

**BROWARD COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**HOMELESS INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP (HIP)**  
**Homeless Continuum of Care Advisory (CoC) Board Meeting**  
**February 27, 2019**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Time Called to Order:** 10:05am

**Location:** Governmental Center East, GC-302

**Time Adjourned:** 11:19am

**Minutes by:** Ebony Dorcelus, HIP

**Members Present:** **J. David Armstrong** – Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Rep.; **Tom Campbell**, Ex-Officio – Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc. (BPHI) Rep.; **Sandra Einhorn** – Advocate for the Homeless; **Tiffany Garcia** – Broward County Housing Authority (BCHA) Rep.; **Vice-Mayor Caryl Hattan** – Broward County Housing Council Rep.; **Steve Hudson**, Broward Workshop Rep.; **Mason Jackson** – Career Source Broward Rep.; **Mark Korman** – City of Pompano Beach Rep.; **Robin Martin** – Advocate for the Homeless; **Danny Osley** – Formerly Homeless Rep.; **Silvia Quintana** – Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC) Rep. (via phone); **Senator Nan Rich** – CoC Chair, Commissioner District 1; **Captain Scott Russell** – Broward Sheriff’s Office (BSO) Rep.; **Vice-Mayor Benjamin Sorensen**, City of Fort Lauderdale; **Steve Werthman** – Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds recipient Hollywood designee Rep.; **James Whitworth** – Ex-Officio-North Homeless Assistance Center (NHAC)/South Homeless Assistance Center (SHAC) Rep. **Howard Bakalar** – CoC Vice-Chair, Advocate for the Homeless (via phone); **Maria Hernandez** – United Way Rep.; **Carole Mitchell** – School Board of Broward County Rep.

**Members Absent:** **Yvette Lopez** – Housing and Community Development Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) recipient Rep. **Jamie Costas** – Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) Rep.; **JoAnn Anstett** – Homeless Providers Stakeholders Council (HPSC) Chair;

**Guests Present:** **Marc Esko**, Consumer Advisory Council; **Linda Gutierrez**, NAMI Broward County; **Jacob Torner**; **Anthony Ginsberg**; **Dwayne Chung**; **Beatril Seuersor**; **Debbie Perry**

**Staff Present:** **Rebecca McGuire**, HIP; **Sandy Steed**, Broward County Attorney’s Office; **Ricardo Moore**, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); **Silvia Beebe**, Community Partnerships Division; **Odilanda Brito** HIP; Kenisha Bryant; HIP

**Call to Order & Quorum:**

Senator N. Rich, Chair, called the meeting to order; E. Dorcelus called attendance and confirmed quorum.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To approve January 23, 2019 minutes.  
**First:** Vice-Mayor Benjamin Sorensen  
**Second:** Steve Hudson  
**Declaration of Conflict:** None  
**Discussion:** None  
**Result:** Passed

**CoC Board Update:**

Commissioner Rich, reported a brief update on the new day respite center taking place at HOPE South Florida, located 1100 North Andrews Avenue, funded through the Broward Business Council on Homelessness. At the center there is a play area for children, computers, internet, living room setting; the center has a full-service operation set in place.

The day respite opened just one week ago and will be operating as a pilot in the meantime, with a soft opening. Currently all referrals for the respite center are only coming from the Homeless Helpline, and TaskForce. HOPE South Florida is excited to be able to serve families in the community.

Commissioner Rich mentioned the new and improved Homeless Guide where you can follow the schedule of services including meals, showers, and outreach. The guide is listed based on the days of the week and the times during the day that the services will be offered. Copies will be handed out for the CoC Board Committee to have discussion on ways the guide can be more accessible and easier to understand.

**New Business:**

**A Way Home Plan 2018 – Certification by R. Martin**

The A Way Home Plan had to be certified and must be certified annually.

At the PONG Meeting, there was a robust discussion around A Way Home Plan, and the process. Ultimately, the A Way Home Plan was certified for the funding source, but it needs to come up for the full board, so we're presenting it here. The A Way Home Plan reflects months of hard work and the combination of community involvement. The entire plan has been mailed out and there is also a two-page hand out with the major components concerning the A Way Home Plan.

The PONG Committee will like to make a motion to certify the A Way Home Plan.

R. McGuire gave a brief run down of the process for the A Way Home Plan.

HIP staff worked diligently to get a real handle on what we fund, what we don't fund, and what needs to be funded. We also reached out to partners who may not necessarily consider themselves part of the regular CoC. HIP Staff really took a look at substance abuse, more supportive services, and other services in the community, so that we could get an idea of where our gaps are. This information was provided to Regina and Robin from the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

The A Way Home Plan speaks well about what is needed in Broward County from an affordable housing stand point. It becomes difficult to house individuals experiencing homelessness with all the HUD rates because there are no affordable housing units. You must get rent reasonableness, fair market rent and pass the housing quality inspections.

Four focus areas that were concentrated on:

Coordinated Entry

How are we getting individuals into the shelter?

How are we getting families into the shelters?

What does that look like?

What are the barriers that we're addressing?

When we send a referral out to a housing provider and it is declined, what happens?

Where did they go?

There will be some meetings that are forthcoming to look at how we can streamline even more if possible, the entry into shelters.

Shelter System

The document states we do not have enough back-end permanent supportive and rapid rehousing to support the amount of shelters that we have.

HIP Staff is currently re-looking at the priorities and the funding, housing has been discussed for the last few years. The discussion should be around what type of housing does that look like.

Housing First

What do we see as the barriers of our system to housing first?

What do we see that needs to happen?

Do we think that paradigm shift is how we conduct our business?

How do we operationalize things so that we can generally start moving more to that housing first?

HMIS System

Well Sky is the HMIS service provider.

ServicePoint is the platform for the Homeless Management Information System. Every CoC is required to have a Homeless Management Information System. The HMIS manager is currently looking for different platforms to ensure that we maintain accuracy and have all the components needed. There will be focus groups created to see what updates in data are needed to be able to pull information without gathering 5 or 6 reports.

M. Jackson made a suggestion about the importance and the needs of jobs. The plan needs an employment section and there needs to be a fifth pillar here that talks about how we're going to get these folks jobs. The US Interagency Council on Homelessness says that the discussion about jobs needs to start at intake and it needs to be reinforced along the way.

S. Quintana suggested that the committee starts a focus group that can navigate the proper process of the 'How To'.

To approve certification of the A Way Home Plan as presented by CSH to our board.

**Motion:** Commissioner Nan Rich

**Second:** Carole Mitchell

**Result:** Passed

### **Introduction of new HIP Staff, Kavaja Sarduy by R. McGuire**

R. McGuire introduced new Human Services Manager, Homeless Initiative Partnership. Committee welcomes Kavaja Sarduy onboard.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Update on Encampment presented by R. McGuire, HIP:**

All the clients are out of hotels and are moved to apartments. There are a few of the clients still in temporary apartments due to identification and citizenship issues which the case managers are working to help clients resolve. The staff is continuing to case manage and revisit the type of case management that needs to increase. Staff is looking for opportunities to bring everyone together who has anything to do with outreach. We have an email web that we check frequently per day: [homelessinitiativepartnership@broward.org](mailto:homelessinitiativepartnership@broward.org).

Do we know these individuals, what's happening with them?

What plan do we need to make for them?

Is this an area that has the potential to become and pop up and be another encampment?

We're going to try and be as proactive as possible.

Feel free to send information to that email address.

Persons experiencing homelessness are not declined services, if they do not have an ID.

The Continuum of Care Board will continue to discuss what identifies as an encampment.

The Point-in-Time Count Report is due to staff at the end of March.

#### **2 New Housing and Urban Development awards from the 2017 NoFA by R. McGuire**

HIP staff has been working to execute shield. The match for our community to our providers has become a significant barrier to accepting funding. As we continue to work with our private partners, that's one thing that you're going to start hearing a lot about, is how can we tell our providers who struggle so much with Match? Can we create workshops? We are grateful to be able to get the match because that would have been 39 households not housed, \$653,000 not coming to Broward County.

We are thrilled to be working with BCHA, we're working with BPHI to get them online as quickly as possible. Additionally, we're working to figure out how will our priority ranking look, because again this will be another brand-new project that does not have a lot of data.

### **HMIS Data Report by R. Moore**

We want to start improving more to identify the challenged areas that need improvement. There was great feedback during the PONG Committee that we're going to make some adjustments and some more communication that is needed for data and timely tracking of the report entry.

#### **Committee**

**Reports/Updates:** Reports attached to meeting packet and are readily available at <http://www.broward.org/homeless/Pages/Default.aspx>.

The goal is to have no more than 4 meetings.

The AD Hoc Central Action Fort Lauderdale Committee be sunset.

**Motion:** Robin Martin

**Second:** Mason Jackson

**Discussion:** Storage still needs to be discussed

**Result:** Passed

Committee members will discuss other ways to better access the Homeless Guide with Kavaja Sarduy other than the app that was discussed.

**Homeless Providers** No Update

**Stakeholders**

**Council:**

**Adjournment &**

**Next Meeting:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:52am; next meeting will be held on March 27, 2019.