



Leadership Team Meeting Agenda

Mon. April 20, 2020, 6-7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/91283146031?pwd=T0cwTnVXL3J3M043WjBZdCsrQzIGUT09>

Attending: Natasha Adams, Jessica Anderson, Nate Broman-Fulks, Nancy Coston, Christy Croft, Caitlin Fenhagen, Kathleen Ferguson, Barbara Foushee, Sally Greene, Jackie Jenks, Megan Johnson, Corey Root, Beth Schehl, Diiv Sternman, Emila Sutton

Welcome & Updates

OCPEH updates

- OCPEH hired Coordinated Entry Housing Specialist, Angela Clapp
 - People can call Housing Helpline for help with connection to housing resources (coordinated entry) – 919-245-2655
 - Noon-4pm and overnights, Monday-Friday
- OCPEH hired Housing Help Rapid Re-housing Case Manager, Stefanie Ledwell
 - Will start work on new Orange County Housing Help rapid re-housing program using County staffing funding and HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance for financial assistance
- Tina Vasquez ended contract with OCPEH for racial equity work based on unreturned email
 - Racial equity work is crucial to this work, must continue, and important to include team building work in particular
 - Kathleen will reach out again to Tina to see if there is any room to reengage for facilitation work
 - Could a Plan B include data work in addition to data work needed for facilitation

Orange County Homeless System Work during COVID-19

As part of the COVID-19 response, the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness is coordinating the Homeless System COVID Coordination group with service provider, medical folks, Town/County employees, and a subset of this group, the Unsheltered Workgroup. The larger, overall group is getting updates from service providers on current program availability and needs of people experiencing homelessness, communicating info from EOC back to homeless service providers, and coordinating service response. The Unsheltered Workgroup is coordinating specifically on needs/responses for people living unsheltered. OCPEH is also updating [this list](#) of service provider availability during COVID period. OCPEH is working on several proposals/projects:

- Successes: masks and cleaning supplies for IFC; tents and sleeping bags for people living unsheltered; wash stations created and maintained by Mutual Aid
- In progress: de-congregating the shelters – either moving all shelter residents or high COVID risk households; Temporary Emergency Safety Site for people camping/parking; bathrooms and showers in downtown

IFC working on all of the above, waiting to see what will be approved; Kitchen and Pantry have seen large increase in short amount of time, all meals being packed To Go; distributing tents, sleeping bags, hygiene kits; volunteers have ebbed and flowed; Food donations needed at Community Kitchen more so than at shelters.

Criminal Justice Resource Department received \$20,000 from Cardinal Innovations for housing and supplies for people exiting jails and prisons. Eligibility requirements coming this week, funds need to be distributed by June. Allison will be having office hours with cell phones and computer access.

DSS has computer access available at Southern Human Services Center, available by appointment



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The Town of Chapel Hill will be getting an additional \$245,000 for CDBG for COVID response, staff are putting together a plan for use of these funds; Public Housing working with residents on rent non-payment, no evictions. The County and Towns rental assistance programs are aligning eligibility and processes for community members.

Orange County Housing & Community Development is working on tracking document for expected funding coming online, including Orange County’s share of the \$5 billion ESG dollars, a large increase from regular ESG allocation. Additional waiver and info coming for Housing Choice Voucher program, more info coming on how this will affect current work. Orange County Board of County Commissioners made an additional allocation to the Housing Risk Mitigation fund to help people with emergency housing and utility assistance.

CEF has closed their office, but still in contact with members; also curating a resource list for community members, working on translation and continual updates.

Role and Tasks of the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness

The OCPEH Executive Team members will consider revised budget options for OCPEH FY20-21 budget. The budget has considerations for the role of the Partnership going forward.

FISCAL YEAR	TOTAL BUDGET	% INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	GRANT REVENUE	FUND BALANCE CONTRIBUTION	AMOUNT TO BE SPLIT BY TOWNS/COUNTY
2015-16	\$107,121				
2016-17	\$119,043	11%		\$ 27,589	\$ 91,454
2017-18	\$170,502	43%	\$ 19,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 110,502
2018-19	\$183,352	8%	\$ 21,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 155,852
2019-20	\$258,539	41%	\$ 22,121	\$ 1,539	\$ 234,879
2020-21	\$365,701	41%	\$ 130,822	\$ 20,000	\$ 214,879

FY2020-21 budget pending Executive Team approval, then pending approval from jurisdiction elected boards. The proposed budget is inclusive of:

- Increased/changed staffing
 - Assistant - Change .5 FTE intern position to .625 FTE with benefits Assistant
 - Use CoC Planning Grant so no budget impact for jurisdictions
 - Coordinated Entry Housing Specialists – Add 2 FTEs
 - Coordinated Entry (CE) helps people in housing crisis access appropriate services. CE decreases trauma by having a clear process for crisis resolution, it is also required by HUD.
 - The Community Empowerment Fund (CEF) in Chapel Hill has been the main CE access site, starting October 2018, ending March 2020
 - \$130,000 awarded by HUD to start in 2020
 - 1 FTE started March 2020; 1 FTE when HUD funding available
 - Housing Access Coordinator - change to County position
 - Contract with CEF filled July 2019 – Feb 2020

- Increasing stability and accountability to move to County positions

- OCPEH role 2016-present centered on Coordinator role – this work has expanded since 2016
- Looking back at historical [Plans](#) and [Reports](#), there were other OCPEH roles envisioned
- DISCUSSION: Relocating OCPEH from the County Manager’s Office to the Orange County Housing & Community Development (OCHCD) Department
 - OCPEH office relocated to OCHCD in November 2019 due to County office space needs
 - Deep OCPEH-OCHCD collaboration in place
 - Weekly+ check ins
 - 2 grants applied for jointly
 - Start of Orange County Housing Help program, inclusive of rapid re-housing program
 - Exciting possibilities with program administration
 - Important to not lose sight that Partnership is a multi-jurisdictional entity and Coordinator not buried deep in County bureaucratic structure; all jurisdictions have control of the work of the Partnership
 - Possible to co-locate but have administration in County Manager’s office
 - County Manager could retain annual review
 - Authority remains with County Manager, day-to-day supervision within the Housing Department
 - Will continue detailed discussion at Executive Team level
- DISCUSSION: Formalizing Expanding Partnership role from CoC Lead to CoC Lead + program management
 - Difference between staying in coordination role vs. running programs
 - Looking at founding documents, the first step was hiring a Coordinator, but building programs and housing was part of vision. The Orange County Partnership was set up to be different from Partnerships in other counties in part to do the heavy lifting of the Plan to End Homelessness
 - Other service providers are stretched thin; management of programs is key to success
 - Powerful statement to codify connection between Ending Homelessness and Housing, the operational connections are also transformative to system
 - How the Towns and County have aligned funding for rental assistance is instructive to how jurisdictions can maintain their needs with expanding eligibility, increasing flexibility, and making access smoother for people in needs
 - Hard to build out a program with staff, etc within structure of County Manager’s office
 - Will continue discussion at Executive Team level

Next Meeting: May 18 via ZOOM

Upcoming meetings in 2020: May 18, June 15, NO JULY MEETING, Aug. 17, Sep. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21