

BROWARD COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Homeless Youth and Families and Shelter Providers Meeting

June 6, 2019

DRAFT MINUTES

Time Called to Order: 1:39PM

Location: Lauderdale Manors Resource Center
1400 NW 14th Court, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Time Adjourned: 2:35PM

Minutes by: Kenisha Anthony

Attendees Present: **Lourdes Perez**, Women in Distress; **Beverly Plummer**, Broward Partnership; **Chelsie Thomas**, Henderson; **Marie Cepeda**, Henderson; **Patrick Travers**, St. Vincent De Paul Society; **Gabriela Barros**, HEART; **Brittany Burnette**, Childnet Broward; **Frank Voehl**, St. Vincent De Paul; **Mickey Singletary**, Hope South Florida; **Anike Sakariyawo**, The Seed Foundation; **James McGhow**, The Salvation Army; **Eva Petitfrere**, Broward Partnership; **Atiya McClintion**, The Salvation Army; **Felicia Prieto**, Young at Art Museum; **Valerie Murphy Taylor**, Department of Juvenile Justice; **Laura Saldana**, Lutheran Services Florida; **Kimberly White**, Broward County Libraries; **Eva Petarfrere**, Broward Partnership; **Cindy Alexis**, Broward Partnership; **Danielle Ford**, Women in Distress; **Ellen Kendrick**, FSAD Broward County; **Whitney Edden**, OIC South Florida; **Keisha Gray**, Children's Services Council of Broward County

HIP Staff Present: **Kavaja Sarduy**, Human Service Manager Homeless Initiative Partnership; **Kenisha Anthony**, Homeless Initiative Partnership;

Welcome & Introductions:

Meeting was called to order by **Gabriela Barros** who Co-Chaired today's meeting. The meeting began with introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Approval of minutes for May 2, 2019.

First: Frank Voehl

Second: Beverly Plumber

Discussion: None

Result: Minutes approved

New Business:

Homeless Continuum of Care Updates

No updates were reported. However, Community Partnership Division provided swag bags, pens, hand sanitizers to members and guest.

Broward School District Homeless Education Liaison (HEART)

Ms. Barros reported that the HEART program had a successful year. The program has strengthened relationships with providers and different community agencies within the district. It has been able to identify more students experiencing homelessness ranging from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade than in the past. It is believed new strategies has been implemented so that they can identify students and be able to assist their families. The program has been a linkage to resources for families. Ms. Barros gave a special thanks to donors that assisted in sending high school seniors off to college with care packages. The event also recognized students and awarded scholarships.

Mr. Frank Voehl-St discussed the committee's goal to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness. Since starting the number has increased however that was because an accurate count wasn't conducted. So, their goal was incorrect as they should have been trying to calculate an accurate number versus reducing the number. He highlighted that the committee has a better record keeping system at this time.

Mr. Voehl shared a personal experience as a mentor and breaking the cycle of poverty. He encouraged the committee to get involved in mentorship. He discussed an upcoming program called FACE International to focus on homelessness. It's a strategic effort to bring awareness to bring national attention to what we are doing to address homelessness in Broward County. Providers can find more information about the program and will discuss their findings at the next meeting.

The HEART program identified **5,232** homeless students. This includes students at some point during the year experienced homeless based on the eligibility criteria in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

There are **4,584** active students experiencing homelessness. These students are still in transition and within the district.

Ms. Barros delivered a message on behalf of Pam Davidson from Kiwanis Club informed the committee about the Christmas in July. She provided a form for providers to complete to participate in the event. The event is intended to provide care packages to homeless individuals.

This is Mr. Frank Voehl-St last meeting as the committee Co-Chair. The committee will be conducting upcoming elections to choose a new Co-Chair. Mr. Voehl recommended Ms. Keisha Gray for the position.

Emergency and Transitional Shelter Census:

1. Broward Partnership (North) – Currently in transition, servicing clients at a slow place until the facility is fully operational.
2. Broward Outreach Center (South) – Not Present
3. Broward Partnership (Central) – Not present
4. Covenant House – Call hotline for availability
5. H.O.M.E.S. Inc. – Not present
6. Salvation Army Level 1 – Send referral
7. Salvation Army Level 2 – Send referral
8. Susan B. Anthony – Not present
9. Volunteers of America – Not present
10. Lippman Shelter- Not present
11. Women in Distress – Call hotline

12. Hope South Florida – Send Referrals

13. FSAD- Accepting referrals for Rapid Re-Housing, they currently have a lot of referrals in the que however still send referrals

Announcements:

OIC is hosting a Reentry Resource Fair on June 28, 2019 from 10AM - 4PM. The event will focus on voter registration, record sealing & expungement resources, assistance with identification documents, awareness of support services and job placement.

A representative from Young and Arts reported that they have received a grant specifically for art. It is an after-school program that specializes in art, life coaching, and tutoring for homework. The program will provide transportation for students. The pick-up location will be at Dillard Elementary school.

Kimberly White from BC Libraries provided books and newsletters including over 2500 programs and educational opportunities such as college readiness that include essay writing and applications. All the programs are free.

Family Success has a new program geared towards financial stability to assist people with learning how to budget and save.

The SEEK Foundation is a STEM program teaching how to build products, process out systems through Apple School. The program has partnered with Broward College to host a summer program. The program starts June 24 to July 26, Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 4:00 PM for girls 7 through 13. To register, visit seekedu.org. The program is free, and registration is \$45 which will cover the cost of the student's uniforms.

Good of the Order:

The committee plans on meeting with the new HIP Administrator Rebecca Mcquire. Due to summer break and vacations, the July 2019 meeting is cancelled.

Agency/ Organization:

Adjournment & Next Meeting:

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm; next meeting will be held on **August 1, 2019.**