

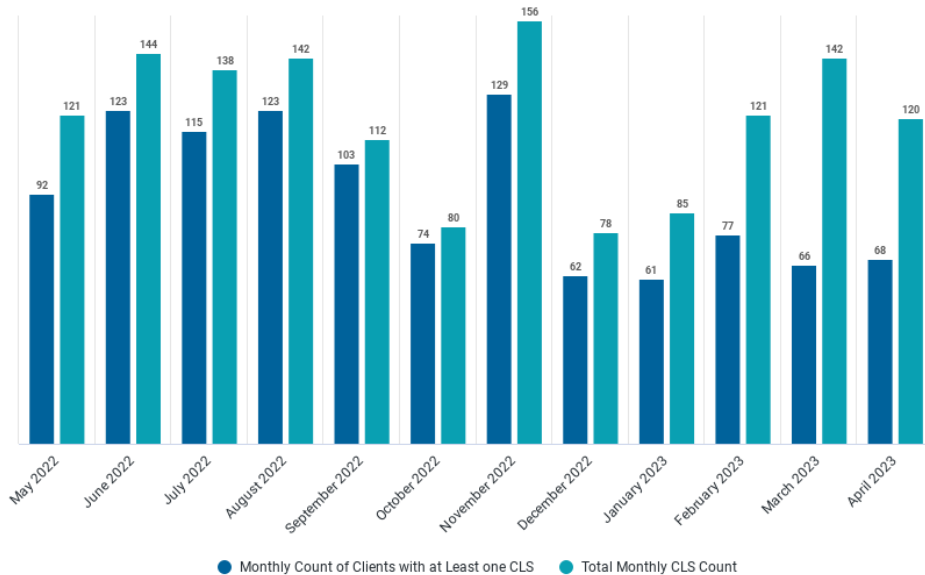
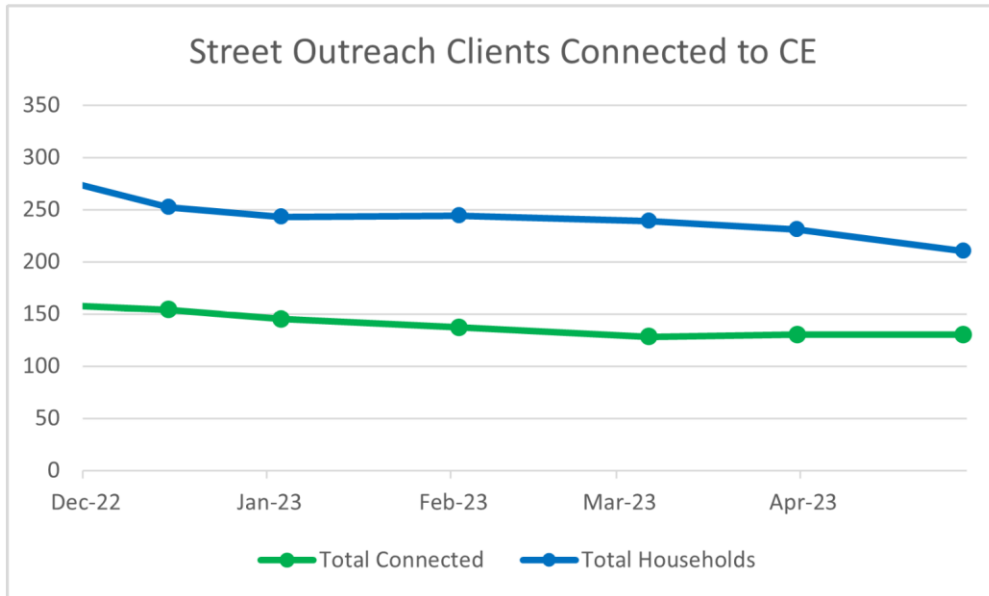
Outreach Committee Minutes

Monday, May 1, 2023

Noon-1:30pm

Attendance: Sarah Lim, Heather Andresen, Zach Stephen, Patrick Duffie, Francesca Atkins, Marjorie Lewis, Matt Julian, Mike Holly, Nick Will, Alicia Spry, Takisha Jordan, Michael Moody, Cody Gehl

1. CE and outreach data review and discussion



2. Governance and Nominating Committee request – review of the Outreach Committee description

- 1) Do you feel your committee is still needed and should continue to operate as an HSC committee?

Yes – this is a newly created committee and we have a long to-do list.

- 2) Is the description of your committee accurate? If not, what needs to be removed from your committee description and why? Does something additional need to be added to your description? What is your committee's suggestion for the description for your committee?

The Outreach Committee of the Dane County Homeless Services Consortium will advise the Board of Directors on issues related to outreach services including unmet needs and gaps, recommendations on written standards, recommendations and strategies for ending unsheltered homelessness in Dane County and other issues as needed. The committee will provide a forum for outreach workers to communicate and improve coordinated efforts to assist people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The committee will develop agreed upon definitions of different types of outreach, shared goals, best practices, ethical standards and an outreach calendar as well as other procedures and practices that will assist in achieving shared goals. The outreach committee will review data and make recommendations to partners on how to decrease the length of time homeless, ~~and~~ increase permanent housing placements, and reduce return to homelessness. The Committee will annually make recommendations to the Education and Advocacy Committee for issues to be included in the advocacy platform and provide input to the Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness Committee. The outreach committee will coordinate closely with HSC including shelter providers and community case conferencing meetings (veterans, PSH, RRH, by-location for people unsheltered, hotels and other meetings that may develop).

- 3) Do you have any standing workgroups/sub-committees of your committee, and if so, should they be their own committee or are they time-limited? What is your recommendation?

No workgroups or sub-committees

(Sarah will send out a response to the Nominating and Governance Committee.)

3. Debrief of the outreach retreat

Outreach staff met together in-person for the first time in three years. Discussions included:

- A lot of discussion regarding communication (how to communicate more real time and quickly, faster than going through HMIS). A small group of people will look into an app or system that we can use together.

- Would like to continue developing coordination among outreach that developed during COVID pandemic.
- Discussed challenges and how to overcome those, including how to locate people and supply management
- Things to prioritize: SPDAT, chronic documentation, how to reduce medical complications for those who are not using the shelter
- Discussed how do we make the weekly outreach meetings most efficient, having designated roles for each meeting.
- Want to invite shelter providers to the Outreach Committee to learn about shelter suspension policy and communication plan.
- Targeted analysis of what we are seeing and what we are predicting in unsheltered homelessness– increase in older adults struggling, increase in families → to develop response and share with the rest of HSC

4. Family homelessness

- Catalyst for Change had some funding from the County to Nov- March. Agreed to do 4 rooms for cold-weather nights. One night, we went up to 17 rooms. Accepted referrals from TSA (families on the waitlist) and school social workers (for families who do not want to wait for TSA)
- Catalyst for Change is still receiving 3-5 referrals a week, even though the hotel program closed.
- Volatile nature of people living doubled up – fine one day, calling in panic the next day because friend asked them to leave. A lot of stress in doubled up situation.
- We are getting a lot of referrals from people who are about to lose their housing. What should be our response?
- TSA reports currently 18 families are on the waitlist, self-reporting category 1 literally homeless. Are they all getting connected to outreach programs? No, families are falling through.
- Outreach staff should remind families to call in to TSA weekly.
- High number of families reporting fleeing from DV. Most families are on the DAIS waitlist.
- Often a single parent, watching children, so they are stuck. How can we get respite and childcare? How can we coordinated services and support a family as outreach?
- Any thought on establishing a family emergency shelter (cold weather night hotel)?
- How do we help the family shelter prioritizing families who are really unsheltered?
- Connect with TSA Waitlist case management program to see how we can best help families.

5. Next meeting : Monday, June 5, 2023, Noon-1:30pm