

**BROWARD COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HOMELESS INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP (HIP)  
PERFORMANCE, OUTCOMES, NEEDS, AND GAPS (PONG) COMMITTEE  
December 13, 2018  
MINUTES**

**Time Called to Order:** 2:33pm  
**Location:** Governmental Center East, A-337

**Time Adjourned:** 4:11pm  
**Minutes by:** Luis DeJesus, HIP

**Members Present:** **Scott DiMarzo**, North District Hospital Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Rep.; **Silvia Quintana**, Broward Behavioral Health CoC Board Rep.; **Scott Russell**, Broward Sheriff's Office CoC Board Rep.

**Members Absent:** **Luke Harrigan**, Faith Based CoC Rep.; **Maria Hernandez**, United Way CoC Board Rep.; **Robin Martin**, Chair, Advocate for the Homeless CoC Board Rep.

**Guests Present:** **JoAnn Anstett**, Women in Distress CoC Board Rep.; **Tom Campbell**, Broward Partnership for the Homeless; **Marc Esko**, Consumer Advocacy Council; **Shira Fowlkes**, Broward Regional Health Planning Council; **Chania Somarriba**, HOPE South Florida; **Jacob Torner**, Operation Sacred Trust, **Gisselle Williams**, HOPE South Florida

**Staff Present:** **Rebecca McGuire**, HIP; **Luis DeJesus**, HIP; **Andrea Webster**, HIP; **Odilanda Brito**, HIP; **Jay Ellis**, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

**Welcome & Introductions:**

S. Russell, called the meeting to order on behalf of R. Martin, Chair, who designated him as Chair in his absence, attendees introduced themselves, and quorum was confirmed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To approve November 8, 2018 Minutes with revision.

**First:** S. DiMarzo

**Second:** S. Quintana

**Declaration of Conflict:** None.

**Discussion:** None.

**Result:** Passed.

**New Business:** *Budget Planning by R. McGuire, HIP:*

R. McGuire spoke on spreadsheet provided to committee showing monies in each component of funding for the Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) out of General Funds and the Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Often there are talks concerning the need for permanent housing. However, several other gaps have surfaced which need attention and require funding and therefore, a review of monies can show where planning can begin.

Medical respite and additional beds are a must. There is also a need for discharge plans as that is a huge part of placement. Outreach could use more staff and resources to be able to make contact with more people experiencing homelessness. Lastly, affordable housing goes without saying as it is one of the major reasons for homelessness.

Committee discussed people being discharged from different systems, providing alternative housing options for people who do not want to live in an apartment, and respite needs of those experiencing homelessness.

There will be meetings forthcoming where providers will be asked about what gaps they think are in our system of care.

*New PONG Members by R. McGuire, HIP:*

The PONG Committee is in need of new CoC Board members who share no conflict in becoming PONG members. The Committee discussed members who may be prospect PONG members.

R. McGuire is to make contact with members to advise.

*Repurpose Permanent Housing Committee by R. McGuire, HIP:*

There have been discussion on how to bring the community to the table to discuss permanent housing issues. One of the recommendations that has been made is for the Permanent Housing Committee to be reconfigured into the Housing Action Committee with new members who will contribute to action items. For examples, housing navigators, landlords, the business community, developers, folks from United Way Director of Landlord Recruitment, permanent housing providers, and anyone else who can make things happen.

**MOTION:** To recommend to the CoC Board the repurposing of the Permanent Housing Committee into a Housing Action Committee (with core members being landlords, the United Way Director of Landlord Recruitment, Housing Navigators, Business individuals, providers, and Broward Behavioral Health Coalition Housing Coordinator).

**First:** S. DiMarzo

**Second:** S. Quintana

**Declaration of Conflict:** None.

**Discussion:** None.

**Result:** Passed.

R. McGuire is to make contact with several of key prospect members to advise of new committee and purpose.

**Old Business:** *By-Name List Update by R. McGuire, HIP:*

There have been staff changes at the Veterans Affairs so that group will resume in January.

Coordinated Assessment continues to work on written standards.

The Chronic Workgroup will meet on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The homeless youth and families will have phone calls first and then broken into individual workgroups.

A request was made on update for waiting list to access permanent supportive housing which is to be provided in January.

*Encampment Update by R. McGuire, HIP:*

The Encampment in front of Governmental Center East has been abated. A lot of work went into initiative. A total of 80 people were placed in temporary housing until they are

placed in other housing options. As of today, there are approximately 40 people left to house. Temporary necessities have been provided to people while they wait on such things like furniture. There will be meal sharing coordination for anyone still left at hotels. Other services have been provided with great success in getting people housed.

*PIT Update by R. McGuire, HIP:*

The CoC reviewed and discussed PONG's PIT Survey recommendations and asked for PONG to revisit questions concerning sexual orientation and veterans' status. They also agreed that whatever the PONG agreed upon would be what is used to move forward with PIT Survey.

Committee discussed how to capture Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ) community in survey, and how to ask the question.

**MOTION:** To use *Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?* opposed to *What is your sexual orientation?*

**First:** S. Quintana

**Second:** S. DiMarzo

**Declaration of Conflict:** None.

**Discussion:** None.

**Result:** Passed.

Committee discussed how to capture veterans in survey, and how to ask the question.

**MOTION:** To use *Have you ever served in the US armed Forces including National Guards or Reserves?*

**First:** S. Quintana

**Second:** S. DiMarzo

**Declaration of Conflict:** None.

**Discussion:** None.

**Result:** Passed.

**Good of the Order:** There is a Veteran's Memorial this evening to remember those passed who experienced homelessness.

**Adjournment &**

**Next Meeting:**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:38pm; next meeting will be held on January 10, 2019.