complete.
- **Systems Level Prevention:** Many of these initiatives are ‘soft’ bodies of work requiring that existing programs, such as jail diversion, be brought to scale. The effort to bring programs to scale will require ongoing advocacy and negotiation, but no new planning efforts. Two new bodies of work are:
  1. **Consolidation of Short-Term Rental Assistance:** While this proposal may seem simple, it is actually fairly complex. Most suburban cities have rental assistance dollars, as do the larger cities of Bellevue and Seattle, as does King County. The funding tends not to be aligned, nor are the Safe Harbors data elements around prevention aligned. The Funders Staffers Group (a.k.a. the Junior Funders Group) will be directed to conduct an inventory of all existing rental assistance funds throughout the county and propose steps to bring about better alignment of both funding criteria and reporting elements.
  2. **Shallow Subsidies:** Tom noted that SHA would welcome a partnership to explore the use of shallow subsidies. It would require significant analysis, policy development and community buy-in, but could be highly valuable in that it would allow the housing authorities to serve more households. No lead was established for this at this time.

- **Performance Measures / HEARTH Alignment / HMIS Implementation / Services Modeling Funding:** A small workgroup, led by Kate Speltz and Eileen Denham is already meeting around HEARTH measures. This group could be ready with recommendations to go to the IAC and Governing Board in July. The balance of the workplan, notably streamlining data collection and services modeling funding, will be a Phase II effort. Kate and Eileen will work on a charter to lay out next steps.
- **Youth and Young Adults:** David Okimoto noted that United Way has specific interest in youth and young adult homelessness, and has done some background research on the issue in the past year. They also have investors who have indicated an interest in supporting young adult programs if a clear path and program model were presented. United Way was asked to lead this effort, and will go to the IAC at its August meeting to initiate the task force.
- **Single Adult Shelter:** Dannette noted that the City of Seattle is developing a new investment plan for Seattle funding currently directed towards emergency shelter. She is currently holding community meetings to discuss principles and strategies. It was agreed that these meetings can serve as a good platform to frame the broader conversation on emergency shelter throughout the county -- not that the region will necessarily adopt the City of Seattle's framework, but that we can all benefit from the conversation that it generates. From there, we can work together to identify a common framework for revising the emergency shelter system to become a path to permanent housing. Jason and Dannette agreed to help lead this exploratory task force, with a goal to have recommendations and next steps developed by fall / early winter.
- **Immigrants and Refugees:** This is a body of work appropriate to become an IAC task force. Mark Okazaki has been approached to see if he is available to lead this task force, with the first body of work to be a funding cross walk. We await his response.
- **Child Welfare:** Alice noted that Building Changes, DSHS and the housing authorities have been in conversation about transitioning the expiring Sound Families units into units dedicated to supporting families involved with child welfare. They are seeking to use DSHS funding (DSHS/TANF), the housing authority units and possibly Washington Families Funds, systems innovations funds and private funding available to Building Changes to support this effort. The group discussed the degree to which an initiative such as this is aligned with current Funders Group priorities, and Alice noted that Building Changes' Board of Directors sees Building Changes' role as one to create a 'healthy tension' that drives system change. She noted that Building Changes has also set their sights on other mainstream dollars and hopes to pull them into the mix sooner rather than later. The child welfare workplan dovetails with the Families Initiative and K-12, and Alice and Debbi Knowles will work together to integrate the work into a single workplan.

### Safe Harbors Quarterly Dashboard

Sola presented the 2011 Q1 dashboard for the upcoming Governing Board meeting. Members asked what the data tells us – what are the takeaways? Sola noted that there is still a lot that is unknown given data quality concerns, but that on a quarterly basis, trends haven't changed much from last quarter's report. She will revise the narrative and charts to better illustrate the key data points. Sola also mentioned that next quarters' dashboard report will look different, as it will be revised to align with the HEARTH measures.

### Updates & Announcements

Jackie noted that the King County Council approved placing the Veterans and Human Services Levy on the August Ballot, by a vote of 9-0. Everyone agreed that it is very important to our work that the Levy pass.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Meeting summary drafted by Gretchen Bruce, CEHKC Staff.