



Coordinating Committee Meeting  
April 27th, 2018 9:00am-11:00am  
Mile High United Way, 711 Park Avenue West  
Brad Busse Board Room

## I. Welcome and Introductions

- **Community and/or agency inform action and updates**
- Open Door Ministries - They are opening a new house will shelter up to 20 women and the stay is up to 3 months. Submitted permit for residential care last week and are hoping to be open by the end of summer.
- Family Promise - Diversion program has successfully served 10 families.
- Division of Housing (Megan Nyce) - Currently requesting applications for Rapid Re-housing programs. If your organization is interested the application can be found online at: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/division-housing>
- Unison Housing Partners formerly known as Adams County Housing Authority - The Alto building has opened and people are beginning to move in. Unison Housing Partners is hoping to move in by the end of May.
- Mile High Behavioral Healthcare/Aurora day resource center - Gearing up for gardening season when they will be looking for volunteers to help in their large community garden.
- Cold Weather Care- After being active for 6 months they are now closed for the season and will start again in October. Trends seen this season were a prevalence of single adults and an increase in the older population utilizing the cold weather shelters (average age is 53 and 43 for men) They are seeing a lot of older individuals dislocated because the family they were staying with is getting evicted and these individuals are on a low or fixed income making finding housing a challenge.
- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless- Hearing of the class action lawsuit against the City of Denver regarding sweeps and the seizure of individuals belongings will be held Wednesday at 2:15 at the courthouse at 19th and Curtis

## II. Presentation

- **VOA Keys to Housing program, Katie Medina**
  - Keys to Housing is a CABHI funded program is intended to provide supportive services for those being housed through OneHome
  - Steps to accessing Keys to Housing: VI-SPDAT is entered into OneHome system > enters pre-match > matched to housing resource > if eligible, OneHome makes the referral to Keys to Housing
  - Referrals: Only OneHome can make referrals, typically when the housing navigator realizes that they need a lot of assistance before they can move into the housing they were matched with.
  - Intervention is intended to last for 6 months to 1 year but can last longer if there is a need or priority.
  - Serves the highly vulnerable with substance use issues, mental health, and literally homeless at the time of intake.

- Questions:
- When does Keys connect to the participant and how does that interact with the services they other agencies provide?
  - Connects when pre-matched up until lease up
  - Coordinates with other agencies and then they fill in the gaps.
  - Housing is the guiding goal- addressing all of individuals or families needs in order to maintain housing.
- Can Keys work with and provide assistance to family members that are not the head of household?
  - Yes, works with whole household
- What's the turn around time for vulnerable families in the OneHome system?
  - (Referred to OneHome staff) there is not one general estimate turnaround time it depends on vulnerability, prioritization factors, who else is out there in the community that is more vulnerable, and how many housing resources are available.
  - Comment: Families with more children don't score higher on the VI-SPDAT it depends more on how old the youngest child is.
  - How do you prioritize around pregnancy? Doesn't count as a family until the baby is born so they would complete the VI-SPDAT for individuals

### III. Updates/discussions

- **Employment committee**
  - Last week there was a training held with Marriott .Five agencies participated and some of the positions included banquet services, house keeping, and guest services.
    - Training activities: Goals and values workshop in relation to employment, Learning how to answer rapid fire questions on the spot like and interview, Opportunity to ask employers questions in an informal setting, Human Resources conducted interviews and scored participants. The score was then given back to employment specialists so individuals who had a lower score can work towards improving interviewing skills. Of the 13 participants, 6 or 7 will get call backs for potential employment
  - Today they will be working on developing an in-depth curriculum for a training academy for people who want to work in the nonprofit sector.
    - This training would go beyond Peer Specialist, more along the lines of Case Manager.
    - Eventually looking to partner with organizations who participate in Coordinating Committee to be potential employers.
  - Looking to develop a program to coordinate both employment services and Rapid Re-housing programs to get these individuals into employment.
- **OneHome updates**
  - In 2018, OneHome has housed 61 individuals in PSH and 7 in Rapid Re-housing, 8 youth in PSH, 5 families in PSH 14 in Rapid Re-Housing

- Last week was the CDT bi-monthly meeting- breakout group talked about move on strategies and building it in to the system, improving communication such as giving people that go to the meetings a relay message to bring back to their agencies or possibly having a quarterly webinar for overview and updates.
- Website- <https://www.onehomeco.org>
  - Minutes for all of the meetings can be found under “Get Involved” at the top of the web page. Individuals meeting page is still being developed and veterans have times for meetings but not minutes yet.
  - You can also find new updates and an updated calendar with all upcoming meetings (time & location)
  - All of the OneHome contacts can be found under About > OneHome Team
- MDHIs weekly round up will now include OneHome updates upcoming meetings. \*If you have signed up for the MDHI news letter and are still not getting it please contact [diane.howald@mdhi.org](mailto:diane.howald@mdhi.org)\*
- **Focus Strategies System Performance Assessment - report discussion ([Link to report](#))**
  - Data in the report came from HMIS, PIT 2017, and the housing inventory count
  - System Capacity page 3-
    - 29 % of shelters use HMIS out of 28 providers- working to help support agencies to get involved, they are the first access point and then we can't get info on reentry into homelessness
  - Missing data page 5 and 6-
    - For shelters 55% were entries and exits were unknown
      - State wide collaborate has a training sub group working on a state wide training
  - Increasing diversion services to prevent people from entering the system
    - Prioritize people losing housing in less then 3 days or that were just evicted and nowhere else to go
    - Family Promise is part of the diversion pilot-
      - Does screening with every family that calls and identifies needs
      - Works to mediate issues that are causing the family to be asked to leave where they are staying
      - Around 6 families on the diversion case load at a time depending on level of families needs
      - With diversion services being a fairly new concept, they have been working to figure out what diversion is and improving on how they do it once they know how to do it and what questions to ask
- Low Barrier Progressive Engagement & Critical Time Intervention
  - Low barrier progressive engagements- starting with a light touch and then ramping it up as time progresses and needs increase
  - Critical time intervention- intensive frequent intervention within the first couple months when people first move into their new home
  - The two approaches aren't mutually exclusive and implementing them as such can cause more harm then good
  - Each individual responds differently to situations, can cause additional trauma if were just following a model and not meeting people where they're at

- Examples of what other programs are doing support the people in the program in a way that is organic to the organization
  - KEYS- weekly visits for three months but can fluctuate because there are some people who could really use daily visits and some need barely any intervention
  - DESC in Seattle is using the Rapid Re-housing program as an intentional bridge to finding PSH and it can be controversial because it isn't following the definition of RRH
  - Marisol Home- Uses an alumni structure that is peer based
  - Catholic Worker House- Doesn't not operate on a traditional hierarchy but more of a community structure
- Topics to take a closer look at moving forward:
  - Critical Time Intervention & Low Barrier Progressive Engagement
    - How to make programs flexible, avoiding using one model for all clients
  - Landlord engagement- building stronger relations with more landlords that will rent to people and take vouchers
  - Client Choice- finding a balance between moving someone out of homelessness quickly and taking time for people to find a good fit for them
    - Not making clients feel obligated to take the first available housing and not putting personal disagreement and pressure on them through nonverbal cues
    - If someone is pressured into somewhere they don't want live, odds are they won't thrive
  - Homeless prevention & diversion programs
  - Engaging with housing authorities

Attendees: Cameron Shropshire (MCPN), Dani Paulk (Open Door Ministries), Allie Card (Family Promise), Courtney Fisher (VOA- Irving Street Women's Residence), Megan Morales (OneHome/VOA), Katie Medina (VOA-Keys to Housing), Sue Gilman (Bayaud), Laura McGarry (MHBHC), Jay Reszka (Cold Weather Care), Logan Robertson (Father Woodys), Robb Newmann (MHUW), Amanda Peacock (A@H), Paige Dennis (MCPN), Joel Cassady (SFC), Candie Madril (Unison HP), Laura Ware (CCLP/Bayaud), Missy Mish (VA), Diane Alumno (VA), Katherine Keenan (Energy Outreach Colorado), Randle Loeb (Peoples Advocacy Council), Diane Howald (MDHI), Rebecca Mayer (MDHI), Sophia Lawson-Cornish (CCH), Ilyas El-Amin (OneHome/CCH), Shelly McKittrick (City of Aurora), Jackie Hernandez (MDHI) Katherine Messer (Jewish Family Service), Megan Nyce (DOH)