

Steering Committee October 13, 2020 Meeting Summary

Attendance*

Voting Steering Committee Members *Present (via Zoom)*:

Jack Billi, Ginny Creasman, Trish Cortes, Jeremy Lapedis, George Waddles Jr., Sharon Moore, Brent Williams, Alfreda Rooks, Julie Aronica, Doug Strong, Norman Herbert, Martha Walsh, Ann Davis, Alonzo Lewis, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley, Tony Denton

Absent: Greg Dill, Krista Girty, Nancy Graebner, Jimena Loveluck, Katrina Bozada, Connie Conklin, Liz Conlin, Leah Corneil, Alena Hill, Sara Szcoztka, Curtis Thornton, Paul Valenstein, Elisabeth Vanderpool

Ex Officio Steering Committee Members Present (via Zoom): Marianne Udow-Phillips, Juan Marquez, Kim Hulbert

CHRT staff (via Zoom): Deana Smith, Terrisca Des-Jardins, Ryan Bartholomew, Matt Hill, Elizabeth Jahn, Nancy Baum, Sam Iovan, Gregory Powers, Erin Spanier, Andrew Smentkowski, Jenna Combs, Robyn Rontal, Allie Faulkner (MSW Intern)

*2 additional members attended, but did not have their name noted in zoom

Key Summary Points

- **Approval of past meeting notes:**
 - September Meeting Notes – Approved.
 - Suggested Changes:
 - Project Updates – MI Community Care: WHP will continue to fund the CHW through the end of the year – add **‘to the extent required’**
 - Action Taken: SIM/MiCC Continuation of funding – add approved using **‘up to’** the \$40,000
- **Updates:**
 - CMH (Community Mental Health) – Trish Cortes
 - Addressing Gaps (pre-and-post) COVID-19 Pandemic
 - “Stay Home. Stay Safe” order saw an impact on access to food
 - Conversations between food providers + OCED – to shift millage \$ to fund “Meals on Wheels” for the CMH population impacted (thereby relaxing the typical requirement to be 65+ to receive MOW)
 - High capacities at shelters and reduced availability of churches to be used as shelters have resulted in setting up hotels for covid positive cases in the homeless population– supported by a combination of city + county funds and Millage money
 - Group Homes:
 - Difficulty recruiting direct care workers (both at Local and State level)
 - Working with State regarding regional plans in case of COVID outbreaks within the group homes
 - Annual Millage Report:
 - Compared to last year, Washtenaw County saw a decrease in emergency room visits

- Crisis Care Teams
 - July 2020 saw the largest numbers, 300+ crisis responses
 - Michigan has been announced as an official demonstration state for CCBHC (Certified Community Behavioral Health Center)
 - Projected Start: April 2021
 - State is still in planning stages (regarding finance model, etc.)
 - Pastor George Waddles Jr. shared resources for food access:
 - Additional Food Pantries (www.foodgatherers.org/needfood for Hours of Operation):
 - Second Baptist Church's Food Pantry (Open Monday @ 11:30 am)
 - Hope Clinic
 - Messiahs Temple Apostolic Church
 - Ypsilanti Seventh Day Adventist Church
- **MiCC Funding:**
 - MiCC Exec. Committee approved utilizing up to \$40,000 from WHI fund balance to bridge for additional funding; decisions will be made on a month by month basis through Dec. 2020.
 - Potential Funding Opportunities:
 - Very likely to receive approximately \$266,000 from CARES act funding (focusing on COVID-19 relief activities + activities focusing on SDOH needs); funding has to be expended by Dec. 31, 2020. This will allow the \$40,000 from the fund balance to be unused.
 - Discussed a promising funding opportunity through BCBSM CQI program (M-Shield); may also lead to leveraging Medicaid match dollars. Earliest availability to this funding is January 2021
- **Recap Opioid Summit:**
 - Matt Hill provided a summary of the Summit which took place virtually in September.
 - 169 registered participants representing 65 Organizations
 - 28 Speakers/Panelists;
 - Keynote Speakers:
 - Adrian Waller – Health Department
 - Highlighted Health Inequities in Washtenaw County related to the Opioid epidemic/Substance abuse in general
 - Dr. Onawa LaBelle – Professor, University of Windsor
 - Presented early research on the resilience of the population to transition to a virtual space in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
 - 5 Breakout Sessions covered such topics as harm reduction, stigma, criminal justice reform, youth outreach, and policy
 - **Reviewed 2 priority areas for the WHI to consider in 2021:**
 - **Opioid Project:**
 - Needs for 2021
 - Increase community education
 - Expand community partnerships
 - Race Equity Data – Create a dashboard to identify and record metrics

- **Racial Equity:**
 - The WHI wants to take an intentional approach to prioritizing racial equity, in part alongside efforts that have already begun around WHI's role in advocacy. The discussion included:
 - Creating awareness on historical factors that have contributed to structural inequality
 - Be a conduit of factual information
 - Disseminate information that has already been collected on race equity
 - Lift up community initiatives already in place; coordinate these activities broadly
 - Focus on issues of policy
- **WHI Co-Chair Position**
 - Norman's term ending Dec. 2020 and he has chosen not to renew his term and retire from his position on the WHI. We are seeking volunteers from the Steering Committee to fill this role.
- **Announcements:**
 - **MMOE Outreach Plan:**
 - Originally proposed: a centralized phone number/email address to capture impact/ previous flyers had a number of organizations/contact info and some thought the flyer was too busy.
 - The committee re-evaluated the best method and have decided to list 4 organizations and their contact info, rather than one centralized number/email address.
 - **Candidate Survey results:**
 - 59 candidates were surveyed; 20 responded. A report with their responses will be disseminated via the WHI website and distributed to our stakeholder email list.
- **Next Steps:**
 - The November Stakeholder's meeting will be moved to Dec. 14th

Action Items

1. At the next Steering Committee meeting, discuss the plans that are being made for the dissemination of the COVID vaccine.

Next Meeting Tuesday, November 10, 2020 10:00 –11:30 AM
