

# Coordinating Committee Minutes 5/24/19

## Small Group Discussion

### What's new, promising, innovative

- Shared Housing
- Resident Councils
- Community Integration
- Encampment support
- Rapid Resolution-formerly called Diversion, helping those who are first experiencing homelessness to do intervention and mediation to hopefully resolve someone's homelessness crisis instead of entering the housing system.
- Flex Fund (discussed below)
- Change in philosophy as the pendulum swings to revive old models and an increase in the diversity of programs in the current system
- Bridgehouse, HAWC, and CCH use an integrated approach of housing, employment, and health to have an effective model to help those who have been marginalized
- Community and relationship creation should be the baseline for all programs
- Intensive life skills programming with Bayaud to help those who need a very intensive short term program to handle problems such as hoarding and more chronic mental health problems
- Permanent supportive housing for families is a gap in our system
- Tiny home model has shown great promise, the main barrier has been zoning and permits to build such a community
- Collaboration with housing authorities
- It's not that the rents are too high, it's that the wrong type of housing is being built
- Working homeless with stagnant income need solutions for their housing crisis
- Clients need to be able to decide and describe what services they receive
- Art and soul nourishing activities should be a component of programs moving forward
- Agencies need to move away from a scarcity model and into the perspective of utilization
- Peer support models give those with lived experience opportunities to work as well as support those who are still in the Homelessness system or unsheltered
- Lower barrier shelters allow more people to get connected to services

### Challenges

- Zoning
- NIMBYism

- Adjustable FMR on Vouchers
- Tiny home model has shown great promise, the main barrier has been zoning and permits to build such a community
- Passive Advocacy
- Competitive nature of having a voucher as landlords can simply raise rent to bring their voucher outside of the range served by the vouchers
- Isolation and trauma that comes from homelessness is a challenge in that we have to foster those kinds of connections to help people self-resolve
- Money
- Land
- Interim time between clients presenting and receiving housing, how to keep them service connected
- Staff burnout
- Fear to innovate because of the scarcity model
- Lack of clear lines of communication
- People need to have ownership and choice in their programming so that they may regain their agency and work towards their own solution.
- Housing for people with felonies and sex offences
- Lack of training
- Invisible Walls

### **Promising approaches, things to learn**

- Denver Public Library
- Finland- <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/02/how-finland-solved-homelessness/>
- Boulder Model
- Bayaud HAWC
- Beloved Community
- D3 Project
- Peer Support models
- Housing Focused Shelter
- 24/7 Shelter models
- Addressing unsheltered homeless/Outreach
- Resident Councils
- Coordinated Entry to shelter/services
- Supports for integrated employment
- Staying focused on relationship building
- Progressive Engagement
- Intensive life skills for tenancy supports
- PSH for Families

- Tiny Homes
- Supporting people outside
- Collaboration with Public Housing Authorities
- Bridge Housing
- Rapid Resolution
- Clients determining their own services
- Art and enrichment programs
- Sanctioned Encampments

SurveyMonkey to for additional input for topics this year for the Committee:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CoordinatingCommitteeFutureTopics>

### **Community Updates**

- Bayaud is about to launch a new laundry truck
- Bridge House is possibly looking at becoming a day shelter
- Ready to Work has had 1000 people use their shelter services this year as well as over 500 receiving employment services
- Suicide prevention team with the VA is offering agency training, please connect for an upcoming community training in the planning phase
- VA Stand Down is going to be on September 30<sup>th</sup>
- October 10<sup>th</sup> is Project Homeless Connect, look out for communications
- The MDHI Employment Committee announced June 14<sup>th</sup> as their next training, RRH participants have been increasing their involvement. Request is that people are ready to work as they do interviews on site. Contact either Laura Ware or Courtney Fischer for more information
- June 7<sup>th</sup> is the Mile High Youth Summit put on by the Cross Systems Housing Network. This is an opportunity for Transition Aged Youth (18-24) to interact directly with service providers. All the feedback will be added into a report to be circulated to the whole community. There will be three meals provided and raffles for things up to a laptop! The event starts at 9 am and will be held at the Mile High United Way building.

### **MDHI Updates**

- Three VISPDAT trainings upcoming, check the OneHome website for info:  
<https://www.onehomeco.org/>
- The HMIS team has started their own newsletter, reach out to Diane Howald to be added to that list

- Community application NOFA is getting ready to drop from MDHI. Join the MDHI newsletter through the website to get updates on the NOFA  
[https://www.mdhi.org/signup\\_main\\_newsletter](https://www.mdhi.org/signup_main_newsletter)
- HUD trying to move towards a more normalized schedule for the NOFA and HUD reporting
- Flex Fund from the Denver Foundation and Metro Mayor's Caucus - Any CoC member or HUD funded program can apply on behalf of someone in need. One-time assistance to help those who have fees or other costs that prevent them from entering into housing. Attempt to connect to other resources in the community before applying. Request form is on the website: [https://www.mdhi.org/flex\\_fund](https://www.mdhi.org/flex_fund)
  - Turnaround time is 1-3 business days from initial submission, however it is the responsibility of the case manager to provide supporting documents.
  - Clients must have a permanent housing option for which the financial barrier is preventing them from receiving the opportunity and no other resources have been found
    - Must describe other attempts at receiving funding
  - Providers must enter the application, the cap for payment requests is \$3,000. Distributed among the whole Metro region.

Attending: Allie Card, Amanda Gold, Angie Nelson, Shawna Miller, Ben Nichols, Bethany Maynard-Moody, Chuck Lortie, David Riggs, Heather Seidan, Jackie Hernandez, James Sieffert, Jay Reszka, Jerry Burton, Joel Cassady, Josh Zielinski, Katherine Keenen, Kathy Malloy, Katie Medina, Kristynn Garn, Laura Ware, Lauren Lapinski, Lauren McClanahan, McKenzie Bush, Mikah Wagner, Nathan Becker, Phyllis Minter, Randle Loeb, Rebecca Mayer, Diane Howald, Sydney Hawkins, Sue Gilman, Bill Sweeney