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Disclaimer: These notes are not intended to represent direct quotes, things may not be in chronological order, and ideas may not always be accurately attributed. If you have corrections or comments, please email blabua@mainehousing.org to let Betty know and she will edit accordingly.

**Attending via GoToMeeting:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Betty LaBua (MaineHousing), Norm Maze (Shalom House), Tara Hembree (MaineHousing), Janice Daku (RCAM), Alice Preble (DHHS), Tracy Allan (KBH), Dave McClusKey (Shaw House), Jill Grazia (Shalom House), Joe McNally (Milestone), Jace Farris (Hub 8), Cullen Ryan (CHOM), Kate Easter (MCEDV), Elaine Grade (KCHC), Mike Shaughnessy (MSHA), Rebecca Hobbs (TTD), Vickey Rand (CHOM), Jerri Botta (HOME Inc.), Awa Conteh (City of Bangor), Dan Hodgkins (Preble Street), Donna Kelley (WCAP), Matt Jarrel (Hub2), Lauren Bustard (MSHA), Kobi Perry (WMCA), Sarah Derosier (CHCS), Aaron Geyer (COP), Rota Knott (Tedford), Noelle Coyne (Safe Voices), Amy Holland (Hub 3), David Sovetsky (MMHS), Joe Locke (MSHA), Sharon Jordan (WPHW), Donna Alger (BFAH), Mike Merill ( VOANNE), Kelly LeBlanc (H&J Project), Adam Harr (COP), Rebekah Paredes (New Hope Midcoast), Laurie Legree, Nicole Frydrych (Hub 6), Beverly Hubbard (YAB), Abigail Smallwood (City of Biddeford), Boyd Kronholm (BAHS), Vicky Abbot (BOL), Chris Bicknell (NB), Marcie Dean (Next Step), Lisa McLaughlin (HAS), Erin Kelly (Preble Street), Angelina Santos (Caring Unlimited), Jenny Stasio (TTD), Theresa Dow (ACAP), Mike Tuller (BFAH) and Brianne Brasslett(CHCS)

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 and

Stephonie Gregg (YCSPI) and Kari Bradstreet (FVP).

[Reminder – If you call in, please email blabua@mainehousing.org to let us know you were there!]

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**Meeting Minutes: Maine CoC**

**Date: July 21, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: Ring Central**

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

1. **Approval of Minutes and Moment of Silence:**

Norm welcomed all to today’s meeting. MCOC Minutes from the June meeting were posted on the Maine Homeless Planning website. *Norm motioned to approve June’s minutes as written, Jerry B. seconded. Typo in minutes will be repaired to reflect Jerry B. motioned to approve May’s minutes not April’s. No one opposed. Passed unanimously.* A moment of silence to honor the passing of people experiencing homelessness was observed.

1. **Big Thinking Topics:**
* **CoC Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (SNOFO) Overview:**

On June 22, 2022, HUD released the SNOFO, specifically designed to address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. Due to time constraints, the Board approved the following two motions:

1. MCOC should take a strategic and unified approach to the SNOFO and that a small groups will be established to develop the strategy identify what sort of proposal MCOC wants to create.
2. The SNOFO Committee will make recommendations regarding this SNOFO directly to the full MCOC.

The SNOFO work group meet on July 19th and drafted these recommendations:

1. Service-Only Projects - regardless of specific project type such as Street/Mobile Outreach, RRH with only services, PSH with only services, SSO only, etc. Unlike the ‘regular’ NOFO, this one encourages SSO Projects and we should take advantage of that to fill known gaps in our rural service areas. Ideally - one large project app that would cover all eligible “rural” areas of the state. (This could be one statewide agency, or a collaboration of several agencies.) Higher priority for projects that can leverage specific housing resources via connection to a housing authority. This could be existing units or units currently in development. Higher priority for projects that can leverage specific healthcare resources, including mental health, MaineCare, etc., as helping those with “Sever Service Needs” is a HUD priority for this specific SNOFO.

Higher priority for services that are flexible and all-encompassing, and can serve people from homelessness/on the street and assist with attaining and retaining housing including follow-up services while in housing - like a hybrid of PATH/ICMs/housing navigators.

1. Bricks and Mortar housing projects, with the caveat that 50% match would need to be obtained from a source other than MaineHousing.  Recommendation is to have a ranking protocol that ranks this below the above due to the SNOFO being unique in that it encourages SSO projects and knowing that MaineHousing expects to have match $ available for bricks and mortar projects should the regular NOFO include a permanent housing bonus.

*Cullen motioned to approve recommendations by the SNOFO working group. Chris seconded. No discussion. No one opposed. No one abstained. Motion unanimously passed.*

* **Review and Approve Revisions to the CoC Bylaws:** Norm screened shared the red lined draft of the updated revisions to the Board Bylaws. The key changes mainly address required meeting attendance and membership parameters*. Awa put forth the motion to accept new bylaws. Scott seconded. No discussion. No abstentions. None opposed. Motion passed.*
1. **Hub Updates:**

Tara started today’s update by mentioning this month is the kick off of the first Action Cycle for all Hubs with the focus of Quality Data. Those hubs that are part of the Built for Zero officially start the Improvement System Shaper work with Community Solutions and the national collaborative. The other 4 hubs will continue to get coaching and support from Community Solutions and MSHA. HCs continue to network with local providers to establish an inner square of “system improvers” who want/need to be at the table to help the hub meets its aim of quality data. They are presently convening meetings to review the All Singles Scorecard and to work on hub specific improvement goals as well as continuing with their outreach mapping and provider inventories. Aggregate number reporting will begin for actively homeless single adults, with the eye on the fact this number will be from HMIS and work will be done to determine how we can move to get numbers from others that are not entering into HMIS. HCs will take a lead role in the testing of the Coordinated Entry Assessment Tool.

1. **Maine Statewide Homeless Services Coordination Meeting Updates:**

There were no updates given during today’s meeting. This topic will remain a standing item on the agenda.

1. **Legislative Updates:**
* **Federal:**  Cullen started today’s update by mentioning on 6/22 the Biden Administration released a first-of-its-kind package of resources for unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments. The Initiative for Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness will help communities humanely and effectively implement coordinated approaches for solving unsheltered homelessness with housing, health care, and supportive services. The $365 million package includes $322 million in Continuum of Care (CoC) Program grants, with $54.5 million set aside specifically for rural communities, through a Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to fund homeless outreach, permanent housing, supportive services, and other costs. The grants will fund projects for three years then will be eligible for renewal through the annual CoC Program. It was also mentioned that on 6/22, the House released its FY 23 T-HUD bill which would provide $62.7 billion for HUD’s affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs
* **State:** As of 5/9 the Legislature Adjourned Sine Die therefore there were no updates given.
1. **SHC Updates:**

In addition to working with Community Solutions on the System Redesign, tackling ongoing pandemic related problems and creating a six month strategic plan, the council welcomed presentations by Gordon Smith, Director of Opioid Response for the State of Maine, Greg Payne, Governor’s Senior Advisor on Housing Policy and Brie Masselli from DHHS OBH on Targeted Case Management and other service delivery resources.

1. **Long Term Stayers Updates:**

Norm reported the Portland area continues making progress in housing LTS with 421 people housed at a 92% success rate

1. **COC Board Update:**
* **General Updates**: The main topics being addressed by the Board are:
1. The outflow during June 2022 to permanent housing is lower than in June 2021.
2. Approval of HMIS Policy and Procedures.
3. Approval of the CES implementation plan
4. The Supplemental NOFO (SNOFO).
* **CES:** Erin K. presented the committee update. Testing of the assessment tool pilot has begun at 4 shelters, 3 DV agencies and 3 outreach programs throughout rural and urban areas of the state. Opportunities for feedback will be spearheaded by Hub Coordinators in the forms of a written survey and small focus group sessions. A small sub group will convene to draft a grievance policy. Starting in August, the committee will move from the design phase to the implementation phase with the hopes of being able to pilot CES in a couple Hubs during the fall.
1. **Youth Action Board Update:**

Beverly presented this month’s update by mentioning members are working with Joe Locke to address issues with Youth Coordinated Entry and are advising Amelia Lyons on best practices concerning Mckinney Vento. Work on an official YAB handbook has begun with the hopes it will assist in the recruitment of new members.

1. **Standing Committee Updates:**
* **Resource Committee:** Norm noted during the main topic of conversation at the committee’s meeting centered on PIT Count planning and the partaking role Hub Coordinators. Ideas for future trainings were also discussed.
1. **New Agenda Items:** SNOFO will be on next month’s agenda as a big thinking topic. All were asked to send Betty, Scott or any of the tri-chairs suggestions for August’s Continuum Meeting.

**Next MCOC meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2022 from 1:00-3:00 pm**