

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

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

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

**Time Adjourned:** 11:19am

**Minutes by:** Ebony Dorcelus, HIP

**Members Present:** **Melida Akiti** – South Hospital District Rep.; Community Services Rep.; **JoAnn Anstett** – Homeless Providers Stakeholders Council (HPSC) Chair; **J. David Armstrong** – Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Rep.; **Howard Bakalar** – CoC Vice-Chair, Advocate for the Homeless; **Tom Campbell**, Ex-Officio – Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc. (BPHI) Rep.; **Jamie Costas** – Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) Rep.; **Dwayne Chung**; City of Hollywood Police; **Sandra Einhorn** – Advocate for the Homeless; **Tiffany Garcia** – Broward County Housing Authority (BCHA) Rep.; **Luke Harrigan**; Faith Based 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.; **Yvette Lopez** – Housing and Community Development Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) recipient Rep. **Robin Martin** – Advocate for the Homeless; **Carole Mitchell** – School Board of Broward County Rep.; **Danny Osley** – Formerly Homeless Rep.; **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.;

**Members Absent:** **Maria Hernandez** – United Way Rep.; **Silvia Quintana** – Broward Behavioral Health Coalition (BBHC) Rep. **James Whitworth** – Ex-Officio-North Homeless Assistance Center (NHAC)/South Homeless Assistance Center (SHAC) Rep

**Guests Present:** **David Stames**, Memorial Healthcare System; **Kurt Koetsier**, Memorial Healthcare System; **Yamaris Arbioctma**, Operation Sacred Trust; **Lilly Gallardo**; The Salvation Army; **Alyse Gossman**; The Salvation Army; **Shira Fowlkes**; Broward Regional Health; **Kathleen Richards**; TaskForce; **Richard Campillo**; Resident; **Amy Corderman**; Holy Cross Hospital; **Marilyn Lieberman**; **Gabriela Barros**; Broward County Public Schools; **Gayle Grese**; **Linda Gutierrez**; **Dan Lindblade**; Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber; **Anthony Ginsberg**; **Lynne Wines**; United Way **Marc Esko**, Consumer Advisory Council;

**Staff Present:** **Rebecca McGuire**, HIP; **Sandy Steed**, Broward County Attorney’s Office; **Ricardo Moore**, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); **Darrell Cunningham**, Community Partnerships Division; **Odilanda Brito** HIP; **Kenisha Anthony**; HIP; **Ebony Dorcelus** HIP **Anna Gibbs** Children Services

**Call to Order & Quorum:** Senator N. Rich, Chair, called the meeting to order; E. Dorcelus completed the roll call and confirmed quorum.

**Approval of Minutes:** **MOTION:** To approve February 27, 2019 minutes.  
**First:** Scott Russell  
**Second:** Robin Martin  
**Declaration of Conflict:** None  
**Discussion:** None  
**Result:** Passed

**CoC Board Update:** CoC Chair presented a brief update on the legislature report for the initial house and senate budgets.

*Senate budgets have:*

- \$544 million dollars more in healthcare funding than House
- \$612 million more in K-12 (per person ratio increase)

*In terms of homeless:*

- Senate has \$2.2 million GR or challenge grant
- House has 0

The House and Senate both have \$3 million recurring for the local CRC. Broward will get a portion of that the funding which will equate to a couple of staff.

Senator Brook has a bill that changes several things regarding to the homeless challenge grant. She has elected to take money off the top of the Sadowsky Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The community is encouraged to voice that they will like the money all intact and moved over to the house and trust fund, and to the homeless as one of the categories. Also, to focus on all the needs in our community, whether it's affordable housing, healthcare, and/or education, providing opportunities for all people.

**New Business:** **a. Housing and Urban Development 2019 Notice of Funding Availability (NoFA) priority.**

In 2017 we were awarded two projects, the Shield and Broward Five. The ranking was missed in 2018 for these two projects. Our concern is the two projects will have no data. This is critical because both are permanent and supportive housing units.

Staff has hired a consultant who has done a lot of work with ranking renewals and new projects.

The tool shows a lot of data, outcomes, annual performance reviews, and the two projects will have none by the time the NoFA drops.

Michael, our consultant will come in and present to the PONG committee the tool he recommends for ranking the projects.

Staff will be trying something new, the tool will be unpopulated and open for feedback.

All HUD providers will hear from Michael to hear their thoughts and feedback.

Michael has been recommended by seven CoC's across the state and we are excited to receive his input to see how we can ensure we are taking all necessary steps to be fair and transparent.

**b. HMIS**

HMIS is currently working through the process to implement ScanPoint, which is a system that allows providers the opportunity to print out barcodes, and it allows clients to check in and out of shelters. The team is currently working with vendors to finalize set up and test the product.

Update on the PIT Count – the HMIS team is currently approaching the final QA of the surveys and anticipate having the count complete by April 5, to report to HIP, which will then be presented to the board.

*Committee Discussion:* The total number of contacts as far as clients including unduplicated.

There are roughly 8230 number of contacts which is from the fiscal years of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Anyone who has contact with an individual experiencing the homelessness are encouraged to use the HMIS system.

The HMIS system is working well, and we must thank Ricardo for coming on board and holding the vendor accountable. We are getting a lot more use out of the HMIS system and we are using modules that we do not have to pay for.

We just recently got a new case manager from Henderson training and then the new coordinator. HIP staff currently go over the system with any staff who are onsite at Community Court to further educate them on how to use the system. They are trained and have access to the system and understand coordinated entry.

### **c. Pop-Up Encampments**

HIP Staff, Law Enforcement, and TaskForce have been convening meetings, researching and having discussions about what is really an encampment. An encampment can be anything from one person being there for 24 hours, to 10 people being there for 10 days to having a structure of some kind, to various activities that people might be doing that maybe insinuate that they are living in a spot.

We are in the process of coming up with what the CoC of Broward County might consider an encampment and then how and why is that important.

We want to first make sure that you have the right resources, and that you're giving enough legal notice to individuals.

The plan is to present to the PONG in April with some recommendations, perhaps some further discussion to ensure we clear this up. That way moving forward we can implement a big public awareness campaign about encampment versus to street homelessness and how we treat those differently.

Currently there are 60 individuals that are living at the airport which taskforce goes out with a team to try and engage and get to know who the individuals are.

There are homeless individuals living at, at least 10 bridges in Broward County. We are currently working to address, how can we keep the bridge safe and address individuals experiencing homelessness using the appropriate signage, using the resources that we have.

### **d. New Sub-Committee Recommendations (Motion and Vote)**

Committee discussed the restructure recommendations to minimize the number of meetings held per month.

- *PONG Committee* - will remain
- *HMIS* - will be included with the PONG committee moving forward
- *Permanent Housing* - Committee is now changed to *Housing Action Committee*
  - ➔ Members include:
    - Landlords
    - Housing Navigators
    - Providers
    - Realtors
    - Supportive Services provider
      - *Homeless Youth and Families* - will remain
      - *Coordinated Assessment* – Committee will need roughly 3 more meetings to complete the Policy and Procedure and the meeting will be held “as needed”.

- *Homeless Providers and Stakeholders* – HIP will have a standing item with updates
- *Consumer Advocacy Committee*- The goal is to combine this committee with Coffee and Conversation one time per month and HIP will facilitate.
- *AD HoC Central Action Committee* – The meeting was sunset, however there is a request to keep the Ad Hoc meeting as an agenda item for the PONG Committee due to a few recommendations that came out of the AD Hoc Committee were not yet done. Items such as storage and/or day respite.

*The PONG Committee makes the recommendation to approve the restructuring of the sub- committees as presented by staff.*

**Motion:** Robin Martin

**Second:** Steve Werthman

**Result:** Passed

*Committee has brief discussion about the Business Council tiger teams and the opportunities that will be available:*

HIP Administrator will like to meet with the committee chairs to discuss to opportunity with the landlord tiger team. Staff will like to improve the process on getting individuals housed and give them the ability to be self-sustaining by providing some sort of training.

The plan is to put a work group together to discuss housing barriers and discuss employment issues. *How do we operationalize that?* How do we make it a systems approach to dealing with employment?

*Committee had open discussion about affordable housing and funding.*

We have invited someone from the fundraising team to come to the PONG to discuss what may be the systemically barriers for us.

**Old Business: Update on the Transition of the North Assistance Center by R. McGuire, HIP:**

HIP Staff share their gratitude to the NHAC team for being helpful in the transition plan.

A lot of cleaning has been done, and a lot of moving of furniture.

The Broward Outreach Center staff will start the transition this week, which will be final on March 31, 2019 midnight.

St. Laurence will stop providing services on March 28, 2019 which will be their last day in operation.

Staff will like to thank the organizations for working so hard, showing grace and dignity during this difficult transition.

Staff is excited about the next chapter and will keep everyone posted on updates.

**Committee Reports/Updates:**

- **PONG Meeting** – The Reallocation information that was tabled today will go back to the PONG for discussion.  
The By Name List will be up for review during the next meeting – the number of families that are experiencing homelessness were counted as

500 plus initially, which included all the members of the family. The committee will like to discuss if the numbers are in fact correct or is there something that may have been missed in the past for the number of families experiencing homelessness to be this high.

- **Permanent Housing Meeting** – The committee talked about creating action steps that will be a priority. 1. Creating a landlord database 2. Creating a housing manual and housing guidelines 3. Coordinated prevention services.
- **Homeless Management (HMIS) Meeting** – No meeting
- **Consumer Advocacy Meeting**- Committee voted to meet every other month, however this change will be revisiting during the next meeting to discuss the new proposal of merging with the Coffee and Conversation at the library.
- **Coordinated Assessment Meeting**- No meeting
- **Homeless Youth and Families Meeting** – There are 4,943 students registered in the Hart Program. 4,417 are active; 198 are in pre-school; 2,390 are in elementary school; 929 are in middle school; 900 are in high school; and 290 are seniors.  
There are volunteers that will be assisting the HEART program with free prom dresses for seniors, and college supplies for the students who are going out to college. Gabriela Borrows in the new Program Specialist that will be working with HEART.
- **Homeless Providers and Stakeholders Meeting**- We are excited that Nick is coming in April to share a very extensive report on what he's experienced over the last year with his coffee and conversations and how providers can get information to consumers.

**Good of the Order:**

*David Stames* - Director of Emergency and Trauma Services at Memorial Regional Hospital came in to speak briefly about the how homelessness impacts healthcare.

- We have tracked 126 individuals that are multi-purpose patients.
- One of the patients who suffers from alcoholism and homelessness have accumulated over 90 visits in a calendar year with over \$600,000 written off in charity to pay for his care.

One of the struggles that we're having is a patient with an ongoing injury or illness like cellulitis for instance of the foot. The patient is a homeless patient and is out in the community, they scratch their foot, that foot becomes infected. They end up in the emergency department to get IB antibiotics because they haven't taken PO or by mouth antibiotics and these things accumulate over time. We might have to send the patient to surgery and now we basically own that patient for a large amount of time, (months).

We are looking to team up with the community and business council to see how we can implement a housing plus program for the patients and send medical resources to the patients so that we can provide them with the care they need.

*Marc Esko* - Consumer Advisory Council and Consumer Advocacy Committee. With the transition that has taken place with St. Laurence, are we going to be losing the 30 overnight beds?

*HIP Administrator* – The agency will not be providing overnight beds due to the issues that continue to occur. However, we will not lose 30 beds, there will still be a total of 268 beds at the North Hac.

**Adjournment &  
Next Meeting:**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:52am; next meeting will be held on April 24, 2019.