

Workgroup Meeting 07/13/2022 11:00am-12:00pm

Present: John Adams, Pam Anderson, Octavia Bogan, Michelle Hemp, Brenda Konkel, Shanita Lawrence, Lucie-Gabrielle Jolicoeur, Matt Julian, Michael Moody, Zach Stephen, Ulysses Williams

- I. Updates from meeting with Restoring Roots (Marjorie Lewis, Matt Julian)
 - A. Julie Schwab of Recovering Roots met with Matt Julian, Marjorie Lewis, and Michael Moody
 - B. Julie shared more about the program they are trying to get off the ground - they want to buy a hotel and turn the rooms into SRO units. A small number would be treatment beds for short-term stabilization and then individuals could graduate into "permanent units," though the thought is that people would stay in these units two years or less and transition into other housing in the community after they get stable
 - C. They are focusing on getting funds for the housing aspect, rather than services, and rely on outside service providers, including CCS, to provide the residents with mental health and substance use treatment
 - D. They have been trying to get the Department of Corrections to fund beds; there is also technical assistance available from the original Restoring Roots program in Kentucky - reportedly this model has had excellent outcomes
 - E. The HSC may not be able to advocate for this program to receive funding; because it does not meet Housing First guidelines if it requires residents to participate in mandatory treatment and maintain sobriety; however, HSC may be able to advocate for it as a treatment option
 - F. Also, Recovering Roots may benefit from conversations with homeless service providers and current treatment providers, particularly getting feedback regarding lessons learned through the VP Hotel program if they are considering a hotel model

- II. Updates from Meeting with the HSC Board of Directors (Marjorie Lewis, Brenda Konkel)
 - A. The Board of Directors would love the Education and Advocacy Committee to create an Advocacy Agenda to share with the HSC general membership and use as a guiding document to advocate for specific actions we would like the City and County to take
 - B. The Advocacy Agenda must be in line with the Written Standards and the Community Plan to End Homelessness
 - C. There are other opportunities for advocacy within the HSC that the Board would love for more people to engage with - for example, Core Committee is looking at how we can use HMIS data to evaluate how effective and equitable our current programs are; there are efforts to improve Coordinated Entry and the VI-SPDAT
 - D. The Board is going to provide our committee specific but broad written guidance about the Education and Advocacy Committee's mandate to create an Advocacy Agenda - the idea is to support our work and avoid messy, time-consuming conflicts (that have occurred in the past) about what the committee is and is not allowed to advocate for

- III. Updates regarding City/ County budget cycle (Heidi Weigleitner)
 - A. With the new men's shelter and the Triage and Restoration Center getting up and running this year, and COVID funds drying up, there is not the money or staff capacity to take on new projects - also, we are running short on time to create proposals
 - B. However, it's really important to take a long view and continue advocacy efforts - we have to keep reminding leaders of the unmet needs

- C. Further, there may be ways to advocate for additional funds to expand capacity in our existing programs - for example, can we advocate for funds to improve wages and working conditions
- IV. Advocacy w/ Meriter Hospital Foundation (Matt Julian)
 - A. Matt has been advocating for Meriter Hospital Foundation to support a program specifically targeted to people who are experiencing homelessness and who are frequently utilizing emergency rooms
 - B. Meriter has asked Matt to provide data demonstrating the need and the potential cost savings the program could generate
 - C. Matt has been working on obtaining this data from the Meriter HEALTH program statistics and HMIS
 - V. Updates from Catalyst for Change potential proposal (John Adams)
 - A. Due to capacity constraints, there are no updates on Catalyst for Change's proposal
 - B. Stay tuned for future updates
 - VI. Should this workgroup continue to meet monthly? (General discussion)
 - A. There is a general lack of capacity right now and we want to make sure this meeting is a productive use of time if we are not going to design a specific program
 - B. It would be good to get the Education and Advocacy Committee clear on the Advocacy Agenda first and then create focused workgroups (Matt Julian, John Adams)
 - C. A request for proposals for Opioid settlement funds was just released, as well as the NOFO to address unsheltered homelessness. It would be a shame to let that money go unclaimed but what agencies have the ability and interest to take on these larger projects? (Brenda)

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Present: John Adams, Pam Anderson, Gwen Hannes, Fannicia Hawkins, Isaac Hoffman, Matt Julian, Lucie-Gabrielle Jolicoeur, Elizabeth Jones, Brenda Konkell, Shanita Lawrence, Marjorie Lewis, , Michael Moody, Rosa Rhoden, Zach Stephen, Kyle VonRuden, Heidi Weigleitner, [Ulysses Williams](#)

- I. Intros (in the chat)
- II. House-keeping
 - A. This is a workgroup and not the main Education and Advocacy meeting - attendance does not count toward voting privileges for HSC matters
 - B. Solutions-focused dialogue
 - C. Need help with attendance tracking for main committee meeting and for note-keeping for all meetings
 - D. Any agencies willing to provide staff hours to devote toward the work of this committee?
- III. Overview of Discussion so far
 - A. The unmet need
 - 1. Lack of adequate permanent supportive housing units

2. Lack of treatment resources for individuals with dual diagnosis who are homeless
3. The Dane County Jail and emergency rooms are becoming the de facto “treatment providers” for these individuals when they are in crisis, but this has a lot negative impacts for both the individuals and the broader community

B. The initial idea

- 1.

C. The obstacles

D. The work

1. Craft a proposal and a budget
2. Identify funding sources
 - a. The City of Madison has expressed that they do not have the money due to the cost of building the new Men’s Shelter and continuing funding for the supervised encampment at Dairy Drive.
 - b. [Chelsey Myhre Foster](#), who supervises the SOAR program in Dane County, suggested that SOAR funding may be a potential avenue to explore
 - i.
 - c. Dane County Supervisor [Heidi Weigleitner](#)
3. Identify a property

IV. Next steps

- A. Health and Human Needs/ Criminal Justice Counsel Joint meeting about jail diversion and coordination of mental health and substance use services - Thursday, July 28, 5:30 PM
<https://dane.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=988405&GUID=DA14ED69-F07B-4D75-B086-1E4FAFF20286>
- B.
- C.
- D. County budget proposals deadline September 19