

Commission to End Homelessness
Implementation Group #1 (Prevention & Diversion)

Thursday, August 13th, 2015
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The Village @ 17th Street 1505 E. 17th St., Ste. 100 Santa Ana, CA 92705

Minutes

Larry Haynes, Implementation Group #1 Chairperson

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 10:34 am by Larry Haynes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Approve July 9th, 2015 Implementation Group #1 (Prevention) Minutes.**
Minutes approved.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

1. **Review and Update on Activity to Date – Agency Reports (1 to 2 minutes per provider)**

- a. **Mercy House – Sarah Jones**

- i. One time prevention assistance is available
- ii. Since the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1st, 2015, 13 households have been provided with prevention assistance.

- b. **South County Outreach - Lara Fisher**

- i. Has EFSP, city, and veteran funding available for prevention.
- ii. 15 household served.
- iii. Clients are from all of south country, however the lowest numbers come from Aliso Viejo.

- c. **VOALA – Dana Fagen**

- i. Spent \$89 thousand in Prevention and Rapid Rehousing efforts
- ii. This month 53 households received prevention assistance, including rollovers.
- iii. VOALA has \$28,000 left in funding for homeless prevention and is still accepting new clients.
- iv. Challenge: HUD-VASH clients are being co-enrolled as HMIS is not utilized by everyone and have to fill out a referral package. Evictions and bad credit make finding housing a challenge.
- v. Priority 1 grant has monthly meetings to identify gaps, barriers, and resources available in the community.

- d. **Family Assistance Ministries – Mary Gray-Perdue**

- i. Served 16 households, 5 of which were seniors.

- e. **1736 Family crisis Center – Dana Fagen**

- i. No funding for prevention services is available for new clients.

2. **Review Pre-screening Tool**

- a. Lara Fisher, South County Outreach shared that adding the diversion questions had added 15 minutes to the process for a total of 30 minutes (start to finish). She notes that the paper form is not as user friendly, as the online version previously utilized.
- b. Colette's Children's Home share that the Prescreening tool and Vi-SPDAT take anywhere from 30 to 45 minutes to complete, in addition to the 30 to 45 minutes it takes to do the intake.
- c. Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter, shared that the prescreening tool seems repetitive especially when you have known the clients for a long time. She shared that it makes more sense to utilize the tool with new clients instead.
- d. Larry Haynes entertained the idea to set a meeting to discuss funding for electronic version of the Prescreening Tool. In response Andrew Donchak suggested that the Prescreening tool requires further refinement and streamlining.
- e. Liz Rojas shared that during a conversation with San Bernardino's Coordinated Entry they suggested inputting the Prescreening tool into iCarol. iCarol is utilized for the 211OC helpline database. Liz Rojas has started to look at cost to see if it is a possibility. She also noted that training in proper execution of the tool is important.
- f. It was highlighted that the electronic version allows for tracking of clients (whether they are accessing multiple providers for the same service) and help determine long term needs.
- g. Larry Haynes noted the tremendous progress providers have made as they are still willing to utilize the tool despite it being time consuming.

3. Diversion Activities

- a. Updates**
- b. Successes**
- c. Challenges**

Larry Haynes introduced the need for diversion to be part of the agenda. He posed the question to those in attendance of how is diversion being done, what is and is not working, so we may learn from one another.

- a. Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter, shared that the Self-Sufficiency process has changed their intake to include diversion. Thus far, the Friendship Shelter has been able to divert some, but not as much as Focus Strategies had presented. The focus has been on getting people to other resources.
- b. Liz Rojas shared that during the NAEH conference in Washing DC, an Emergency Shelter provided reported diverting 67 to 75% individuals, but those same individuals would come back the next day. She explained that is not the type of diversion we want to have, but instead can expect to have 5 to 10% diversion. She also shared that HUD's perspective on prevention is not completely against it but encourages for it to be strategic. She shared that HUD is looking at obtaining more prevention data. Liz Rojas will reach out to the Street Outreach teams to talk about what diversion has looked like in work.
- c. Mary Perdue, Family Assistance Ministries, shared that her agency has incorporated diversion as part of the process. A more complete report to follow at the next meeting.
- d. Larry shared that there is a need to get everyone on the same page, very similar to how prevention was thoroughly defined in the past. It will be helpful to establish common language, discuss the culture change happening, and define what success within out Continuum of Care will look like.
- e. Colette's Children's Home shared that staff is trying to do diversion, however there is concern on whether or not it is being done correct or if they are being as effective as possible.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

ACTION ITEMS/NEXT STEPS

1. Set Next Agenda

a. Discussion Topics

- i. Review Prevention PowerPoint to ensure everyone is still in support of it and make any changes as appropriate.
- ii. Review 50% AMI versus 40% AMI
- iii. Continue Diversion conversations

b. Presentation Topics

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNED

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 10th, 2015

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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