

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Center for Community Health

1601 E Fourth Plain, C210C

July 8, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>EXCUSED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Jessica Ghiglieri	Lydia Sanders		Kate Budd	Peggy Sheehan
Armando Herrera	Sandra Schmidt		Pete Munroe	Robin Alley
Anne McEnergy-Ogle			Rebecca Royce	Dave Cole
Kelly Adams				Sharon Pesut
Joyce Lindsay				Scott Conger
Melodie Pazolt				Morgan Parker
Mavis Nickels				Rob Schultz
				RJ Stangland
				Mary Morris

I. Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 7:47am by Chair, Armando Herrera.

II. Approval of May 13, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Joyce Lindsay motioned to approve the May 13, 2014, minutes; seconded by Mavis Nickels. Motion approved.

III. Partners in Careers (PIC), YouthFirst Program

Dave Cole, Program Director, showed a video clip presenting students assisted by the YouthFirst program. The program began in 2012 with 20 students who were not on track to graduate on time. The program had a 100 percent graduation success rate. Today the program boasts 100 juniors and seniors within five school districts; there has been a graduation rate of 82 percent over the past three years. Dave reported that the program includes help with schoolwork along with employment preparation and internships resulting in a 52 percent employment rate for both juniors and seniors. After volunteering at their worksite for a third of their time, students become PIC employees and are paid and insured by PIC while getting work experience.

IV. Janus Youth Housing Programs

Scott Conger, Program Supervisor, explained Janus Youth has three programs that work with homeless youth for up to 24 months to help them maintain or obtain homes and become self-sufficient. The three programs are:

- Bridges – Prevention
- The Nest – Rapid Re-Housing Assistance
- Alliance – Rapid Re-Housing assistance for households receiving TANF assistance

The programs support households to stabilize housing, increase income, alleviate housing barriers and help with life skills such as budgeting. Janus has had a 100 percent success rate with all its participants maintaining their homes up to the present time. Scott said that providing a financial safety net for the clients has been a key factor in its success.

Janus partners with many community programs such as Yellow Brick Road (outreach program), Perch (drop-in center), along with PIC, WorkSource and the Youth Access Work Group.

Scott was asked how Janus Youth was named. The name “Janus” derives from the Roman god “January” which signifies new beginnings and the program hopes to continue working hard for their clients’ success with their ‘new beginnings.’

V. Columbia River Mental Health, Homeless Employment Navigator (HEN) Program

Mary Morris, HEN Coordinator, gave a presentation about the HEN program. She explained that the program sends job leads to 200 clients, past and present, as well as providing orientations of the program at shelters, Community Resources drop-in and jail re-entry groups. HEN offers services such as:

- Job leads;
- Employment, school opportunities;
- Vocational assessment/employment planning;
- Resume writing; and
- Referrals to free clothing

Out of 74 HEN clients, about one-third have felonies and most have both mental health and substance abuse challenges. Approximately 50 percent of these clients were able to gain employment after receiving HEN’s services.

VI. Impact NW Prevention Program

Rob Schultz, Program Manager, shared that Impact NW is a program for those at risk of being homeless. This includes those who are doubled-up in a home, given a 72 hour notice of eviction, or recently evicted. The households in the program are typically 30 percent below average income. Rob said that in 2011 Impact NW became a Trauma Informed Care Provider; in addition, they help clients with landlord advocacy, locating resources and accessing benefits. Impact NW’s partners include PIC, Council for the Homeless, Janus Youth, The Salvation Army, and more.

In the last 18 months the program has served 19 households which include 68 individuals. From those 19 households:

- 22 households increased their income;
- 13 households gained employment; and
- Two were SOAR approved.

RJ Stangland, Case Manager, described the Trauma Informed Care System as a treatment approach which stems from the theory that most (if not all) people have experienced trauma in their lives and

this affects their reaction to the world. This is not considered counseling but is a system to help them identify and work through the trauma in order to achieve their goals.

VII. HB2060 – Funds Request for Applications (RFA) Update and Timeline

The County is planning on opening a Request for Application (RFA) for House Bill 2060 funds; there will be \$250,000 available for this RFA. Qualifying agencies can apply for:

- Operations and maintenance costs for existing emergency shelters;
- Operations and maintenance costs for transitional housing units and permanent housing projects for chronically homeless; and
- Permanent Supportive Housing projects for persons who are chronically homeless. Funds may be used for match, development, construction or rehabilitation.

The RFA will be released on Friday, July 25th and will close Friday, Aug 22nd. A stakeholders list for announcing the RFA release and applications will be posted on the Clark County webpage. There will be a meeting on Thursday, July 31st to answer any stakeholders' questions about the RFA. Directly following that meeting will be a ZoomGrants training. ZoomGrants is an on-line grants management system that is new to the CAAB; however, boards and local providers have found it to be convenient and easy to use. Here is a timeline for future CAAB meetings:

- Tuesday, September 9: applications will be presented by agencies
- Monday, September 15: ZoomGrants access. Staff will receive email logins & passwords
- Tuesday, September 16 and Thursday, 9/18: ZoomGrants training drop-in sessions
- Tuesday, September 30: Need all scores submitted by CAAB members
- Tuesday, November 4: CAAB meeting: final recommendations based on scores for County Commissioners

NOTE: November CAAB meeting moved up one week due to Veterans Holiday

VIII. Federal Legislative Update

Pete Munroe informed the CAAB that there are only 28 legislative days left in the Federal legislative session which ends September 30th. In mid-August it is anticipated that a Continuing Resolution will be enacted until after the elections in November. CSBG funding should be approximately the same as 2014; there is currently a bill to re-authorize CSBG as it has been funded, but not re-authorized, in several years.

There will be a National Community Action Foundation (NCAF) meeting on July 17th with Paul Ryan to try to get support for the CSBG re-authorization. Kate said that she recently heard on a webinar that most current legislators are not familiar with CSBG or what it does; getting re-authorized would bring attention to the program.

IX. Other business

Pete said that the local Document Recording Fees are down approximately 30 percent from a year ago in May; this could impact the future funding.

Pete informed the board that the Southwest Washington Regional Health Care Authority is looking for Community Advisory Council members from Clark, Skamania and Klickitat counties. There will be a total of 13 people on the council. Applications are due by July 28th.

Kate shared the 2013 Community Action Report. The goal of the report is to share information about the programs. Please provide feedback to Kate or Rebecca. The report is sent to stakeholders and is available online.

Kate distributed the July and August, 2014, advocacy calendar that shows key community meetings such as the Youth Access Work Group and the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers, which is a very informative bi-monthly meeting.

Next Meeting – November 4, 2014, Center for Community Health, Conference Room C210Cat 8:00am. NOTE: This meeting is scheduled a week early due to Veterans Day.

X. Conversations with Community Programs

Kate invited the group to chat with the program providers in attendance and ask any questions that may be on their mind.

XI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:07am