

Somerville-Arlington Homeless Providers Group Agenda

March 15, 2016 - 2-3:30 PM at the Somerville Homeless Coalition

1. Welcome and introductions
2. City of Somerville– brief overview of Somerville programs and services
3. CoC FY2015 – HUD awards to date - This report displays the first tier of homeless assistance projects awarded by HUD’s FY2015 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program competition. Approximately \$1.58 billion is being awarded at this time for new and renewal projects. A second tier of funding will be awarded later this spring.
4. 2/18/16 Elder Homelessness call with State – encourage bringing in Council on Aging, and other elder service providers. Trying to determine data statewide for homeless elders and may be hiring a researcher to assist (in which case would need agreement with each CoC to share data). There is a researcher doing a study on Mass Health with CoCs (Thomas Burn; has not yet been in touch with Somerville-Arlington).
5. Homeless Youth Count Meeting – March 8th at Holy Cross at Worcester (Kelly and Sam Margolius)
 - a. May 2nd – May 15th
 - b. NOFA released 3/14
 - c. Draft Survey
 - d. State releasing RFP within next few weeks
6. Upcoming Meetings
 - a. **March 23rd** – in Worcester statewide CoC (Kelly and Mike from SHC attending) – annual HUD NOFA, use of planning grants, interested in joint advocacy with HUD around time consuming annual application, any CoC mergers, status of CoC on coordinated entry, HomeBase as RRH, and if CoCs should try to continue to meet and if so, who has the capacity to organize the group and meetings.
 - b. **April 5th** meeting at HUD Boston (Kelly, Lisa, and Laura attending) – coordinated assessment, overview of youth homelessness and prioritizing youth homelessness, partnering with Public Housing, Debrief of FY15 NOFA
7. Coordinated Entry Form – thoughts/comments after review last meeting and re-circulation after the meeting?
8. HMIS committee update – met 3/14/16

9. SCC awarded HPSTF funding for 4 units for very low income – MRVP

10. Simtech Contract

11. Homeless Task Force Recommendation to Mayor

Areas of focus for the CoC for 2016 (to be carried on the agenda each month):

1. NOFA review of questions and responses
2. Work collaboratively with all agencies to
3. CoC 101- begin with a survey to gauge understanding & help focus training
4. HMIS data reporting/entry
5. Virtual Gateway
6. Redo Ranking Tool
7. Length of stay as a performance area to focus on
8. Explore criteria to gauge whether a program is the best value to the CoC in light of community need
9. Explore Cambridge model of reallocating supportive service programs to one coordinated entry program.

Next meeting 4/19/16