

**Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness  
Service Providers Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

MINUTES

DATE: 1/12/10

START TIME

10:08 AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Joyce Coffee
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	SPC Executive Committee
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Peter Toepfer
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<p>Present: Christine Achre, Kathy Ahler, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen; Mark Bradley, Alvena Clark, Joyce Coffee, Ceandra Daniels, Richard Ducatzenzeiler, Aaron Eckhardt, Eileen Higgins, Bruce Kim, Flora Koppel, Fred Maclin, Felix Matlock, Maura McCauley, Kathleen Molnar, Sanja Stinson, Peter Toepfer, Israel Vargas</p> <p>Absent: Bridgette Baker, Teresa Cortas, Johanna Dalton, Sol Flores, Carlos Freytes, Bill Hayes, Katy Kelleghan, Ellen Ray</p> <p>Alliance Staff: Sherise Alexander, Nicole Prichard</p> <p>Guests: Randall Doubet-King, Jeffrey Kunker, Tedd Peso</p>
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Agenda topics:**

<b>DISCUSSION I</b>	<p>Joyce opened the meeting and all present introduced themselves. <b>The 11/12/09 minutes were approved as written.</b> There was a question as to whether Teresa Cortas had resigned from the Executive Committee. Alliance staff had not heard this and will follow up.</p> <p><u>OPEN SPC SEATS:</u> Fred Maclin was elected to serve as an alternate on the planning council for a 1 year term.</p> <p>The committee will ask the full SPC to elect 3 At-Large SPC Executive Committee Members, 2 SPC Executive Alternates, and 2 At-Large Advocacy Committee Members during the next meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>. All members should make a concerted effort to go back to their constituency groups to recruit interested individuals. An email blast will go out to inform the members of the open seats prior to the February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.</p>
<b>DISCUSSION II</b>	<p><u>CURRENT ISSUES:</u> There were several issues brought up during the last meeting (as well as a few proposed in today's meeting) the SPC wanted to work on moving forward. A discussion around how to prioritize the issues resulted in the following:</p> <p>#1 Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there opportunities for funding in the new capital bill? How can we advocate for our needs in future capital bills? Can we advocate for a homeless set-aside from IHDA? What are our alternatives if state funding continues to be cut? How do we formulate plans in the case of a "doomsday scenario" in the state budget?</li> </ul> <p>#1a Late City/ State Payments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- People are still experiencing late city and state payments.</li> </ul> <p>#1b Conflict between local/national HUD offices on definition of chronic homelessness and other issues with local HUD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Art and Aaron both stated they have had conversations with local HUD representatives who declared that any consumers who utilize interim housing program automatically loses their designation as chronically homeless. As such, they don't qualify for many permanent housing programs with criteria requiring chronic homelessness.</li> <li>- Local HUD has further refined definitions that make chronic homeless definitions stricter than anything published by national HUD.</li> <li>- People would like to know how they are coming up with these definitions and why.</li> <li>- All interim housing programs who receive HUD funding are classified as transitional housing (TH), though there are many interim programs that are not HUD funded.</li> <li>- Art gave the example of the AFC bonus project that has felt restricted by local HUD in trying to fill their units because of the conflicting definitions.</li> <li>- Aaron gave an example of their (non-HUD funded) interim housing consumers who have been denied access to housing due to the new definition.</li> <li>- There was discussion around who should handle this issue. Some possibilities were: Nancy and the Alliance go to</li> </ul>

	<p>HUD, the advocacy committee should handle it, or the Executive Committee bring it to the SPC. Eventually the group decided to bring it to the full SPC. Randall suggested the SPC collect concrete data on who is being affected and what the implications are in case we want to bring a complaint to someone with leverage at national HUD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There was a suggestion to ask a HUD representative to come to an SPC meeting to address the issue. Sherise reminded the group that even as we advocate for our needs, we should try to maintain a positive working relationship with local HUD.</li> </ul> <p>#1c Clearly define program types</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Since part of the issue above is that HUD does not seem to understand how our different program types work and therefore it becomes a funding issue, we should work to clearly define them.</li> </ul> <p>#2a Follow up on HEARTH Act changes to the system, which begin in 2011. This may be a good topic for a special full SPC meeting later in the year.</p> <p>#2b Healthcare reform's impact on the CoC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This also may be a good topic for a special full SPC meeting later in the year if/when an actual bill is passed and signed into law. We may want to designate certain people who are specifically affected as ones who will report on issues.</li> <li>- There was also a concern raised about why we aren't attracting more people to full SPC. There was agreement that we should work to increase attendance and attract new members. Sherise mentioned that there were multiple seats open during the last election, but there were not enough nominations to fill the vacant positions. She did not want to speculate on why this happened.</li> <li>- Fred encouraged everyone to make personal appeals for new people to get involved. He stated a personal request was how he first became involved. He suggested everyone on the executive committee reach out to their constituency groups or anyone else who might join. Finally there was a suggestion to let people know ahead of time that elections are happening at the full SPC meeting and to be prepared (this could possibly happen in a special email with only that information).</li> </ul>
DISCUSSION III	<p><u>Draft SPC Agenda:</u> The next full SPC meeting will occur on Tuesday 2/9 @ Interfaith Council for the Homeless, 642 N. Kedzie <b>The group discussed and finalized the agenda for the full SPC meeting next month. See below.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Introductions</li> <li>II. Reminder on SPC rights/responsibilities</li> <li>III. Current Issues Discussion</li> <li>IV. Fill Open SPC seats       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 At large SPC Executive Committee seats</li> <li>- 2 SPC Executive Committee alternates</li> <li>- 2 At large advocacy committee seats</li> </ul> </li> <li>V. Updates and Reports       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alliance board</li> <li>- Advocacy</li> <li>- Plan advisory</li> <li>- Planning council</li> </ul> </li> <li>VI. Discussion about Quarterly HMIS Reports</li> <li>VII. Adjourn</li> </ol>
DISCUSSION IV	<p><u>REPORTS:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Alliance Board – given by Arturo Bendixen       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The board of directors of the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness is a legal entity that governs the Alliance as an organization. It provides oversight for the Alliance and evaluates the CEO's performance. It is made up of community and corporate leaders, 2 elected providers (Audrey Thomas and Arturo Bendixen), and 2 consumers (Lonnie Fulton and Dorothy Yancy).</li> <li>- In their last meeting in December the board debriefed on the breakfast with the mayor. There was much positive feedback. Certain board members made large contributions to underwrite the event.</li> <li>- The board was briefed on how the Alliance operates and how the different funding streams work.</li> <li>- The board approved the 2010 work plan for Alliance, which the SPC Executive Committee Members received as a draft copy in the last meeting.</li> <li>- The financial position of the Alliance generally looks good although there are some challenges.</li> <li>- An Ad Hoc Organizational Committee made up of 6 board members formed to examine the at HEARTH Act's changes for how funds are allocated and distributed by HUD.</li> <li>- They came up with 4 possibilities to explore as the HEARTH Act goes into effect:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A merger between Chicago and metropolitan/suburban continua.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>

2. The Alliance assumes the role the City of Chicago currently holds with HMIS and homeless implementation.
  3. The Alliance becomes the local entity designated as the "consolidated applicant" for HUD funds. The Alliance is already doing a lot of the work this would require. A change would be that 3% of HUD money would be tied to this responsibility to help pay for administration costs. It would go directly to the Alliance for operations and would not be taken away from overall pot of money.
  4. The Alliance could administer all \$45M of HUD funds coming to Chicago by become the "unified funding agency." They would be the grantee for the funds and all agencies would be subgrantees. In this case agencies would not deal with local HUD, only the Alliance. There would be no local HUD for Chicago and local HUD would only do the job for continua not becoming a "unified funding agency." The City of Chicago would also not have their current role of direct grantee for these HUD funds under this possibility. They may still facilitate the Shelter Plus Care grants they hold. The Alliance would hold the legal responsibility and monitoring duties in this scenario.
- The next Alliance Board meeting is in March.

II. Advocacy Committee: - Given by Tedd Peso

Tedd passed out a worksheet outlining the accomplishments, ongoing priorities and new priorities for the Advocacy Committee in 2010. He highlighted the Federal, State and Local priorities which include:

Federal

- Advocating around the implementation of HEARTH Act regulations
- Participating in national campaign for homeless youth housing
- Advocating for Increased resources for homeless veterans

State

- Participate in Responsible Budget Coalition to ensure funding for human services

Local

- Ensure accurate count of people who are homeless within institutions and work with the Discharge Planning Committee
- Ensure the Census accurately counts people who are homeless
- Participate in the development of a Cook Co. Prostitution Court

He encouraged everyone to call their state reps on Wed 1/13 to advocate for no cuts to human services

III. Planning Council: Given by Ceandra Daniels

- An updated Program Models chart has been completed
- They are working on an implementation schedule for Plan. There was an older one which was not followed. It needs to be updated.
- Agencies will be evaluated differently through the NOFA Evaluation Tool for HMIS use. They will now need to submit reports on quarterly basis in order to receive points. They will receive points each quarter if the reports are correct and accurate. This measure was approved 6 months ago, but there has been no follow up and no reports have been sent yet. Agencies may have to back date and send reports to the City. The goal of this is to improve the quality of data and the continuum's score on the NOFA.
- This announcement led to a lengthy discussion about this proposal and how this was the first people in the room had heard of it. There were comments about major conflict between provider reports and City HMIS reports. People complained the City had HMIS trainings for running ARTS reports, but only one person could come from an agency and that is the only person who has a license to run the report. Eileen Higgins noted she worked with Dupage and Evanston Service Point systems and they did not have anywhere near the problems the Chicago has. There was a suggestion to take this HMIS committee. Reportedly both they and planning council are asking for an HMIS training budget, but have not received one for over a year. There was also a suggestion for more people to join the HMIS committee to help work on these issues.

DISCUSSION V

NOFA Update

The 2009 NOFA is closed and all projects sent in were renewed. We are still waiting for overall Exhibit 1 scores. The new bonus project contingent on meeting the threshold score (compared with other national continua). The Evaluation Tool subcommittee is starting to meet to design this year's evaluation tool.

Next meetings DATES for the Executive Committee are: March 9, May 11, July 13, September 8, November 9.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:44 AM

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Peter Toepfer

Service Providers Commission Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: 3/9/2010

START TIME: 10:03

MEETING CALLED BY	Michael Banghart
TYPE OF MEETING	Service Providers Commission Executive Committee
NOTE TAKER	Peter Toepfer
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Present:</b> Kathy Ahler, Tina Austin, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen, Mark Bradley, Kenneth Burnett, Alvena Clark, Joyce Coffee, Richard Ducatenzeiler, Aaron Eckhardt, Sol Flores, Carlos Freytes, Eileen Higgins, Megan LaFrombois, Fred Maclin, Tammy Morrero, Felix Matlock, Maura McCauley, Kathleen Molnar, Edgelle Pettigrew, Ellen Ray, Sanja Stinson, Peter Toepfer, Israel Vargas,</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Christine Achre, Johanna Dalton, Ceandra Daniels, Bill Hayes, Katy Kelleghan, Flora Koppel, Shannon Stewart</p>
QUORUM?	Yes

Agenda topics

WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p><b>I. Introductions and Rounds</b> - All members introduced themselves. There were several newly elected members and alternates in attendance.</p> <p><b>II. Approval of Minutes</b> - The minutes from the last meeting were approved as written.</p> <p>At the end of the meeting during the “announcements” portion of the agenda, the committee will have collaboration time to network and discuss specific issues which may not pertain to the whole group.</p>
CURRENT ISSUES DISCUSSION	<p><b>III. Current Issues</b></p> <p>The last SPC Executive Committee meeting included a discussing of several current issues, which were then brought to last month’s full SPC meeting. The Full SPC identified some additional issues. The issues were broken into two main categories: Funding or Systems Coordination. Michael Banghart suggested that as the group discusses the issues we ask ourselves three questions about each:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Is this being addressed by someone else?</li> <li>2) Can this group address it?</li> <li>3) Is the group going to identify it as a priority?</li> </ol> <p><u>Funding</u></p> <p><b>Capital Bill</b> *INCLUDED as priority</p> <p>The advocacy committee worked hard on this issue last year and as a result affordable housing was included in this year’s capital bill, which was a major victory. Although the bill passed it is not funded for this year as of yet. It was suggested that although it was passed for 2010, we should think about 2011 and work toward more inclusions that will benefit service providers.</p> <p>Sol Flores recommended that if we are to build a power base we need to organize. She felt it would be worthwhile to add interim and emergency housing funding to a capital bill. She was concerned that developers might get the money set aside for affordable housing. She cited UNO and the Latino Policy Forum as examples of groups who had big wins last year in the capital budget and mentioned how they hired lobbyists.</p> <p>The group decided to send representatives to the Regional Roundtable meetings, which includes the collar counties outside of Cook. Springfield often has a bias against Chicago and collaborating with the suburban counties would be a way to strengthen our message. Several members agreed to attend and be representatives for the SPC. These members planned to connect with the Supportive Housing Providers Association (SHPA) and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to get on the agenda of the next Regional Roundtable.</p> <p>There was a discussion about letting the advocacy committee take on the issue , however eventually there was consensus that the Executive committee should participate too because the advocacy has</p>

have a more specific focus.

**Homeless Set Aside from IHDA? \*INCLUDED as a priority**

IDHA posted a request for some of their units to be set aside for people who are homeless. There was a comment period which is closed now. Members were unsure of the outcome of this comment period. It was agreed to try to get a homeless set aside included in the future. They do not provide services dollars, just capital funding.

There is a new secretary at IHDA and a working group formed to schedule a meeting with her to outline our needs and requests. The group will keep the Executive Committee informed on its progress.

**Doomsday Alternatives \*INCLUDED as a priority because of agency participation in 3/24/10 Housing Advocacy Day.**

The Advocacy Committee partnered with the Responsible Budget Coalition to work for a state budget that includes the needs of social service providers. The RBC is an umbrella for many organizations and interests concerned with the state budget.

This year's Housing Advocacy Day is 3/24 ("We Can't Wait for Housing"). There is going to be advocacy both in Springfield and as a state-wide call-in day. 7 agencies on the Executive Committee are sending staff or consumers to Springfield. If your agency is not able to send representatives to Springfield, you can still organize at your agency for the call-in day, as it is important to make as much noise as possible. A suggestion was made that when Nicole Amling sends out emails about actions for the Advocacy Day, please DO them. There is a link in last e-update about the "We Can't Wait for Housing" campaign.

**Parking Meter Money \*NOT included as a priority**

A total of \$2.4M of parking meter money will be set aside for homeless programs. \$700,000 is for emergency shelter and the rest is for the Plan to End Homelessness, which probably will be released through DFSS with an RFP. There is a question about whether this money will be available in the May RFP process from DFSS. Agencies concerned about this issue will meet during collaboration time today at the end of the meeting. The Plan Advisory Committee will work on this issue and will report back to the Executive Committee.

**Assistance to the Aged Blind and Disabled**

See the chronically homeless section below.

**Late payments**

Discussed with Capital Bill/Doomsday Alternatives sections above.

System Coordination

**Definition of Chronically Homeless\*INCLUDED as a priority**

The City model has come out and lists Interim Housing as supportive housing and NOT emergency shelter. People who are in Interim Housing automatically lose their chronically homeless designation. Nicole P. and Amanda are working on it and will have an update by next meeting. Interested agencies will meet during collaboration time as well.

**Clearly define program types**

Included with above Definition of Chronically Homeless section.

**Definition of Wraparound**

We will wait on a report back from constituency groups.

**Commissioner\*NOT included as a priority**

Mary Ellen Caron is the Commissioner for DFSS homeless programs. Nancy Radner met with Rick Estrada, the 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Commissioner who oversees all programs, last month. She stated it was a productive meeting and that he would be a helpful contact.

It was also noted that Arlene Ortiz is the deputy commissioner for the aging.

**Mercedes Marquez\*NOT included as a priority**

She is a good contact at National HUD. Arturo Bendixen and Nancy Radner will stay on top of the work she is doing and networking with her. There is a demonstration project in the president's proposed

budget linking HUD Sec. 8 with Health and Human Services (HHS) service dollars as well as Department of Education programs partnering with HUD.

**Holes in Programs\***INCLUDED as a priority (educational forum)

There was a discussion about how many of the gaps between programs are being addressed by HPRP. HPRP is meant for those who fall through the cracks and serves as a bridge between programs. The HPRP programs will be part of the educational forums for the full SPC (probably in mid august). Chicago has most liberal definition of who can be helped under HPRP funds when compared nationally

**Stimulus Money Time Limited\***NOT included as a priority

Although the stimulus money is time sensitive, much of it may become part of the HEARTH Act. The Chicago Community Trust is convening a forum about the stimulus “cliff,” including CSBG, mental health, work force (not part of HEARTH), youth programs.

**HEARTH Act\***NOT included as a priority

HMV is looking studying the Hearth and will report back. It looks like the allocation for administrative money will be more like 8% of the grant , which is still an increase, though nothing is final. We should know for sure in July once allocation is finalized.

**Healthcare\***NOT included as a priority

We will keep it on radar until there is something more concrete to discuss from Washington.

**HMIS\***INCLUDED as a priority

The HMIS Forum is happening at the Federal Reserve Bank next week. We will discuss HMIS further after the forum at the next Exec. Committee meeting.

**Ranking policies\***INCLUDED as a priority

Last year HUD eliminated housing to services ratio as a priority for renewal projects. New projects must have a low housing to services ratio to be considered. Housing to services ratio is still in the evaluation tool instrument as a priority, though the points are less. The Planning Council still needs to approve the current evaluation tool and sets the ranking policy. Currently, SSOs are still at risk based on the current ranking policies, particularly if HUD removes the stipulation that money cannot be reallocated from a defunded program. Advocacy needs to be done to the Planning Council to let them know our position as their next meeting is wed. 3/17.

Aaron Eckhart introduced a motion to “instruct SPC Planning Council representative that the SPC recommends the housing to services ratio priority be eliminated from evaluation tool as it is no longer a priority for HUD.”

The motion **passed** as follows:

For – 22

Abstain - 1

Peter Toepfer introduced a motion to “instruct SPC Planning Council representative that the SPC recommends eliminating prioritization of program types in the ranking policy.”

The motion **passed** as follows:

For – 10

Opposed – 1

Abstain – 8

**IV. Discussion of the Work of Alliance Committees**

**Advocacy – Nicole Prichard**

There is a big push before the “We Can’t Wait for Housing” lobby day on 3/24 in Springfield accompanied by the call in day. Please post the flyer at your agency and email Nicole Amling for more information.

**Plan Advisory – Ann Marie Grimberg**

They are looking at the priorities of the Plan to End Homelessness. They are investigating 11 different areas and have asked constituency groups to look at them as well. All constituency groups are asked to give their feedback. The priorities they are currently looking at are 1) Housing first and 2) Coordinated resource development. Please contact Ann Marie Grimberg to give your feedback or for more information at [AMGrimberg@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:AMGrimberg@heartlandalliance.org)

ALLIANCE  
COMMITTEE  
WORK  
DISCUSSION

**ALLIANCE  
UPDATES,  
GROUP  
ANNOUNCEMENTS, &  
BREAKOUT  
MEETINGS**

**IV. HMIS Forum**

The HMIS Forum is happening at 9am on 3/15/10 at the Federal Reserve Bank. Each agency is asked to send one person to represent them. Be sure to RSVP because it will be required for security at the Federal Reserve. This is an opportunity to gather feedback that will eventually be compiled and given to the City.

**V. Census Training:**

The Census Training occurred last week at the Willis Tower and was a success. The power point is available on the Chicago Alliance website. All agencies should be participating in the Census and it is essential for future funding. Please contact Nicole Amling with questions.

**VI. Announcements**

An ordinance will be introduced at the 3/10 City Council Hearing which will propose setting aside 20% of Tax Increment Finance (TIF) funds for affordable housing. There will be a rally outside the city council chambers at 9am and then the hearing will begin at 10am. Many different community groups will be there to support this ordinance.

There is also discussion about an ordinance mandating big box stores that use TIF dollars pay a living wage.

Collaboration/Breakout meetings started at 11:40a. Four separate groups met:

- 1) Capital Bill
- 2) Chronic Homeless Definition
- 3) Parking Meter Money
- 4)HMIS

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:**

**APPROVED BY:**

11:40am

Peter Toepfer

Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness

Minutes

Date: 5.11.2010

START TIME: 10:03

MEETING CALLED BY	Michael Banghart
TYPE OF MEETING	Service Providers Commission Executive Committee
NOTE TAKER	Peter Toepfer
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Present:</b> Christine Achre, Kathy Ahler, Tina Austin, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen, Kenneth Burnett, Alvena Clark, Ceandra Daniels, Richard Ducatenzeiler, Aaron Eckhardt, Carlos Freytes, Eileen Higgins, Megan LaFrombois, Katy Kelleghan, Fred Maclin, Tammy Marrero, Maura McCauley, Kathleen Molnar, Edgelle Pettigrew, Kathy Ragnar, Ellen Ray, Sherri Allen Reeves, Shannon Stewart, Sanja Stinson, Peter Toepfer, Israel Vargas, and Johanna Dalton was present as an alternate for Mark Bradley</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Joyce Coffee, Sol Flores, Flora Koppel, Felix Matlock</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> Sherise Alexander, Nicole Prichard, Nancy Radner, Nicole Amling</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Tedd Peso, Susan Reyna, Audrey Thomas</p>
QUORUM	Yes

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION I	<p><b>Introductions and Rounds</b> - All members introduced themselves.</p> <p><b>Approval of Minutes</b> - The minutes were amended to reflect Sherri Reeves as present for the last meeting. The minutes were then approved.</p>
DISCUSSION II	<p><b>Discussion and Reports</b></p> <p><u>Planning Council</u> – Michael Banghart          The Planning Council’s most recent meeting was on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The SPC representatives on the council made an error in the last meeting and apologized to the Executive Committee. They apologized for not presenting to the council the Executive Committee’s position (based on a vote) about removing the housing to services ratio priority from the Evaluation Tool. They agreed to take steps to ensure they are representing the Executive Committee’s position in the future.</p> <p>The issue of eliminating prioritization of program types in the ranking policy was not brought up at the meeting because it was not on agenda. It will be on the agenda once the NOFA is released.</p> <p>The Planning Council approved the 2010 Evaluation Tool Priorities as presented by Andrea Dakin from the HMV committee. There were significant changes from last year. The HMIS priority increased by 7 points to 16 total. There was a decrease in points in the housing to services ratio priority. The leveraged</p>

resources priority decreased by 3 points and now agencies only need to include their leverage as projected for the next year. Flexible Services priority decreased by 2 points while the Continuous Quality Improvement increased by 2 points.

HMV will be reviewing a local evaluation tool for HMIS, which the city is in the process of completing. It will be included in the report that is forthcoming from the HMIS forum. Nancy Radner finally received the HMIS budget from city. It will be reviewed for the report as well. The report will include an emphasis on continuous training and technical assistance.

The Planning Council approved the revised program models chart that will be released with the highlighted changes. They approved a ranking policies task group that included 2 service providers. The ranking policies will not be applicable until the new NOFA is released. At that time, the task group will discuss eliminating ranking by project type. They also approved a slate for the panel reviewing new projects.

Finally, they discussed a new policy by DCFS where they will reopen cases for youth who have aged out, but are still under 21 and are in need of services.

#### Chicago Alliance Board Meeting – Audrey Thomas

The last Board meeting was March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The board reviewed the FY 2009 financials. They also selected Washington, Pittman & McKeever as their auditor. Robin Snyderman, Vice President of Development for the Metropolitan Planning Council, gave a presentation. Audrey Thomas gave a presentation on moving someone into a Supportive Housing Program unit from a waiting list. The purpose was to describe what the process looks like for an individual. The board discussed growth scenarios for the Alliance, specifically becoming the HUD Consolidated Applicant and becoming the Unified Funding Agency for Chicago. They need to do a cost benefit analysis before making further decisions. They also discussed how the Alliance could have greater impact on HMIS. Their next meeting is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Advocacy Committee – Tedd Peso

On March 24, the Advocacy Committee will be having the “We Can’t Wait for Housing” event in Springfield. There will be a forum in the morning and advocacy members will meet with legislators afterward. Service providers made 33 calls to their legislators encouraging support for HB 174, which would prevent drastic cuts to service providers. Unfortunately, the legislators adjourned their session without a budget. They may come back before the end of the month, but it is not likely.

Sen. Dick Durbin signed on to a letter supporting an increase in federal McKinney-Vento funding.

#### Plan Advisory Committee – Aaron Eckhart

PAC is looking at the priorities of the Plan to End Homelessness. They have completed their review of 7 priorities (of 11). They are currently reviewing: wrap around, mainstream resources, training & technical assistance, policy & advocacy. Once the review is done, they will identify the primary priorities on which to focus.

Christine George from Loyola will be spearheading a formal evaluation of the Plan to End Homelessness. It will include focus groups with consumers, a series of observations on the system (311) and a

longitudinal study 550 households of consumers who have been homeless. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the evaluation is completed. The Plan is scheduled to end in one year.

NOFA and HMIS – Nicole Prichard

The Evaluation Tool is due by 5pm Friday 5/14. If submitted after the deadline, projects will be put at bottom of the list and will be defunded. The registration period is beginning for e-snaps. The NOFA will not be released until mid-June at the earliest, according to HUD. By end of June, the Alliance will know if Chicago ranked above the funding line and as such, whether we qualify for a bonus project. HUD stated bonus projects do not have to be only for the chronically homeless and is encouraging continuums to submit projects for homeless veterans. HUD is allowing re-allocation this year for projects under threshold and at the bottom of the ranking, and the Planning Council may consider cutting programs ranking in the bottom 5%.

The Alliance released a preliminary report from the HMIS forum (10pgs) and everyone is encouraged to read it. The report outlines problems and proposes potential solutions. Alliance staff met with the city before releasing report and it was well received. They are committed to trying to make the changes suggested. The final forum report will also include the HMIS evaluation tool results, which the city is working on right now.

The HMIS system will upgrade to Service Point 5.0 in January 2011. This upgrade may include some of the changes suggested in the report.

Alliance staff and the HMIS committee will be working with city on the upgrade roll out to make sure it as seamless as possible. The Director of the Dept. of Information Technology Services assured the Alliance that the roll out would not be anything like the transition to the Service Point system because it was simply an upgrade.

Samaritan Bonus Project – Arturo Bendixen

The 195 units of the Bonus project are nearly at capacity. All the units are housing first and harm reduction. They were able to use stimulus money for outreach in recruiting and filling the units.

**Review of Current Issues**

HEARTH Act – Nicole Amling

Nicole Amling reported the first wave of HEARTH regulations has come out and are open to public comment. A synopsis of proposed rules was passed out and everyone is welcome to comment at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). Some of the important rule changes with HEARTH include changes to homeless definition, which expand the number of people to be included. Two new categories include: 1) an individual spending 90 days or less in an institution and were homeless before entering the institution; 2) families or individuals becoming homeless in 14 days. These situations can be recorded from oral explanations and then verified by a case worker. Nicole also explained how the homeless definition expanded (see sheet).

There was a discussion about advocating for less documentation and paperwork because the paperwork often creates more barriers to getting people housed. Several members talked about submitting a possible form for documenting and verifying homelessness.

DISCUSSION III

The group discussed having HEARTH as educational forum in Aug. or Oct. for the full SPC. This will be decided at the July Executive Committee meeting.

Capital Bill – Nancy Radner

A bill passed the state legislature last year that includes affordable housing, but there is no funding allocated for it. Sol and Nancy met with Silvia Puente of the Latino Policy Forum to discuss how to get projects funded in a capital bill. She reported that to get something passed, you need to have a consistent presence in Springfield, build relationships with state senators, keep monitoring what they are doing and invite representatives to come see your services. The Alliance has a goal to at some point have staff in Springfield to advocate for homeless services. Nancy is still planning to have a meeting with new director of IDHA.

Parking Meter Money – Nancy Radner

\$2.4 million was set aside for homeless services, but people are not sure when or how it will be available. During a meeting Ric Estrada, the First Deputy Commissioner of DFSS, he showed responsiveness to homelessness and indicated there was room for dialogue on parking meters. The money was not in the RFP released by DFSS, as some had speculated. Nancy suggested taking the PAC priorities for Plan to End homelessness to the city and advocate using parking meter money to fund those priorities. Part of the discussion with Ric Estrada and Debra Janiszewski included systems coordination with city. They were open to the idea and admitted they were still struggling with reorganization, but were working to get back on track. Those who attended the meeting felt like it was productive and that it felt like more of a partnership where service providers had input.

Chronic Homeless Definition – Nicole Prichard

Nicole and Amanda Becker-Carlisle spoke with HUD and Betsy Benito about the confusion around the chronic homeless definition. Based on the Plan to End Homelessness priorities, the city is currently trying to convert emergency shelters into interim housing programs. Many have already been converted. HUD generally sees all people in interim housing as in transitional housing. People in transitional housing are not chronically homeless under HUD definition. The confusion is that many Chicago interim housing programs are not HUD funded nor are they transitional housing. As such, HUD will look at IH programs on case by case basis to see if they are shelter or a transitional housing facility. Supposedly, each facility will be visited and looked at by HUD site visit. Agencies should email the Alliance if they think their program is an emergency shelter rather than transitional housing. Amanda Becker Carlisle will go to IH Constituency Group meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Aaron stated all non-HUD funded IH should be on the list that HUD is making. Eileen Higgins stated Catholic Charities recently had a program reviewed which received ESG funding and HUD stated they could no longer use the funds for scattered site units, despite having done so for 20 years. They cited the key issues as communal living and how the lease is paid, which Eileen suggested would be part of the criteria in determining whether or not a program is transitional housing.

Other

The next SPC Executive Committee Meeting has to be rescheduled due to the National Alliance to End Homeless Conference at the same time. Alliance staff will send out a Google invite to determine the best date. The attendance policy is not in effect for the next meeting due to the reschedule.

ADJOURNMENT:	MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	APPROVED BY:
11:49am	Peter Toepfer	



Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness

Minutes

Date: 9/8/2010

START TIME: 10:00

MEETING CALLED BY	Joyce Coffee
TYPE OF MEETING	Service Providers Commission Executive Committee
NOTE TAKER	Peter Toepfer
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Present:</b> Kathy Ahler, Tina Austin, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen, Mark Bradley, Alvena Clark, Joyce Coffee, Richard Ducatenzeiler, Aaron Eckhardt, Sol Flores, Katy Kelleghan, Flora Koppel, Megan LaFrombois, Fred Maclin, Kathleen Molnar, Sherri Allen-Reeves, Sanja Stinson, Peter Toepfer</p> <p><b>Alternates Present:</b> Johanna Dalton, Ceandra Daniels, Tammy Marrero, Ellen Ray, Shannon Stewart</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Christine Achre, Kenneth Burnett, Carlos Freytes, Bill Hayes, Eileen Higgins, Felix Matlock, Maura McCauley, Edgelle Pettigrew, Kathy Ragnar, Israel Vargas</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> Sherise Alexander, Nancy Radner, Nicole Prichard</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Britt Shawver (Planning Council), Josh Serlin, Tim Soderlund, Andrea Dakin, Randall Doubet-King, Kimberly Crawford, Daniel Pasquin</p>
QUORUM?	Yes

Agenda topics

INTRODUCTION & ROUNDS; APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p><b>I. Introductions and Rounds</b> - All members introduced themselves.</p> <p><b>II. Approval of Minutes</b> - The minutes were approved as written.</p>
100,000 HOMES	<p><b>III. 100,000 Homes Campaign</b>— Arturo Bendixen, Meghan LaFrombois, Peter Toepfer While it was tough getting up early at 2:30am, the campaign was a major success. There was a nice mix of service providers and volunteers from the community and most people contacted were very willing to participate in the survey. Art encountered a pregnant woman on the streets and hoped she would be housed quickly due to her condition. Many people surveyed asked about the type of housing available to them and participants were glad to say there would be a variety of housing first and harm reduction housing, which meant people would have access to flexible, low-barrier housing. Participants who were bilingual reported a high number of monolingual Spanish speakers who needed the survey administered in Spanish. The survey and identification effort was a great first step and now the hard work of getting people housed begins. The 629 people surveyed was the highest number in any city since the 100,000 Homes Campaign began and reflects the strong organization of Chicago’s effort. With the positive work done, hopefully more housing units can be lined up to meet the need of the vulnerable individuals and families.</p>
MEETING WITH IDHA SECRETARY	<p><b>IV. Report on Meeting with IDHA Secretary Gloria Materre</b> – Michael Banghart and Nancy Radner IDHA provides funds to develop affordable housing for individuals and multi-unit buildings through grants and tax credits. The group who met with Gloria Materre and her staff advocated for more special populations (disabled, homeless, supportive services) housing. IDHA’s response was that they created such programs in the past, but they were underutilized so they stopped doing so. Instead they now award points in the bidding process for developments with special needs populations. There is a state plan to use IDHA money for people exiting nursing homes who do not need to be there. No more than 25% of the capital bill money will go to the nursing home program and this money will be diverted to other programs for vets, homeless, disabled, and supportive services.</p>

	<p>The total amount of the capital bill is \$43 million/year for three years. The group confirmed with IDHA that modifying selection criteria for housing programs due to the 100,000 Homes Campaign was acceptable. Sol Flores mentioned that at one point IDHA stated FEMA and Katrina emergency money would be available for SHP programs, however, this was not communicated to the group before the trip and neither side mentioned it during the meeting with the secretary. Generally, the group felt that IDHA took the SPC concerns seriously based on the fact that there were so many high ranking people from IDHA present, however, they also came away feeling IDHA was not interested in anything other than business as usual. The group was trying to make the case that supporting supportive housing programs is similar to what they are doing with the nursing home program due to the cost efficiency and savings in other areas (healthcare, corrections, etc.). They listened to this argument, but did not want to make any changes. IDHA will be at the peer to peer conference in Springfield and the group thought this would be another opportunity to advocate for our interests.</p>
<p><b>HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAID</b></p>	<p><b><u>V. Health Care Reform and Medicaid</u></b> - Nancy Radner</p> <p>The US Interagency Council on Homelessness national plan includes much language around health care reform. Here in Chicago Heartland Health Outreach (HHO), AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC), and Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) have already been working on programs and studies demonstrating the link between SHP and Medicaid savings. Former representative Julie Hamos is the point person for coordinating the health care reform in Illinois. There is a scheduled 10/18 meeting on advocating Medicaid pay for supportive services. The argument for this is SHP will save healthcare money and as such should be funded partially through Medicaid dollars. Chicago has done several research studies (CHHP and frequent users) that strongly support these findings.</p> <p>Right now HHO is the only organization certified for Medicaid billing. Flora Koppel is trying to get Unity Parenting certified for Medicaid billing and anticipates this process will take 6 months.</p> <p>Nancy did a short informal survey asking the following questions:</p> <p>What percentage of your clients have Medicaid?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The group estimated 75% of clients have Medicaid. However, the group emphasized that people enrolled in Medicaid are usually those with SSI or other public benefits and that very few without those benefits get approved for Medicaid.</li> </ul> <p>What services do people who do not have Medicaid use?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The group answered that most use emergency rooms and that without insurance there is not access to mental health services, particularly with the recent state budget cuts.</li> </ul> <p>What services do you have difficulty paying for?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The group answered that dental, substance use, and mental health services are very difficult to pay for.</li> </ul> <p>How often do clients receive emergency services when not on Medicaid?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Often.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that some clients avoid healthcare altogether in order to avoid the Medicaid system.</p> <p>Nancy noted that If navigating the healthcare system is so complicated for service providers, how complicated it must be for the population we are serving.</p>
<p><b>VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE</b></p>	<p><b><u>VI. Veterans Employment and Training</u></b> – Tim Soderlund</p> <p>Mr. Soderlund works for as the Assistant Director for the US Department of Labor Veterans’ Employment and Training Service. He came to talk about the Homeless Veterans Rehabilitation Program (HVRP). He mentioned this is a great program that is currently is underutilized. The program provides supportive services for veterans who are homeless, living in emergency shelters and have a non-dishonorable discharge. The program is meant to help prepare the veterans for re-entry into the workforce and works with them on housing, job readiness and job placement. Once enrolled in the program, veterans are eligible for 1.5 years of services including care fare, interview clothing, case management, job interview practice and re-employment.</p> <p>Currently, Inner Voice and the Volunteers of American administer these programs. VOA specifically works with women and children. If people are interested in referring someone to the program, please contact Deborah Randall at Inner Voice. She can be reached at (312) 226-2730 Ext. 13.</p>

<p>BACK ON MY FEET</p>	<p><b>VII. Back on My Feet</b> - Josh Serlin  Back on My Feet is an organization that started in Philadelphia and has since expanded to several cities around the country. The program uses running as a medium for higher goals - such as team building, socializing, and accountability – for people experiencing homelessness. The program organizes running teams with homeless shelters for runs 3 days/week (MWF at 5:45am). It also provides new gear for running (shoes, clothes) and continues year round. There is a 2:1 ratio of residential to non-residential people. The non-residential people are mostly volunteers who supervise the running groups. After someone completes one month with 90% attendance, the program links him/her with other services including GED programs, job training, etc. There is a grant of up to \$1,250 for a person in the program for 9 months. Also, speed and mobility is not an issue with the program. In fact, you can walk if you need to walk. The program is more a matter of showing up and committing oneself 3x/week.</p> <p>A comment was made for the program to consider expanding the eligibility criteria to drop-in centers, SHP (scattered site), and youth in transitional housing.  For more information, contact <a href="mailto:josh@backonmyfeet.org">josh@backonmyfeet.org</a></p>
<p>SPC ELECTIONS</p>	<p><b>VIII. SPC Elections-</b> Sherise Alexander  Sherise mentioned we are midway through this year’s SPC election process. Voting ends 9/14/10. So far only 15 out of 80 organizations have voted. Also, upcoming are nominations for 2 SPC representatives on the Planning Council’s executive committee. There are at-large and secretary positions vacant.</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENT</p>	<p><b>IX. Announcements</b></p> <p><b>A. Consumers Commission Town Hall</b> – Sherise Alexander  The Consumers Commission Town Hall is scheduled for Monday 10/4 from 9-12pm at Catholic Charities. There is a flyer in your packet. At the town hall, consumers will bring different issues to the table and try to recruit new consumers commission members. They are hoping to expand the commission. Anyone who is a current or past consumer of the homeless system, including agency employees, is eligible for the commission. Sherise is asking agencies to send consumers to the town hall meeting. People who are interested in the commission can first go to town hall meeting and then follow up with an orientation session. There is a stipend for elected members of the commission.</p> <p><b>B. Membership Dues</b> – Joyce Coffee  Letters about membership dues for the Alliance will be sent shortly. If you value the Alliance and the work it does, please respond quickly to the letters and continue to be part of the Alliance. Dues are based on agency budgets.</p> <p><b>C. Rescheduling of Statewide Provider Database Training</b> – Sherise Alexander  During the last full SPC meeting, the trainer from the city did not appear as scheduled. The database is still valuable information and the Alliance will let everyone know when a training is rescheduled.</p> <p><b>D. Homeless Action Committee – Video on Engagement</b> – Meghan LaFrombois and Michael Banghart  HAC created a video on how to engage people who are homeless living with mental illnesses. The video can be accessed at <a href="http://hacchicago.org">hacchicago.org</a>. The video is a series of 6 vignettes for a total of 42 minutes and follows someone from the streets to housing. The vignettes can be viewed separately and still be effective. There are also discussion points on the website. HAC asked if everyone would please view the video and give feedback by emailing Meghan at <a href="mailto:mlafrombois@heartlandalliance.org">mlafrombois@heartlandalliance.org</a>. HAC asked what people thought would be the best way to distribute the video because it is meant for everyone, not just homeless service providers. People mentioned they have used it with new agency hires and it has been effective. There were suggestions to show it at DFSS, the police academy, and churches.</p> <p><b>E. Homelessness and Aging</b> – Nancy Radner  Nancy asked what resources we can bring to the system that are age specific as follow up to the study on the aging homeless population. She suggested forming a working group to determine what we need to guide this work.</p>

**F. Samaritan Housing Program – Arturo Bendixen**

150 of 195 apartments have been filled as part of the program. 20 are being reserved for the 100,000 Homes Campaign participants and 25 are reserved for the Hospital to Housing Program, which means that the program is essentially at capacity at the moment. In the near future AFC will do follow up with agencies on where people who were referred are housed and how they are doing.

**G. Unified Funding Agency (UFA) and HMIS – Nancy Radner**

3 regulations will be forthcoming from HUD which will impact the Alliance’s continued consideration of becoming the UFA for Chicago:

- a. How to handle ESG (emergency solutions grants)
- b. Organization of continua
- c. HMIS

Thus far the homeless definition is the only regulation that has been released. There is a scheduled conference next week for the heads of continua and ESG, however, regulations are not out yet so the conference discussions will not be concrete.

F. November 9<sup>th</sup> is the next SPC Executive Committee Meeting. We are still waiting to schedule the next full SPC meeting.

**G. Other**

Renaissance Social Services Inc. (RSSI) was awarded a SAMSHA grant for housing with intensive supportive services for people who are homeless and dually diagnosed with mental health and substance use disorders. The project is for 60 people. RSSI is currently accepting applications for the project. More information is on their website.

They also have openings at a program located at 53<sup>rd</sup> and Calumet for senior housing. There are 70 one bedroom units as well as and regular SHP units.

Family Rescue has openings available for DV survivors.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:35 AM	MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	APPROVED BY:
	Peter Toepfer	

Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness

Minutes

Date: 7/6/2010

START TIME: 10:05

MEETING CALLED BY	Joyce Coffee
TYPE OF MEETING	Service Providers Commission Executive Committee
NOTE TAKER	Peter Toepfer
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Present:</b> Christine Achre, Tina Austin, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen, Kenneth Burnett, Joyce Coffee, Richard Ducatzenzeiler, Flora Koppel, Megan LaFrombois, Tammy Marrero, Felix Matlock, Maura McCauley, Edgelle Pettigrew, Shannon Stewart, Peter Toepfer</p> <p><b>Alternates present:</b> Ceandra Daniels for Richard Ducatzenzeiler; Johanna Dalton for Christine Achre; Tammy Marrero for Israel Vargas; &amp; Nonie Brenner for Kathleen Molnar</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Aaron Eckhardt, Sol Flores, Carlos Freytes, Bill Hayes, Eileen Higgins, Katy Kelleghan, Fred Maclin, Sanja Stinson, Israel Vargas, Sherri Allen-Reeves</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Nancy Radner, Nicole Amling, Nicole Prichard, Sherise Alexander</p>
QUORUM?	Yes

Agenda topics

INTRODUCTION & ROUNDS; APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p><b>I. Introductions and Rounds</b> - All members introduced themselves.</p> <p><b>II. Approval of Minutes</b> - The minutes were approved as written.</p>
DISCUSSION & REPORTS	<p><b>III. Discussion and Reports</b></p> <p><b>a. Planning Council – Michael Banghart</b> At the last meeting, the Planning Council approved the updated program models chart. A question the council had was what the functional measures would be for the different models. They also approved the appeals committee for NOFA evaluation tool.</p> <p>The HMIS Committee reported to the council on the HMIS forum and reviewed the preliminary report on the information gathered from the forum. The City reported on data quality in the HMIS system and the universal data elements (UDEs) were more complete than in the past. Some of the other data problems should be solved with the roll out of the updated version of HMIS. The City is looking at a tentative release date of January 2011 for the new version. As part of the roll out the HMIS committee is recommending ongoing training and technical assistance (TA) for agencies, possibly on site. The HMIS committee will be providing regular updates on the HMIS forum work plan to evaluate the progress being made.</p> <p>The council will review the proposed NOFA ranking policies at the July 21<sup>st</sup> mtg. They discussed honoring patterns of the past, particularly because the ranking policies are for local purposes only. Local continua are only required to confirm or reject renewals and then pass those on to HUD. HUD does not need to see rankings for each individual project. This year bonus project money does not need to be allocated solely for projects targeting individuals who are chronically homeless.</p> <p>One proposal is to rank each project type separately (PH, TH, SSO) with no hierarchy of project types. No one</p>

project type would be ranked above another, they would all be equal. That means all PH projects would be ranked against other PH projects, TH with TH, and SSO with SSO. The thought was that this would provide for more clear comparisons of projects.

The council is considering not defunding any projects, even those falling below the 50 pt. threshold level. There are several reasons for this. First, the projects at risk are PH and include over 100 units, with one project in particular that would lose over 100 units. This could cause a disruption in the Chicago homeless system with such a large decrease in units and the lag time between new units coming online. This could hurt our national score. We don't know if we will get bonus project this year since the national rankings have not been released. HUD has stated continua have to reallocate for 2 years, not 1 year and if the project was defunded Chicago would lose money each year. There is no reallocation for new projects outside bonus projects. Also, this is year before HEARTH is implemented and there could be significant changes next year. As such, this may not be the best year to make such a major change. Instead of defunding projects, anyone falling below 50 points would be required to receive TA from the Alliance. This is still only a recommendation from the ranking policy task force and needs to be approved by the full council.

This proposal led to a discussion around the issue. Art Bendixen was concerned that if the evaluation tool process had no teeth, then people would not be held accountable. He mentioned that creating the evaluation tool takes much hard work and removing the consequences diminishes that work. Additionally, it could affect the quality of services consumers receive because if projects not performing well continue to get funded, consumers accessing those services pay the price.

Alliance staff noted that projects almost always improve their score the following year after scoring poorly. The same projects do not remain at the bottom of the list. Also, some low scoring might be a result of filling out the tool inaccurately.

A comment was made about what defines the quality of a program. There are factors apart from what it takes to get a high score on the tool. Since 2005, the evaluation tool has moved from a focus on quality toward consumers to scoring better nationally. Also, HUD APRs are not checked for accuracy. Alliance staff mentioned more performance monitoring is a possibility if the Alliance becomes the Unified Funding Agent after HEARTH takes effect. There was also a concern that certain projects, if they are large enough and pose a risk to the whole system if defunded, would get treatment which may not be uniform across all projects.

Michael Banghart asked for a non-binding opinion poll vote to help him and the other Planning Council representatives gauge how they should vote on the recommendation. The results were:  
8 For; 0 Opposed; 6 Neutral.

**b. Advocacy Committee – Nicole Amling**

\$2.055 billion was approved by the House Appropriations Committee for McKinney-Vento Funding. This a 10% increase from last year. This recommendation now goes to the House and then to the Senate for a vote. Advocates were originally asking for \$2.4 B, but with the state of the economy a 10% increase was seen as a major win.

At the moment IL state funding is flat for homeless prevention, SHP, and emergency shelter grants. Funding for homeless youth is slated for a 10% cut. There is the possibility of DFI money (donated fund initiative, a federal source) helping to replace some of the homeless youth money. Right now, there is a verbal commitment, not a contract. If the money does not come in, the cut homeless youth will be 20%.

There are drastic cuts to mental health services with no funding for those without Medicaid. There is no movement on the old bills the state owes. There is the thought that the state is front loading the budget with "hope" that an income tax increase can pass in January after the fall elections. Individual departments will be charged with making cuts rather than coming from the top. The Alliance Board has a breakfast scheduled with the governor in a month at which time they will raise their concerns.

A positive in the less than inspiring state news is that this year agencies at least have contracts (especially compared to the City and DMH who can take months just for the contract). Much of this credit is thanks to Brenda Handbury. Michelle Sadler is another ally.

The Advocacy team is making a trip to Washington, DC with 56 members to then National Alliance to End

	<p>Homelessness Convention. In addition to the convention, members will meet with congressional representatives.</p> <p>Nicole mentioned a special advocacy team that responds to emailed advocacy alerts, makes calls to representatives and mobilizes around key issues. She encouraged more members to sign up by sending her an email.</p> <p><b>c. <u>Plan Advisory - Anne Marie Grimberg</u></b>  PAC has completed a draft of the Plan to End Homelessness Priorities, which was passed out to the group and read over. They have been working for nearly a year on this project. Alliance staff is reviewing the draft and a final draft will be forthcoming soon. Much progress has been made on schedule to accomplish the plan. PAC wondered if the City would be willing to put parking meter money toward the goals of the Plan.</p> <p><b>d. <u>NOFA &amp; HIMS- Nicole Prichard</u></b>  The LOI for new projects are due 7/7/10. The Evaluation Tool scores are almost complete and will be sent out next week. The NOFA for last year has not been released yet, so we don't know if Chicago scored above funding line. We must score above the funding line in order to be eligible for last year's approved new projects to get funded.</p> <p>Nicole Prichard will now staff the HMIS committee of the SPC. The final HMIS Forum report will be coming out soon. They are currently trying to redesign the HMIS training sessions.</p> <p>Nancy Radner noted that Nicole has done a great job with HMIS, especially given the problematic and contentious nature of the issue.</p>
<p><b>CURRENT ISSUES</b></p>	<p><b>IV. Current Issues</b></p> <p>The committee reviewed an updated "Current Issues and Actions" sheet for the Service Providers Commission. Updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nancy Radner and Michael Banghart meeting with Gloria Materre, Executive Director of IDHA, on 8/4 at 10am.</li> <li>• The full SPC will be briefed on DFSS reorganization changes at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Alliance and City staff met with local HUD staff in May 2010 and discussed the Interim Housing &amp; Chronic Homelessness definition issue. As a result, the group developed a list of IH programs that would be considered shelter, but HUD's definition of emergency shelter. This list will be given to chronic homeless programs so they can seek referrals from the IH-ES programs. The list also informed Chicago's Housing Inventory Chart, which was submitted to HUD in May and reflected the changes.</li> <li>• A preliminary report was created by Alliance staff on the results of the HMIS forum. The report was distributed to the SPC, CC, Planning Council, HMIS Committee and DFSS.</li> <li>• The Plan Advisory Committee finalized a set of priorities for action on the Plan to End Homelessness and will now meet with Commissioner Caron to introduce them to the City, including stating that parking meter funds should support these priorities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>100,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN</b></p>	<p><b>V. 100,000 Homes Campaign – Nancy Radner</b></p> <p>The goal of the campaign is to find and place into housing the most vulnerable, long-term homeless people across the country. A vulnerability index (of how close someone is to death) will be used during the registration campaign. The registry week in Chicago is August 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> and will be similar to the point-in-time count. There will be three days when volunteers will go out at 4am in pairs to register people and put them on the list. The effort targets singles and families who are sheltered indoors and living outdoors. The goal is to register 1,100 people during the week because typically only 30-40% meet the vulnerability index. The Chicago campaign is looking to create 170 units. Part of the goal is to mobilize resources which have not been used or are underused in the system – ie HUD VASH, CHA, DMH - and coordinate currently used resources. If you would like to be involved, contact Liz Drapa or Betsy Benito. They need 100 volunteers each day.</p>
<p><b>FEDERAL STRATEGIC PLAN TO END</b></p>	<p><b>VI. National Strategic Plan – Nicole Amling</b></p> <p>The US Interagency Council on Homelessness made their own national plan to end homelessness. It was mandated as part of the HEARTH Act. It is 70 pages long and Nicole was impressed by its ambition. She suggested everyone take the time to read through it. The Plan included 4 main goals:</p>

HOMELESSNESS	<p>1. Finish ending chronic  2. End veteran homelessness  3 End Family, child, youth and youth homelessness in 10 years  4 Set the path for ending all types of homelessness</p> <p>A big question from the document is: What is the implementation plan? How the goals will be accomplished is not articulated. There is no money attached to plan, it's purpose is to set a framework for how agencies, particularly within the federal government, should work together. Barbara Poppy leads the Interagency Council and the Obama administration is willing to provide leadership. The ICH will be making stops in different cities to bring attention to the plan. Chicago's Plan to End Homelessness is mentioned in this plan as well.</p> <p>By 2014 Medicaid will be expanded to anyone at 133% of FPL. As a result, almost all people who are homeless will be on Medicaid (except for those with benefits or who are undocumented). There was increased family/youth homeless focus in this document. There is a national group forming on homeless youth, which Nicole Amling will chair</p>		
SPC ELECTIONS	<p><b>VII. SPC Elections – Sherise Alexander</b></p> <p>There are a number of open seats for the SPC and different leadership/representative roles. The Executive Committee has 6 people whose terms are up and it would be great to get some new faces at the table. At the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting the open seats will be announced, after which time an email will go out with online nominations. You can nominate yourself or others, just make sure to get their consent first.</p> <p>Heidi Nelson is resigning from her position as Executive Director of HHO and is stepping down as chair of the Plan Advisory Committee. She will be taking her “dream job” in Cape Cod.</p>		
FULL SPC AGENDA	<p><b>VIII. August 10th Full SPC Agenda</b></p> <p>The two main agenda items for the Full SPC Meeting in August will be the A. DCFS database training and B. Current Issues the Executive Committee is working on.</p>		
NEXT MEETING	<p><b>IX.</b> Next meetings for the Executive Committee are scheduled for Sep 8<sup>th</sup> and Nov 9<sup>th</sup>.</p>		
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	<p><b>X.</b> Breakout – Interested parties discussed the functional measures of the new program models chart.</p>		
ADJOURNMENT:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="787 1182 1045 1276">MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</td> <td data-bbox="1045 1182 1541 1276">APPROVED BY:</td> </tr> </table>	MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	APPROVED BY:
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11:36am	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="787 1285 1045 1339">Peter Toepfer</td> <td data-bbox="1045 1285 1541 1339"></td> </tr> </table>	Peter Toepfer	
Peter Toepfer			

Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness

Minutes

Date: 11/9/2010

START TIME: 10:05

MEETING CALLED BY	Michael Banghart
TYPE OF MEETING	Service Providers Commission Executive Committee
NOTE TAKER	Peter Toepfer
ATTENDEES	<p><b>Present:</b> Christine Achre, Kathy Ahler, Tina Austin, Cynthia Bradley, Michael Banghart, Arturo Bendixen, Kenneth Burnett, Alvena Clark, Aaron Eckhardt, Sol Flores, Eileen Higgins, Maria Kamenaki, Megan LaFrombois, Maura McCauley, Kathleen Molnar, Mark Bradley, Sherri Reeves, Erin Ryan, Audrey Thomas, Peter Toepfer</p> <p><b>Alternates present:</b> Shannon Stewart, Katy Kelleghan, Ceandra Daniels for Richard Ducatzenzeiler, Ellen Ray for Flora Koppel</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Fred Maclin, Joyce Coffee, Johanna Dalton, Tammy Marrero, Edgelle Pettigrew</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Randall Doubet King, Angelique Miller</p> <p><b>Staff:</b> Sherise Alexander, Nicole Amling, Nicole Prichard, Nancy Radner</p>
QUORUM?	Yes

Agenda topics

INTRODUCTION & ROUNDS; APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p><b>I. Introductions and Rounds</b> - All members introduced themselves.</p> <p><b>II. Approval of Minutes</b> - The minutes were approved as written.</p>
ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR	<p><b>III. Election of Executive Committee Vice Chair</b> – Sherise Alexander</p> <p>Audrey Thomas elected as Vice Chair unanimously as only nominee.</p>
SPC EXEC. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE	<p><b>IV. SPC Executive Committee Structure and Roles &amp; Responsibilities</b> – Nicole Prichard</p> <p>Nicole passed out an organizational chart of the different Alliance groups as well as the charter for the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is made up of elected members from the Service Providers Commission and constituency groups. They should share ideas discussed at constituency groups and are encouraged to reach out to constituencies as leaders in addition to representing them.</p> <p>Executive Committee members primary roles are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lead and coordinate the full SPC</li> <li>● Create committees to work through issues</li> <li>● Plan full SPC meetings</li> <li>● Coordinate responses to important issues as they arise</li> <li>● Provide advice and expertise to the Alliance, the Planning Council and peers</li> <li>● Identify gaps in homeless system</li> <li>● Serve as a check and balance to the Planning Council</li> </ul>

	<p>The SPC affects the Planning Council because of the roles the Planning Council committees (HNV, HMIS) have as well as there being 6 SPC representatives on the Planning Council. They not required to attend the SPC Executive Committee meetings, but are expected to do so when important issues come up, like today with the 3 motions presented before the Council (see below). The SPC representatives on the Planning Council here today are:  Michael Banghart-present  Angie Miller- present  Maura McCauley- present  Britt Shawver – not present  Susan Reyna – not present  Audalee McLaughlin – not present</p> <p>It was mentioned that if the representatives are not at the Executive Committee Meetings, there could be a discrepancy between what happens at the meetings and what happens at Planning Council (PC) sessions. If they aren't here they will not know the tone of the meetings and it is important to ensure this body's feedback gets to PC reps. Would it be possible to put into the PC Representatives expectations regular attendance at SPC Executive Meetings?</p> <p>A response was that there are a lot of meetings to attend between SPC Exec. (6), Full SPC (2), and PC (6). The Planning Council representatives agreed to talk among themselves and come up with a proposal at next Executive Committee meeting.</p>
<p>PLANNING  COUNCIL  DISCUSSION</p>	<p>The group discussed 3 motions that will be before the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness for their December meeting regarding the 100,000 Homes Campaign Registry. They are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves to endorse the ongoing use of the 100,000 Homes Campaign Vulnerability Index Registry as the primary referral source for new permanent housing units created in the 2010 NOFA and future cycles.</li> <li>2) The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves that the Planning Council endorse the use of the VIR and the VI itself (for outreach programs), for existing homeless service providers.</li> <li>3) The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves that the HNV Committee should consider incorporating its use into the Evaluation Instrument in future funding cycles.</li> </ol> <p>The Planning Council is in the process of gathering feedback from different stakeholders regarding the motions and all feedback is due by November 30th. Participation in the 100k Campaign is currently voluntary. Executive Committee members received an email with background information on the motions and the next steps of the process.</p> <p>Different members of the group shared that they were in favor of the 100,000 Homes Campaign and thought the registry was an important tool for the Chicago homeless system. Several members talked about their participation in the registry process and how it was a positive experience for them and their staff. Members commented that having the registry as an ongoing tool, as opposed to a one-time event, could be beneficial benefits in working toward housing the most vulnerable people.</p> <p>One concern echoed by many different members of the group was the registry is brand new and only in the preliminary stages of use in the city. The group was worried that service providers were being asked to implement a tool in which there were still many unknown factors. Many members wanted a plan for how the registry would function on an ongoing basis and a plan for how to fund its use, particularly given the hidden staff costs involved.</p> <p>Arturo Bendixen reported the AIDS Foundation of Chicago was offered a grant by the City of Chicago (for which they did not apply) to coordinate the outreach and housing for the 100k Campaign. He stated that part of the grant included money for evaluation and that AFC planned to hire a researcher to evaluate how the registry, outreach and housing processes worked during the pilot stage. He anticipated an evaluation could be completed by late summer 2011. He felt it would be prudent to analyze the results of the research evaluation prior to implementing the registry's use across the system. Many other members agreed that moving forward cautiously</p>

and with research to support the effort was wise.

It was noted that the registry could make the housing process more transparent for consumers. The most common question from consumers is “How do I get into permanent housing?” Nancy recalled an anecdote where a consumer likened getting permanent housing to winning the lottery. The current process for getting into permanent housing is fragmented and confusing for consumers. She referenced New Orleans’ implementation of a centralized waiting list as a potential good example for Chicago.

The PH Constituency group had questions about how system-wide implementation would look. What happens to people currently on waiting lists? What are the details of how a centralized waiting list will function? How do we integrate this new tool into the currently operating system? Challenges in working with government entities (HUD, IDHA, CHA) and other funders to implement the registry were also brought up because there are other mandates for the housing as well.

Other questions brought up by the group were how long to keep a unit vacant for someone on the registry and the effect this could have on capacity ratios. Also, how will youth, immigrants, and families be added to the list? There may be language barrier challenges since so many registry participants were bilingual. What effect will the registry’s use have on transitional housing participants accessing PH since someone loses their chronic status as soon as they enter TH? What are the safeguards and liabilities to client confidentiality with so many parties involved? There was a consensus among the group that we should let the current pilot of the registry system demonstrate its effectiveness prior to full implementation.

After the discussion the Committee voted on two motions:

MOTION 1: We direct our Planning Council representatives to table motions 1 and 3 until an evaluation of the pilot has been completed and until further exploration of resources occurs. If the motions are not tabled, representatives should vote against 1 and 3.

Motion: Audrey

Second: Cynthia

18 in favor

0 opposed

1 abstention

MOTION 2: We direct our Planning Council representative to amend Motion 2 to read: “The Planning Council moves to endorse the development and evaluation of the VI and VIR including the ongoing evaluation of the pilot in relation to systemic use and specific populations.”

Motion: Ellen

Second: Audrey

19 in favor

0 opposed

1 abstention

## **V. HEARTH**

United Funding Agency (UFA) information will be available at the next Full SPC meeting. As part of HEARTH, HUD requires a collaborative applicant (current function of the Alliance). HUD also encourages a UFA, which would replace current HUD office responsibilities. The Planning Council will decide who should be the UFA for Chicago. One question asked was whether the Planning Council had financial or oversight responsibility for the body appointed as UFA?

## **HEARTH**

There was a motion before the Planning Council to hear from the Alliance board about where they stand on being the UFA. They want to have a transparent process for selecting the right agency as the UFA.

Their request was not for the Alliance to put a bid forth, but to check in with their current thoughts about being the UFA.

The group discussed what it might mean for providers if the Alliance was the UFA. It may be difficult for them to serve in an advocacy role, but instead would be a funding source.

Nancy commented that the Alliance was set up during the merger of the Partnership and the Continuum to be

the UFA since that possibility was on the horizon. The Alliance is modeled after the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, which does both funding and advocacy. The structure of the Alliance would not change, instead different divisions would be added to current structure. Also, many providers already view the Alliance as a funder because of their work as collaborative applicant. She posed the question about where provider power would be if the Alliance was not the UFA.

**VI. Announcements**

i. Membership Dues - Michael Banghart

Alliance membership dues for agencies are due. They are minimal, but support our work. Remember that the SPC voted to collect dues from itself as a way to strengthen its structure. Check with your agency's CEO to see if they have been paid yet.

ii. Proposed 2011 Meeting dates

A sheet with the proposed dates for SPC Executive and Full SPC meetings was passed out.

iii. Program Models Chart

The new program models chart roll out will happen on Tuesday 12/7/10 at DFSS. There will be a morning and an afternoon session. The sessions will explain changes, what the models chart is and how it is used. The content is directed at Program Directors of agencies.

iv. Advocacy Training - Nicole Amling

There is a Webinar on advocacy next Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Look for more details in the next Alliance e-update. Contact Jean Lam [jam@heartlandalliance.org](mailto:jam@heartlandalliance.org) if you would like to participate.

Also, see the distributed flyer for Advocacy Training session on December 1st. Registration is required. The training will include tax lawyers from Quarrels and Brady law firm on what organizations can legally do in terms of advocacy, Jennifer Mosley from the University of Chicago about her study on how agencies practice advocacy and a panel of executive directors from agencies who are involved in advocacy (Erin Ryan - LPCS, Sol Flores – La Casa Norte, and Paul Hamann - Night Ministry).

v. NOFA updates – Nicole Prichard

Thanks for getting the Exhibit 2s in on time. They are in the process of doing corrections. There will be a public ranking meeting in December based on Planning Council ranking policies. It will most likely be by webinar like last year.

Six new bonus projects were selected for next year as well. Funding for them is not guaranteed, but Chicago will receive an additional \$4.3 M if we score above the national funding line. The new projects will add 170 new units, and target a variety of sub populations. They cannot be announced yet because not all the applicants have been informed. They will be announced at the public ranking webinar.

vi. Other

Peter Toepfer shared that North Side Housing was experiencing serious communication issues from the City of Chicago, even worse than usual over the last 3-4 months. He asked if other agencies were experiencing similar problems. AFC, the YMCA, Catholic Charities, Inner Voice all reported the same thing. Nancy asked that agencies email her if they were experiencing serious communication delays and try to use our collective voice to speak on the issue.

Ceandra reported the Inner Voice fundraiser was scheduled for Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. She asked if she could send a save the date email, which members said was fine.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT:	MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:	APPROVED BY:
11:59am	Peter Toepfer	