

NE FL Governance Board Minutes March 27, 2023 | Zoom Meeting

Governance Board Members in Attendance

- Sylvester Pinckney, Kid's Hope Alliance
- Michael Sullivan, Jacksonville Public Library
- Bill Rodgers, VA
- David Garfunkel, LIFT JAX
- Joe Wolf, Hart & Associates
- Nancy Eisele, LSF Health Systems
- Tom Daly, City of Jacksonville
- Tyler Morris, CIL
- Sara Mitchell, UCOM
- Jametoria Burton, FSCJ

CHI Staff

- Dawn Gilman
- Monique Elton

Ashley Pratt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Board Member Spotlights

Joe Wolf, who is a communications consultant, has worked in the field for over fifteen years. He once served on the CHI (nonprofit organization) Board of Directors and has been excited to see the organization and the CoC grow over the years. Volunteering is one of his passions – he also connects with young professionals in the area – and shared with the group that he experienced homelessness when he was younger. He understands the many variables that contribute to a person's homelessness, which is one reason why he chooses to volunteer in this space.

Sara Mitchell, Executive Director of UCOM, has served in multiple professional spaces including as a teacher and an attorney. She is interested in learning more about the continuum of care and how the faith community can participate and contribute more in this space. Her interest as a board member is focused on development and how to plug other passionate individuals into this space.

Consent Agenda

Ashley reviewed the consent agenda with the group and asked if there were any questions or concerns. There were none.

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

1st: Tom Daly 2nd: Sara Mitchell Yes: All No/Abstention: 0

Coordinated Entry Lead Agency Updates and Discussion

Ashley led the conversation and thanked Nancy Eisele as the CE Committee Chair and one of the individuals who participated in ongoing conversations with MHRC over the past few months. Ashley shared that there were multiple meetings with MHRC and assured MHRC the board would be supportive through the transition of lead agency. She thanked both Dawn and Monique for their work over the past few months during these conversations and for their leadership, and that all of this had been shared with the community, both in written communication and at a community meeting.

Nancy shared that MHRC has done a tremendous job over the years developing programs that served people experiencing homelessness and in their role as Coordinated Entry Lead Agency. She shared she felt CHI was the only organization that had the strength and capacity to serve in this role, and that in the community meeting that occurred she felt that the community was engaged and excited to have renewed discussions about how to improve the system.

Dawn shared with the board the transition plan – it will have two parts (short-term and long-term), with the first six months being very focused on administrative and staffing (transitioning the grants (2) from MHRC to CHI, along with a grant extension request), staffing plans for Coordinated Entry during this transition period, schedules, determining job positions and posting them, and seeking out funding to compensate individuals with lived experience who will play an integral role in the longer-term revisioning of the Coordinated Entry System.

Currently, the CES is supported by 2 CoC-funded grants that total approximately \$360,000. There is a 25% match requirement for these funds.

David Garfunkel asked if it was common for one entity to serve as the Collaborative Applicant, HMIS Lead Agency, and Coordinated Entry Lead Agency. Nancy answered yes, sometimes it's the same organization, sometimes it's three separate organizations, with every iteration in between. Ashley asked about staffing – Dawn shared that the Interim Chief Programs Officer will oversee the transition and is sending a draft organizational chart to Dawn on Friday. Once the job positions are determined this will be shared with the membership.

Motion to Approve CHI as the Recommended Coordinated Entry Lead Agency.

1st: David Garfunkel 2nd: Jametoria Burton Yes: All No/Abstention: 0

Dawn agreed to send the organizational chart to the CoC Governance Board for reference.

Membership Committee Chair

Ashley shared she is still looking for a Committee Chair, as she cannot cover both the duties of the Board Chair and the Membership Committee Chair. Sara shared she is interested and Ashley said she would connect offline to have a further discussion about it.

Reports

Monique shared updates from several different reports, including:

• Youth Needs Assessment: this gaps analysis is currently in progress and Focus Strategies is the group leading the effort. So far they have conducted focus groups and interviews with youth and young adults, as well as the organizations that serve them, and have sent out a survey to gather additional data points. This assessment is needed should the CoC apply for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) (**note to board: the CoC did NOT apply last year for a couple of reasons, including the youth needs assessment was out of the timeframe allowed by HUD*). CHI requested and received a \$27,000 grant to support this assessment (this equates to roughly 50% of the total cost of the assessment and subsequent report).

Point in Time (PIT) Count: the CoC conducted the annual PIT count in January and the initial numbers from that count are 396 individuals living unsheltered in the 3-county area, and 550 individuals sheltered in the 3-county area. The HMIS Data Team is currently conducting outreach to capture missing information from the PIT count, and a final report will be published by end of April.

Strategic Discussion about Initial PIT Counts

The preliminary PIT numbers show an increase in 55+ as it represents 25% of the total unsheltered population. We also saw an increase in the Nassau County area, but these numbers are being validated.

Based on preliminary PIT numbers, which we believe are not representative of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, we will conduct a summer count on June 27th, 28th and 29th. During the PIT debrief, we received anecdotal evidence including program shifts and people reluctant to respond to the survey/identify as homeless, further underscoring the likelihood that we do not have a complete count. To better address these likely pandemic shifts, we will focus on one county per day to ensure more coverage. For example – we will survey Duval County on Tuesday, June 27th.

Next Board Meeting

We will use the next board meeting to have a strategic discussion on the Rating and Ranking criteria for the next CoC application. Monique will prepare the agenda that includes a review and debrief of the last competition's project scoresheets (new and renewals).

CoC Evaluations

Jimmy and Ashley have been working with Civitas and they will be onsite in late April (26-27); board members should be on the lookout for an invitation to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:07pm.