

Meeting Minutes
Community Supports Sub-Committee Meeting
Department of Family and Community Services Large Conference Room
Old City Hall; 5th Floor; Room 504
400 Marquette NW
February 13, 2018 from 5:00-7:00pm

1. Attendance

Members Present

Kathy Finch, Chair
Verner Westerberg
Melissa Beery
John Schoeppner
Paul Hopkins
Robin Connell
Hanson Scott

Technical Advisors

William Narrow

Members Excused

Nancy Jo Archer, Vice-Chair
Laura Tuzinowski
Melissa Beery

Staff Members Present

Ellen Braden, COA
Alex Tonigan UNM/ISR
Michael Robertson, COA
Sun Vega BHI Advisor; Hyde & Associates

2. Call to Order

Chair Kathy Finch called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm

Discussion to Approve Agenda

The Agenda was approved with two additions: Update from the Steering Committee and Discussion of Verner Westerberg's comments on the draft proposal, specific to outcomes.

Discussion to Approve Minutes

The previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. Key Items of Discussion

A. Old Business

Single Site Supportive Housing Proposal Discussion

Discussion of Verner Westerberg's comments on the draft proposal, specific to outcomes:

- Verner reviewed the comments he had sent electronically to the committee (attached). Recommended to begin with a minimalist approach regarding services for the single site permanent housing (SSPH), then add services as the need for them becomes evident.
- Discussion around the difference between minimalist services versus lack of services.

Review of the target population, many of which include persons on Medicaid, which will cover the cost of services.

Reviewed draft budget provided by Nancy Jo Archer. The committee recommended the following changes, specific to services needed in the SSPH:

- Adding a third CM or CPSW for transportation and connection support.
- Adding transportation – which will include vehicles owned by the program, bus passes, and the utilization of Sun Van.
- Increasing number of hours of therapy
- Increasing the number of hours for services, to be determined.
- Increasing the cost of contractual services
- Increasing cost of supplies

Need opportunities for the individuals to interact with needed resources, i.e. job development and DVR if unemployed, if recently diagnosed, need opportunities to interact with peers and learn more about symptoms, etc.

Discussion around housing first – person is housed first, then engaged in other services. There is not a requirement that the individual engage in services, but rather invited and provided the opportunity.

Need for a variety of choices for activities throughout the day:

- Self-Care
- Employment
- Social skills
- Having a calendar throughout the day, not everything will be offered every day

The importance of communal eating – eating at a table with others provides the opportunity for connection and the refinement of social skills

The building design and structure of the building must allow for the services described herein:

- Communal meals that seats all residents for celebrations and sharing meals together
- Multi-purpose room for communal gather
- Kitchen for communal eating, food prep classes
- Need office space for CM and CPSW
- Engagement space at front desk, that includes coffee 24 hours/day
- Trauma-informed design
- Chairs and sofas in clusters
- 2 chair salon (beauty and barber shop with hair wash sink)
- Comfortable sitting areas that can also accommodate groups and 12 step programs
- A room for exercise, including equipment
- Outdoor space for shooting basketball

There is no need for security, rather the use of locked front doors and everyone must pass by the front desk to enter their apartments. Like a “gated community.”

Discussion about intake specialist/property management – what the actual procedures are for being in system.

Target population:

- Should not be geared specifically for homeless.
- What about people living in unhealthy situations, such as boarding homes or with families that only want them there for their SSI check?

- The population really is for people who have extreme difficulty living independently that need some level of supervision and more intensive services
- Less emphasis on homeless status and more on the mental health needs of the individual
- How healthy is it to have a very broad population within SSHP?

Can Community Connections data shed any light on target populations? Not at this time, because they do have to say no to people with too high needs.

We want to be able to determine that the services provided are effective for a specific population, thus the target population should be targeted.

Need to include discharge planning for those individuals who move on to other types of housing.

This committee decided they do not need to review the proposal again.

ACTION: Alex will make changes to the proposal and present to housing subcommittee on 2/20/18.

B. New Business

Dr. Finch provided an update on BHI:

- Approximately \$4 million is left to allocate
- Priorities at this time are single site supporting housing
- Triage Center is at state to change the definition to include hospitals having the ability to provide Crisis services
- Talk of Diversion programs – County is applying for a LEAD grant
- Sober living

Paul Hopkins discussed his concern that some of the projects listed under the CPI report, especially the mid-level services, have dropped off the radar, but they are still important, for example IOP.

Ellen Braden discussed the City's Substance Use Treatment Provider Network.

Committee discussed that RFP's must contain language that ensures respondents address the behavioral health system.

Discussion around the lack of effective communication to the community about what services are actually available. Recommended a community forum after the

dollars are allocated where the City and the County can discuss service availability. Paul Hopkins and Maggie Hart-Stebbins are discussing the broader use and dissemination of information in an upcoming meeting.

Discussion around the definition of substance use treatment: that it must include evidence based services, providers be licensed; provision of services for co-occurring disorders.

4. Public Comment

No Public Comment.

5. Announcements and Miscellaneous

6. Next Meeting and Adjourn

The next meeting for Community Supports is scheduled for March 13, 2018 at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and **will be held at the Department of Family and Community Services Large Conference Room Old City Hall; 5th Floor; Room 504; 400 Marquette NW.**

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.