Missouri Balance of State Continuum of Care Board of Directors

Board Minutes

 January 30, 2025

Board Members Present: Maria Rench. Shammy Johnson, Becky Poitras, Kari Utterback, Reginald Jennings, Anthony Smith, Martha Sander, Ann Gosnell-Hopkins, Glenna Wilson, Robin Durbin and Amanda Stadler

Board Members Absent: Sharon Cobb, Davis Henrion, Nicolle Hahn and Sonia Campbell.

HMIS Lead Agency Staff Present: Kaitlyn Poepsel, Sandy Wilson, Jennifer Davidson, Leah Woods

Guests: Charline Johns, Michael Brownstein, Sandy Koetting, Dale Good, Rebecca Pfeiffer, Christiana, Erin Washburn, Danielle Harshaw, Beatrice Stewart, Patti Brayfielfd, Conrad Hake

Board chair Sander called the Mo BoS CoC Board of Directors meeting to order by virtual meeting on Thursday January 30th, 2025 at 11:02 am. Secretary Wilson completed roll call. Quorum present.

Approval of agenda motion made by Utterback and second by Gosnell-Hopkins. Motion carries.

Housing First Tool, Fortis Consulting; Fortis discussed how to ensure our tools are housing first appropriate as well as when to start them each year. Discussion of how host homes work, how payments are made, will provide information for grantees based on type what they would each need to complete. Did update assessment tool to follow recent executive order. Suggestion by Jennings to review with board members/grant committee and review again at February board meeting. This housing first assessment/operational manuals are also part of beginning monitoring for grantees. Motion to approve tool with changes made by Smith, second by Gosnell-Hopkins. Motion carries.

PIT App—Tabled until next meeting

New Business: CoC Full Membership Meeting, March 12, 2025 (Virtual)

CoC Full Membership Meeting, June 2025, 2025: Ann will discuss with Fortis about training and will take the information back to membership committee. (This one will be in person, more information for location to be provided)

Membership Committee: Membership Application Acknowledgements: Currently the membership form is on the website, and do we want the membership certificate to go to the new member as well?

PIT Committee: Volunteer hours: Volunteer hours for match, we need to stay in conversation about this if you are an agency that collects data. ICA works on data for sheltered side for data. Is there a system of collecting volunteer hours the unsheltered count within the counties? Gosnell-Hopkins will reach out to regional coordinators to get information. CoC would like to collect data for each county: who counted service based, street count, how many volunteer hours. Gosnell-Hopkins will work on gathering data from region/county leads. Utterback asked about volunteers at PHC. The count needs to be for the unsheltered count. Recording of agencies: Ensure we are getting information for data collected now

Governance Charter Edits: Sander reported she has gotten many edits. Sander shared her screen to review the charter with the board. Discussion of how long to leave the edits open, it does have to be published to the CoC 30 days before the voting meeting (March 12th) This will be open through February 4th at 12 pm. It has to be posted by February 10th. Sander will get the draft out to the board on the 5th, will call for a vote on 2/7 and will be posted by 2/10 to meet deadline.

Collaborative Applicant Search: There are some board members who are possibly interested in applying for the collaborative applicant, so they will step out of the meeting at this time due to not being able to see the RFP ahead of time. Jennings and Poitras left the meeting prior to discussion of Collaborative Applicant search. This meeting is not being recorded. The things to be figured out today are timeline and time period to issue the RFP. Time frame discussion of 5 years versus 3 years. Suggestion of ensuring there is a way to get out of the contract if needed. Discussion if we need 6 weeks for proposals or if 4 weeks would be sufficient. Martha will clean up the RFP with correct time frames/etc and will send out for board vote. Start date for the new collaborative applicant will depend on HUD.

Executive Orders: IDEA Committee, CE Tool Workgroup, Standards Review, Data Elements: Discussion of providing the executive committee ability to make changes as needed due to Executive Orders. Sander has already worked on updating the charter to be in compliance. Motion for the exec committee to make quick decisions regarding CoC compliance with possible presidential executive orders made by Rench second by Gosnell-Hopkins. Motion carries.

Region 1 Board Representation: Jennings will work on getting new representation

Update all CoC emails: Bill did not get paid, domain has now been paid for 5 years and is back up and running. Emails will be updated

HUD Community Workshops: There are HUD Community workshops listed, but unsure if they will be held due to executive orders. Stella are two tools by HUD. Stella P (performance) takes data from LSA report and puts it into a visual. Stella M (Modeling) system modeling tool to work with community to help identify where the community is as far as resources and where the community wants to be. Identifies how many beds of each type you would need, how much it would cost, etc. Discussion of using STELA in the future, unsure if our community is at the right place now to use it. Tool is free, but it is time consuming.

HMIS Lead Agency Report: LSA has been submitted, it went smoothly. System Performance Measures will be open at some point, unsure at this time and ICA will keep everyone updated. There are significant changes with YHDP as CPSEMO will assume direct management of the CE project effective 3/1/2025. Sander asked about

General Comments by Public and Members (this will go before Closed board session)

3 minutes allowed per speak for general comments by public:

Conrad Hake with Love Columbia: YHDP Sub-recipient; comments: 2024 was a difficult year in policy and understanding; in March there was a training facilitated by HUD TA/CPSEMO and many documents were requested. There have been monthly office hours that documents were also requested. Documents have not been provided. On site visits in September 2024 did assist, monitoring began in December and in January started getting information on the things they were doing incorrectly with no ability to ask questions. Friday 1/24/2025 there was a meeting where all sub recipients were able to get together and discuss concerns. Monday there was a mandatory meeting to review agreements, in the meeting found out at FCC would not be offering CE or be a recipient. Office hours would now be provided by CPSEMO, projects that were removed from FAC to CPSEMO.

Patti-Project 360, reported they entered projects with excitement and expected to be led by one agency, finances are a mess. They have been asking for 3 months to get a breakdown of accounting. They received their January funds which was $19,000 short. Feels it is very important to have matching policies incase a youth leaves one area to go to another.

Erin: Foster Adopt Connect. Was very excited, took on 5 projects, 3 were pilots with no direction given for last year. On Monday, sat through meeting with sub recipients and had not received grant renewals and then was contacted by Love Columbia that he had received information from CPSEMO that FAC was no longer a sub recipient. Each sub recipient was given a performance improvement plan after the mandatory meeting on Monday. CPSEMO did attend case conferencing meetings but never provided feedback to FAC about this. There is currently not a plan for coverage for several regions and there has been unethical treatment of recipients of the YHDP grant.

Beatrice with Flourish: Has over 10 years of experience and this is first experience that contact holder provided negative feedback and refused to offer guidance, work with recipients to improve. CPSEMO was supposed to provide toolkit 13 months ago and never did. According to CoC, site visits were supposed to be provided with information ahead of time and this did not happen. There was no communication about why the contract was reduced, she requested a meeting and was informed there was leasing costs that was not used but she was not aware of this. She provided information on the spend down request but has not heard anything back at this time. In findings report, agency names are wrong, is very concerned about CPSEMO taking the contact in house . Website portal is down and there is no way to refer youth for YHDP and there is no communication how to do this since they pulled FCC’s contract.

Anthony Smith expressed concerns about CPESMO regarding them asking other agencies to pay back funds, his agency is returning three grant components as they have decided they can not work with them.

Sander thanked public for their comments, expressed validation for their frustration and did remind them that YHDP is a direct grant from HUD to CPSEMO and unfortunately not a CoC grant so the board does not have any say in the concerns. Discussion of how HUD requires recipients monitors sub-recipients.

Concerns brought up about CPSEMO adhering to correct guidelines and concerns brought up about board not provided information CPSEMO struggles as with collaborative applicant. Poitras brought up that the YHDP is under the CoC, but the first renewal is an automatic renewal and unfortunately the board did not have ability to do anything to change this. YHDP sub recipients were provided information how to complete a formal compliant with HUD TA and HUD Field office. These concerns will provide feedback about the next renewal cycle. When CPSEMO left as the collaborative applicant, YHDP became a private entity grant.

Motion to move to close session: Jennings, second by Utterback