Region 1 CoC Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2015
Pennyroyal Center Regional Offices, Hopkinsville, KY

KHC Staff Presenting:
Rosemary Luckett, *Manager, Project Administration*
Polly Lloyd, *Research Analyst*
Lynn Chrisman, *Training and Development Specialist*

HUD Staff Presenting:
Christopher Taylor, *HUD Kentucky Field Office Director*

Attendees were welcomed to the Region 1 CoC meeting and asked to introduce themselves to the group.

Christopher Taylor, HUD Kentucky Field Office Director, was introduced and presented the following information:

- Mayor's Challenge to End Veterans Homelessness and the Kentucky Housing Corporation VETT Program (http://www.kyhousing.org/Specialized-Housing/Pages/VETT-Vouchers.aspx)
- Discussed how clients in transitional housing can complete TH programs and then move on to permanent vouchers.
- Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA) can assist veterans that were dishonorably discharged.
- Veterans Administration Medical Centers can assist in getting the required DD214 form.

A discussion followed regarding challenges agencies may be experiencing when housing veterans through these programs.

Rosemary Luckett presented the following information:

- The 2015 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is anticipated to be released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), late May 2015, with the application cycle to follow soon thereafter.
- As was discussed at the recent Annual Statewide CoC meeting, HUD's priorities are focusing on permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing with less transitional housing and support service only projects. HUD has stated that permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing programs are the most effective in ending

homelessness; as well as being less costly than transitional or support service programs.

- HUD has indicated that transitional housing projects for survivors of domestic violence and those for substance abuse will continue to be supported and are a valued component for those sub-populations. We do not anticipate transitional or support service projects to be eliminated in 2015, but those projects may not score as well as permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing projects in the application cycle.
- KHC would like current CoC grantees to examine how your programs are structured and operated, including expenditure rates. If your program has consistently been unable to spend down the full award, it would be prudent to consider asking for less funding in the 2015 CoC renewal application.

Lynn Chrisman presented the following information:

- Kentucky Housing Corporation is in the process of finalizing the HUD CoC registration process for the 2015 CoC application. All projects funded in the Kentucky Balance of State are under the Kentucky KY-500 CoC in which Kentucky Housing Corporation serves as the Collaborative Applicant.
- The 2015 CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is expected to be released in last May with the CoC application in eSnaps opening potentially in mid-June.
- The Annual Renewal Demand for the Kentucky Balance of State CoC 2015 application is $8.2 million.
- As in past years, we expect new and renewal projects will be scored in two tiers in the Consolidated Application in what is termed as the Priority Project Listing.
- The NOFA will include how much each CoC is required to reduce their Annual Renewal Demand amount by to allow all renewals and new projects to fit into the Tier One of scoring. Any renewals or new projects falling into Tier two are at risk of having some funding reduced or totally eliminated by HUD. This is the first year the Kentucky Balance of State CoC application is at risk of having some projects falling into Tier Two and potentially being reduced or eliminated.
- The KY Balance of State may have some funds available for new reallocation projects. In 2015, HUD will offer the opportunity for reallocation projects to be proposed for new permanent supportive housing programs for chronically homeless individuals and households with children as well as new rapid rehousing programs for individuals and households with children. We will not know specifics about other opportunities to amend current programs until the CoC NOFA is released. However, prior to the NOFA release, KHC is strongly encouraging agencies to review your current program and determining if changes are needed.

Rosemary Luckett presented the following information related to the Emergency Solutions program:

- KHC received 35 applications for Emergency Solutions grants. A total of $3.3 million was requested with $2.4 million is available.
- KHC hopes to announce awards prior to the end of June.
- According to information coming from HUD, the transitional housing component for ESG will phased out in future funding rounds.
- HMIS data component is part of ESG application scoring and anything below 95% accuracy rate received a zero. A total of 40 points is available in the HMIS section,

10 points for participating in HMIS or a comparable data base, 10 points for submitting an APR within the required dates and 20 points for accuracy.
- Applicants are encouraged to request their score sheets once the awards are announced so to know where points are missed.
- Applicants need to be aware of the performance measures including what is being measured and what the benchmarks are. Polly will be offering comments on the scoring about agency performance measures.
- KHC is considering future funding rounds for ESG being offered on a two-year grant cycle instead of yearly application round.

Rosemary Luckett commended participants on the great expenditure rate for the ESG program funds and for their work, noting the HUD ESG monitoring had no findings.

Rosemary discussed clarification from HUD regarding homeless eligibility requirements for clients entering permanent housing (PH). Previously, KHC had received guidance that clients entering permanent housing must remain in an emergency shelter or on the streets while waiting on a PH unit. HUD has clarified that these clients may stay with friends or family or reside in a transitional program bed until actual lease up of the PH unit.

Polly Lloyd presented the following information:

- Coordinated Assessment is a valuable tool to communities. Fundamental policy and procedure for service providers to follow, even non-HUD funded providers.
- Coordinated Assessment offers fair/equitable assistance. No more working the system.
- Coordinated Assessment will be available in 118 counties of the Kentucky Balance of State.
- Hybrid Access model adopted by the CoC Advisory Board.
- Will be offered in Fayette County/Bluegrass ADD by July via 211 system.
- Over the next year and half, it will be rolled out across the ADD districts.
- The CoC Advisory Board voted to adopt the VI SPDAT as the Common Assessment tool.
- The CoC Advisory Board will meet in June to develop policies and procedures (survey?)
- Partners will be held accountable by HUD and peers.
- Importance of local groups being invested and involved can’t be stressed enough.
- VSPs won’t use the same database but they will use the VI SPDAT.
- K-Count results

A discussion followed about the success of the Hope Center in Lexington using the VI SPDAT with their Housing First program. Polly also discussed how to find the VI SPDAT in HMIS.

Rosemary Luckett announced changes in staff administering the Kentucky Homeless Management Information System (KYHMIS). The following staff changes are effective immediately:

- Carol Anne Sell is returning to the KYHMIS arena and will assume the primary duties of overall system administration, system updates, and reporting.
- Anne Colly Rose will become the KYHMIS trainer, beginning with the new user training in June.
- Lena Columbia will be the main contact for invoicing and will continue to serve as the main KYHMIS contact for Recovery Kentucky projects.
- Anne Colly and Lena will share responsibility for resolving HelpDesk tickets.

Please continue to submit your inquiries to the online Housing Contract Administration Help Desk, available on KHC's website, under Specialized Housing, KYHMIS. The Help Desk is the quickest way for you to get a response and resolution to any problems you may be experiencing.

Rosemary Luckett discussed the need for a CoC Advisory Board nominee from Region 1 and thanked Steve Clark for stepping into the vacant board seat earlier this year. Rosemary added that Steve Clark is eligible to serve another two year term. She encouraged attendees to reach out to folks from agencies that are not HUD-funded to seek persons that might be willing to serve on the board to expand the CoC Advisory Board umbrella.

Lynn Chrisman offered the following tentative CoC Statewide webinar dates:

- Wednesday, July 1, 2015 – 2 pm EDT
- Wednesday, September 2, 2015 – 2 pm EDT
- Wednesday, November 4, 2015 – 2 pm EDT

In other business, Rosemary Luckett discussed the URLTA legislation and asked attendees for their support. The Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act (URLTA) is a law that clarifies and codifies the legal duties of landlords and tenants entering into residential lease agreements. Kentucky state law currently allows cities and counties to adopt it as law, and 19 communities have including: Lexington, Louisville, Somerset, Pulaski County, and several communities in Northern Kentucky, for example. But landlords and tenants in 116 counties are still without the protections and stability provided by URLTA. Adopting URLTA statewide would protect renters across Kentucky.

Some benefits of URLTA include:

- URLTA gives landlords and tenants the clarity they need to maintain and improve the quality of housing.
- URLTA standardizes the terms of a lease, so tenants and landlords know what to expect, regardless of where they live in Kentucky.
- URLTA makes our court systems more efficient
- URLTA balances the property rights of landlords with the health, safety, and privacy rights of tenants.

HB 368 was introduced in the 2015 Legislative session to implement URLTA statewide. It did not receive a hearing during the session and we need to build support for its passage in 2016. Advocates hope to have an Interim Committee hearing on the bill this fall. HHCK is asking

organizations to show their support by signing the form handed out to attendees. The coalition may also ask for help in identifying renters to testify before the legislature

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 pm.