

Coordinating Committee

Date: December 1, 2017

Scribe: Jared Kebbell

Attendees: Maryjane Carr (MHWU), John Kerr (RMHS), Heather Seiden (Jewish Family Services), Kathryn Messer (Jewish Family Services), Logan Robertson (Father Woody's), Gwendolyn West (Equitas), Rebecca Mayer (MDHI), Angie Nelson (Denver's Road Home), Megan Morales (VOA), Megan Nyce (State of Colorado), Angela Bornemann (ACCESS Housing), Sue Gilman (Bayaud Enterprises), Erin Iserman (Bayaud Enterprises), Laura McGarry (MHBHC), Stephanie Kok (MHBHC), Candie Madril (Adams County Housing), Paige Dennis (Americorps/MCPN), Amanda Gertzel (MHBHC), Morgan Wieziolowski (Family Tree), Jocelynn York (Family Tree), Robb Neumann (MHUW), Kathryn Svoboda (Catholic Charities), Ilyas El-Amin (CCH), Diane Alumno (VA), Pedro Zabula (CCH), Jared Kebbell (Americorps/MDHI), Diane Howald (MDHI)

Presentation - Laura Ware

-CCLP has been working on legislation related to family economic security (SNAP, housing assistance, TANF)

-Two bills are up for sponsorship

Integrating Local Workforce and Community Employment Services

- building capacity for the whole state
- allocates funding to each region of the state
- it may be housed in DOLA
- each region would decide what barriers to providing employment opportunities and how to spend the money
- this bill would benefit any agency that offers employment services
- Builds capacity for regional, collaborative decision making about spending priorities
- \$3 million for 5 years and additional \$600,000 for rural counties

Q: What process will be used to elicit community agreement?

A: Each community would convene using the Council of Governments because it has a statewide presence. This process is intended to be fast

Q: What formula is used to determine distribution of funds?

A: This is dependent on which department the program will be housed in. Each department has its own formula. All are based on things like population, unemployment and workforce participation

Q: What has been the reaction to this bill from the workforce system? What is the next step in the process of passing this bill?

A: Reaction so far has been positive, we've been having meetings with several different departments. So far, we haven't encountered any major pushback. Concerns that have been raised have been more about how to pass the bill rather than its substance. We're

looking for sponsors in the legislature and we're looking for endorsers from the community. We will also need people to testify at hearings.

Q: What has feedback from legislators been?

A: We are confident we can get the bills introduced, but we really want to ensure bipartisan support--especially since there is divided control of the legislature.

Q: Are there any cost effective measures to solicit this bipartisan support?

A: There's a lot of research about the effectiveness of these measures in helping get people into work. Unemployment is low now, but there are still many people who are looking to get back to work. The money we're requesting for this bill is from the general fund and thus it isn't already earmarked for other purposes.

Q: Does the GOP's historic commitment to encouraging work help this bill?

A: We certainly hope so!

Supporting and Investing in Colorado's Untapped Talent Pipeline

- this bill is about providing direct, financial assistance for supporting people in employment

- it will allocate \$2.5 million through DOLA to a non-profit agency that will then administer the funds

- the biggest concerns with this bill that have been expressed so far relate to establishing accountability for the money

- This bill would provide \$300 per person, per year. The research suggests this is a sufficient amount to support people's short-term, emergency assistance needs

- this is not a fund for long term support--it will provide short term support only because no funds currently exist for this purpose. The money wouldn't go to the person directly, but to whatever non-profit entity is providing the assistance

Q: Is proof of need required from clients?

A: Yes. And the need would have to relate directly to supporting a client's employment, such as internet access to support a job search rather than, for example, an unpaid utility bill

- a rule-making period will follow passage of this bill in which procedures and regulations for this will be established.

Q: How much employer support exists for these bills

A: We're building a coalition of support in the business community, such as the Colorado Home Builders Academy. Once the bill text is written, we'll be able to make more progress on this

	<p>Q: Is there a way to loop in HR departments? It would be more efficient in distributing the funds if they could be accessed that way.</p> <p>A: We're hoping to develop more buy-in from the business community to the point that they might even contribute financially to these services</p> <p>Q: You're targeting non-TANF populations?</p> <p>A: There are still gaps that exist in TANF that this bill would help fill. But certainly people that don't qualify for TANF would also benefit.</p> <p>-clients have to be connected to a workforce agency that offers supportive services, walk-ins are not the intended beneficiaries of this bill. These services are intended to be used for people that employment agencies have an established relationship with. We also have a system for tracking outcomes that is very streamlined and not burdensome.</p> <p>Comment: There are lots of stories that would be very useful for testimony once this bill is being debated</p> <p>Comment: Concrete examples of how the money will benefit each region (for the first bill) would be helpful</p> <p>Q: Why is \$3 million the amount requested?</p> <p>A: It's a 33% increase of available funds for workforce centers statewide. This is enough money that could make a tangible difference as well as a philosophical one.</p>
<p>MDHI Updates</p>	<p>-OneHome: we've developed a lot of good data about our populations being served and this has yielded new prioritization criteria for families, such as unsheltered families, that is more simple and straightforward.</p> <p>-OneHome Policies and Procedures Manual will be open for public comment starting with the next weekly community update</p> <p>-RGC is accepting applications for new committee members. Talk to Ian Fletcher if you're interested in joining</p> <p>-Salesforce is being implemented, starting with Veterans. It will be in the pilot stage for a few months before being implemented system-wide. Advantages of the new platform include the ability to track clients' progress toward the pre-match queue, checking how clients scored on the assessment, digital upload of VI-SPDATs and ROIs will no longer be necessary</p> <p>-2017 YTD for Coordinated Entry: 54 households have been housed in PSH, 15 through RRH for individuals; 33 youth housed</p>

	<p>30 in PSH and 3 in RRH; those numbers don't include the social impact bond. Family Shelter provider meeting met for the first time to work on bridge housing. Cold weather sheltering is being organized for families because gaps still exist for this population. Family Tree is trying to organize safe parking for families.</p> <p>-HMIS: transition to version 6 has been a big challenge. We're in communication with CCH about the progress they're making as lead agency. Many issues have been resolved, but many still remain. In addition to global issues, one-off issues plague different programs and require an audit to determine and fix. Notify the help desk if you have any issues.</p> <p>Comment: it would be helpful to make sure issues are addressed in a timely manner</p> <p>Q: What constitutes timely? A: 1-2 business days to respond to issues, but solving issues will require a longer time period</p> <p>-We're soliciting additional gap funding for the transition to the new vendor</p> <p>-the statewide governance structure has been reviewed by all three CoC boards and are now soliciting applications for members. Anyone who is interested should review the structure and apply. This position entails a monthly commitment to attend meetings but may also require work outside meetings</p> <p>-ESG submissions are due Monday. Announcements about who will receive funds will be decided in January</p> <p>-MDHI Stakeholders meeting will be held next week and we still have spaces available</p>
<p>PIT</p>	<p>-Speak to Diane about agency involvement – diane.howald@mdhi.org</p> <p>-regional outreach coordination is being expanded. Efforts are being organized at the county level and are open for participation from any interested parties. December 18th meeting</p> <p>-Point of Contact trainings are being organized to train everyone and will be held in early January in order to help ensure data quality, improved survey completion and positive volunteer experience</p> <p>-Magnet events are something new that will be tried to increase the accuracy of the unsheltered count. MHUW is recruiting volunteers available for any group that is planning such events. Requests for</p>

	<p>volunteers should be made as soon as possible in order to ensure all need are met</p> <p>Q: Who counts people in motels? A: The count covers only people who are literally homeless: unsheltered, sheltered and transitional housing. People who are vouchered into motels are included, because meet HUD’s definition of literal homelessness. Those paying themselves or having a friend/family pay are not counted. We are working to include Probation and Parolees that are motel vouchered – this is providing shelter by an agency.</p> <p>Q: There will be live trainings? A: Point of Contact trainings will be a webinar. Volunteer trainings will occur in each of the counties throughout the month of January. Several trainings will also be available in person at MHUW – schedule will be available soon.</p> <p>In Aurora, members of the city council will be directly involved in the count and we’re encouraging this across the area.</p> <p>Q: Is there a coordinated press strategy? A: Not yet, but working with Board and Close to Home to address in most effective manner</p> <p>Comment: news coverage leading up to the count should be explored, not just coverage afterwards of the count itself.</p> <p>-Press strategy is something we’ve just started to think about and we’re open to any help or suggestions</p>
<p>Role of Coordinating Committee</p>	<p>-the overall goal of this group is to inform the MDHI board about what’s going on. One new goal this year was to have each of the 7 counties make a presentation about their activities and/or issues their areas face. The committee can then use these updates to discern trends across the region. Boulder presented in January. March was about housing focused shelters. In April Arapahoe presented about prevention and establishing housing targets and Shelly presented about “How To Be an Awesome Shelter.” In May, Adams County presented. Douglas County presented in June. In August the OneHome team presented about the technology transition. Office of HOPE presented in September about rethinking the old style 10 Year Plan and focusing our work on housing targets. In October the committee discussed cold weather shelter</p> <p>-Emerging themes: the use of data to target housing resources, emphasis on housing focused shelters, more positions directly working to address homelessness at the city/county level, acknowledging family homelessness, encouraging employment for</p>

	<p>people not eligible for PSH.</p> <p>-A survey will be distributed to solicit feedback about goals for 2018.</p> <p>Comment: Community Round-Up includes a graphic about emergency shelter and is available on the MDHI website. The housing focused shelter discussion was very valuable</p> <p>Comment: It was very valuable hearing from all the counties. Funding is a critical factor in implementing new best practices for shelters and it's nice for MDHI to serve as a forum for those conversations.</p> <p>-The next coordinating committee will be held on January 26th.</p>
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