

Mid Florida Homeless Coalition, Inc., Governing Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes: March 25, 2022

Presiding: Melissa Simmes

Location: Virtual Meeting via GoToWebinar or Call-in Feature

Agenda Items		Discussion & Actions Taken	Follow-up
1.	Call to Order	Melissa Simmes called the meeting to order at approximately 10:15 a.m.	
2.	Roll Call	Paula Holtsclaw conducted the roll call and announced a quorum was present	
3.	Minutes	<p>Minutes from the January 28, 2021 Governing Board meeting were presented.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2022 meeting as presented.  <b>Motion by:</b> Shay-Anne Razaire      <b>Seconded by:</b> B.E. Thompson  <b>Discussion:</b> None  <b>Approved:</b> Unanimously.</p>	
4.	Standing Committee Items	<p><b>Coordinated Access (CAS) &amp; Mid Florida Information Network (MFIN)</b>                      Barbara Venditto reported on the March CAS meeting.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> A motion was made to allow Homeless Prevention assessments be completed by all agencies willing to be trained on this process.  <b>Motion by:</b> Barbara Venditto      <b>Seconded by:</b> B.E. Thompson  <b>Discussion:</b> None  <b>Approved by Poll:</b> Unanimously</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> A motion was made to modify 4.5.1 of the CAS Manual to add the following language: A DV participant referred to a local provider who is not available, will then be assessed by the closest locally trained DV Privileged Assessor.  <b>Motion by:</b> Barbara Venditto      <b>Seconded by:</b> B.E. Thompson  <b>Discussion:</b> None  <b>Approved:</b> Unanimously</p> <p>Barbara Venditto reported there was a lively discussion about CoC priorities at the last CAS meeting. The last time priorities were discussed and voted on was in 2019. The committee decided to have a workgroup to look at the priorities and possibly make recommendations for changes to the CoC and Governing Board.</p> <p><b>Performance Committee</b>                      Barbara reported on the spend down for DCF grants. Reminded the Board that the next Performance Committee meeting would be March 31, and that a Chair is still needed.</p> <p>TANF – All subgrantees are doing well in their spending.                      Challenge – Amendments are needed for United Way of Citrus, and United Way of Lake &amp; Sumter for dollars being reallocated from MFHC.</p>	

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		<p>ESG – Agencies are in a good position to spend down their funds. United Way of Citrus County announced they are not continuing in 2022-2023 with any of their grants. The Committee will be discussing what to do about the HUD grant, and those housed, as well as the money left to spend.</p> <p>DCF grants for TANF, Challenge and ESG will be the only grants coming to the CoC for 2022-2023.</p> <p>CV – Subgrantees are really trying to spend down funds awarded. Dawn Center has been approved for some renovations; United Way Lake &amp; Sumter had been looking to move money from Homeless Prevention to Shelter, and are anxious to see how things go with the change in Homeless Prevention (HP) assessment process. MFHC Outreach will need to move money as we have not been able to increase the number of ESG-CV outreach staff. Spending numbers for CV do not include Lake County as they submitted their February report late. The Salvation Army Lake &amp; Sumter will move some funds to Homeless Prevention, and SVPD Cares will move some RRH to Shelter.</p> <p>Florida Coalition to End Homelessness advocated that we may have three additional months to spend the CV funding. It has been approved by the Legislature and is in the Governor’s hands. Office on Homelessness has indicated that if it is passed, they would not extend the spending period. This is not the intent of the petition, and they will be advocating for the extension spending period.</p> <p>HUD CoC – people referred are the most vulnerable and most difficult to house. If we can’t find housing, we will likely leave money on the table.</p> <p>Barbara announced Paula Holtsclaw’s resignation.</p> <p>The By Name List numbers of homeless households was reviewed. Lake &amp; Citrus Counties’ numbers are increasing. Hernando’s number have gone down, however there aren’t any housing assessors in Hernando County, and that makes it difficult to keep up an accurate count. Outreach will be spending more time in Hernando to complete assessments.</p>	
5.	MFHC Update	<p>Membership – The Board was reminded to complete a membership application. Agencies must be paid members to apply for funding.</p> <p>DCF Application process – Barbara asked the Board if three weeks was enough time to give agencies to complete the application. The longest time given in the past was four weeks. MFHC needs enough time to have agencies under contract by July 1, 2022. Discussion followed. MFHC will try to give a month from the time the application is released.</p>	

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		<p>HUD CoC 2021 Application – all projects, including a Permanent Supportive Housing program in Lake County, were fully funded totaling over \$530,000.</p> <p>ARPA-SLFRF funding has been made available to cities and counties. Each local government makes their own plan, and they don't have to submit the plan to the state. Florida Housing Coalition recommends using the money to develop affordable housing, as well as rental assistance. MFHC is asking to be kept informed about how each community plans to spend their funds. Lake County will receive \$73 million over two years, and affordable housing is one of the priorities.</p> <p>County Updates – Tomi Steinruck reported that grant monitoring is underway, then provided updates from the Counties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hernando – the loss of a meal site has been in Brooksville has made locating any new homeless in the area difficult. MFHC will be ramping up outreach efforts in the area. Veda Ramirez indicated that Hernando County is starting focus groups for people who have interactions with behavioral health. Tomi continues to attend the COAD meetings – Community Organizations Active in a Disaster.</li> <li>• Citrus – The Cold Weather Shelter was surprised by a cold snap. They'd already pulled resources, and St. Vincent de Paul assisted in getting donations to feed those utilizing the shelter.</li> <li>• Sumter – Kids Central is closing their Sumter office. The closest office is now in Leesburg, and appointments can be made for in person assistance on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li> <li>• Lake – Community Legal Services of Mid Florida is looking for office space.</li> </ul>	
6.	Next Meeting	The next meeting will be on April 22, 2022.	
7.	Adjourn	<p><b>Motion:</b> A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m.  <b>Motion by:</b> B.E. Thompson      <b>Seconded by:</b> Shay Razaire  <b>Discussion:</b> None.  <b>Approved:</b> Unanimously</p>	

Respectfully submitted by: Paula Holtsclaw

Melissa Simmes, Chair \_\_\_\_\_

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**Attendance**

**Members - Organization, Name**

**Staff**

- X  
*President:* Melissa Simmes, Adventist Health System
- X  
*Vice President:* Barbara Venditto, Dawn Center  
*Treasurer:*  
*Secretary:* Kim Ducharme Levensohn, Morris Realty & Investments, Inc.
- X  
*Immediate Past President:* B.E. Thompson, LifeStream  
Samantha Beckham, United Way of Hernando County
- X  
Timothy L. McCormack, Real Life Christian Church
- X  
Cara Meeks, WellCare  
Linda Mobley
- X  
Shay-Anne Razaire, Alan Madden Foundation  
Steve Smith, New Beginnings  
Jared Tanner, Century 21 Alliance Realty
- X  
Stephen Teaster, State of Florida -Office of the Criminal Conflict

- X Barbara Wheeler, Paula Holtsclaw, Tomi Steinruck – MFHC

**Guests**

- Lorenzo Lockett, SVDP Cares
- Diana Kingree – Social Media Design

