**HH Quarterly Meeting 9/21/2021**

Present (virtual): Kelli, Colleen, Rebecca R. (Wheat Ridge), Cassie Ratliff (Family Tree), James Ginsburg, Kate Skarbek, Laura, Katelyn (TAC), Melissa Chavez (Arvada), Rosie McQuiggan (MDHI), Tim Clancy (EChO),Yvette Gallegos (JCHS), Abby Yellman, Ashley Rud (Westminster), Ben A. David Hensley (United Methodist Church Lakewood), Gioany Lira, Grace, Jamie Rife (MDHI), Jennifer Reading (JC Library), Mary Jo Kerrigan (JCHS), Miranda Thompson (JCPH), Sharon Terrell (Lakewood), Lauren Bernstein (JCHS), Jill Armstrong (JUC CAN), Linda Barringer (Safe Parking), Lynnann (Severe Weather Shelter Network), David Allen, Steve (Rising), Hannah Fisher-Tachouet, Laurie Walowitz (Action Center), Jessica Hansen (JCHS), Sarah James, Kaethe Zellner (EChO), Sarah Kinzer (Mountain Resource Center), V Reeves (Safe Parking)

Unidentified Call-In Users

**County Updates**

**Comm Development Block Grant update – county releasing NOFA**. Register for info on NOFA. Targeted population is people experiencing homelessness. Priority for funding is that population. Believes that funds are to be disbursed next June. Between then application, review and contracting period.

Available at: https://www.jeffco.us/FormCenter/Human-Services-13/Community-Development-Grant-Funding-NOFA-321

**PIT Count** – Snapshot/census of PEH throughout 7 county region, led by MDHI. Got results from 2020 – count of only sheltered people. Available at: https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mdhi/viz/2021PITDashboard/Overview Don’t read too much into these results. Didn’t permanently increase our sheltering capacity, we just housed more people in motels due to COVID funding. 99% increase in newly homeless CoC wide. Sheltered homeless increased by 22%; mostly due to increased motel vouchers.

**Planning for 2022 PIT Count:** Planning on conducting sheltered and unsheltered count. Methodology may change. Jeffco PIT Committee; if interested, reach out to Kelli to get involved. Will keep broader community updated as they plan for Jeffco PIT methodology. COVID will still affect doing the count – may affect getting volunteers.

**Built for Zero Initiative:** Initiative of Community Solutions regional Denver area. Launched in Jeffco about a year ago. Data driven initiative around reducing homelessness in specific populations. Veterans subpopulation chosen first for Jeffco. Each community chooses its own target populations.

Laid groundwork with core group. Major component is case conferencing. When launch that, will match resources with needs. Create by-name list of homeless veterans. Resources and barriers. Case conferencing group formed; leads resigned. Will wait til positions are filled. When case conferencing launches, this initiative will really take off.

**HH Workgroup Updates:**

Crisis Resolution:

* Identifying need and current needs regarding outreach. Proposal for collab outreach effort. Possibly headed up by Jefferson Center for mental health. Jeff Center is looking for funding to support the effort.
* Move on to looking at other opportunities for Crisis Resolution.

Supportive Housing

* Doing Gaps analysis in supportive housing. Have data and are putting together something like CR workgroup. Tool for agencies interested in developing supportive housing can us.
* What is role and purpose of this group. Survey to figure out what support we can provide to County

Data Management

* Actively working on HMIS and One Home usage. Gotten handful onboard. 8-9 in process. By end of year, hopefully trained and using system
* Build data dashboard. Hope will land on HH website.
* Leaving MDHI. Need new lead for data group.

Community Engagement in Solutions to Homelessness (YIMBY)

* Developing informational event series to increase understanding on issue of homelessness community-wide
* Creating social media toolkit
* Connecting Miracle Messages with two local non-profits

**Housing Navigation Center Update:** Planning for dev of 2 nav center. Central and north Jeffco. No more specific sites or locations yet. Concept born out of sheltering gaps analysis work out of CR group.

Conceptual model and framework to stand up as many solutions to address the gaps. 3 components

* Drop-in Resource Center – meet basic needs there. Serve anyone on continuum of homelessness. Meet all needs in 1 spot
* Short-term shelter beds. Uses all best practices. Housing focused, trauma informed
* Permanent affordable housing. Workforce/afford 50% of median income. PSH/rental assistance/services on-site.

Curating the model as we go. Got approval from leadership in counties and cities. Apply for LIHTC funding to supplement CARES Act funds. One time shot with all funding available now.

Since last update – formed group of city and county representatives. Moving the proposal through. RFP released for a developer in late August on behalf of city/county group. Proposals were due Sept. 15. Now vetting proposals; hope to make decision by mid-October. Developer will help us move the proposal forward; vet & select sites.

**Member announcements/updates:**

Severe Weather Shelter Network (LynnAnn Huizingh) –

* Holding registration events for SWSN. After the end of September, will have regularly scheduled at all partner locations. When have that, will share with everyone so you know when/where to send folks.
* Staff trained in HMIS and now able to do VI-SPDATs to increase connections to housing.
* Stride is partnering with us on voucher days, vaccinations, testing. Still doing motel vouchers this year. Stride is helping us with vaccinations.
* Had hoped to expand number of hotel rooms in each region. Not possible fiscally or with existing staff. Continue with 40 rooms in each region. Doing the best they can. Sheltering starts October 1. As ready as they’re going to be.

RecoveryWorks (James Ginsburg)

* New non-profit in Jeffco. Operating at 7011 W. Colfax. Opened July 12. Doing 3 programs: drop-in center (showers, laundry, food, case management), substance misuse recovery, and respite care for people living unsheltered who are discharged from hospital who need medical care. Working with Lutheran and St. Anthony’s. Criteria for respite: unhoused and acute medical situation can be resolved within 30 days.
* Trying to transition people to more stable housing, but many people may return to the streets.
* recoveryworkstoday.org

County Homeless Navigation Pgm (Yvette Gallegos)

* Eviction moratorium ended; increase in evictions. ERA and General Assistance dollars.
* ERA taken in 2,511 applications. 3 months of rental assistance/household. $7.8 million spent thus far. $770,000 pending assistance. GA funds $1.4 million.
* If people are coming to you, please refer them to these eviction prevention programs. <https://www.jeffco.us/4021/Emergency-Assistance-COVID-19>
* More money coming

Jeffco Human Services (Jessica Hansen)

* Power of partnership is hosting a quarterly meeting. Still deciding whether to do in person or virtual; location TBD. Meeting goal – invite as many faith communities as possible. Focus: severe weather and mental health.

Safe Parking (Linda Barringer)

* 2 lots if Jeffco currently: Arvada and Golden.
* Working with Lakewood to find sites
* Avg number 30-60 calls/month. July 175 calls. August 180. Many people in Safe Lots are newly homeless.
* If know of location or congregation might be interested, let Linda know. Safeparking@gmail. Com 720-704-8242. Turnaround time can be as long as a month. Depends on where they want to be.
* Partners: SWSN, Stride, some churches, Love Beyond Walls installing handwashing stations at the lots.

Evergreen Christian Outreach (Tim Clancy)

* 6th season with shelter, 2nd season with COVID-safe single location. Capacity between 9-12. Keeping people in non-congregate sleeping areas. Opportunity for safe distance fresh air dining. Shower and laundry. Warm dinner and breakfast; send out with sack lunch. Planning to start ops in about 2 weeks.

The Rising (Arvada, Pastor Steve)

* Added washer and dryer. Working with Human Services, when Benefits in Action submits application has immediate interview – huge breakthrough. Jeff Center for Mental Health comes every Tuesday; telehealth anytime. Stride came in, doing a clinic there. Grant from city of Arvada, help people maintain housing. Social time for people who have been housed to fend off loneliness. They help with getting people into rehab. Increase in people who want rehab. When Severe Weather hits, they also help with getting people into hotels.

The Action Center (Laurie Walowitz)

* Processing ERA funds with county. People can get pre-approved for deposit and rent assistance. Housing specialist – Katelyn – working to help people find housing. Also helping with ESG Homeless Prevention. Community Outreach Coordinator – working with schools and LatinX community. Action Center has 4 LatinX staff on programs team, completely bilingual.

**Wrap-up (Kelli)**

* Please send any updates you wish to share with Heading Home listserv to Kelli for the HH monthly blast
* Next HH meeting will likely be bumped to Tues. Dec. 14th