



Central MS CoC Membership Meeting Minutes

DATE: October 27, 2021

TIME: 12:30 pm

FACILITATOR: Maria Morris

Roll Call

Members participated in roll call via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for September's membership meeting were approved.

Guest Speaker

No guest speakers were present at the meeting.

RAMP Grant Status

Melvin Stamps related the information Jill Buckley had recently provided the board on RAMP. He informed the membership that RAMP received the additional monies they applied for from Mississippi Home Corporation. The program received an additional \$651,700, bringing the total to \$1,430,826. The deadline for expenditure of funds is 09/30/2022. The RAMP staff has been relocated to the Regions Bank building, since the Stewpot administrative offices still have no AC. Mr. Stamps also shared the statistics of Bobby Pamplin's report (dated 09/22/2021): for Rapid Rehousing - 43 have been housed and 38 maintained their housing, since receiving housing, 2 died, 2 relocated due to renovations, and 1 left for subsidized housing; for Homeless Prevention - 41 received assistance, 28 received assistance with rental arrears and 13 received housing. Melvin Stamps, in response to a member's question, mentioned that the RAMP staff relocation appears to be permanent for the time being. The statistics for the RAMP report were provided in the chat.

Built for Zero

Melvin Stamps informed members that on 09/21/2021 Garen Nigon held an onboarding session with the Central MS CoC's Built for Zero team to provide guidance and tools to improve the CoC's data and outreach systems and case conferencing management. He also mentioned that there will be further Built for Zero meetings on November 1-3, 2021. Mr. Stamps informed members that the following people are part of the local Built for Zero team: Melvin Stamps, Mary Elbert, Maria Morris, Reggie Wiggins, Margaret Johnson, Katina Pace, Tommy Brown, Derroll Barrett, Chantel Maye, and Fredrick Brandon. Melvin Stamps encouraged members to email him at mstamps@centralmscoc.org if they would be



Central MS CoC Membership Meeting Minutes

interested in joining the Built for Zero team. Maria Morris noted that the CoC has a new staff member who should also be a part of the team, Earnest Mack, the new data analyst. Mr. Mack introduced himself to the membership. Members were assured that written reports would be provided when possible.

HMIS Fees for ESG-CV Funded Agencies

Mary Elbert informed members that they are in the process of creating a detailed invoice for HMIS fees. She reminded members of the HMIS fees: \$1200 per user annually for ESG-CV funded agencies and \$500 per project for ESG- and CoC-funded agencies. She mentioned that the detailed invoices will be going out this week. Maria Morris emphasized the need for agencies receiving detailed invoices and for ongoing clean-up of the data to ensure needed access and keep program and user information up-to-date.

Tracking of Volunteer Hours

Maria Morris emphasized the importance of keeping track of volunteer hours to use as match for grants. She noted that anyone who is not a paid CoC staff member or a funded agency should complete the volunteer hours tracking form. Michelle Shelton requested that members turn in their forms monthly (after a month has ended, members should send in their completed forms within 7 days). Ms. Morris mentioned that, on the form, members should try to indicate the grant for which they were volunteering.

Updates from Standing Committees

Scoring Subcommittee - Maria Morris informed members that the subcommittee received 5 applications, and the applications have been rated and reviewed and returned to the Planning Director. She expressed the need to continue to improve the scoring tool and provide more technical assistance and training for funding agencies and the importance of regular reports on their data.

Executive - Maria Morris told members that the Executive Committee has not met this month as they have been working with various committees, such as Coordinated Entry, HMIS, and Scoring, this month to provide important support. The Executive Committee will continue to fill needed gaps in committee participation.

Coordinated Entry - Reggie Wiggins noted that the Coordinated Entry (CE) Committee has not met this month but hopes to resume regular meetings next month. He informed members that flyers and posters have been printed to advertise CE. Mr. Wiggins requested that agencies display them at their locations. If agencies are interested in displaying the poster or flyer, please contact Reggie Wiggins at mwiggins20@stewpot.org or (601) 880-8712.

FY 2021 CoC Application Completion

Melvin Stamps provided an overview of what has been accomplished so far. He noted that the submitted applications were provided to the Scoring subcommittee on 10/12/21, and the applications were returned to Mr. Stamps on 10/25/21 after being reviewed, scored, and ranked. Melvin Stamps informed members that he and Christianna Jackson are on track to complete everything by the end of the week



Central MS CoC Membership Meeting Minutes

(10/29/21) and be ready to turn in to the State and City for certification at that time. He also mentioned that they are on track to finalize the narrative questions.

HOME - American Rescue Grant

Melvin Stamps provided an overview of the HOME-ARP grant and eligible activities and noted there are webinars and trainings available on the HUD Exchange website. He informed members that they held an initial meeting with Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC) on 10/21/21. MHC received \$38,094,324 in HOME-ARP funds; the grant agreement was executed on 10/15/21. The Participating Jurisdictions (PJs) the Central MS CoC will be collaborating with are the City of Jackson and MHC. Melvin Stamps noted that PJs are supposed to consult with the CoC for Coordinated Entry, HMIS, and prioritizations and compensate homeless, Domestic Violence, and Veteran providers, public housing authorities, and public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying population. He informed the membership that the next meeting with the CoC, PJs, and the Mississippi Development Authority will be on 11/4/21. More information will be forthcoming. Maria Morris mentioned that HOME-ARP includes resources for infrastructure, giving us the opportunity for new and innovative ways to address homelessness. The link to HOME-ARP resources will be added to the CoC website. **Link:** <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/home-arp/>

Board Elections

Maria Morris informed members that her 2 years will be up at the end of the year. Melvin Stamps reminded the membership of the contents of the email that was sent out regarding board nominations on 10/22/21. He also reminded members that nominations are due by November 12th and related the guidelines for board elections found in the CoC's bylaws. Board elections will be held on December 16, 2021 at the December membership meeting. Information on current board members and their attendance will be made available for the membership to review.

Coordinated Entry Transition to Mississippi Housing Partnership

Melvin Stamps informed members that the Coordinated Entry (CE) grant which is still currently with Stewpot will be transferred to Mississippi Housing Partnership (MHP) on 11/1/21; CE staff (Reggie Wiggins, Precious Berry, and Cassandra Peterson) will also be transitioned to MHP. Maria Morris noted that this transition is expected to take place on time as no extension has been requested.

Planning Director's Report

Melvin Stamps noted that with Earnest Mack being hired as the data analyst the CoC will be able to provide monthly data quality reports to show where organizations are doing well and where improvement is needed. Mr. Stamps mentioned that he, Ms. Elbert, and Mr. Mack will be working together to ensure that the CoC has clean, timely, and accurate data. The Planning Director informed members that the HMIS url in AWARDS will be updated soon by Foothold to reflect the new Collaborative Applicant, Mississippi Housing Partnership. He noted that HMIS users will receive an email once the change has been completed. Mr. Stamps reminded the membership that the CoC newsletter was sent out on October 15th and provided highlights of its contents. He invited members to send any



Central MS CoC Membership Meeting Minutes

information that they would like to be included in upcoming newsletters to him or Michelle Shelton. Jan Hillegas mentioned that newsletters could be frequent if more people send in more information and noted that there is a printable and electronic version of the newsletter. Maria Morris expressed her desire that the newsletter be shared with the local HUD field office and various municipalities.

Treasurer's Report

Maria Morris notified members that Ben Washington would be resigning at the end of the year. Melvin Stamps informed members that he plans to have an online payment option in place by January. He noted that, since PayPal was not an option, other payment processors have been identified; once the best option is identified, the board and membership will be informed. The balance of the CoC's account as of 10/05/2021 was \$9711.06. Members were invited to provide feedback on the payment processor options.

Open Forum Discussion

Maria Morris noted that there has been a decrease in COVID numbers, boosters are now available, and child vaccinations are in the works. Ms. Morris invited anyone to contact her if they needed assistance to get vaccines. Ms. Morris also mentioned some current events that they have participated in. Willie Mae Berry informed members that for the first time state troopers have received training for crisis intervention, and the class will be graduating this week. She will send the information to be shared with the membership. Jan Hillegas reminded members of the woman that has been on the corner of Rose and Robinson for months. Members discussed the need to respect people's rights and being ready to serve her when she's ready. Members were encouraged to show small kindnesses to her until she's ready.

Announcements

Maria Morris noted that this month's meeting had to be adjusted, but next month the usual meeting date will be resumed, the 3rd Thursday of the month. The next membership meeting will be held on November 18, 2021.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1:34 pm.