

OHS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 19, 2022, 9a-11a

Virtual via Zoom

Attendance

Board Members: Elaine Gimmel, Ed Gernerchak, Councilwoman Yvonne Conwell, Loh, Angela Glassco, Michael Sering, Chris Knestrick, Paul Mosher, Starlette Sizemore (representing Claire Rosser), Natasha Wynn, Mary McNamara, Barb Karam, Peter Schindler, Fred Berry, Dr. Michael Seidman, John Litten, Kirsti Mouncey, Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger

Others: Angela D’Orazio, Ellen Kirtner-LaFleur, Abigail Staudt, Anne Hutchison, Beau Hill, Christie Sozio, Claire Gauntner, Jenny Eppich, Billie Gilliam, Cynthia Dailey, Dearius Houston, Denise Caviness, Eric Miklie, Jacqueline Salter, Jennifer Harrison, Beth Graham, Kai Cotton, D’Angela Tanks, Sharon Parries, Kate Lodge, LeVine Ross, Sherry Brandon, L Martinson, Mike Hahn, Mitch Wasserman, Rochelle Harris, Sarah Froimson, Kenny Kinder, Jim Dombard

Housing Innovations: Howard Burchman

OHS: Allison Gill, Erin Rearden, Melissa Sirak, Nicholas Butina

1. DECISION ISSUES

a. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes 3.17.22

- i. Motion – Fred Berry; 2nd – Ed Gernerchak
- ii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

b. OHS By-Law Update – OHS Advisory Board Addition of 3rd Chair

- i. Melissa Sirak to send out application for this 3rd chair position soon.
- ii. Motion – Peter Schindler; 2nd – Loh
- iii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

c. 2022 YHDP Application (Natasha Wynn & Melissa Sirak)

- i. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program – Application due June 28th
- ii. Youth Action Board and REACH are synonymous
- iii. Looking for board approval to apply for YHDP – OHS has been working with a consultant to get this application together
- iv. Motion – Barb Karam; 2nd – Loh
- v. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

d. OHS By-Law Update – Youth Action Board (Angela D’Orazio)

- i. Youth Action Board is the term used by HUD referring to youth-led leadership group. Our local board is called REACH Board.
- ii. By-law worded to clarify the relationship between the REACH Board and the OHS Advisory Board
 1. Present to OHS Advisory Board once annually on goals for the year
 2. Provide funding and policy recommendations (changing wording on this in by-laws)
 3. Participate in CoC program evaluation, review, and provide recommendation
- iii. Discussion led to wording change for 2nd bullet to “Provide recommendations on funding and policy”

- iv. Motion to approve both by-law update and wording change– Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger; 2nd – Barb Karam
- v. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

e. 2022 NOFO Performance Standards (Howard Burchman)

- i. NOFO Review Committee has reviewed and updated the standards
- ii. Review based on past results and current data available for all project types
- iii. Reviewed each standard during the meeting
 - 1. Standards available on request in Excel spreadsheet format; questions regarding the standards can be addressed by the NOFO Review Committee or OHS
- iv. Concerns expressed about consumer satisfaction surveys, income, and time to house in RRH
- v. Suggestion made to review of HUD-funded programs occur in case HUD defunds those programs with goal of securing additional funding if HUD defunds any project
- vi. Recommendation was made for stronger advocacy to HUD for increase grant dollars/wages as this funding has remained stagnant in last few years
- vii. Motion – Angela Glassco; 2nd – Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger
- viii. None abstained; none opposed; motion carries

2. 2021 NOFO Debriefing (Howard Burchman)

- a. Last year 100% of our renewals were covered under Tier 1
- b. HUD set aside few dollars for bonus projects – only \$20 million left compared to around \$200 million in years past – only highest scoring community eligible for funds
- c. Overall score of 149 out of 173
 - i. Largest loss (15 points) coming in CoC Coordination and Engagement section
 - 1. 10-point loss due to less RRH units leased up on HIC date
 - ii. Additional 4.5 points lost in system performance section
- d. Score Debriefing will be sent out by Melissa Sirak after meeting

3. Cuyahoga County CoC Strategic Plan (Howard Burchman)

- a. Creation of network map
 - i. Inclusion of “hidden helpers” – adjuncts to the supportive services CoC resources already known (i.e., job/employment services, churches, etc.)
- b. Analysis of current investments by program type and funding type
- c. System improvement strategies/recommendations to look at gaps in system
- d. Review of CoC resources
- e. Every step of the process will have built-in listening sessions and focus groups; include people with lived experience and race equity principles
- f. Goal to have plan finalized in September with implementation strategy

4. Cuyahoga County & City of Cleveland ARPA Update (Melissa Sirak & Councilwoman Conwell)

- a. County Offices have made recommendations to the County Executive; announcements happening in the next few weeks
- b. Noted change to overall RFP Process for OHS contracts. Historically RFPs have been released separately by funding source. OHS is moving towards a “Master RFP” to procure by Project Type, allowing for more flexibility with contracts and multiple funding streams (ESG, levy, etc.). Master RFP will appear similar to previous ESG RFPs.
- c. \$240 million total in ARPA funds to County
 - i. \$86 million allocated
 - ii. Each Council Person received \$6M

- iii. Focusing allocations on projects that have clear path to sustainability because these are one-time payments
- iv. Universal application process; Review process will be specific to each district
- v. Questions? Trevor McAleer at tmcaleer@cuyahogacounty.us

5. 2022 PIT/HIC

- a. Information reviewed and included in packet

6. Transitioned Aged Youth (TAY) Presentation – Supportive Housing Development (Claire Gauntner, Kai Cotton, & Ellen Kirtner-LaFleur)

- a. Presentation included in packet
- b. Reviewed core values of the new project
- c. Data presented on youth homelessness
- d. Reviewed process for resident selection – partnering with CE and outreach teams; prioritized by length of time homeless, disability status, additional challenges
- e. Location and features of building shared
- f. Funding sources reviewed
- g. Completion of project set for Summer 2023
- h. REACH Board involved in the site selection, service selection, & architectural designs. Will remain in process through feedback.

7. Workforce, Income, & Stability Work (Claire Gauntner)

- a. Steering Committee members shared with the group
- b. April/May updates:
 - i. Finalizing primary goal of referral pathway between workforce and homeless service providers
 - ii. Focus groups w/ 2100 residents, NHWC residents, young adults
 - 1. Trends: transportation, basic job readiness, warm hand-offs, criminal backgrounds

8. Race Equity Lab Training Report (Christie Sozio)

- a. 80 participants – separated into 3 subcommittees (entries, exits, and leadership)
- b. Commitment forms sent to members to fill out – received 28 back
- c. Moving from big-picture plans to concrete action plans

9. Advocacy Effort (Chris Knestrick)

a. Pay to Stay

- i. NEOCH and partners advocating for stronger tenant rights
- ii. Pay to Stay introduced in City of Cleveland
- iii. OH is 1 of 5 states that can evict tenant because of late payment by 1 day and Pay to Stay extends that amount of time

b. Source of Income Protection

- i. Right now, it is legal to refuse lease because of source of income or subsidy source
- ii. Not introduced yet but advocacy continues
- iii. Ask to join the advocacy efforts through letters to congress members and other avenues

10. COVID Response Update

a. Housing Incentive Report (Mike Sering)

- i. Pilot program developed to deconcentrate the shelters spaces
 - ii. Program elements:
 - 1. Staff work with shelter alternative (friends and family)
 - 2. Confirm the space
 - 3. Receives \$600 to spend on housing alternative
 - iii. 412 incentives distributed to 389 unique individuals (23 received 2nd distribution)
 - 1. 2100 – 233
 - 2. NEOCH – 96
 - 3. YWCA – 50
 - 4. FLS – 10
 - iv. Success rates – 90.9% complied with 60-day out-of-shelter agreement; 87% were out of shelter for 90 days
- b. Continuum COVID Recovery Space (Melissa Sirak)**
- i. Moving on to the next phase with input from community partners
 - ii. Resources are finite

11. Initiative Reports

- a. No presentation – Included in packet