

North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

www.ncceh.org/BoS

Balance of State Steering Committee Meeting

7.3.12

Regional Leads Present:

Brian Alexander, Albert Barron (also sitting in for Michael Bloomer), Susan Bellew, Ellen Blackman, Faythe Canson, Kristi Case, Debbie Cole, Spencer Cook, Nicole Dewitt, Amy Modlin, Jane Motsinger, Faye Pierce, Joel Rice, Kim Braxton (sitting in for Jackie Sheffield), Gus Smith, Marty Stebbins, Michele Steele, Paulette White, Teena Willis (also sitting in for Joe Marks), Shari Wright

Regional Leads Absent:

Tonya Gray, Katherine Pullicino

Interested Parties Present: Skeet Ayscue, Natalie Allen, Ellery Blackstock, Dave Burnett (RCHH), Keri Christensen, Kenosha Davenport (Haven in Lee), Masetta Dorley, Anne Friesen, Melissa Ledbetter, Laura McDuffee, Marlene Pruitt, Janice Sauls, Eden Tootil, Teesie Townsend, Kanika Turrentine, Leo Welsh, Lynne White, Talaika Williams

NCCEH Staff Present:

Denise Neunaber, Emila Sutton

Approval of June Minutes

There being no changes needed, a motion was made and approved to accept the minutes [Bellew, Pierce].

ICCHP Funding Update

- The \$250,000 in funding for the Interagency Council on Coordinating Homeless Programs (ICCHP) was left out of both the Senate and House versions of the state budget. Last night, the General Assembly overrode the Governor's veto of its budget and the ICCHP was not funded.
- The ICCHP funding supported coordination for SOAR, Balance of State CoC coordination, Ten-Year Plans, HEARTH trainings, and other activities. NCCEH is in contact with DHHS to discuss continuing the funding; staff is committed to making sure NCCEH or another agency will provide coordination for the BoS. Staff will let BoS members know as soon as any developments occur.
 - Jane suggested writing a guest column to let the public know the ramifications of losing this funding. Denise noted that staff would like to begin by having a conversation with the chair of the ICCHP, Beth Melcher, but others are free to do as they wish.

- Paulette asked for a list of the members of the ICCHP. Denise will forward this information.
- NCCEH has formed a BoS CoC funding committee, co-chaired by Paulette White and Nicole Dewitt. The committee will work on strategies for messaging and advocacy. Anyone who is interested in participating on the committee should email bos@ncceh.org.
- NCCEH staff thanked BoS members for contacting legislators to advocate for this funding.

CHIN Cost Structure

- The BoS has four voting members on the CHIN Advisory Committee: Emila Sutton, Paulette White, Melissa Ledbetter, and Kathy Bragg.
- CHIN, its Executive Committee, and its Advisory Committee have been working on a way to redesign its cost structure. CHIN's costs have always been based on user fees, which accounted for about 20% of CHIN's actual costs. The remaining costs were subsidized through ICCHP funding; HPRP funding, which is ending; and SHP-HMIS grants, the largest which is funded through the BoS, which covers costs for all CoCs. The new proposal would involve a CoC fee instead, so that each CoC covers more of its fair share of the overall costs.
 - Part of the BoS HMIS grant will be used to fund a position to analyze data and work with communities on using their data. There will be enough money left over in the grant to still help other CoCs cover their costs.
- The new cost structure proposal involves a tier system that establishes overall CoC size and capacity. The tiers were based on the number of beds each CoC has in its Housing Inventory Chart. HUD wants all CoCs to have at least 85% bed capacity, so the new system provides for enough user licenses for each CoC to reach this mark.
- The fee for each CoC covers end-user licenses, system administration, technical assistance, training, custom assessments, reports, assistance with applications and grant requirements, and special projects.
- The Advisory Committee is meeting next week to discuss and vote on the proposal. If the proposal is approved, it will go into effect in July 2013.
- The proposed CoC costs for each tier were reviewed. The BoS's fee would be \$320,000. The BoS HMIS grant would be used to subsidize about 16% of the other CoCs' fees.
- Steering Committee members were asked for their thoughts about whether the BoS should charge user fees under the new cost structure.
 - Most members agreed that lowering or removing the user fee would be preferable and would encourage more agencies to participate in CHIN. Denise noted that user fees are just one barrier to participation; if that barrier is removed, there will likely be others that need to be addressed (such as needing staff time to do data entry).
 - Paulette suggested putting end-user fees towards funding the coordination of the BoS.
 - The BoS can decide how to allocate the funding subsidies from its HMIS grant that will go to other CoCs. Steering Committee members agreed that NCCEH staff can tell the Advisory Committee that the BoS may consider dividing those funds based on need rather than using a flat fee.

Regional Committees: ESG Update

- NCCEH staff expects the ESG application to be released this week. There will be a Regional Application for each regional committee to complete as well as a Project Application for each agency/program that is applying for funding.
- Steering Committee members were given time to discuss their regions' plans for ESG applications and to ask questions.
 - Pitt County: The region set up an ESG planning committee. The region plans to renew its existing programs and to create a rapid re-housing program. The committee has been looking at the region's HMIS reports for HEARTH performance measures.
 - Surry, Davie, Stokes, Yadkin: The Surry County Regional Committee is planning to expand to include Davie and Stokes Counties. For the ESG application, Yadkin County will probably also be included. They are working on developing a rapid re-housing program to serve all four counties.
 - Piedmont: A review committee has been created to review applications. A grant writer is helping to coordinate the application.
 - Henderson: There was only one agency in the county that received ESG funding, and it has decided not to apply for renewal funding in order to allow all funds to go towards rapid re-housing. The proposal for this program has already been submitted. Homeward Bound of Asheville will serve as the lead agency and fiscal sponsor.
 - Northeast: The Regional Committee was formed two weeks ago and has contacted stakeholders across 13 counties to participate.
 - Kerr-Tar: The Regional Committee is working on putting together an application. It has been challenging to find enough capacity for a rapid re-housing program, especially for case management.
 - Foothills: There is concern that it is not financially feasible for any agency to be the fiscal sponsor. Denise noted that fiscal sponsors are not required this year. However, she suggested there may be alternative to propose, such as in multi-county regions, it may be possible to have a different fiscal sponsor for each county; she can propose this idea to DHHS and asked Steering Committee members to contact Martha Are if this option would help their regions. It was also suggested that LMEs could serve as fiscal sponsors for multi-county regions, although this may be a challenge during the merger process.

VA Partnership

- VA medical centers are very interested in partnering with BoS agencies on permanent supportive housing applications to serve veterans. The VA would be able to provide the services match for these applications.
- BoS members who are interested in this partnership should email bos@ncceh.org.

Discharges from Adult Care Homes

- Some ACHs are at risk of being labeled as Institutes of Mental Disease, which would affect their ability to bill for Medicaid, leading them to discharge residents. NCCEH has received reports that some of these discharges are into homelessness.
- CHIN will be adding a field into the HMIS that allows homeless providers to track whether individuals were residents of adult care homes in 2012. This data will be shared with the State to help them create a successful discharge plan for ACHs.
- NCCEH is hosting a call on Monday, July 9th, at 2 pm to discuss these issues and how to record data in CHIN. All BoS stakeholders, especially shelter providers, are asked to participate on the call. (Slides and a transcript from the call are available at <http://www.ncceh.org/ach>)

CoC Intent to Apply Form

- Several new Regional Committees have been formed this year. Any Regional Committee that did not elect a Regional Lead in January, February, or March of 2012 is not eligible to apply for new CoC funding this year.
- All applicants for new and renewal CoC funding must fill out a CoC Intent to Apply Form: <http://www.ncceh.org/forms/35/BoS-HUD-Application-Intent-Form-2012/>

QPRs

- All grantees must email Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) to NCCEH 30 days after the end of each quarter of their operating year. Timeliness of QPR submission is scored during the CoC application.
- NCCEH staff created a new QPR form to streamline the reporting process. The new QPR form is available for download on the NCCEH website at www.ncceh.org/BoS/grantees. Old forms will no longer be accepted.
- Because the new QPR form calculates the QPR due dates for each quarter, NCCEH staff will no longer send reminder emails to grantees whose QPRs are due. All grantees should download the new QPR form now and enter in their grant start dates to calculate their QPR due dates for the year.

To-Do List

- BoS grantees: continue to turn in QPRs.
- BoS grantees: review grantee webpage and send any edits to emila@ncceh.org.
- Regional Leads: read the BoS CoC Action Plan and take action in your Regional Committee.
- Interested applicants: complete the CoC & ESG Intent to Apply Forms.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 7 at 10:30.