

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

Meeting Minutes: June 24, 2022

Location: Salvation Army Lake & Sumter, 2605 South St, Leesburg, FL

Presiding: Melissa Simmes

	Agenda Items	Discussion & Actions Taken	Follow-up
1.	Call to Order	Melissa Simmes called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.	
2.	Roll Call	Paula Holtsclaw announced the in-person and online attendees.	
3.	Approval of Minutes	<p>Minutes from the May 27, 2022 CoC Membership meetings were presented.</p> <p>Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion by: Shay Razaire Seconded by: Linda Mobley Discussion: None Approved: Unanimously.</p>	
4.	Standing Committee Reports	<p>Coordinated Access (CAS) & Mid Florida Information Network (MFIN) Barbara Venditto provided the update on the CAS-MFIN meeting. The Committee is beginning a complete review of the CAS manual and plan to look at the first 3 sections during an in-person meeting. The Committee would like to hold it in Citrus County and is looking for a location. Diana Kingree offered her business' meeting room located next to MFHC's office.</p> <p>Performance Update Shay Razaire reported on the Performance Committee meeting. She also indicated that while she is okay to facilitate the meeting for now, it would be best if someone else stepped up, as all of the data is difficult to review as a blind person. Paula Holtsclaw reviewed the Show Me the Money and performance slides. TANF, ESG & Challenge all should be spent down by the end of June. SVDP Cares and United Way of Citrus County had plans to dual enroll housed participants in order to ensure all funds were spent down. CV funding deadline has been extended however we do not yet have amendments to continue spending into July. Spending in May for CV was about \$300,000 and took an immense amount of time to process. Slides for CV performance reflected April's spenddown. Paula announced that 32 households were housed in May between those in Rapid Rehousing being placed into housing from homelessness, and those in CV Homeless Prevention who needed to be rehoused. That is an incredible number for the times we are in right now.</p>	
5.	MFHC Lead Agency Update	<p>Membership Drive – 2022 members applications are still being requested. In order to apply for HUD grants, agencies must be paid members. Visit www.midfloridahomeless.org in order to complete the membership form, and those wanting to support the organization can pay online.</p> <p>Current Funding DCF Funding – We have an extension for spending CV funds through June 2023, and we will not be losing any CV funding either. Amendments must be in place before any CV funds can be spent past</p>	

		<p>June 30. MFHC has to have the amendment from the State before it can create the amendments for the subgrantees.</p> <p>HUD CoC – the HUD NOFO is expected to be released at any time. HUD reported they plan to have the applications due by the end of September. There is also a new CoC Supplemental grant to address the unsheltered and rural homelessness, which will be due October 20, 2022.</p> <p>Tomi Steinruck reported the Fair Market Rent (FMR) waiver for ESG CV is still in effect. This will allow rents to be paid at the rent reasonableness level for the market. Regular ESG’s waiver ended in March, and the CoC will have to apply separately for each County and are working on gathering the appropriate information to support the ESG waiver. Until that happens, ESG leases will have to meet the FMR.</p> <p>Tomi also reported on the changes in unsheltered homelessness that the Outreach teams have been seeing. Encampments are becoming larger than ever, and are now breaking up due to landowners selling property, facing fines for the condition of property, and law enforcement moving them along. Those in encampments are finding it harder to find space in the woods to create a new place. We are also expecting the homeless population to increase over the next several months as more and more people are forced out of their homes due to rent hikes.</p>	
6.	Membership Input	<p>Kim Levensohn reported that the Realtors Association of Lake & Sumter Counties has decided to donate \$10,000 to MFHC. Thank you to Kim and MFHC’s Cheryl Lambert for telling our story and facilitating this donation. Kim indicated that these associations are competitive and she hopes to get others on board in donating.</p> <p>B.E. Thompson asked if MFHC could send out the Community Health Needs assessment to Citrus, Lake & Sumter distribution lists. LifeStream is in need of community input.</p> <p>Lorenzo Lockett of SVDP Cares provided an update on Veteran homelessness. They are seeing an ever-increasing number of homeless Veterans, and in fact our CoC has the second highest population on the west coast. Hotel assistance through the VA will be ending at the end of June except for those enrolled in rapid rehousing who have found housing and are awaiting move-in.</p> <p>Rent caps were discussed. Hillsborough is the only area that currently has a rent cap. Discussion about encouraging it state-wide ensued. Paul Tarnowski indicated he would be happy to help and Melissa asked him to put together a letter and forward to Tomi.</p>	

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		<p>MFHC is without a front desk person again, so we are hiring for that position as well as others. We are looking to use our website to help pre-screen callers. With no Homeless Prevention being offered except through TANF and EFSP, the CoC will be relying on all agencies to share information when they have rental and utility assistance available.</p> <p>Hernando County is holding a meeting for anyone interested to discuss the homeless population in the community. This meeting will be held on 6/29, and we will send a copy of the flyer out.</p>	
7.	Next Meeting Date	The next CoC Ending Homelessness Stakeholders meeting is currently scheduled for July 22, 2022, however the Governing Board will be discussing whether or not the July meeting will be canceled.	
8.	Adjourn	<p>Motion: A motion was made to adjourn at approximately 9:55 a.m. Motion by: B.E. Thompson Seconded by: Linda Mobley Discussion: None Approved: Unanimously.</p>	

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Respectfully submitted by: Paula Holtsclaw

Melissa Simmes, _____

Attendance	Name, Organization		
	Linda Mobley, House of Hope		
	Melissa Simmes, Advent Health Waterman		
	Barbara Venditto, Dawn Center		
	Kevin Pokorney, Be Free Lake		
	Alica Harrison, Salvation Army, The		
	Dr. Ruthy Watson, Salvation Army, The		
	Lorenzo Lockett, St. Vincent de Paul Cares		
	Lesley Hershey, LSF		
	Laura Romero, Floral City Outreach		Staff
	Kim Levensohn, Morris Realtors		Paula Holtsclaw and Tomi Steinruck
	B.E. Thompson, LifeStream Behavioral Center		
	Rev. Dr. Dorothy E. Hooks		
	George Schmalstig, United Way of Citrus County		
	Peggy Ray		
	Renee Furnas, Advent Health		
	Debra Moody, LSF		
	Tracie Entler, CareerSource Pasco Hernando		
	Jessica Fangio, Mid Florida Community Services		
	Paul Tarnowski, LSF		
	Rebecca Martin		
	Gloria Boone, Lake Community Action Agency		
	Veda Ramirez, Hernando County Health & Human Services		
	Britt Swait, DCF		
	Diana Kingree, Social Media Design		