



BARNSTABLE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
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Elizabeth Albert, Director
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November 7, 2018

To: Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates
From: Beth Albert, Director Human Services
Re: Briefing on Regional Network on Homelessness/Continuum of Care

I. Background & Description

The Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness (Regional Network) was created in 2009, prior to this time the network was known as the Leadership Council to End Homelessness. The Regional Network is a broad public-private partnership of non-profit agencies, municipal leaders, state departments, philanthropy, business organizations, and other community stakeholders committed to identifying and implementing solutions to prevent and end homelessness in our region. The Regional Network fosters collaboration among its partner organizations so that all individuals and families in our region will have safe, affordable housing with supports needed to maintain their housing.

The Regional Network has another purpose in that it provides the structure required by HUD's Continuum of Care (CoC) program. As an approved Continuum, the region is eligible to apply for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care McKinney-Vento funds for homelessness services and programs. Since the early 1990s, over \$28 million in HUD McKinney-Vento funds have been awarded to the region through HUD's annual application process.

II. Structure of Regional Network

The Regional Network is comprised of a policy board, executive committee, and several work groups. Current work groups include HMIS, Emergency Planning, Seniors, Coordinated Entry, Family Homelessness Prevention, Veterans, Planning, Nominating, and Grant Ranking and Review. A list of current Policy Board members is attached.

III. Policy Board

The Regional Network Policy Board is a 28- member policy making body that:

- Works closely with the designated Collaborative Applicant to fulfill major responsibilities of the CoC (See Section IV)
- Supports regional capacity building to address identified needs
- Fosters relationships and solicits participation from a broad array of sectors and agencies to support common priorities
- Ensures transparent governance
- Delegates activities to and oversees working groups and task forces as appropriate
- Designates the HMIS Lead to administer the HMIS system for the CoC
- Hosts an annual meeting and adopts network priorities

IV. Key CoC Responsibilities

The Regional Network Policy Board is the designated entity for setting policy regarding the CoC grant process, including approval and ranking of proposals for submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the annual NOFA process. In addition, the CoC is responsible for compliance with 24 CFR Part 578 Hearth Act: Interim Final Rule which includes the following components:

1. Performance Targets and Monitoring
 - a. Adopt and support compliance with performance measure required by HUD
 - b. Monitor performance and evaluate outcomes of ESG and CoC programs
 - c. Develop a fair process for performance improvement and recommend action per that process
 - d. Report to HUD as required/requested
2. Coordinated Entry System
 - a. Establish and operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system in consultation with CoC and ESG fund recipients
3. Establish Written Standards
 - a. Establish and follow written standards for prioritizing the most vulnerable homeless households in consultation with CoC and ESG fund recipients.

4. HMIS

- a. Designate a single HMIS for its geographic area and designate an eligible applicant to manage its HMIS
- b. Review, revise, and approve HMIS Charter, privacy, security, and data quality standards
- c. Ensure consistent participation of the CoC Program Grantee and sub-recipients in HMIS
- d. Ensure that the HMIS is administered in compliance with HUD requirements.

5. Planning

- a. Conduct a point-in-time count of homeless persons that meets HUD's requirements at least bi-annually
- b. Provide information required to complete the Consolidated Plan(s)
- c. Consult with state and local ESG recipients in the geographic area on the plan for allocating ESG funds and reporting/evaluating performance of ESG programs

6. Application for HUD Continuum of Care Program Funds

- a. Design, operate and follow a collaborative, fair, and transparent process for developing applications and approving submission of applications in response to a HUD CoC Program NOFA
- b. Establish priorities for funding projects
- c. Determine if one or more applications will be submitted
- d. Rank multiple applications if required by HUD

V. Role of the Department of Human Service

Barnstable County's Department of Human Services serves three primary roles in regard to the Regional Network/CoC.

1. **Convening Agency** is the coordination hub responsible for: providing logistical support for Regional Network responsibilities including those related to the HUD Continuum of Care (as in Interim Rule-24 CFR c.578.7); convening and facilitating the Policy Board and key working groups; monitoring strategic coherence across efforts; coordinating communication within the Regional Network; providing information and mobilizing advocacy efforts that support the Network's priorities; responding to training needs; and annually updating the list of Network priorities. The Convening Agency is not a "lead" entity, but rather performs the roles of planning consultant, project manager, and logistics staff.

2. **Collaborative Applicant (CA)** In this role the Department is the eligible applicant that has been designated by the Regional Network to submit the annual CoC Consolidated Application for funding on behalf of the Regional Network. In addition, the Collaborative Applicant is the only entity that can apply for a grant for CoC planning funds on behalf of the Regional Network.

3. **HMIS Lead**

VI. CoC Grant

1. FFY 17 total award \$1.6M. Program supports 145 PSH beds across the region from Bourne to Provincetown, CES, Planning and HMIS. A list of currently funded CoC projects is attached.
 1. CoC funded projects are part of a larger inventory of housing for homeless/ formerly homeless. In 2017 the had 688 housing beds comprised of transitional beds, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing beds.
 2. The Department currently administers 4 CoC grants:
 - i. CoC Planning (\$50,329)
 - ii. CoC Coordinated Entry System (two grants -\$29,698 and \$55,594)
 - iii. HMIS (\$67,356)

VII. Program Support/Staffing

The Department has a 1.0 FTE, 100% grant funded, CoC Program Manager and utilizes consultants to assist with administering the CoC program components and coordinating the Regional Network. Currently, HMIS Administration and CES Coordination are staffed with 100% grant funded contractors. The Regional Network Coordinator is funded through the Department's budget (\$40,000 in FY 19).

VIII. Current Initiatives

1. In September 2018 we submitted the FFY18 Consolidated Application totaling \$1,755,156, including 15 renewal projects (145 PSH beds across the region from Bourne to Provincetown) and 2 new PSH projects (17 new PSH beds).
2. Coordinated Entry System for CoC funded projects
3. Data quality and systems performance measures improvement
4. Expansion of HMIS and improved administration
5. Emergency Planning for coordinated winter/weather response
6. Tenancy Preservation Program/Expansion of Housing Court
7. Elder Task Force soon to release findings and recommendations
8. Statewide Data Warehouse



Cape and Islands Regional Network on Homelessness
Policy Board Members
2017-2018

Beth Albert, Director, Barnstable County Department of Human Services* ++

Mark Bilton, Area Housing Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health

Jean Challis, Lieutenant, Barnstable Police Department, Town of Barnstable

Anne Colwell, CEO, Cape Cod Child Development

Kristina Dower, Executive Director, Community Action Committee of Cape & Islands

Alana Dupuis, Therapeutic Mentor, South Bay Mental Health

John Economos, District Manager, The Community Builders, Inc.

Rose Evans, Deputy Undersecretary, Department of Housing and Community Development

Maggi Flanagan, Program Director, Homeless Prevention Council ++

Alisa Galazzi, CEO, Housing Assistance Corporation ++

Gina Giambusso, Director, Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center

Cathy Gibson, Supervisor, Department of Transitional Assistance ** ++

Beth Hardy-Wade, Executive Director, CHAMP Homes, Inc.

Lysetta Hurge-Putnam, Executive Director, Independence House

Gina Hurley, Director of Student Services, Barnstable School District

Marc Israel, HMIS Administrator, Housing Assistance Corporation

Paul Melville, Executive Director, Cape Cod Family Resource Center – Family Continuity

Barbara Milligan, President & CEO, United Way of Cape & Islands ++

Eddie Murphy, Protective Services Program Manager, Elder Services of Cape Cod and Islands

Tom Lacey, Executive Director, Falmouth Housing Authority

Heidi Nelson, CEO, Duffy Health Center ++

Edythe Nesmith, Executive Director, Cape Cod Council of Churches

Greg Quilty, Director of Veterans Services, Barnstable District

Karen Ready, Shelter Programs Coordinator, Catholic Social Services

Dean Rosenthal, Associate Commissioner for the Homeless, Martha's Vineyard

Brenda Swain, Executive Director, Falmouth Service Center

Mary Waygan, Affordable Housing Specialist, Town of Yarmouth

Katherine Wibby, Staff Attorney, South Coastal Counties Legal Services

David Willard, Vice President, Cape Cod Five Cents Saving Bank ++

Nantucket, TBD

Paula Schnepf, Coordinator, Regional Network on Homelessness

*Denotes Chair, ** Vice-Chair, ++ Executive Committee Members

Appointed 3-27-17

MA-503 HUD CoC FY2017 Awards Chart

| Applicant | Project Name | # Beds | New/Renewal | Project Type | Amount |
|--|------------------------------------|--------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Barnstable County | Coordinated Entry System FY2017 | | Renewal | SSO/CES | \$29,698 |
| | Coordinated Entry Expansion FY2017 | | Renewal | SSO/CES | \$55,594 |
| | HMIS | | Renewal | HMIS | \$67,356 |
| Catholic Social Services of Fall River, Inc. | Journey Home | 14 | New | PH/Leasing | \$102,496 |
| | Mainstay | 8 | New | PH/Leasing | \$68,798 |
| Duffy Health Center | Welcome Home 2 | 2 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$23,317 |
| | Welcome Home 3 | 5 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$59,138 |
| | Welcome Home 4 | 4 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$42,328 |
| Falmouth Housing Authority | Cape Regional Housing Initiative | 32 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$228,901 |
| Housing Assistance Corporation | Cape Homes V | 36 | Renewal | PH/Leasing | \$409,693 |
| | HMIS Expansion | | Renewal | HMIS | \$70,140 |
| | Housing First | 8 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$135,074 |
| | Parkway House | 5 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$80,638 |
| MA Department of Mental Health | Cape Cod Supported Housing | 20 | Renewal | PH/Rental Assistance | \$224,937 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$1,598,108 |