**Minutes– September10, 2019 9:30am – 12:30pm**

**Location:** **MaineHousing Conference Room, 353 Water Street. Augusta, ME 04330**.

**Members:** Stephanie Primm (KCHC), Tracey Hair (RIII), Donna Kelley (RII), Josh D’Alessio (RIII), Cullen Ryan (RII), David McCluskey (RIII), Ginny Dill (RI), Donna Yellen (RI), Alice Preble (DHH-OCFS), Lauren Bustard (MaineHousing), Cullen Ryan (RII),

**Guests:** Scott Tibbitts (Maine Housing), Tracy Allen (KBH), Melody Fitch (Safe Voices), Jenny Stasio, (Through These Doors), Christi Staples (CSH), Peter Kraut (MaineCare), Chris Bicknell, (New Beginnings), Mary Francis Bartlett (City of Augusta), Amber Tierney (ACAP), Denise Lord (MaineHousing), Richard Hooks-Wayman (VOA), Steve McDermott (MaineHousing)

**Phone**: Mary Beth Twoomey (TOA), Kathleen Loughran (Amerigroup)

**Minutes** from August were passed after several name and title corrections.

**Minutes:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing)

**YHDP Grant Award –** Chris Bicknell explained the $3.35 Million will pass through MaineHousing**.** The First step is to develop a “Coordinated Community Response”. The first draft to be done in 4 months, and the final completed in 8 months. The Grant must be a “Cross Sector Assessment”. New Beginnings is the “Lead” agency. After the CCR, an RFP for projects will go out with an emphasis on unique and innovative ways to address youth homeless. These grants are for two years and then will be rolled into local CoCs, if eligible under CoC guidelines.

**CSH – Christi Staples,** Presented a series of slides on the CSHStrategic Planning Proposal and some Examples of what they have done in other part of the country. There was general interest in pursuing this.

**Brief Reports**-

* **Maine Homeless Policy Committee**-It is most likely there will be a “Continuing Resolution” and not a regular budget. The question ‘what can the SHC do to help?’ was explored. Ideas put forth were,

**Federal Level**- SHC needs to keep our delegates informed on important priorities.

**State Level**-SHC can provide testimony and weigh in on issues, especially during the first half of the bi-annual budget. The SHC should have a seat at the table of the Children’s Cabinet which has been reinstituted by the governor.

SHC needs to be aware of individual agencies going directly to the legislature for resources. When they are successful, it’s great for them, but it is not part of – and may distract from – more coordinated efforts. It’s not often Scott gets to point to the Continuum as an example of a good way to do things, but it does bring a large group of providers together to agree on priorities and make recommendations on where to focus resources.

* **Regional Homeless Councils-**

**Region 1-**The July and August meetings were combined. Nothing new to report.

**Region 2-**There was not a meeting held in August. However, last month’s report on the IDD population was not reflected in the minutes.

**Region 3-**The PIW (Point in Week) report has been finalized. The City of Bangor will hold a meeting next week and the following recommendations on the results of the PIW will be given.

1. Warming Centers Coordinate Best Practices
2. Opportunities to collect and report data
3. Participate with MaineHousing/ESHAP/COC initiatives.
4. Coordinate efforts to provide cell phones to people

* **MCoC /SHC Redundancy Topic**- There is a great deal of the same information presented at both meetings. Is there a way to minimize the repetition without losing the valuable sharing element and make efforts more complementary? Josh, an attendee of both, doesn’t see repetition as a problem since MCOC is largely focused on the NOFA and HUD priorities and the SHC is driven towards local policy and advocacy. Lauren mentioned the same updates are given at all three meetings, focus should be on the next steps and take-aways. Donna cited the SHC is at a point where it should build off the collective framework that has been established and focus more on the action elements. Cullen sees the problem as sometimes being the process and not the content.
* **Populations**-LTS, 1 in Ellsworth, 0 in Orland, 100 in Portland on lists (focusing on the 12 most challenging each week, DHHS is involved). Bangor no new numbers.
* **MaineHousing-IAP:** Service Committee developed a list on what is covered by MaineCare and what isn’t, often people are eligible but not receiving services. First step is to develop a **service package** to focus on the services available and ensuring eligible people get them. Then look at the eligibility criteria, lining up with HMIS and Health Info Net to see who needs what and what the cost will be. Then focus on efforts and initiatives. Matching the HIN and HMIS will allow us to know the universe population. The lawyers have drawn up the language, and just need the providers to agree and sign on. Budget wise, there will be potential new costs, serving more people and providing more services, but there are also potential savings for when people are housed and stable and the costs decrease. The IAP is a short term process, but establishing the process and carrying it forward is what will make this work. The intent is to keep the Friday meetings scheduled even after the IAP ends.

**Gaps and Needs-**Summary posted on [www.mainehomelessplanning.org](http://www.mainehomelessplanning.org) This is an example of synergy between the CoC and the SHC. Since people did not have a chance to review before discussion, this will be tabled for now.

**HTF-**Steve McDermont reported the HTF drafts are due Oct. 17, and the final deadline is Nov. 5, 2019. The total cost cap has been raised. Part of the rush is the need to obligate the funds from the first round (that went unused) before the end of the year.

Laurie Murray has been appointed as the new Director of Homeless Initiatives.

The Affordable Housing Conference will be held on Oct. 1, 2019 at the Augusta Civic Center.

* **Criminal Justice Report-** No one from the DOC able to attend today’s meeting.Concerted efforts will be made to ensure attendance at next month’s meeting.

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019**

**MAINEHOUSING CONFERENCE ROOM**