Funders Committee Agenda

October 3, 2023, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
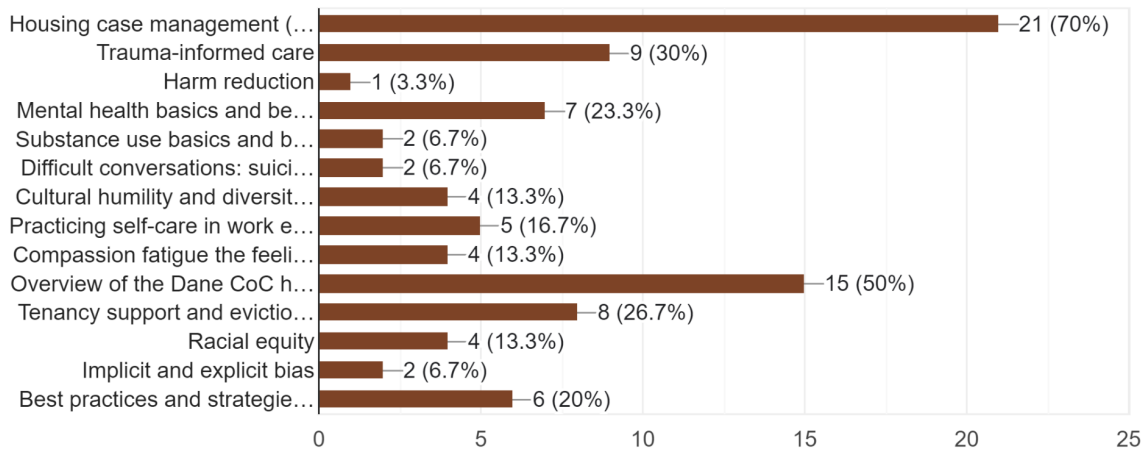Virtual Meeting through Microsoft Office Teams

1. Welcome
2. Select note taker (Meghan)
3. Additions to the agenda?
4. Changing to the funding matrix/Funding Updates
    a. Lists all investment opportunities across City, County, United Way. Any changes needed? We would like to keep it as updated as possible.
    b. Torrie will review the COC funding
    c. Johneisha will review the county funding
    d. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1R-Q536fr8tL2v09hWqmbBttgyOiyoRRkftaaZ8RH84g/edit#gid=0
5. Updates:
    a. Continuum of Care Funding Application was submitted last week.
    b. All currently funded projects reapplied for funds except for Lutheran Social Services. They have funding for a RRH grant to serve single adults and opted not to seek renewal.
    c. New applications were submitted for:
        i. The Salvation Army – Rapid Rehousing for Survivors of Domestic Violence
        ii. Urban Triage – Joint Transitional Housing & Rapid Rehousing for Youth Survivors of Domestic Violence
        iii. Dane County/Housing Initiatives – Requested funds to expand services in their Rental Assistance project
    d. Community Action Coalition submitted an application to expand their Rapid Rehousing project, but it was not recommended for funding.
    e. HUD is supposed to announce funding decisions within 90 days. Uncertain how potential government shutdown may affect that timeline.
    f. United Way is looking at the investment process. Changes coming to process for 2024 - looking at equitable grant making decisions and trust-based philanthropy process. Always looking to make application and reporting easier at United Way.
    g. Technical assistance surveys update:
        i. 30 responses (Angie will send a copy to the group)
        ii. Reviewed results as a committee
        iii. Take-aways
            1. Folks want feedback

2. May need a better understanding of what meaningful feedback means for others.
3. Maybe we should have asked about in-person vs. virtual training. Recently people have said "I wish this was in-person." Maybe we can hold an in-person and virtual training session by having multiple options.
4. A little surprised that people wanted training on housing case management - may need more information on what folks are looking for (training on how to do housing case management or training on what funders are looking for organizations to do). We do know that case management is very different from agency to agency and we often have "green" staff. Do funders have any consistency in what they are looking for? It may be crucial to offer some training on empowerment and TIC practices and person-centered planning.

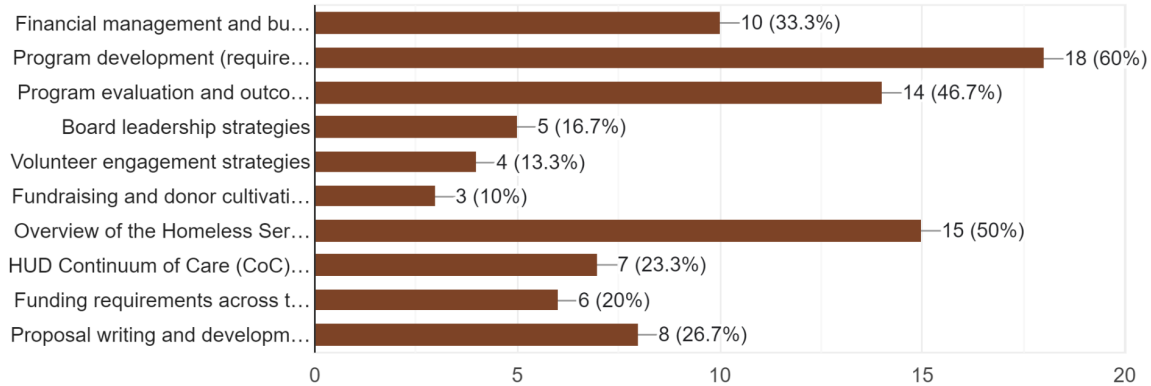6. Here are the graphs from the survey results:

What staff-level training or technical assistance would you find most helpful? Please select your top three choices from the options below.

30 responses

What agency-level training or technical assistance would you find most helpful? Please select your top three choices from the options below.

30 responses

Category	Value
Financial management and bu…	10 (33.3%)
Program development (require…	18 (60%)
Program evaluation and outco…	14 (46.7%)
Board leadership strategies	5 (16.7%)
Volunteer engagement strategies	4 (13.3%)
Fundraising and donor cultivati…	3 (10%)
Overview of the Homeless Ser…	15 (50%)
HUD Continuum of Care (CoC)…	7 (23.3%)
Funding requirements across t…	6 (20%)
Proposal writing and developm…	8 (26.7%)

Here is the link to the spreadsheet with all of the responses to our survey.
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nAm_RNQhqrt9tHnpF35m1e2oKyMsBIOFQM-fJPJghtY/edit?usp=sharing

7. Discussion: If we have a Coordinated System, why are so many people falling through the cracks? How can we educate other systems on our coordinated system? Why are assessments not being done – what is the solution here?
   a. Overall - hearing from different people the difficulty in getting people connected to services.
      i. 5% of single households obtained housing
      ii. 17% of families obtained housing
      iii. The issue may be the lack of affordable housing in the community
   b. Why are people not being successful in getting connected to the system? Looking at a particular case study involving a woman in our community -
      i. People are not getting back to her
      ii. No one has done the assessment or mentioned it to this person
      iii. This person has been homeless for 2 months
         1. Gave up apartment (because of HUD's definition of homelessness)
         2. Gave children to ex so they are not on the street
   c. Discussed The Beacon - why aren't assessments being done during the first visit?
      i. Process: Someone needs to have experienced homelessness between 7-10 days.
         1. There is a percentage of people who are able to self-resolve within 7-10 days.
         2. Assessment is very intrusive and we don't want to go through the process if we do not need to.
   d. May need to think about self-resolving homelessness outside of coordinated entry as a positive result.
   e. May need to think about the assessment process
   f. May not be that people are falling through the cracks, but really there is a lack of housing. It can be pretty impossible getting housing even on the list.

g. Overall the narrative in Dane Co. may be that you need to be working with a case manager to get housing. One of the things that we lack in Dane County is preventative support to help before someone is homeless.

h. It is important to explore the feedback that people are not calling people in need back.

i. Discussed WayForward's Prevention Programming

j. Is the breakdown in communication or lack of understanding of how the Dane County system works?

   i. Street Outreach Providers - [73dee7_d1691ecece23483bad67d878fda9a593.pdf (danecountyhomeless.org)](danecountyhomeless.org)

k. What other funding sources might be available - explore options!

   i. The State has a lot of restrictions around what municipalities can do regarding sales tax.

l. Overall discussion - we still have a lot of questions, but will continue to explore idea.

8. Next Month: Look at training opportunities and education around coordinated entry.

Next Meeting: November 7, 2023

This meeting will take place through Zoom. If you are not a part of this group, please contact Angela Jones to be included in this meeting.

If you need meeting materials in another format, please contact Angela Jones, (608) 246-4376 and angela.jones@uwdc.org. If you want to be added to the roster please contact Angela Jones.

Duties: Provide a forum for public and private funders of housing and services targeted to homeless and at-risk persons to share information and coordinate activities as possible; use the Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness when setting funding priorities; membership will include HSC Board President. Make recommendations to designate the Collaborative Applicant as a Unified Funding Agency. This gives the Collaborative Applicant additional autonomy and responsibilities.