

Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, Inc., FL-520 Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties CoC Ending Homelessness Stakeholder Meeting

Meeting Minutes: March 26, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting or Call-in Feature

Presiding: Barbara Wheeler

	Agenda Items	Discussion & Actions Taken	Follow-up
1.	Call to Order	In the absence of B.E. Thompson, Barbara Wheeler called the meeting to order at approximately 9:03 a.m. B.E. Thompson joined and took over as Chair at 9:06 a.m.	
2.	Roll Call	Paula Holtsclaw conducted the roll call of members, and guests were invited to announce their attendance.	
3.	Approval of Minutes	<p>Minutes from the February 26, 2021 CoC Membership meeting were presented.</p> <p>Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes from this meeting. Motion by: Steve Smith Seconded by: Melissa Simmes Discussion: None Approved: Unanimously.</p>	
4.	Standing Committee Reports	<p>Coordinated Access (CAS) & Mid Florida Information Network (MFIN) Melissa Simmes reported that last month several motions were brought to the Governing Board. One of them was limiting ESG-CV motel stays to 90 days. The Governing Board added a one-time 30-day extension with approval to the motion before approving. During the March meeting, discussion was held about the Coordinated Access System surveys. More surveys are being received, but we still need to encourage surveys at all points of the process. The CAS Manual has been updated and uploaded to MFHC website. Tomi Steinruck added that the Housing Navigator will be scheduling a weekly case staffing call for the households she is serving. The calls will be held on Wednesdays, and an invite will be sent out.</p> <p>Performance Committee Sheri Goodwin reported that she filled in for Steve Smith for the Performance Committee meeting that met on March 25, 2021, and asked Paula Holtsclaw to report on the Performance data.</p> <p>The spend down rate for each DCF grant was reviewed. At this point in time, the goal is 66.67% of funding spent to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Solutions Grant – overall this grant is at 63.70%. United Way of Citrus County is underspent at 47.21%. • Challenge Grant – overall the grant spending is at 71.59%. United Way of Citrus County is underspent at 54.46%; MFHC Diversion program is underspent at 30.82%. This project is very limited to special situations that divert people from homelessness, and have typically included bus fare to move people to another area to family willing to house them. • ESG/Challenge Match – at this point we would like to see at least 66.67% of match reported. We are at 109.62%. SVDP Cares was thanked for the amount of match they have submitted allowing the entire grant match to be met at this point. • TANF – overall at 65.75%, and all subgrantees are at 60% or higher. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency Solutions Grant – CV1 – The expectation is 55.55% spent down through February. We are aware that ESG-CV will not be spent down by the end of June. The Office on Homelessness has been made aware of this fact. <p>Based on the updates to the By Name List, at the end of February there were 226 households experiencing homeless in Lake County, 205 in Hernando, 172 in Citrus and 31 in Sumter. There was a big dip in Lake numbers in January, and this was due to the push during Point in Time to reach out to as many people as possible to determine their housing status. The number of households experiencing homelessness, either for the first time, or after having become housed is Inflow. There were 55 households reported as becoming homeless in February. Seven households were found to have moved into permanent housing from homelessness. This Inflow & Outflow chart is updated throughout all months back to May 2020 each month. This is due to a delay in information being obtained for movement either to homelessness or into housing.</p> <p>The Monthly Status Report information is submitted to the Office on Homelessness each month. At the end of February, there were 972 individuals in 704 households experiencing homelessness. 63 individuals became homeless for the first time in February. Efforts will be increased to determine, via data entry, what the contributing factors are to their homelessness. No individuals who had been housed previously in the last two years returned to homelessness in February. Forty-three people had an exit to a permanent housing destination.</p>	
5.	MFHC Lead Agency Update	<p>2021 Membership Drive – Barbara Wheeler reported that we are still looking for agencies to join, in writing. It provides needed support for our CoC application. Our website has a link to the Membership form or you can complete it on the website.</p> <p>Current Funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HUD CoC – The expectation is that the HUD NOFA will be released in May. Mandatory training will be scheduled prior to the application being made available within the CoC. ESG-CV2 – We had anticipated receiving a confirmation of funding by the week of March 8, but that has not yet been received. We will be asking the Governing Board today if we should go ahead and schedule the mandatory application training or to wait until the funding is confirmed. Challenge Grant – The Florida Senate has budgeted to cut \$2M from the Challenge Grant funding. The Florida House’s budget did not include a cut to Challenge Grant funding. If the Senate cuts stand, we would see our Challenge Grant cut significantly. There is a Florida Coalition for the Homeless meeting scheduled today where this will be discussed. CoC-wide, there will need to be a push to convince the Legislature that we need these dollars. 	

		<p>CoC Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESG - "Lifetime" Discussion – Paula reported that during the February Performance Meeting, a question was raised about the number of months a person was allowed to receive ESG financial assistance, and whether or not homeless prevention rental counted toward those totals. A question was sent to HUD for an explanation. The ESG Program Interim Rule does not have a lifetime cap on the number of months a participant or household can receive rapid rehousing or homelessness prevention financial assistance, and does not prohibit repeat assistance to program participants who are determined eligible for assistance. Annual ESG funds may be used to provide no more than 24 months of financial assistance during any 3-year period. <p>COVID-19 Updates – Vaccine Preparation: Our Outreach teams and Housing Navigators are encouraging all they work with to find out if they would like the vaccine. Data is being kept in HMIS so when the time comes, we will be able to reach back out to those who said yes, and help facilitate those vaccinations. 26 persons have requested the vaccine, 59 have refused, and 12 are unsure. If your agency currently uses HMIS, and would like to track those who wish to receive the vaccine, please contact Paula Holtsclaw at 352-697-2115 and she set this up in HMIS.</p> <p>CARES ACT Funding – Lake County has extended the emergency funding availability to April 9th. United Way of Citrus County has CARES Act funding available; however, Citrus County Housing Office has spent down all their County CARES funding. United Way of Hernando County has their application live, however they cannot begin to assist until the funding is received (scheduled for today).</p> <p>County updates – County emergency management meetings continue to be attended, and the discussions center on COVID, vaccines, and the upcoming hurricane season. MFHC has had some staff shortages in outreach, but are working on filling them.</p> <p>Barbara reported that Florida Housing Coalition, is working with Lake County to develop a plan to address and reduce homelessness. They are gathering as much information as they can from service providers, local government staff, housing stakeholders, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, and people experiencing homelessness.</p>	
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6.	Membership Input	It was reported that there is a senior Mobile Home community in Eustis bullying and forcing people out, and some are becoming homeless. B.E. Thompson asked information to be sent to him and Barbara.	
7.	Next Meeting Date	The next CoC Ending Homelessness Stakeholders meeting will be April 23, 2021.	
8.	Adjourn	Motion: A motion was made to adjourn at approximately 9:46 a.m. Motion by: Melissa Simmes Seconded by: Sheri Goodwin Discussion: None Approved: Unanimously.	

Respectfully submitted by: Paula Holtsclaw

B.E. Thompson, Chair _____

DRAFT

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Attendance	Members - Organization, Name	Guests
X	Adventist Health System, Melissa Simmes	
X	Alan Madden Foundation, Shay-Anne Razaire	X Barbara Wheeler, Paula Holtsclaw, Tomi Steinruck, & Katie Brost - MFHC
X	Catholic Charities DOSP, Danielle Husband & Andrea Santiago, Century 21 Alliance Realty – Jared Tanner	
X	Citrus Abuse Shelter Assoc.	X Katina Stephens, Southern Christian Leadership Fndtn
X	Citrus County Housing Division, Heather Roberson	X Britt Swain, DCF
	Community Resource Project, Inc. – The - Morgan Gish	X Theresa Madison, DOH – Sumter
X	Dawn Center, Shannon Sokolowski & Barbara Venditto	X Vik Wiggins – NAMI Hernando
	Daystar Life Center of Citrus County	X Michael Blessing, LSF
	Find Feed & Restore, Inc.	X Barbara Crewell
	Lyn Forleo	X Sandra Woodard
	Forward Paths	
	Mr. Francis Gladeck	
	Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County	
	Hernando County Government, Veda Ramirez	
X	Hope With A Purpose, Pandora Jackson	
	Lake Community Action Agency - Gloria Boone	
X	Lake County Government, Sedrick Brinson	
	Lake County Schools – Kathy Entler, Kristen McCall	
X	LifeStream Behavioral Center – B.E. Thompson	
X	LSF, Sheri Goodwin	
	Morris Realty & Investments, Inc. - Kim Ducharme Levensohn	
X	New Beginnings - Steve Smith	
	Real Life Christian Church - Timothy L. McCormack	
X	Salvation Army, The - Lake & Sumter Counties	
	Salvation Army, The Hernando County	
X	Society of St. Vincent de Paul S Pinellas, Lorenzo Lockett	
	State of Florida -Office of the Criminal Conflict – Stephen Teaster	
X	United Way of Citrus County, Stacy Leach	
X	United Way of Hernando County, Samantha Beckham	
X	VA, Orlando - Judith Ramos-Rivera, Jina Thalmann	
X	Well Care, Cara Meeks, Paula Warner	