



CT BOS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes 5/18/2018

1. Introductions and Announcements

- a) Welcome and Introductions
- b) 4/20/18 BOS SC minutes approved
- c) Announcements
 - DSS Benefits Training - 6/14/18 - 9:30-11:30 at CVH, Lee Auditorium
 - New CT BOS email process - register your email at www.ctbos.org!!
- d) HUD Updates
 - HUD is reviewing GIWs and getting grant agreements executed
 - Completing monitoring visits - lots of lead-based paint issues
 - Environmental reviews are due and should be submitted asap
- e) NOFA Updates
 - HUD will be holding CoC 2017 webinar debriefs next week
 - HUD FO just got CT BOS CoC debrief and will send to the CoC

2. HMIS Updates

- a) System Performance Measure (SPM)



BOS SPM Reports
10-1-16 through



BOS SPM FFY16
Resubmit.pdf

- National HUD SPM are now available. HUD released the data and there is a dashboard available.
f/u: HI to download docs and send out to CoC.
- b) HMIS SC Report - group has not met since last CoC SC mtg - no report

3. New Project RFP for 2018

- CAN reps asked if letters of recommendation are considered when evaluating applications and also asked if a CAN should support more than one application. It was noted that letters of recommendation are considered and CANs should be encouraged to discuss how to coordinate applying for new funds and assess what is needed in each of their CANs.
- CAN reps noted that they need time to get the endorsement letters and would need more than one month to make sure. Suggested to have 6 weeks.
- Concern that the CANs are not prepared to endorse projects.
- It was decided that it will be optional for CANs to provide letters for 2018 but may be a requirement for 2019.
f/u: Add role of CANs in new project endorsements to the Semi-Annual Meeting agenda

4. Reallocation Strategy for 2018

- a) Project Underspending
 - It was reported that projects have improved in reducing grant underspending. However, the CoC continues to return unspent funds each year to HUD.
 - Several project-based projects (PRA) are chronically underspending. It was suggested that these projects consider converting from PRAs to Sponsor based rental assistance (SRAs) so that there is flexibility to lease units in the community. Other options include reallocating the funds for award through new project RFP, shifting funds to services and use to serve other participants within the CAN.

- All projects who are underspending and unable to correct to enable full spending should consider reallocating funds to make available for new projects.
- CANs need to talk about different options.
f/u: CAN reps to bring these options back to their communities for discussion.
- Letters will go out to agencies who did not meet the renewal evaluation spending standard for 2 years and is currently underspent in this current fiscal year. CANs will be copied on the letters.
f/u: HI/Chairs to send underspending letters to agencies and CANs

b) Service Funding caps

- There are nine projects that are over \$7500 services funding per household amounting to \$273,000 over the service spending cap. The highest services funding per HH is \$18,000
- Concerns were raised that providers are serving special pops and these pops are harder to serve and need greater services funding. It was noted that some projects are more expensive because of the unions.
- It was also argued that some agencies are not getting any services and the CoC needs a way to be sure that all projects are getting services funding.
- It was also noted that some of projects over the services spending cap received low renewal evaluation scores this year. It was suggested that if the CoC decides to allow projects to go over the cap, the projects should be performing well.

It was decided that the CoC should not reallocate their funds above the services cap this year but

- should reach out to the nine projects and require the agencies to come up with a plan to either serve more clients or reallocate the funding. Agencies would be made aware that next year, if there is no plan in place, the CoC may reallocate the services funding over the services cap of \$7500.

f/u: HI to reach out to agencies over the service funding cap

5. Assertive Engagement with Participants who resue re-certifications, inspections

During monitoring visits, HI is repeatedly seeing participants who receive no ongoing services who are not receiving annual recertifications/inspections. Technically, per HUD rules, this make the participant ineligible for assistance and the funds spent on that household are subject to re-capture by HUD. Since many of these people are not receiving any supportive services and may not understand these requirements, agencies need to conduct assertive outreach to these participants to achieve compliance.

F/U: HI to develop guidance for assertive engagement strategies to use with participants who are not complying with annual re-certification requirements. This will include a progressive process up to and including termination of assistance.

6. 2018 Aggregate Renewal Evaluation Results & 2019 Renewal Evaluation Standards



Renewal Evaluation
Standards for 2019 |

a) Review Results

- The group reviewed the results and discussed the 2019 Renewal Evaluation Standards
- Handout shows recommendations based and on performance for this last year.

Discussion:

- Spending - below \$100k grant - standard is to spend 90% (instead of 95%).

- There was discussion regarding the challenges that large grants face in spending all but \$50,000. It was suggested that larger grants, those over \$1,000,000 should need to spend 95% and have no more than \$100,000 left unspent.
f/u: HI to recommend standard
- Add back PSH disability criteria to evaluate.
- Add Youth Programs only: Percentage of adult participants who increased earned income from entry to exit/follow-up (leavers and stayers) to 20% TH (in lieu of 25%), 20% RRH, 20% PSH
- TH providers noted that the 25% employment would be difficult given that participants are working on educational goals, securing child care, and other goals.
- Adding in 95% of participants will have health insurance.
- There was discussion regarding the length of stay (LOS) in RRH and a suggestion to make the LOS 9 months instead of 6 months. It was reported that the Progressive Engagement group participants had concerns over LOS being 6 months and wanted a longer LOS. It was noted that because there is better homeless diversion, participants in RRH are more vulnerable and taking longer to be able to pay rent for themselves. It was also reported that it is very difficult to get families out of RRH in 6 months.
- It was suggested that instead of beginning the clock on LOS as soon as the participant enters the program, the clock would begin once the participant was housed. CCEH reported that they are able to provide “date housed” when sharing renewal evaluation data with the CoC. This would give providers an extra month or two to work with tenants and still aim for 6 months once housed. It was also suggested to lower the 60% standard to 50%.

Motion: To accept the recommendations in the handout presented with the following changes: earned income for TH participants in youth programs be set at 20% (not 25%); LOS in RRH to be based on the date housed and the standard would be 50% (not 60%). For non-cash benefits and health insurance, remove people who go over income while in the program. Do this during the review process with agencies. Motion passes unanimously.

b) Set Corrective Action Threshold



CT BOS Scoring
Summary Report 5-2

- If a project is in corrective action, the agency cannot apply for new CoC funding
- It was decided that any project that scored a 50 or below will be considered to be in corrective action

f/u: HI to send CA letters out to agencies

7. Next Steps for Implementing new CAN representation and BOS under Reaching Home - tabled

8. CAN Leadership and Coordinated Entry Updates - tabled

9. DOH Updates - tabled

10. Reaching Home Updates - tabled

11. Updates from Opening Doors Fairfield County - tabled

12. RRH Work Group update - tabled

13. Other items/issues

- HUD Family Unification Program - NOFA out, contact Kim Somaroo-Rodriguez, DCF, if you have any interest in applying: S.KIM.SOMAROO@CT.GOV https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/family

14. Next Meeting Dates - All meetings are from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm unless otherwise noted

- June 15, 2018 - Next Semi-annual meeting - YMCA Middletown - 99 Union Ave, Middletown
- July 20, 2018 - CVH, Page Hall, Room 217
- August 17, 2018 - CVH, Page Hall, Room 217
- September 21, 2018