



Human Services Department
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION / Homeless Initiative Partnership
 115 S Andrews Avenue, Room A370 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-6167 • FAX 954-357-8204

**BROWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 HOMELESS INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP (“HIP”)
 Homeless Continuum of Care Advisory (“HCoC”) Board Meeting
 August 25, 2021
 DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Senator Nan Rich at 10:00 AM

Board of Directors	Present	Excused	Absent	Board of Directors	Present	Excused	Absent
Senator Nan Rich Board Chair	X			Martin, Robin	X		
Akiti, Melida	X			McNeal, Reniese	X		
Bakalar, Howard-VP		X		Moffett, Ron	X		
Barron, Michael	X			Mitchell, Carole	X		
Campbell, Tom- Ex-			X	Osley, Danny	X		
Cavanaugh, Keith – Ex-officio	X			Quintana, Silvia	X		
Donovan, Brian			X	Lt. Ed Rafailovtc			X
Einhorn, Sandra	X						
Garcia, Tiffany	X			Commissioner Ben Sorensen			X
Green, William			X	Stutin, Cathy	X		
Hattan, Caryl	X			Werthman, Steve	X		
Hernandez, Maria	X			Wilby, Lorraine			X
Lopez, Yvette	X			Wines, Lynne			X



Staff Present:

Darrell Cunningham, Director of Community Partnership Division; **Rebecca McGuire, Ph.D.**, Homeless Initiative Partnership, (HIP); **Kenisha Bryant Ed.**, (HIP); **Brittany Odom** (HIP); **Charlesy Nance** (HIP) **Stephanie-Ann Elie** (HIP).

1. Introductions/Roll Call

Roll call was completed by the HIP Administrator, Rebecca McGuire, Ph.D. A quorum was not confirmed at the commencement of the meeting. However, the addition of several members shortly after the meeting commenced confirmed a quorum.

Section Updates

Dr. McGuire provided an update to the Board Members regarding the NOFO application for FY2021. The due date for submission is scheduled for November 15, 2021. She noted that the items for the application will require a vote by the Homeless Continuum of Care (“HCoC”).

Dr. McGuire mentioned that- a notice will be published, and letter must be submitted by September 10, 2021. There are certain instructions required for the letters that will be published in the notice.

The HCoC will also review the following:

1. The Written Standards of Care that needs to be updated.
2. The Homeless Management Information System manual needs to be updated in accordance with the HUD data standards and are well aligned to the Written Standards of Care.
3. Rating and Ranking tools for all projects.
4. The Governance Chart: The County had technical assistance with HMIS & HUD.
5. The Grant Inventory worksheet was published by HUD in July and outlines the funding for each project.

Once they are revised, the items- will be presented to the Pong Committee, as well as the HCoC, during the September meeting.

Updates

Senator Rich shared that she presented a Proclamation at the last commission meeting that commemorated the life and work of Richard Courtney, who dedicated his entire career serving the homeless community. There will also be a plaque outside of the library to honor Courtney’s memory.

Senator Rich announced the county will be putting approximately \$8 million from sunsetting CRA dollars into the Broward County Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The County also has access to the American Rescue Plan Funds. Ralph Stone has been working with developers and other nonprofit organizations who may be interested in doing permanent supportive housing to identify shovel-ready affordable housing projects.

It is estimated that over \$30 million of these projects may be funded.

Senator Rich also mentioned that the Commission voted to approve an update to the FIU Affordable Housing Needs Assessment study conducted in 2018.

2. Approval of minutes for August 2021 meeting

The approval of the August meeting minutes have been tabled and will be voted on at the next meeting in September.

3. Emergency Housing Vouchers (EVH)

Dr. McGuire gave a brief description of the EVH program. The program is administered by the Public Housing Authority and Housing Authority of Fort Lauderdale. Each Housing Authority has instructed the County to send them ten referrals a week. That is the capacity they have currently, but it is subject to change.

HIP has hired two (2) housing navigators who help individuals who do have these vouchers to get houses more quickly.

4. City of Fort Lauderdale Shelter Project Update

Dr. McGuire updated the Board that Broward County has been working aggressively with the City of Fort Lauderdale case management staff to provide housing plans for the homeless individuals that have been staying at the Plaza Hotel.

5. Housing Opportunity for Persons with Aids Update

Dr. McGuire stated that they have a contract for \$1.9 million with HOPWA. It is a new project for HIP section. This will be on the Commission Agenda on October 19, 2021. Funds need to be expended by 2023.

6. Reopening of overnight beds and COVID-19

With the high surge of COVID-19 cases, Dr. McGuire mentioned that the Non-Congregate shelter is full, and some dorms at the emergency shelters are on quarantine or lockdown. There has been a significant increase in the number of families. One of the main issues is the lack of vaccinations for children. Before someone enters a shelter, they are tested prior to being accepted, but being vaccinated is not a requirement.

Robin Martin inquired if the homeless population testing positive for COVID-19 are vaccinated. Dr. McGuire stated that 35% of these people are vaccinated. They will try to gather as much data as possible relating to vaccination and will share this information at the next meeting. Dr. McGuire also said that they will continue with aggressive vaccination campaigns. They are scheduled to have at least two events per month.

Senator Rich requested that Melida Akiti provide an update about the situation in the hospitals relating to COVID-19. Ms. Akiti shared that 90% of the people hospitalized are unvaccinated. Dr.

McGuire stated that they will be hosting vaccination events next week and will be sending out flyers.

7. **Update on Future Meetings**

Following the County Administration orders, the meetings will continue to be held virtually.

8. **Board Member Updates :**

Mrs. Carole Mitchell stated that 695 students have registered in the Homeless education system since school started a week ago.

Maria Hernandez has mentioned that the Support Services for Veterans (SSV) has received additional resources from the Veteran Affairs. This allows a bit more flexibility since they can serve clients up to 24 months.

9. **Public Comment:**

Pastor Patrick Jackson introduced himself as well as his non-profit organization named Camp Victory Resorts for the Homeless.

Keith Cavanaugh shared that Officer Dwayne Chung is back on duty with the Hollywood Police Department and has been a great asset to the Homeless community.

Dr. McGuire informed Board Members that if they need their badge renewed, they need to have their appointment letter. The HIP Administrative assistant can email it to them and assist in scheduling an appointment with the security office to have their new badge.

10. **Adjournment**

Next HCoC Meeting – September 22, 2021, at 10:00 AM.

Community Partnerships Provider Directory:

<http://www.broward.org/HumanServices/CommunityPartnerships/CPDirectory/index.html>