Hennepin County Singles Coordinated Entry System (CES) Leadership Committee

**Tuesday, September 1st, 11:30-1:30 via Microsoft Teams**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members**: Kim Lieberman, Susannah King, Mark Miller, Zarita Hester, Travis Earthwerner, Ciara Kunert, Shanna McItosh, Heather Duchsherer, Tim Deen, Lucy Bullock

**Hennepin County Staff**: Katherine DeSantis, Laura DeRosier, Eric Richert, Tracy Schumacher, Amy Donahue, Reneea Stewart, David Hewitt,

**ICA staff:**

**Not in Attendance:** Jay Wagner, Stacy Sweeney, Qually Neal, Travis Earthwerner

### *Guiding Principles:*

1. Ensure service accessibility
2. Prioritize swift exit from homelessness
3. Align services to client need
4. Prioritize services for clients with the greatest need
5. Build a system that is efficient and effective for clients, referral sources, and receiving programs
6. Invest in continuously strengthening the system

| **Agenda Item** | **Notes** | **Lead** | **Time** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Intros/community share** |  |
| 1. **New member** | Welcome!  Tim Deen  Shanna McIntosh  Cherita Tenhoff |
| 1. **New co-chair** | * **Vote:** Zarita Hester was approved as the co-chair, replacing Jay Wagner * Zarita will serve as co-chair with Susannah King |
| 1. **“Skipping” pilot** | * View data   + Currently about 40 individuals have declined multiple referrals   + The Shelter collaborative group could review   + The policy will be sent to the committee to review and then it will be sent out to the community * Additional context: built for zero work |
| 1. **CES Team updates** | * CE Participation Agreement   + A CE Participation Agreement will be added for agencies to sign   + Examples from 8 other communities were reviewed to create a version for Hennepin County * VI-SPDAT feedback survey   + 12 total responses   + 75% said it was improved, 25% stayed the same   + Many responses highlighted issues with the VI-SPDAT   + Some concern that housing outcomes are not as clear   + Feedback encouraged diversity in who is involved in future decisions * Humphrey Research   + Nothing stood out as surprises, but the report did highlight a lot of items that needed attention   + HC offered a response to the report findings * HUD TA   + Hennepin County was selected to receive free Technical Assistance to conduct an Equity Demo   + The focus will be to input equity into our housing response system   + They want a small local team with system understanding     - This will be made up of CE staff, and a few community members   + They also wat a decision-making body     - The proposal is that that Street Voices of Change (SVoC) will fill this role     - SvoC have not yet agreed to this but they will be asked on Thursday |
| 1. **Assessment Process Workgroup** | * Diversion workgroup update   + This group has decided on a definition   + There is representation for singles, family and youth   + Catholic Charities, St. Stephen’s, HC Shelter Team (families   + YMCA (youth)   + Simpson (Single Adults) |
| 1. **Data Equity Workgroup** | * Reviewed a lot of data * Looked at speed of which households move through by race |
| 1. **System report** | * Presentation by Reneea Stewart |
| 1. **Other Business** |  |
| **Future Agenda Items** | 1. Equity and Inclusion in the CES – review of workgroups/subcommittees |
| **Tasks for this month** |  |
| **Reminders** |  |

**Acronyms**

* **AMI:** Area Median Income.
* **CES:** Coordinated Entry System, a process operated by CoCs to assess and connect people residing in shelters and/or on the streets with homeless-designated housing programs
* **CoC:** continuum of care for the homeless; funding made available by HUD via the annual CoC program competition process
* **DHS:** Minnesota Department of Human Services
* **FHPAP:** Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program; biannual grant from MHFA for homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing
* **EA:** Emergency Assistance for families
* **EGA:** Emergency General Assistance for single adults
* **ESG:** Emergency Solutions Grant; annual grant from HUD used by Hennepin County and City and Minneapolis for rapid rehousing
* **FMR:** Fair Market Rent, a calculation completed by the federal government
* **GRH:** Group Residential Housing, a State benefit that pays for housing and some services for people with disabling conditions, also called Housing Support
* **HMIS:** Homelessness Management Information System; database and reporting application
* **HUD:** United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
* **LTH:** Long-term homeless, a Minnesota designation of people who have been homeless or doubled-up for 12 continuous months or for 4 times in the last 3 years
* **MFIP:** Minnesota Families Investment Program, Minnesota’s Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
* **MHFA:** Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
* **PIT:** point in time count, a required count of people experiencing homelessness every January
* **PSH:** permanent supportive housing
* **VI-SPDAT:** Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool, the tool used in Hennepin County’s Coordinated Entry System to prioritize households for different housing programs