

HSC BOARD MEETING NOTES Tuesday April 19th 1 pm – 2:30 pm

BOARD UPDATES

Board met on Friday April 15th, and Torrie provided info on CAC Card for funding purposes

Street Outreach Committee meeting now on a weekly basis

Board of Conflict approved at Board Meeting

Committee to End Youth Homelessness has not been meeting regularly however Colena Scmidt has been working hard to establish a clear vision

Lived Experience Kim Sutter is working on getting a new request out for scheduling preferences

Doubled Up Homeless Bridget Rogers (JFF) mentioned they will not be meeting in April , but will meet in May. June 13th at 6:00 PM there will be a book sharing by Diane Nyland

Funders Committee Angela Jones is working on a funding analysis eventually putting together a document for Future Funders and their proposals including where the needs are what are the assessments

Shelters Providers Kim and Sara Lim The Salvation Army is converting their 24 hour Women's Shelter to just overnights and goal to increase capacity from the current 15 to 70. Also mentioned about getting re-connected with those that have been prohibited from other overnight shelters. Sankofa shared with the Waunakee Location original plan was to for it to be closing in June, but now taking referrals for families

Core Committee reviewing Coordinated Entry and the VISPDAT and is it measuring up to it's desire. Also comparing it to other Committees.

Education & Advocacy Committee met last week and Marjorie Lewis (Crisis and Stabilization) mentioned that it was well attended. Agenda included A) changing it to the Second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 AM B) Incarceration and Homelessness, C) working with the County on the people coming in and out of jail. Also talked about working with the County's Health and Community reform. Educating folks in this membership, as well as give feedback to the County focusing on Decreasing Jail Incarcerations while Increasing Housing.

Community Plan Committee Torrie updated a new meeting time which will be the first Friday of the month so May 6th will be the first new meeting date.

City County Homeless Issues Committee Ulysses talked about sleeping in cars, as well as developing a new bill of rights. Sara Lim mentioned a "listening Session" May 9th at 5:30 PM asking people to attend and share their thoughts.

Youth Action Board Been very busy! Colena YHDP Coordinator Mentioning that she has been working on technology, updating system, and working on Youth Outreach Group, also mentioning that other communities have expressed interest in these types of things as well as H.U.D. too.

Dean Loumos (Tellurian/ Rethke) mentioned the Sate-wide Conference will be held Tuesday and Wednesday May 10th and 11th

Doubled Up Work Group Focusing on Hunger and Homeless Awareness Month (Jani Koester)

APRIL'S SPEAKER

NATALIA HILDNER FROM DISABILITY RIGHTS OF WISCONSIN

Natalia Hildner Mikenna has been working there for seven years

Prior to that, she worked with Victim Advocacy Work, as well as Anti- Human Trafficking Causes as well as the Dane County Rape Crisis Center

Overall, she mentioned that it is a diverse agency with a lot of working parts including Diversity, Homelessness, Gathering Funding, and Advocacy all in an effort to prevent injustices to folks that lack a voice.

It is a non-profit agency appointed by the Governor to ensure the rights of all the State's Citizens through individual advocacy and system change as part of a national system of Federal Mandates

VOCA Program has been around for 5 years and the bottom line is it's clients feel " My Body Doesn't Suppress Me, Society Does!

There are 3 offices in Wisconsin, one in Madison, one in Milwaukee, and one in Rice Lake and it can assist individuals with disabilities of any age.

So, what is a Disability? It is an umbrella term covering impairment, activity, limitation, or participant's restriction in doing any and all activity that is fulfilling to the individual. The disability can be an impairment, neurological, the result of an accident etc., in short many different things can cause a person to be considered disabled as well as to the degree of that disability.

Types of Disabilities can be hidden or visible. It can involve mental health, and/or neurological, Intellectual, anywhere from Down Syndrome, sensory Impairments, Psychiatric such as Schizophrenia. They can accelerate over time, or a result of a chronic injury, even age related such as dementia and alzheimers.

Disability at the Intersection of Race, Gender, it can involve LGBTQ identities. Simply said,one cannot look at the history of U.S .Slavery, colonization, and Capitalism without seeing how "White Supremacy" contributed to some of these issues. T.S. Banks (Disability Poet)

Guiding Values Be open to different ways of communicating. Talking to a person with a disability is for the most part, like talking to any other person. Without judgement because the speaker might not be easily understood, and the person with the disability might not easily understand what is being said to them. Be patient, and understanding, and never judge the person, their reactions whether they be facial or other body movements.

History of Disability Rights Movements and causes There was a “mental institution” in the New York area called Willowbrook. Originally it was designed to facilitate a capacity of 4000 people, yet in an undercover interview done by Geraldo Rivera and was found to have well over 6000 people in it. Not just that but the treatment these people were given were less than humane, barely acceptable for farm animals. People weren’t being washed properly, fed properly, the facility was incredibly under-staffed. These people who had done absolutely nothing wrong were being situationally tortured with the lack of care, and the rampant disease, and left alone for hours. Many of them had literally been abandoned there by their family members. This was a monumental case and led to many reforms, although there still is a long way to go.

Donna J. Stone an advocate was instrumental in getting the Individuals With Disabilities Act that was passed in 1973. Later, the Education For Handicapped Children Act passed in 1990.

Facts Are Painful.....The three largest Mental Health Centers in the United States are Jails!

Cook County Jail in Chicago, Los Angeles County Jail, and Rikers Island in New York. This is not acceptable!

National non-profits that walk with people with barriers is what is needed to provide treatment for people with mental illnesses, rather than simply locking them up in penal institutions is simply not getting the job done....at all!

Homelessness and Disabilities Facts

43% of chronically homeless people suffer from physical disabilities

1/3 of all people who are homeless have mental health disorders

Having the (usual)added expense of having disability adds to the chances of eventually leading a person to become homelessness

Homeless folks are much more susceptible to getting a physical or a mental disability

Programs like the above mentioned “Willowbrook” are still in business and are still considered psychiatric institutions, and adults as well as children with physical disabilities still suffer a life in similar institutions.

Sexual Violence is Seven Times more likely to happen to someone with physical and/or disabilities.

1 in 5 violent crimes were targeted to individuals with “apparent” mental or physical disabilities

POWER AND CONTROL

Perceive a world where you would not go to the police or be believed by the police simply because you have a visible physical or mental impairment.

Imagine, if you can, that people with physical disabilities experience pain either physical or mental abuse at the hands of their appointed caretakers.

Phrases like “I will no longer help you if you don’t.....”

These types of things happen on a daily basis to so many people who not only don’t deserve it, but are limited as to what they can do about it

If you would like to know more about this agency, you can reach out to Natalia at 1 (800) 928-8778 or email her at nataliah@drwi.org