

Coordinated Entry Committee Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2020

2:30 pm MST (1:30 pm PST)

Committee Members

Becca Stinson-Region 1

Rebecca Rucker-Region 2

Lynsey Morlock-Region 3

Nancy Tuttle-Region 3

Leann Trappen-Region 4, absent

Michelle Picklesimer-Region 4

Susan Thurm-Region 5

Dena Skinner-Region 6, absent

Brian Dale-HUD

Ann Fitzsimmons-VA, absent

Heidi Smith-DHW

Lisa Steele-IHFA

Jennifer Otto-IHFA

Debbie Higginson-IHFA

Follow-up Items:

Minutes from the April 28 meeting were not available for review.

New Items:

1. PSH Eligibility

Debbie reminded CE regions that for a client to qualify for a PSH unit they or a household member must have a documented or acknowledged disability; be chronically homeless, and the referral must come from CE's housing assistance queue.

2. Home Preservation Program

Debbie introduced Home Partnership's program to assist clients at risk of homelessness with rent and utilities. Program had been very limited at the beginning and was now going to be a diversion resource at the access points.

Lisa defined the program; it would provide up to two-months assistance for rent or utilities with a notice, and in most instances the program would provide assistance if the individual had already received assistance from HUD. The applications for assistance will go through an eligibility process.

3. Tie-breakers to prioritize COVID-vulnerable clients

Debbie asked the committee to consider tie breakers for individuals with health conditions that make them more vulnerable to COVID-19, (heart disease, diabetes, chronic lung disease—including moderate to severe asthma, and people who are immunocompromised); and individuals 62 years and older. (CDC says 65+, but we want to simplify HMIS data entry and we already have the 62+ category in HMIS.)

The committee discussed reordering the tiebreakers to have vulnerability to COVID based on health conditions and age coming before veterans and DV tiebreakers. This would be a temporary change in response to the current health crises.

Susan said it made sense to move the 62+ and the underlying health issues above the veteran and DV tiebreakers during the pandemic.

Nancy said they have other resources for vets and DV in region 3 and placing underlying health issues and 62+ tiebreakers ahead of vets and DV wouldn't have a negative impact on the community.

Rebecca agreed, as they also have additional resources for vets and DV in Region 2.

Michelle suggested including clients who've tested positive for COVID-19.

Debbie asked Brian if, for regions that don't have other resources for DV and vets, would prioritizing COVID-related tiebreakers ahead of the others still be recommended?

Brian requested Debbie to write an email to HUD SNAPS and he would push it up to HUD.

4. Access Point Updates

- Region 1-Becca attended the meeting but lost connection due to phone issues and was no longer on the call at the last part of the meeting.
- Region 2-Rebecca reports the access point gets about 30 calls/month and does 20-30 screening and assessments per month.
- Region 3-Nancy said they are still conducting screenings and assessments over the phone, and they are receiving more calls regarding rental assistance than usual.
- Region 5-Susan reports they are still doing phone assessments and receive about 10 calls per week. They receive service requests for both prevention and housing assistance and has been sending clients to Home Preservation program for assistance.

5. Next Meeting: June 23