



Facilitator: Porsha Goodman, DOH

Minutes: Dustin Kane, CAFTH

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Committee Chair Porsha Goodman.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the last CoC Planning meeting in November were reviewed. With a motion from Stephanie Bell, and a second from Mia Cotton the minutes were approved as presented.

Presentations & Discussion

a. COVID-19 Vaccine Education and Planning

Grant Ebbesmeyer shared a video presentation from the CDC that discussed the COVID-19 vaccine and what homeless service providers should know. Nathan Furukawa from the CDC Vaccine Task Force explained that the COVID-19 vaccine will protect you and others. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines teach the body how to recognize the COVID-19 virus and how to produce the “spike proteins” and antibodies to fight the illness and prevent infection. COVID-19 mRNA vaccines will not give you COVID-19. Vaccination is one measure to help stop the pandemic, but we still need to use all measures to protect ourselves (wearing masks, avoiding close contact, wash your hands often and frequently, avoiding touching your face, clean and disinfect surfaces, etc). People who have become sick with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 will benefit from the COVID-19 vaccine. Multiple COVID-19 vaccines are in development, several are in large scale (Phase 3) trials. Vaccine side effects include fever, headache, and muscle aches. Safety is the highest priority, and established vaccine safety systems will help manage the COVID-19 vaccination process. Share your experiences with friends and family, and increase vaccine confidence. Porsha Goodman added that the staff at Open Doors has been vaccinated, and encourages other partners that are given the opportunity to do the same.

b. NAEH Caring for Staff

The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) released a video on how nonprofits can better care for their staff during COVID-19. The video discussed that being flexible with staff, and taking time off to care for family is important. Treating staff to lunch, creatively saying thank you and that you appreciate the help (giving recognition to those who are working hard, shout-outs, bonuses, gift cards or additional compensation, recognizing staff beyond the workday), hiring additional staff to help with the workload, encouraging the importance of mental health, and creating a safe space were a few examples given by the NAEH. Mia Cotton shared that at Friends for Life staff received bonuses, an interagency



stimulus, rented out a drive-in movie theater for staff and their family, host Zoom cooking sessions with staff, and other team building activities. Door of Hope gave staff lysol and other gifts, restaurant gift cards, and email shoutouts.

c. CoC NOFA Updates and Renewal Process

Grant Ebbesmeyer reported that HUD is not requiring submissions for renewal of funds. HUD will send out a formal notice shortly, but for the FY2020 renewal process existing CoC projects will be renewed. The Knoxville Field office should be reaching out with further details, but it there is no application process and no current opportunity to apply for new funding, HUD plans to hold a regular competition in July for new funding opportunities.

Agency Updates

The Hospitality Hub is continuing to conduct COVID-19 testing, open to anyone, located at 590 Washington Avenue, Memphis, TN 38105, Monday through Friday, from 9 am until 12 pm. Catholic Charities of West TN also has limited COVID-19 testing available.

Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am with no further discussion.