

## **Funders Committee Agenda**

April 4, 2023, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Virtual Meeting through Microsoft Office Teams

## 1. Welcome

- a. Present: Meghan Sohns, Angela Jones, Brenda Konkle, Sarah Lim, Chris Williams, Torrie Kopp-Mueller, Alicia Spry, Jalateefa Joe-Meyers, and Takisha Jordan
- 2. Select note taker Meghan Sohns
- 3. Additions to the agenda?
  - a. No additions
- 4. Funding updates/any changes for funding matrix/investment plans for 2023
  - a. HUD announced continuum of care funding awards. Salvation Army applied (not funded) and Community Action Coalition applied for renewal (however, funding cut by \$200,000). Loss of funding for our community.
  - b. Question regarding United Way Funding Can for-profits apply? Answer no, you must be a non-profit with a 501c3 status.
  - c. **Isolation and Quarantine Center Hotel with EQUUS** Program sunsets on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Last day for referrals is April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
  - d. **Dane CORE Emergency Rental Assistance with Urban Triage** No new applications after May 31st, 2023. Applications will be processed as funds remain after portal closure.
  - e. **Outreach Services through Catalyst for Change** Funding/contract currently ends December 31st, 2024.
  - f. **Hotels to Housing with various vendors** Program ends in October of 2024 and current clients will exit throughout 2023 and 2024 as they reach their 24 months maximum of assistance.
  - g. **Eviction Defense and Diversion Program (EDDP) with TRC** Funding currently through 2024, priority to extend through September of 2025 if funds are available.
  - h. **Doubled-Up Housing Pilot** Funding through September of 2025 (per federal regulations), RFP still open and accepting applications. Closes at 2pm today.
- 5. Impact of the COVID funds ending, timing of ending and the impact on system and agencies
  - a. Support for Porchlight (men's shelter): the operational budget the last few years was much higher due to COVID funds. Have to figure out how to replace the budget without COVID funds (City has been thinking about this) City is very concerned about funding for Porchlight.
  - b. Dairy Drive had ARPA funds and now the city is looking at how to support Dairy Drive as funds wind down. Very concerned about Dairy Drive's future and what will happen to humans.
  - c. Annual system performance in 2021 the access to permanent housing was better than prior to COVID, likely because of additional funds. However, the system performance regarding permanent housing is now going down because money and support went away. Overall, outcomes are coming back down to pre-pandemic levels.
  - d. Shelter providers, the county, public health, and city are meeting to talk about what will happen if someone contrats COVID-19 without extra supports (hotels) in place. May

consider having an isolation room/area with active COVID symptoms. Pre-COVID - there were no screenings for symptoms (i.e. flu, etc.). COVID has highlighted a need to have a plan in place for illness. How can we help those who are ill rest and heal and receive the care they need with dignity? Melissa Mennig is leading the initiative on what is next with the loss of COVID hotel funding- she would be the best person to reach out to about ideas and questions. Possibly invite Melissa to an upcoming meeting to learn about the plans moving forward.

- e. What are the plans for supporting this population (at Dairy Drive) with mental health and substance abuse concerns (access and maintaining housing, plus navigating the criminal justice system)? Figuring out root trauma issues will be helpful.
- f. Does anyone have any sense of what the return to homelessness number looks like now that funding has ended? This is hard to predict; the annual system performance shows that the return to homelessness was higher in FY22 than FY21.
- g. What is the coordinated response when this money goes away? Should this committee facilitate a conversation or is the conversation happening somewhere else?
  - Much of the conversation is happening at the shelter providers meeting; however something we need to keep our eye on since we are the funders committee. Perhaps we need to brainstorm and/or look at grants for the community! The City and county meet to talk about this topic every other Monday.
- 6. Develop survey for Homeless Service Providers on what technical support & capacity building they need for funding
  - a. What questions might we have on the survey? Likely the shorter the survey the better! Will have a QR code again.
  - b. If these options are offered .... what would you like to see? (I might have missed Sarah's wording so perhaps, Sarah can help wordsmith, thanks!)
  - c. Follow up questions: What other options would you like to see?
  - d. Sarah will send a list to the group for the group to decide what options we want to add to the survey! Funder's Committee HSC Training Ideas Google Sheets

Next Meeting: May 2, 2023

This meeting will take place in 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.