

Meeting Minutes  
Somerville Arlington Homeless Providers Group Meeting  
June 19, 2018

1. Introductions/Sign in
2. Announcement: [HUD Mainstream Voucher NOFA \(applications due June 18<sup>th</sup>\)](#)

Somerville Housing Authority will be applying, other agencies can also apply  
<http://www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/2017-mainstream-voucher-nofa-resource-page/>

  - New- Ctr for Community Recovery Innovations, Inc. RFP for sober housing
  - NOFA funding available for domestic violence
3. Update on NOFA schedule and process
  - Still waiting- will be shared as soon as it is out
  - Consolidation options are encouraged by HUD
4. Reallocation of funds and any new projects
  - Let CoC know if you are interested
  - Look ahead at how to put toward new projects
    - Respond to all to share plans about whether you intend to reallocate any funding, or not by July 3. Agencies can reallocate all of a project's funding or a portion of it.
  - Agencies are invited to submit concept papers for new projects. The applications could be included in the NOFA application. Heidi will send a template for concept papers out by email and you will find it posted on the City Continuum of Care website. Please share this information with others.
    - Once the NOFA is issued, we will know the deadline date. We expect that it will be due in Sept or Oct.
5. The CoC Planning Grant RFP has been issued.
  - Please share with any consultants that might be interested.
  - Proposals are due June 28.
  - The RFP has been sent to all previous consultants as well.
  - It is posted on city's Purchasing website and link on CoC site to full document.
  - Aiming for Aug 1 start date.
6. VOA Mass – Supportive Services for Veteran Families
  - JD Morales described supportive services that are available from SSVF for referrals which include housing case management, assistance with benefits including VA benefits and other public benefit programs, referrals to

healthcare and counseling and skill development such as employment and budgeting.

- JD is an Outreach Specialist and a Navy veteran.
- [jmorales@voamass.org](mailto:jmorales@voamass.org) or 781.320.2190 or 617.360.1798
- <https://www.voamass.org/our-services/veterans/supportive-services-for-veterans-families/>

#### 7. Discussion of implementation of Coordinated Entry

- To access system- send the referral information to SHC, either by email or call.
- SHC manages the Coordinated Entry By Name list. They also email agencies with there are housing opportunities.
- The intake form will be reshared and posted on the CoC website.
- Street homelessness- SHC conducts outreach for unsheltered.
- 3 of 12 months of homelessness can be self-declared.

#### 8. Update on exploration of CoC merger

Agencies shared their experience of working with other CoCs during the meeting.

- Heading Home and Just a Start gave input.
- Cambridge
  - The CoC operates under a more top down model.
  - The City does less collaboration with agencies.
  - Project rankings are conducted by outside people (independent of CoC).
  - The HIC/PIT count is coordinated by the City.
  - Housing specialist that works with client on search until connected to an agency.
- Balance of State
  - CoC has lots of committees.
  - Inclusive and transparent.
  - Project rankings- committees within CoC w/o projects in the mix. CoC decides metrics as well.
  - Brookline and Malden just joined and not ranked/assessed during transition. But highly recognized as part of group.
  - HMIS data coordinator in CoC that works with agencies.
  - The HIC/PIT count is coordinated across the whole CoC.
  - They have a Coordinated Entry specialist and follow similar procedures to us for Coordinated Entry.
  - 50% of Balance of State agencies' admin funds go to CoC while Somerville-Arlington CoC's agencies keep 100%. Agencies don't think that it's that high; they feel there are more resources and more support provided, while still able to fund needs.

9. Representative on CoC who is homeless or who has a history of homelessness.
  - SHC identified someone from Shelter Plus Care.
  - Will join meeting next month.
  
10. Agency updates and/or announcements
  - SCC has units being worked on so these and others will be shared when available.
  - RRH fact sheet- Lisa to send. Need to do same for prevention funds.
  - HCA- financial workshop tonight and again in September.
  - HMIS conference in Oct. Can use funds from HUD.

Next Meeting: 17 July, 2018